



During last year's National Dispatchers Week, Stephanie Brown-Smith, Police Service Representative, sits in front of her console ready to provide assistance.

## Thank a Dispatcher

### ■ LAPD to note National Dispatchers Week in April. Tour signups are available.

Story and photo by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

Make sure you thank an LAPD 911 emergency dispatcher during the second week of April, which has been designated National Dispatchers Week April 10-16.

As we did last year, the Club is proud to donate prizes for the festive week, which is being recognized locally by the LAPD.

In 1992, then President George H. Bush proclaimed the second full week of April as National Dispatchers' Week to honor the hard working and often overlooked police dispatchers throughout the country who provide a vital service to their communities. Los Angeles Police Department's Communications Division is responsible for the operation of the Los Angeles City 9-1-1 system and the police dispatch system. Our dispatchers, known as Police Service Representatives (PSRs) are an integral part of the public safety net. In 2004, they answered 3.3 million calls while providing dispatching service to field officers.

Among the activities Communications Division has planned to honor and thank the PSRs will be the presentation of Communications Division's Annual Most Valuable PSR awards.

Each year, a PSR from each watch and a supervisor are selected by their coworkers as best epitomizing the spirit of teamwork, service to the community and leadership that is the hallmark of Communications Division.

Communications Division has two dispatch centers that handle the 911 calls and the police dispatch system. An Open House will be held in each of the new high-tech, state-of-the-art dispatch centers. Open houses are scheduled:

- Tuesday, April 12, at the Metropolitan Communications Dispatch Center (MCDC). The MCDC is at 100 North Los Angeles St. in Los Angeles.
- Monday, April 11, at the Valley Communications Dispatch Center (VCDC). The VCDC is located at 23001 Roscoe Boulevard in West Hills.

Open House tours will be provided for all police officers, City employees, members of the media and other interested parties only during these scheduled times: 12:30 a.m., 8 a.m., 10 a.m., 1 p.m., 5 p.m., and 8 p.m., on each center's respective open house dates.

To RSVP for a tour or questions concerning this event, please contact PSR Marco Mendoza, Community Relations Unit, Communications Division at (213) 978-6511 or (213) 978-6510.

PSRs Marco Mendoza and Marisol Vielma provided information for this story.



From left: Susan Smetana, Supervisor; Alejandro Sanchez, Equipment Operator, 5 years; and Dave Waldner, Assistant Chief of Construction and Maintenance.

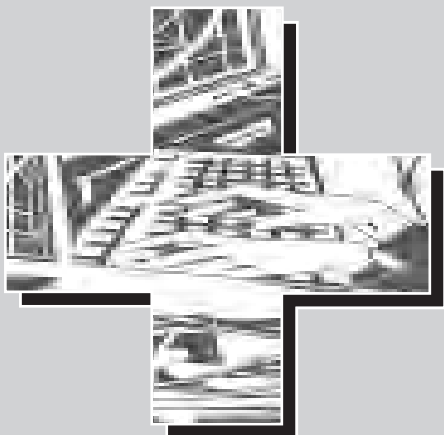
## Employee of the Quarter

Story and photos by Liz Montes, Club Counselor

### ■ On March 8, LAX named Alejandro Sanchez as its employee of the quarter. He was awarded at LAX.

#### Here is his commendation:

As an Equipment Operator, Alex Sanchez has proven to be an asset to the Construction and Maintenance Division. Alex is a dedicated employee and a team player who takes pride in a job well done. He can be depended upon to complete his duties thoroughly and goes above and beyond what is asked of him. Alex is assigned to the Asphalt Paving Crew. He demonstrates a high level of initiative and pays close attention to detail. Alex is a natural leader who takes an active roll in training new employees and assists his supervisors whenever needed. He continuously thinks of good recommendations and his contributions to projects are always positive and constructive.



CITY EMPLOYEES ARE INVITED TO TOUR THE LAPD'S EXCELLENT 911 EMERGENCY DISPATCH CENTERS AS PART OF NATIONAL DISPATCHERS WEEK.

#### OPEN HOUSES ARE SCHEDULED:

- **Tuesday, April 12**  
Metropolitan Communications Dispatch Center (MCDC)  
100 N. Los Angeles St., Los Angeles
- **Monday, April 11**  
Valley Communications Dispatch Center (VCDC)  
23001 Roscoe Blvd., West Hills

#### TO RSVP:

Contact PSR Marco Mendoza  
(213) 978-6511 or (213) 978-6510.

**Open House tours** will be provided for all police officers and City employees during these scheduled times: 12:30AM, 8AM, 10AM, 1PM, 5 PM, and 8PM on each center's respective open house dates.



# Float Your Boat, for Free

Free Boat Tours During  
**World Trade Week**  
May 14 - 15

■ **Port of LA offers free boat tours in observance of World Trade Week May 14 - 15. The whole family is invited.**

Free boat tours of the Port of Los Angeles will be available to Southland residents and visitors Saturday and Sunday May 14 and 15, in observance of World Trade Week 2005. The hour-long tours of the nation's busiest port will depart both days between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. from Ports O'Call Village in San Pedro and Banning's Landing in Wilmington.

An impressive array of ships, machinery, wildlife and other sights unique to the harbor provides a fascinating sightseeing adventure for visitors of all ages.

After the tours, visitors can enjoy the shops and restaurants in Ports O'Call Village, learn about harbor area history at the Los Angeles Maritime Museum, or take free rides on the Port's Waterfront Red Car Line. The Red Cars offer free transfers to the rubber-tire San Pedro Electric Trolley, to access the shops, galleries and restaurants in historic downtown San Pedro, and to Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, Cabrillo Beach and the Cabrillo Beach Bathhouse. The Waterfront Red Car Line also goes to the Cruise Ship Promenade, where visitors can stroll the

beautiful new boardwalk and visit the historic S.S. Lane Victory, a floating museum.

In addition, exhibits at Ports O' Call Village and Banning's Landing Community Center will highlight the Port's upcoming waterfront development projects. Reservations are not required for the free boat tours, which board on a first-come, first-served basis. Handicap passenger access is available at each departure point.

Information about the Port's World Trade Week Boat Tours program is available 24 hours a day on the Port's toll-free special events line at (800) 831-PORT; at (310) 732-3508 during normal business hours; and at [www.portoflosangeles.org](http://www.portoflosangeles.org).

World Trade Week is a national, month-long program of tours, seminars and other events to educate the public about the importance of international trade to the local economy. For information about other local World Trade Week activities, call the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce at (213) 580-7538, or visit the official event website, [www.worldtradeweek.com](http://www.worldtradeweek.com).