

# LETTERS To the Editor

## Club Member Is Proud Her Grandfather Was Part of Central Receiving Hospital

I was very happy and proud to read the paragraphs about Charles "Charlie" Whitehead in the October 2005 article regarding the razing of Central Receiving Hospital. You see, Charlie was my grandfather, who helped lay the groundwork for two succeeding generations of City employees.



The current Central Receiving Hospital under construction in 1956. The hospital is scheduled to be razed.

Both his son, Charles, and son-in-law, Al Cuttrel (my father), were Los Angeles Firefighters. My five siblings and I followed the family tradition and entered City employment. I am the last still working, and, although I never had the privilege of knowing him, I have the honor of stating that Charlie Whitehead was my grandfather.

Charlie's youngest child, my mother, Kathryn Cuttrel, who is about to celebrate her 91st birthday, still reminds us of her father's commitment to the City and his contributions to the growth of Central Receiving Hospital.

Thank you for resurrecting his memory and recognizing his role in the rich history of Central Receiving Hospital.

— Julie Cuttrel,  
Gen. Services, Club Member

some interesting times. As you stand on Sixth Street and look at the lawn east of the entrance road, there are a couple of trees on the far north side of the lawn. I am a creature of habit and always sat by one of those.

Every so often, I would get my courage up and sit on the bench on the loading dock. Occasionally an ambulance driver would speak to me.

I recall the car belonging to the medical director (he once even spoke to me!). It bore a City seal and had a single red (can) light on top, dead center (like the twin cans LAPD had for years, only it was just by itself), but no siren. I thought it looked kind of strange even then.

Not only was there the connection between my interests and the hospital, I knew there would be a future year when I would be there as a candidate. I took my physical there in 1976. I now have 28 years with the LAPD.

In my early years on the Department, the transition period to paramedics was still in process. I often wondered if some of the older LAFD drivers/attendants and paramedics I was now working with those who had driven past me years before.

— Lt. David D. Young, LAPD

## City's Website Shows Us Slip-Sliding Away

When I go to the official Website for the City of Los Angeles (www.lacity.org), I notice in the top right corner of the home page in capital blue letters "LA" referring to the City of Los Angeles. The bottom left corner of the "LA" appears to be breaking off and sliding down a hill. I would like to know what this means and why it is there. My guess is that it stands for an earthquake, and part of Los Angeles is breaking off and sliding down a hill.

If this is the official Website for Los Angeles and people who are looking for jobs or other City info use this Website, then wouldn't this scare them if they think like I do and believe this symbol means an earthquake disaster in our City? Imagine if Miami used a hurricane or Kansas City used a twister on their official Website to greet people.

If anyone at the Club knows what this means and who designed it and why it appears on the official Website for the City of Los Angeles, please let me know and perhaps let the other Club members know as well.

— Rick A. Rinehart, LAPD, Club Member

## These Alive! Readers Just Don't Like to Waste Words

I really was surprised that I received my movie tickets in the mail ... the next day!

— Victoria Thomas, Club Member

The City Employees Club is a great club and I would never leave the Club for any reason.

— Fredi Macias, Library

I enjoy your newspaper. Also, whenever I order movie tickets, the service I get is both prompt and efficient. So thanks for everything.

— Lt. David Young, LAPD

## He Thanks Those From City in Katrina Efforts

I had no clue that we regular City employees went over to help in the Hurricane Katrina rescue effort. It feels good to know that not only LA City Firefighters went to help, but that Building and Safety, DWP, and Harbor employees helped as well. Those are some amazing photos of the areas they were stationed. I want to give my thanks to all those City employees that went over to help the people over there. Good work, everyone.

— Harry Glaus, Rec and Parks

## There Must Be Something Special in the Club Water

The babies in the births section are so cute! There seems to be a great number of City babies being born. I guess there's going to be a huge number of applicants for City jobs in about 20 years!

— Georgina Glasgow, Gen. Services

## He's Happy to See Lots Of Departments in Alive!

It is nice to see stories about City departments that we don't hear about regularly, like the Community Development Department and their In-N-Out fundraising event. I even saw some employees that I recognize.

I also want to mention that I was happy for Robert Saenz and his retirement. He's a good guy, and I wish him the best. *Alive!* did a great job of covering his story.

— Tim Pirozzi, DWP

## Ticket Guy Adds Another To His Growing Fan Club

I spoke to Navin [Cotton], and he gave me the discount on Disney tickets. Thanks for being such a nice guy! Every time I have spoken to the Ticket Guy, he's been just great!

Many blessings

— Mary Del Bono, Club Member

## Hal, StubHub and Eric Make Issue Memorable

I just got my *Alive!* Hal's article of his fishing trip was great. It all sounded soooo great; I hope I can make it up there one day.

I used StubHub's 800 number and ordered tickets for my daughter to see Brooks and Dunn in October. It was fast and easy, and the operator was so kind and helpful.

The retiree section is fantastic and the financial advice column by Eric Garcia will be an asset for both retirees and active members.

— Dave Muraoka, Van Nuys Jail,  
Club Board Member

## WRITE TO US TODAY!

Send your letters by email to  
talkback@cityemployeesclub.com or conventionally:

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World Trade Center  
350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700  
Los Angeles, CA 90071

## She Proposes to Join Us All Together With Dancing

I love reading your publication and, I'm sure other employees do, too. You cover a lot of variety. We hear and read too much about politics, our readers want to be entertained, too. It is also my goal to have City employees get united through "dancing." I know a lot of friendship, camaraderie and networking have developed since I formed the DWP Dance Club, and I want to open the doors to all associations. So, let's be united through dancing.

— Lourdes Zerrudo, DWP

## After Hearing Chatter, He's Sorry He Missed ClubFest

After I heard what a great time many of my coworkers had, I am sorry now that I missed ClubFest. I won't miss next year's, that's for sure. Is it true that you had all you can eat barbecue and that you had real live bands playing? That sounds so great if it was true, and I really wish I was there even more. I would like to see photos of ClubFest if you have any. It has been the talk around the office for weeks! Put me on your pre-sale ticket list if you have one.

— Gerald Johnson, Gen. Services

That's right, Gerald. Please read our cover (and related) stories this month, and make sure to stay tuned for next month, too. —Ed.

## Central Hospital Article Brought Back Memories

Thank you for your article on the Central Receiving Hospital. I loved it and appreciated the stories more than you know. I wish I had photographs...one of many regrets! If you know of any future events/activities, I would appreciate being informed.

In 1955, my parents moved to a house four blocks from where Central Receiving would be built. I was one year old.

I have an early childhood memory riding in a car on Sixth Street. I recall dirt and construction activity on what is now the front lawn. I would have been two or three. Not impossible, but I have so few other memories from that age, the question that I have never answered is why I would remember this.

As a child I went to Central Receiving for a variety of injuries. I remember those visits, some vividly and with nothing but good memories — that is, being treated well by doctors and nurses. I can't necessarily say that about other healthcare providers growing up, so I think it's significant that my memories of Central Receiving are all good.

By junior high I had decided on a career in law enforcement. In high school (late 1960s — early 1970s), I would often sit on the front lawn reading books while watching ambulances arrive/take off and the occasional police cars doing the same. For a young boy with my interests, those were

## The Word on the Street



Cecilia Talbot,  
Club Claims Administrator

You probably won't get to meet Club Claims Administrator Cecilia Talbot very often ... until you really need her. That's when her service shines. So, to assure you that you are in good hands, from time to time *Alive!* will reprint letters commending the service given by Cecilia and her excellent staff. —Ed.

Excellent service! The courtesy Extended to me was great during a very difficult time. Personal assistance was available when needed (which was very much appreciated). Thank you Cecilia and all the other kind people who expressed their sympathy. Thank you for the card & book!

— Anna H., July 2005

Very good service ... you were very helpful.

— Carol T., August 2005

Cecilia always gave excellent service. She always answered my phone calls ... promptly.

— Angela R., August 2005

Excellent service! The letter and ebook [*The Fall of Freddie the Leaf*] were an unexpected surprise. No one plans the death of a child. Without the Club, I wouldn't have had any death benefits. Thank you for the calls, flowers, letter and book. They are appreciated.

— Milton E. Reynolds, April 2005

PRAISE

# TRUST THE CLUB

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with your family's insurance needs.

Trust the Club...  
with your long-term  
disability concerns.

We have more than \$2 billion  
of insurance in force,  
protecting you and your family.

...Trust the Club