

Top of the Leader Board

■ Rec and Parks' Wilson/Harding Golf Course voted tops in area.

REC AND PARKS DEPT.— In a viewer poll, a local TV station has named the City's Wilson/Harding Golf Course in Griffith Park the area's top municipal golf course.

KCAL 9's 9 on the Town show keeps lists of viewers' favorite attractions. Wilson/Harding was the top vote getter in the 9-bes municipal golf course category.

The course was developed and is maintained by City employees, of course.

"There are some really nice courses on that list," said James Ward, Director of Golf Operations for Rec and Parks. "Ours deserved it."

"Ron Binker, Sr. Park Maintenance Supervisor for all the Griffith courses, sets a really high standard," Ward continued. "And Sergio Guzman and Thomas Frey, Park Maintenance Supervisors, take really good care of the Wilson and Harding courses."



Here's a rundown of the top nine, in reverse order:

9. Simi Hills Golf Course, Simi Valley
8. Strawberry Farms Golf Course, Irvine
7. Coyote Hills Golf Course, Fullerton
6. Lost Canyons, Simi Valley
5. Robinson Ranch, Santa Clarita
4. Black Gold Golf Club, Yorba Linda
3. Brookside, Pasadena
2. Angeles National Golf Club, Sunland
1. Wilson/Harding, Los Angeles



From left: David Sickler, Vice President, Board of Public Works; Paula Daniels, Commissioner; Craig Bloomquist, Director, Office of Accounting; Craig's wife, Cecilia; Valerie Shaw, Commissioner; Cynthia Ruiz, President, Board of Public Works; and James Gibson, Executive Officer.

Kudos to Craig

■ Craig Bloomquist earns 40-year service award from Public Works.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.— At an event Oct. 26, the Board of Public Works presented an award to Craig Bloomquist, Director, Office of Accounting, for his 40 years of service.

A native of Los Angeles, Craig began his City career with the DWP in 1965 as a utility accountant and was promoted through the years to increasingly responsible positions to that of Budget and Financial Planning Manager.

In 1985, he was promoted from the DWP to his current position, the director of Public Works' Office of Accounting, then known as the Bureau of Accounting. The office provides the accounting and financial services for the Department of Public Works and for numerous multi-department special-purpose expenditure programs. Annual expenditure accounting responsibilities are approximately \$1.5 billion.

Some of his notable achievements include implementing automated financial planning systems for both water and power operations at the DWP; proposing and directing the integration of

a large-scale cost accounting system, still used today, with the City's financial management information system; directing the conversion of all wastewater accounting to an enterprise-basis fund; and directing the pilot department implementation of City-wide billing and receivable system. He also sponsored the development and implementation of two Public Works full-featured data ad hoc reporting systems: the Bureau of Accounting ad hoc reporting system, known as BAARS, and more recently, its successor, Merlin.

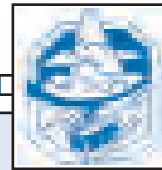
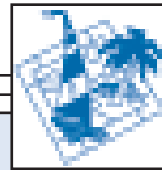
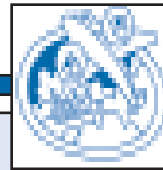
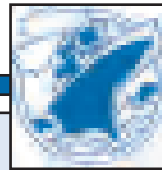
Craig serves on the Board of Advisers of the Los Angeles Civic Center Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants; and is a member of the Government Finance Officers Association and the Institute of Management Accountants. He is also a member of the Board of Advisers and Past President of LAMAAA, the Los Angeles Municipal Accountants and Auditors Association.

He is a certified government financial manager and holds a Bachelor's degree in business administration and accounting for Cal State University Los Angeles, where he also attended the business and economics graduate school.

He is married and has two children. For relaxation, he enjoys using his personal computer for digital photography and videography, maintains his cars, gardening, traveling, walking and taking an occasional poolside nap.

The Club congratulates Craig on a great 40 years.

OFFICIAL CLUB PARTNER



Travel Talk

by Tony Adler, President, Cruise and Resort, Inc. Club Travel Partner



Tony Adler

Hot Spots for The New Year

It is funny how the popularity of certain destinations and types of travel varies from year to year. Of course, some variations are understandable due to natural disasters and instances of terrorism. But some destinations and hotels find they are in the spotlight simply because some famous Hollywood star was photographed there. In any case, our booking patterns at Cruise and Resort (your Club partner) have already shown what is hot and what is not for 2006.

Sizzling

England and France: We have never seen so many people going across the pond. And it's not just London and Paris. Many are choosing to drive the English countryside, stopping for a night or two at medieval castles and charming inns and spas.

Asia: Singapore, Vietnam, China and Thailand are the happening places. Fabulous hotels with amazing service are

part of the appeal in these far-off destinations. Our clients are frequently choosing deluxe tours, but some have asked us to create custom itineraries specifically designed to make their dreams come true.

Hawaii: It is not that Hawaii is any more popular than in past years, but it certainly hasn't lost one drop of its appeal. Four Seasons has taken over and refurbished the luxury hotels on Lanai. Hyatt has upgraded the Hyatt Regency on Kauai and re-branded it the Grand Hyatt. The islands are just spectacular, with new adventures being offered each year. One caveat: book your air early. With all the airline bankruptcies, there are fewer available seats to this island paradise.

Safaris: South Africa, Tanzania and Botswana are being heavily booked for 2006. In fact, we have many safaris that have already filled up. People are certainly attracted by the amazing wildlife, but they also like the cultural and educational opportunities. You no longer have to rough it while on a safari. Some of the accommodations are among the best in the world. It's a big trip, but also an experience that you will treasure for a lifetime. We recommend you spend a day or two in London on the way to Africa.

Cruises: What was once a vacation limited to the very wealthy is now something that has crossed many segments of our society. Mainstream cruise lines have plastered their commercials on TV, successfully introducing cruises to the general public. Some ships now have ice-skating rinks, luxury spas, rock-climbing walls and outdoor theaters. From Los Angeles, the Mexican Riviera cruises are still the most popular because the need to get on an airplane is eliminated. Cruises remain an amazing

value.

Las Vegas: What an amazing vacation destination this has become! Even when our economy suffers, Vegas still packs in the visitors. It is an adult Disneyland with bright lights, dazzling shows, famous restaurants, huge theme resorts, and enough stimuli to nearly make your head explode. Of course, the gambling is still a major attraction, but it is far from the only one. Replicas of Italian cities, Paris, New York and the South Seas shouldn't be missed.

Specialized travel: The hot trends among Americans include family travel,



soft adventure and luxury travel. More and more families travel together, and often to exotic locations. Soft adventure simply means that people are looking for more physical participation in their vacations. Even in Hawaii, the snorkeling adventures and tubing down mountainsides are the desirable excursions. Luxury travel has become trendier as more people have chosen to spend a higher percentage of their disposable income on vacation travel.

Not Hot at All

Bali: An absolutely beautiful destination that very few people want to visit right now. Recent terrorist attacks have contributed to make Bali a vacation destination out of favor.

New Orleans and Cancun: Hurricanes have done terrible things to their tourism industries. They will be back sooner than you might think.

Aruba: Bad things happen everywhere; the disappearance of a young co-ed a few months ago was covered extensively by the media. It may not be fair to this Caribbean resort destination, but the reality is that we haven't had anybody ask to go there for quite a while.

My company is Cruise and Resort. We are honored to be the Club's travel partner. Cruise and Resort can help you with all sorts of vacations, including winter adventures. Please give us a call at (888) 652-6400 with any questions and for reservations. We appreciate all your business, including leisure, business and meeting planning! Not only can we book your member reservations at any hotel, resort or cruise line, we can often save you money and offer you additional Club benefits. Your Club membership means you never pay extra for this service.

Call your Club representatives at (888) 652-6400

Julie, David or Kristy – to talk about any travel destination. Be sure to mention that you are a Club member for your maximum discounts. We value your business and look forward to the opportunity to assist you.