

## ClubFest '05: City Bands Give New Festive Feel

■ Get tickets now for Club's big party, to feature City bands, cool contests ... plus great food and fun.



**THE CLUB** — Get ready for big, new features for ClubFest 2005, giving the fantastic party a different feel ... but with all the same great food and fun.

Tickets are now on sale; prices go up Sept. 1, so don't wait! Get them with the application in this issue of *Alive!*, at Club headquarters, or through your Club Counselor. ClubFest tickets are limited to 9 tickets per each Club member. Tickets are available only to Club members.

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## DWP Linemen Show Skills in Annual Rodeo

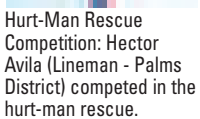
■ Pole-climb, crossarm, dead-end, insulator and jumper change-out competitions? It must be the annual DWP Lineman's Rodeo.

Story by Gale Harris, DWP  
Photos by Michelle Moreno, Club Events Guru, and courtesy the DWP

DWP — Excitement and loads of fun were the order of the day when more than 2,000 people — DWP employees, friends, family and linemen from several utilities — gathered May 14 at DWP's Truesdale Training Center in Sun Valley for the 14th annual Lineman's Rodeo and Family Festival.

Sponsored by DWP and IBEW Union Local 18, the rodeo offered linemen a chance to test their skills

See DWP Rodeo, Page 52



Hurt-Man Rescue Competition: Hector Avila (Lineman - Palms District) competed in the hurt-man rescue.



Sea lions (right) and a children's play zone are part of the exciting new L.A. Zoo entrance plaza (below), which marks the beginning of many upgrade projects at the Griffith Park institution.

**Sea Lions at the Gate!**



Kris Willis, Animal Keeper, demonstrating sea lion training techniques.

**S**ea lions, children's zone, a summer of fun ... the Zoo opens its eagerly awaited entrance plaza in grand style!

Photos by Tad Motoyama and Jamie Pham, Zoo photographers

**ZOO DEPT.** — A two-and-a-half year construction project is coming to an end this summer as the Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens opens Sea Lion Cliffs within the new California-themed front entrance. Visitors will now be greeted by frolicking sea lions before venturing off to learn about animals from all over the globe.

"This is a very exciting time for Los Angeles," said Zoo Director John Lewis. "We are now able to share a magnificent home for the Zoo's California sea lions. These improvements will enhance the visitor experience as well as provide a better life for these aquatic treasures."

Nine acres at the Zoo's entrance have been transformed into a

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# Sea Lions Are Zoo's New Hello

## Zoo Improvements

Continued from Page 1

new entry plaza that includes Sea Lion Cliffs and the Children's Discovery Center. On the ground level of the 60-foot-tall, steel framework entryway are ticketing booths and the Zoo's new entrance and exits. The steel framework structure allows for placement of banners, signage and lighting. There also are plans for the installation of a giant television screen for multimedia presentations in the future.

"When the new entrance to the Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens was envisioned, we wanted a safer way for visitors to access the facility," said Councilmember Tom LaBonge. "But what we now have is so much more — a new Children's Discovery Center and Sea Lion Cliffs and beautiful stairway/ramp with a meandering waterfall. It just doesn't get much better!"

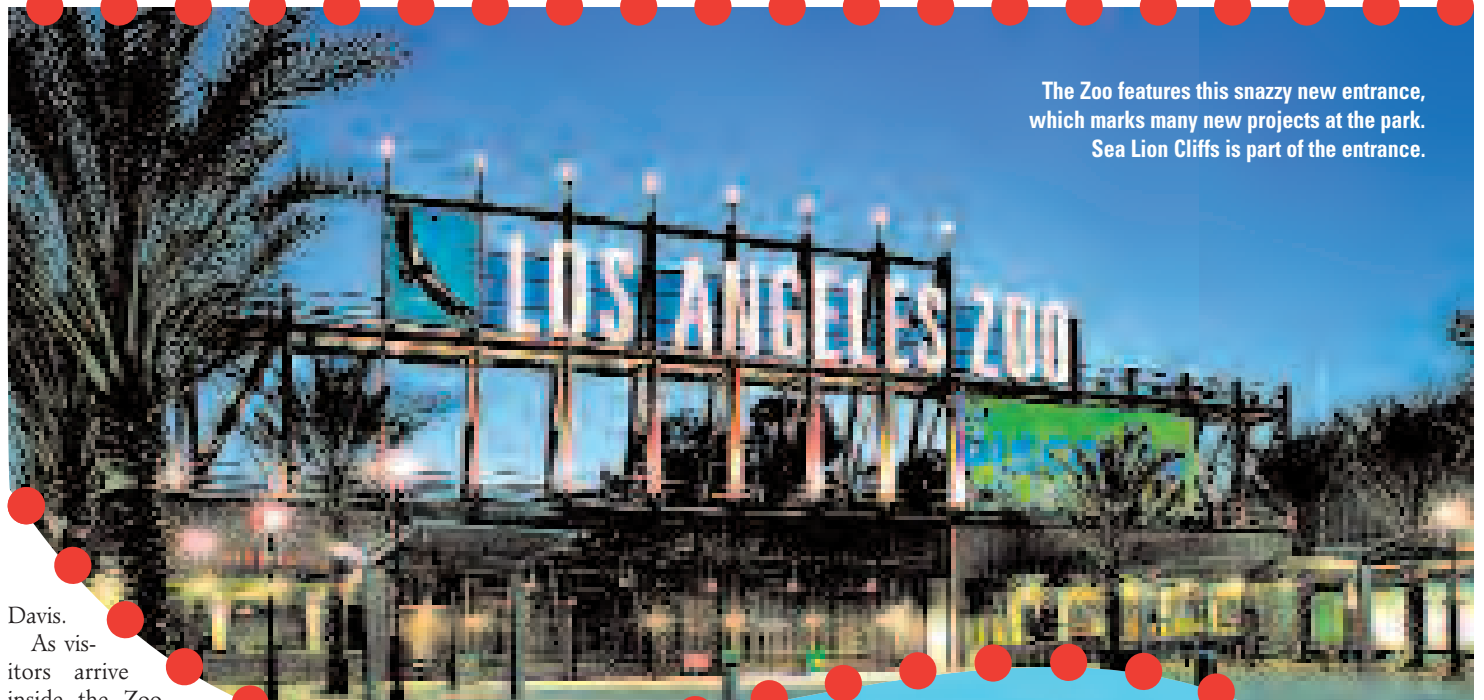
This new entrance was designed to ensure that guests begin their Zoo experience from the moment they enter the parking lot. A section of the windows of the sea lion habitat can be seen from the parking lot, and while visitors are standing in line to buy tickets they will be able to see playful California sea lions in their saltwater environment.

This entrance complex, which opened in January, was funded by 1996's Proposition K and by Proposition CC, which was passed overwhelmingly by Los Angeles City voters in 1998. Cost for the entire complex is approximately \$28 million. Of that amount, the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association (GLAZA) has contributed approximately \$6 million in funding towards the Children's Discovery Center to help the Zoo create one of the region's premiere entry gateways and informal science education facilities.

"We are delighted about the opening of the Zoo's new front entry plaza and the Children's Discovery Center," said Connie Morgan, President of the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association (GLAZA), whose mission is to raise funds in support of the Zoo programs and capital projects. "This project has attracted some of Los Angeles' most prominent philanthropic organizations and individuals who have so eloquently placed their seal of approval on the 25,000 square-foot, state-of-the-art, interactive educational facility."

Just inside the new California-themed front entrance is Sea Lion Cliffs, the new home to the Zoo's five sea lions, which opened to the public June 23. The design is reflective of the Channel Islands, where large populations of sea lions live. There is a replica of a rocky cove containing two large pools of water with varied depths and a beach area. A naturalistic slide built into the rockwork allows these ocean mammals the opportunity to exercise, and the beach area provides visitors the opportunity to see feedings and other demonstrations. Visitors can watch the sea lions either through the glass underwater viewing area, at a water-level view, or at the above water viewing area that features a small seating area for behavioral demonstrations. There is also a holding building that includes two bedrooms and two other pools behind-the-scenes for the sea lions to use when they are not on exhibit.

The new Sea Lion Cliffs, a saltwater habitat, is a giant step for providing a comfortable environment for these aquatic animals. Currently, the Zoo's sea lions are kept in two freshwater exhibits and therefore require salt supplements. Sea lions need salt for proper maintenance of their eyes and skin. Sea Lion Cliffs and the front entry plaza were designed by the San Francisco-based architectural firm of Esherick Homsey Dodge &



The Zoo features this snazzy new entrance, which marks many new projects at the park. Sea Lion Cliffs is part of the entrance.

Davis.

As visitors arrive inside the Zoo, they will experience a shaded entry courtyard with an olive grove and date palms that depict the region's rich agricultural history. The walkway of the entry plaza includes paving patterns that depict a dry riverbed of the arroyo. A river walk path is adjacent to a grand staircase, both of which lead visitors to the upper plaza and into the gift shops and main Zoo area.

Set on the north end of the entry complex, the Children's Discovery Center represents the new base for all of the Zoo's educational programs. It is dedicated to educating children through a variety of exhibits, programs, classes and lectures. This new location for the Zoo's educational programs enables 250,000 school children who come

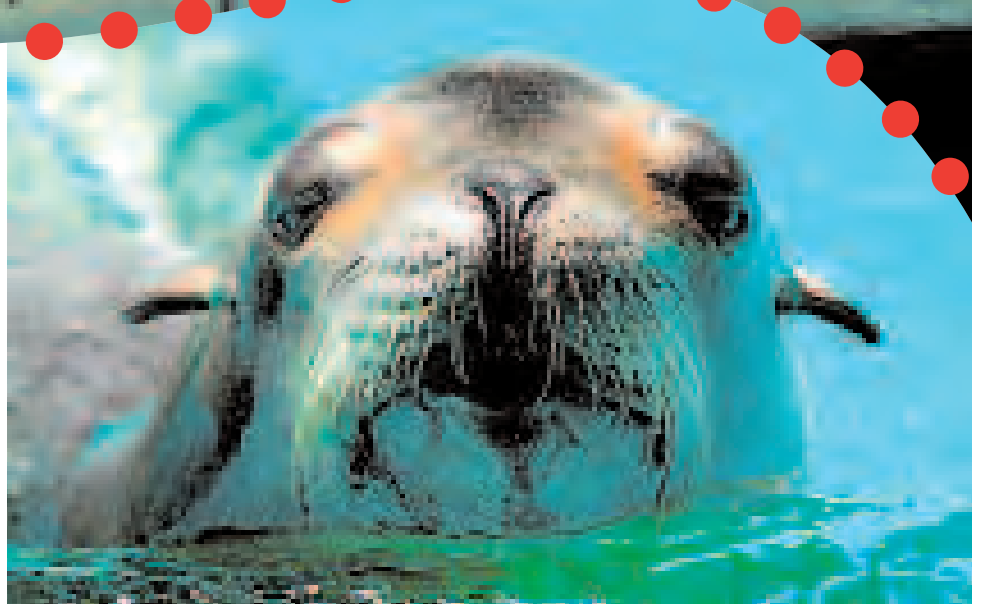
to the Zoo annually on field trips to have a safer and easier access into the facility while providing capacity for even more students. It is also the home for the education staff and more than 900 docents and general volunteers. Design of the Children's Discovery Center includes an auditorium, six classrooms, housing for animals used in the ZooMobile program that travels throughout Los Angeles, and a learning center and plaza. The 250-seat auditorium is a sloped-floor theater to be used for presentations and lectures. It will soon contain a state-of-the-art audio/visual system.

The Children's Discovery Center, designed by the San Francisco architectural firm NBBJ, includes a 3,500-square-foot Discovery Room sponsored by the Bank of America Foundation. The Discovery Room, to open in 2006, will include hands-on displays, sculptures and exhibits highlighting what animals need to survive in the wild. This area will be organized into five discovery zones — Food Zone, Chat Zone, Go Zone, Home Zone and Safety Zone, each focusing on a basic animal need.

Major contributions to this project include the Bank of America Foundation which donated \$500,000 toward the Discovery Room. The Witherbee Foundation also made a gift of \$775,000 to underwrite the auditorium. The W.M. Keck Foundation contributed \$500,000 for the Discovery Plaza, which serves as the entry portal for school-sponsored field trips. Additionally, a matching gift of \$500,000 was provided by the Weingart Foundation, which finalized the campaign fundraising goal.

These gifts join the major gifts of other organizations including the The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, Ahmanson Foundation, Skirball Foundation, Henry L. Guenther Foundation, I.N. and Susanna H. Van Nuys Foundation, Muller Family Living Trust, the Worriss Foundations, the Ludwick Family Foundation and Occidental Petroleum, among others. In addition, IKEA completely furnished the volunteer room for GLAZA's more than 900 volunteers. All of the combined generosity helped build what can only be described as a first-class educational facility, for one of the best wildlife institutions in the country.

Public Works' Bureau of Engineering is managing the project with the assistance of Swinerton Management & Consulting of Los Angeles. Also



Visitors will have sea lions to greet them when the guests first enter the L.A. Zoo.



Stephanie the Animal Keeper and Red the Sea Lion show their mutual affection.



Sea Lion Cliffs, part of the Zoo's new entrance plaza.



The other side of the Zoo's new entrance plaza.

involved in the project are the DWP and Public Works' Bureau of Sanitation.

In celebration of the opening of Sea Lion Cliffs' grand opening, the Los Angeles Zoo splashes into summer with an unforgettable aquatic experience, Sea Lion Summer. Festivities including a "Grand California Coast" sand sculpture, surf music on weekends, sea lion keeper talks, "Under the Sea" crafts, free sea lion education booklets for kids and much more, all to begin July 1st and run through Labor Day. During this time the Zoo's hours will be extended to 6 p.m.

The Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens is in Griffith Park at the junction of the Ventura (134) and Golden State (5) freeways. Admission

is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 2 to 12. The Zoo is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. For general information, call (323) 644-4200 or visit the Website at [www.lazoo.org](http://www.lazoo.org).

The Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens is accredited by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA). The L.A. Zoo is dedicated to providing excellent care for animals, offering visitors a great experience and improving the future for all living things. With more than 200 members, AZA is a leader in global wildlife conservation.

**Wanna be heard?** What do you think about the Zoo's new entrance plaza? Send a letter to the editor! [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

# DWP Linemen Test Their Skills

## DWP Rodeo

Continued from Page 1

while engaging in friendly competition. The events showcased safety techniques, skill and the speed of power utility workers. In addition to the hurt man rescue and the pole climb, competitions were held in crossarm, streetlight, dead-end, insulator and jumper change-outs.

According to Truesdale Training Center Superintendent Bill Davis, the top four teams from DWP will travel to Kansas City, Mo., later this year to represent the department in the International Lineman's Rodeo. The three journeyman teams are: Dennis Honor, Shawn Monahan and Craig Randles; Hector Avila, Nazir Falzi and Wilson Salvador; Omar Diaz, Richard Olguin and Randolph Bowen; and Ben Rodriguez, Troy Couch and Scott Osborn. The apprentice team is Sotero Ramos and Randy Pierson. The apprentice that scored the highest on the written test is Edgar Maciel.

Electrical Distribution Mechanical Supervisor (EDMS) Dave Donovan was the chair for this year's rodeo. He commented, "So much work goes into this event. It takes all of us to do this thing."

Dave succeeded DWP retiree Dick Brown who participated in the first rodeo and went on to compete for 12 years. After that he served as rodeo chair and later became a head judge. In

November 2004, Brown retired from DWP after 35 years of service. His last position was that of supervisor at Truesdale Training.

Fifty teams from public and private companies showed the cheering crowd how challenging the lineman's job can be. The teams were comprised of 28 three-man journeymen and 22 two-man apprentice teams with representatives from DWP, San Diego Gas & Electric, Southern California Edison, Glendale, Burbank and Pasadena Water & Power, and Arizona Power Services.

Representing DWP was the family journeyman team of father, son and cousin (by marriage) Terry and Travis Rappleye and Curt McMillon. When asked about their participation, they all had remarkable things to say about the trade.

"We love what we do...there's so much camaraderie," Terry said.

"We meet guys from other utilities, ...the rodeo helps support the trade," Travis added.

Curt commented, "I like the job and it's fun to come out and show people exactly what we do."

## DWP's 2005 Rodeo Team

### DWP's rodeo team participants included:

Apprentice: Mark Garcia and Edgar Maciel; Sotero Ramos and Randy Pierson; Vincent Leal and Chris Mobus, Troy Flescher and Jess Zitlau.

Journeyman: Omar Diaz, Richard Olguin and Randolph Bowen; Hector Avila, Nazir Falzi and Wilson Salvador; Derek Wert, David Kelly and Erik Jacobsen; Dennis Honor, Shawn Monahan and Craig Randles; Craig Young, Albert Ortiz and Oscar Montelongo; Jeremy Cravatt, Frank Cardenas and Robert Tadeo; Curt McMillon, Travis Rappleye and Terry Rappleye; Ben Rodriguez, Troy Couch and Scott Osborn; Greg Foerstel, Richard Dehemme and Dan Weidlund.

### Family Fun and Interesting Exhibits

Family activities included a donkey ride and a climbing wall for the kids, displays, raffles, live music and delicious food. The event was also an expo for electrical utility vendors to showcase the latest tools, climbing gear and equipment.

The donkey ride was operated by the animal-loving husband and wife team of Sam and Sharon Cadaret, who live in Mojave. Sam, a heavy-duty truck operator, works out of the Van Nuys Yard. As he led the donkeys

around the path, he said, "The kids enjoy this so much. Some just sit and ride ... others ask a ton of questions!"

For the past two years, Sam and Sharon have taken a team of mules and a covered wagon from Lone Pine to Bishop and camped out for a week.

### Mouth-Watering Food

Danny Van Holton, his wife, Debra, and their son, Jason, continued their tradition of barbecuing for the crowd. They were assisted by Dave Donovan's son, Justin. The food was served by Underground District Construction personnel Ashton Flores, Fernando Juarez, Vince Conzano and Alex Valkoff.

Committee member Terry Silva said, "Danny is the best cook west of the Mississippi!"

The Club says congratulations, DWP, on another great rodeo!

family fun



The Donkey Ride entertained Yesenia Lopez, 8 (daughter of Rafael Lopez, EDM - Palms District), and Sam Cadaret (Van Nuys Service Center) wave to passersby as she rode a donkey.

Team DWP strutting its stuff.



LADWP Children's Exhibit: Speakers Bureau member Synthia Gordon (Management Aide - PT&D Energy Distribution) offers a big smile for DWP family members who visited the ever-popular Children's Exhibit. They were joined by Speakers Bureau member Peter Huynh (Senior Utility Accountant), in the background.

The hardworking Rodeo Planning Committee, from left: Lineman's Rodeo Chairman Dave Donovan (EDMS); Truesdale Superintendent Bill Davis; Committee Members Graham Peace (EDMS); and Bill Helfrich (EDM).



The good food was prepared by, from left, Danny Van Holton and his wife, Debra; Justin Donovan (Dave's son); and Jason Van Holton.



The delicious food was served by volunteers (from left) Ashton Flores, Fernando Juarez, Vince Canzano and Alex Valkoff.



Lineman's Rodeo Volunteers, from left: Electrical Craft Helper Terry Silva (Food and T-shirts); Supt. of Safety at Truesdale Mark Berembach (Master Judge); Dick Brown (retired Truesdale Supt.), former Rodeo Chair & Head Judge; and Angelo Reyes (Electrical Line Crew Supervisor), Volunteer Coordinator.



A trio of winners.



A Tribute to Ted L. Dario, Rodeo founder: Michael Dario (EDMS) proudly stands in front of the magnificent monument erected in honor of his late father, founder of the Lineman's Rodeo.



From left: Craig Young, Journeyman Lineman, 1 year; Oscar Montelongo, Journeyman Lineman, 5 years; and Albert Ortiz, Journeyman Lineman, 4 years.



From left: Bill Helfrich, Line Patrol Mechanic, 22 years, and Angelo Reyes, Electrical Distribution Mechanic Supervisor, 25 years.



Friends, family and co-workers captured some exciting footage with their cameras.



Robert Garcia, Warehouse Worker, 5 years, with granddaughters Kayla (bottom) and Viviana Garcia.

safety, skill, speed

The events showcased safety techniques, skill, and the speed of power utility workers.

# friendly competition



Linemen, from left: Travis (EDM - Central District), Terry Rappleye (EDMS - Metro) and Curt McMillon (EDM - West LA). This was their first year competing as journeyman. They won last year as apprentices.



Tony Wilson, Electrical Craft Helper, 2 years, with Harrison Gilbert.



From left: Terry Silva, Electrical Craft Helper, 20 years; Mark Berenbach, Superintendent of Safety, 28 years; Dick Brown, Retired, 35 years; and Angelo Reyes, Electrical Distribution Mechanic Supervisor, 25 years.



From left: Alejandro Pulido, Electrical Distribution Mechanic Trainee Apprentice, 6 months; Billy Barnes, Electrical Distribution Mechanic Trainee Apprentice, 6 months; and Richard Penter, Future Electrical Distribution Mechanic Trainee Apprentice.



From left: Gilbert Sanchez, Stationary Maintenance Painter, 17 years, and Gilbert Sanchez Jr., Electrical Distribution Mechanic Trainee, 1 year.



From left: Wayne Kirkland, Electrical Station Operator, 35 years; and Mark Kirkland, Electrical Distribution Mechanic, 1 year.



Winners and more winners.



From left: Andres Casillas, Electrical Distribution Mechanic Trainee IV, 5 years; Daniel Maciel; Edgar Macial, Electrical Distribution Mechanic Trainee IV, 3 years; and Mark Garcia, Electrical Distribution Mechanic Trainee, 5 years.



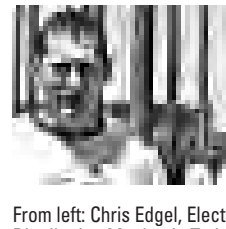
From left: Matt Vaughn, Electrical Craft Helper, 4 years, and his wife, Lisa.



From left: Lauro Montoya, Electrical Craft Helper, 1 year, with son, Andrew.



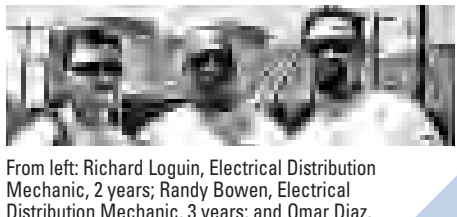
From left: Giovanna Rebabliati, Senior Clerk Typist, 7 years, and Leslie Mirseyedi, Utility Marketing Representative, 28 years.



From left: Chris Edgel, Electrical Distribution Mechanic Trainee, 3 years; and Sotero Ramos, Electrical Distribution Mechanic Trainee, 3 years.



From left: Kevin Murillo, Warehouse Worker, 5 years, with Zane and Melissa Murillo.



From left: Richard Loguin, Electrical Distribution Mechanic, 2 years; Randy Bowen, Electrical Distribution Mechanic, 3 years; and Omar Diaz, Electrical Distribution Mechanic, 3 years.

# hurt man rescue



Hurt-Man Rescue Competition: Hector Avila (Lineman - Palms District) competed in the hurt-man rescue. Other events included the pole climb, crossarm, streetlight, dead-end, insulator, and jumper change-outs.

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