

He Kept Things 'Right'

Club Member Armando Alba retires from Gen. Services.

By Larry Smith, City Employee
Photos by Robert Larios,
Club Director of Operations

After 33 years of service, Armando Alba retired from City service. The great day was celebrated with friends and family March 8 at Luminarias Restaurant in Monterey Park.

Armando began working for the City of LA March 7, 1972, as a tree trimmer with R & P. His tree-trimming job was short lived and two months later ended up working as a maintenance laborer on a crew transplanting trees and weed control. This led to work at the Hansom Dam Golf Course. Apparently early on the course was only nine holes. Armando spent much of his time moving rock when the course was being expanded to 18 holes. He also worked guard duty on nights and weekends.

In October 1972 Armando was promoted to Mechanical Helper and transferred to 2310 E. 7th St., where his duties included minor vehicle repair and New Equipment Prep.

January 1973 brought a transfer to the DWP and a permanent position. His work location was on Main Street, where he worked with machinists, welders and plumbers.

In January 1975 DWP's loss was Fleet Service's gain. Armando was promoted to Equipment Mechanic and transferred to 2222 E. 7th St. (nights). Within about a year he ended up working days at his current location. Except for a brief period when the powers that be decided to let individual departments receive their own equipment, Armando has been a fixture with Technical Services.

Armando's work with Technical Services has affected nearly everyone in the City. While his direct involvement with City employees could be considered limited, you would be hard pressed to find employees who had not heard of him.



While a local TV reporter was attempting to defame the department's procedures, Armando stood out as cool and calm and very professional. During the last five years, everyone in the department could count on the receiving and the prep of new equipment being handled. There wasn't much the spec writers and inspectors could throw at him that he could not straighten out.

Armando has always kept us in line. The streets are clean... traffic signals operate... the lights go on... trash is picked up... the list is endless. Armando is the best example of what is right in the City. He will be missed.



Armando Alba getting his city plaque.



Armando Alba, a man a few words, has a positive attitude.



From left: Terry Lien, Equipment Specialist II, 39 years; and Ralph Quintero, Equipment Specialist I, 31 years.



From left: Herald Combs, Equipment Specialist, 25 years; and Art Flores Automotive Dispatcher II, 18 years.



From left: James Okikawa, Auto Body Builder/Repairer, 19.5 years; and Ben Baca, Auto Painter, 17 years.



From left: Dan Rivera, Auto Body Builder, 11 years; and Ben Baca, Auto Painter, 17 years.



Arden Hough, Equipment Mechanic, 20 years.



Paul Fadul, Mechanical Engineering Associate II, 3 years.



From left: Armando Alba, Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic, 33 years; and Larry Smith, Equipment Specialist, 17 years.



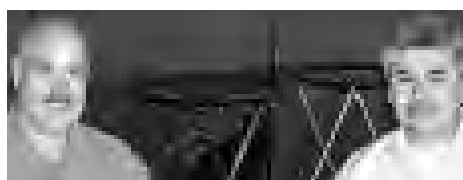
Dan Parker, Automotive Supervisor, 15 years



From left: Kevin Lee, Automotive Engineer II, 21 years; and Mike Graham, Equipment Specialist II, 20 years.



From left: Larry Smith with Lynn Ho, Sr. Clerk Typist, LACERS, 5 years.



From left: Sean McMorow, Equipment Specialist I, 16 years; and Oscar Bustos, Equipment Specialist II, 20 years.



From left: Jim Bonville, Director, Fleet Services, 25 years; and Tony Declue, Assistant GM, 32 years.



From left: Joseph Palumbo, Auto Body Supervisor, 20 years; and Enrique Bellegas, Welder, 30 years.



From left: Alan Morioka, Equipment Mechanic, 4 years; and Kris Goolsby, 20 years.



From left: David Orozco, Equipment Mechanic, 3 years; and Herb Schmid, Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic, 13 years.



From left: Robert Garcia, Auto Painter, 17 years; and Ed Segal, Equipment Mechanic, 20 years.



From left: Jess Tiznado, Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic, 32 years; and Bryant Tarumoto, New Car Prep-Tech Services, 5 years.



From left: Jose Hernandez, Equipment Mechanic, 5 years; John Nerio, Welder, 15 years.



Alvin Blain, General Manager, 31 years; Dave Wilson, Equipment Superintendent, 30 years; and Rob Simanovich, Equipment Specialist, 20 years.



From left: Leo Villasenor, Equipment Mechanic, 19 years; and Louis Armstrong, Retired, General Services after 32 years.



Allie Taylor, Clerk Typist, 30 years.



From left: Rosa Ruiz, Clerk Typist, 10 years; Shannon Cahill-Hayman, Sr. Clerk Typist, 6 years; and Lydia Chagolla, Clerk Typist, 1 year.

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A male and female basketball league is forming.

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MEN & WOMEN: JOIN TODAY!

SEASONS: Spring league is between January and April. Summer league is between June and August. Fall league is between October and December.

REGISTRATION FEES: \$225 per team

OFFICIALS: \$30 per game

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
Jose Aviles
All City Basketball League
P.O. Box 20852
Los Angeles, CA. 90006
(323) 839-9696
javiles243@yahoo.com