

Accounting for Success

■ City accounting association holds conference on leadership.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor
Photos courtesy LAMAAA

The Los Angeles Municipal Accountants and Auditors Association (LAMAAA), a group of Los Angeles government-based accountants and auditors, held its "Managing for Success: Accounting and Auditing Leadership" March 10 in the auditorium of the John Ferraro Building, DWP.

LAMAAA is a professional organization of municipal and local government accounting, fiscal and auditing practitioners with a membership of more than 300. The conference was a City-sponsored event. All those who participated were either City or DWP employees.

The event was to have LAMAAA members listen and learn new, exciting and innovation things for accountants and auditors, to learn of best practices both within government systems or in the private sector. Experts from outside companies served as most of the conference speakers.

Special guests included Margie Castro, Financial Systems Manager, DWP; Ronald Vasquez, CFO, DWP; Marcus Allen, Chief Deputy Controller, Controller's Office; Farid Saffar, Director of Auditing, Controller's Office;

Greg Mathews, Deputy Director of Auditing, Controller's Office; Faith Mok, CFO, Rec and Parks; Julia Kirwan, Executive Director, Mayor's OMB; Bill Lamb, Director of Financial Reporting, Controller's Office; Amy Robles, LAMAAA Board Officer; and Waneé Jeerapaet, LAMAAA Chairperson.

The group's mission is:

- To develop members and assist them acquire the necessary skills to promote themselves towards better positions and responsibilities.
- To promote and perpetuate the prestige and professional status of municipal accountants and auditors.
- To assist each other and develop professional camaraderie, team spirit and cooperation among its members.
- To develop and improve educational techniques in management, commercial, proprietary, governmental accounting and auditing.

It accomplishes its mission by:

- Present experts as guest speakers at monthly meetings.
- Host trainings, seminars and other educational programs.
- Publish online newsletters and other informational materials.



From left: Julie Barba; Amy Robles; Margie Castro, Financial Systems Manager, DWP, Club Member; Faith Mok; Perla Obal, DWP, Club Member; Kanda Law; and Vicky Ancajas.

- Provide opportunities for members to know and network with their colleagues in other agencies and departments.

ground or degree in accounting but are in a different job classification.

Applicants must fill out a membership application form and submit it with a \$10 donation to the LAMAAA representative in his/her department.

How to become a member:

LAMAAA membership is open to all current employees of the City of Los Angeles who are either performing accounting, auditing or fiscal functions or have the required educational back-

The Club thanks Martin Chavez of the Harbor Dept., for his assistance.



From left: Jerome Blair, guest; Lina Laurel, guest; Margie Castro, Financial Systems Manager, DWP, Club Member; and Zita Botaucó, DWP, Club Member.



Thanks, ladies, for checking everyone in.



From left: Zita Botaucó, DWP, Club Member; Margie Castro, DWP, Club Member; Ronald Vasquez, DWP; Juanita Inton, Public Works; Perla Obal, DWP, Club Member; and Waneé Jarapaet, Housing.



Back: Craig Bloomquist; Director, Bureau of Accounting, Public Works. Front: Margie Castro, Financial Systems Manager, DWP, Club Member; Perla Obal, Utility Accountant, DWP, Club Member; Nimfa Malabuyoc, Assistant Director, Bureau of Accounting, Public Works.



From left: Margie Castro, Financial Systems Manager, DWP, Club Member; and Sher Shah, Finance Manager, Harbor.



From left: Margie Castro, Financial Systems Manager, DWP, Club Member; Amanda Dyson, President, Association of Government Accountants (AGA); Greg Matthews, Deputy Director of Auditing, City Controller's Office; Farid Saffar, Director of Auditing, City Controller's Office; and Amy Robles, Audit Division, City Controller's Office.



From left: Thelma Yee, DWP; and Margie Castro, Financial Systems Manager, DWP, Club Member.

Haven House

Helping battered women and their children on their way towards a life free of violence.

We need your help to help save lives. You can help in so many ways – cash donations, clothing, food, volunteering. Every little bit helps more than you'll know. Every donation is greatly appreciated – no matter how much. Contact us today at 626.564.8880 to find out how you can help.

For more information on how to donate, please visit our website at www.havenhousela.org or call us at (626) 564-8880.

If you or someone you know needs help, call us now at our **24-Hour Hotline – 1-323-681-2626.**

Haven House is the oldest shelter of its kind in the United States, founded in 1964 to shelter families of violent alcoholics.

Our services include counseling services for women and children in residence and counseling for community clients who are not residents of the shelter.

- Emergency shelter, food and clothing
- Bilingual counseling services for both adults and children
- Assistance with finding permanent housing
- Assistance with finding employment
- Court and social services advocacy
- Assistance with getting welfare
- Legal assistance (TRO's etc.)
- Medical Services

