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SERVING OVER 17,000 CITY AND DWP EMPLOYEES

Los Angeles | Vol. 5 ■ No. 9 | Sept. 2006



[www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com)

## Login: First Step to New Club Website

■ **There's a new Club Website. First step: Create an account, and then log in.**

**THE CLUB** — The Club introduces a new Club Website to serve you better.

Beginning Sept. 1, the Club Website will require you to use a username and password. That way, we can serve you more quickly and efficiently.

To create a user account, you will need your Membership number and the last four digits of your Social Security Number. And then you will choose a username and password. You will use them after Sept. 1 to access all the great Club services on the Web.

Don't worry if you don't have your Membership card or know your Member number. Email us at [login@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:login@cityemployeesclub.com) 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and we'll provide you with that information. Or call Club Headquarters at (800) 464-0452 weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Stay tuned for more information!**

## First Meeting Shows Public Safety on Rise

■ **Oversight Committee for new Office of Public Safety meets for first time and is told that consolidation went smoothly, calls for service are up.**

**GENERAL SERVICES** — The historic consolidation of the City's (non-police) security services into one office in General Services took place in February. The Oversight Committee for the new office met July 26 for the first time, an important step in the continued strengthening of the City's public safety services.

The Oversight Committee's first meeting took place at City Hall's Public Works Board Room.

The new Office of Public Safety consolidates officers from the following departments:

- Library
- Rec and Parks
- Convention Center; and
- Zoo

— See Oversight Committee, Page 9



City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700  
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## Laemmle Tickets!

Get the famous Club discount on Laemmle Theatres.

See page 19 for details or go to [www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com)



# ClubFest 2006 Almost Here!

■ **ClubFest could sell out any minute. Don't wait any longer to get your tickets!**

THE CLUB — Music, food, raffles, fun ... the best ClubFest ever is right around the corner. Don't be shut out ... get your tickets now!

ClubFest is set for Sunday, Oct. 1, at Calamigos Ranch, in the hills above Malibu.

ClubFest 2006 once again includes party bands with a City employee connection: one band from last year, and two new ones for your enjoyment.

Attendance is limited to just 1,500, assuring attendees a relaxed and comfortable day. But that means tickets are limited, so don't miss out.

ClubFest is co-sponsored by AIG and Office Depot. Prizes co-sponsored by Universal Studios.

Tickets are \$20 for all adults, free for children four and younger, and \$10 for children four through twelve. For adults, that's a savings of more than \$25 off the actual cost of the ticket.

Three bands are scheduled to play almost continuously from start to finish, one at a time. Check out the related story for information on the bands.



**ClubFest**  
October 1, 2006

10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Calamigos Ranch (above Malibu)

**The new features and the new feel of ClubFest 2006 are in addition to the usual great ClubFest features:**

- great food, including shredded beef, beans, corn, salad, potato salad, and all the trimmings
- hot dog carts and unlimited ice cream treats and soft drinks
- fun booths, including a dunk tank, a moon bounce, a water slide, etc.
- Tons of raffle prizes
- bingo
- pony rides and hayrides
- face painting

**Ticket prices for ClubFest 2006:**

- All tickets will be \$20 for adults; free for children under four; \$10 for children four through twelve.

**Tickets are now on sale. Get them:**

- by using the ticket form on page 31
- at Club headquarters, or
- through your Club Counselor.

**Don't wait! Buy today!**



**Win \$200!**

## The Amazing Club Race RETURNS



■ **Exciting "Amazing Club Race" returns for a second year. Sign up at ClubFest!**

THE CLUB — Running, Swimming, Eating, Gathering Clues.

**WIN \$200!**

Two-person teams will try to be the first to find clues and perform various tasks to win fabulous prizes! Do you have what it takes? Tony Williams, DWP, does ... he won the inaugural Amazing Club Race at last year's ClubFest.

**Sign-ups will be at ClubFest.**

**Running,  
Swimming,  
Eating &  
Gathering Clues!**



Only 20 teams will be accepted to participate in the Amazing Club Race.

- Teams will consist of two adults (18 and older).
- Please note that there will be swimming, running and eating contests involved.
- The race will be 30 to 45 minutes long.
- Teams will be given tasks to perform.
- The first team to finish wins \$200.
- Check-in by 11:30 a.m. Race will commence at 11:45 a.m.



## ClubFest 2006: Schedule of Bands

**10:30 a.m. – noon:  
Jamnesia**

Jamnesia, an established rock, blues, funk and R&B band, was formed in the early 1990s by bass player Rick Williams, Warehouse and Tool Worker, at the Harbor Department.

Jamnesia also includes: Teri Williams, vocals; Titus Smith, Lieutenant, Port Police, percussion; Lee Tyiska, vocals and percussion; "Big" Walt Fletcher, guitar; Doug Lloyd, keyboards; Hugh Laxenetta, guitar and vocals; and Rick Williams Jr., drums, who wants to grow up and work for the City, just like his dad, Rick Sr.



**12:30 – 2 p.m.:  
The Latin Gents**

The Latin Gents play a variety of Latin, swing, oldies but goodies, rock and roll and country. They have something for everybody and were a big hit at last year's ClubFest.

They have been playing in the Los Angeles area for about seven years. They originally started out as a trio and over the years added an additional three musicians. All together, there is a pianist, trombonist, saxophonist, guitarist, bassist and a drummer. They all are able to beautifully sing and harmonize together, making the group very versatile.

Leading the Latin Gents is Ralph Ronda, an elevator mechanic for the DWP, and Carlos Montejano. Ralph plays the drums and Carlos plays bass. The other members are Billy Ahlswede on keyboards, Rudy Roman on sax, Hirth Martinez on guitar and Paul Costellanos on trombone.

These men are not just musicians but good friends who enjoy what they do. "Music is a universal language that everybody enjoys, and those who have heard the us always have a great time listening and dancing to tunes they enjoy," Ralph says. Ralph would also like to thank all those at the DWP who have supported them over the years.

**2:30 – 4 p.m.:  
Bad Boyz & Company**

The Boyz cover rock, Motown, soul, oldies and their own originals. Based in San Pedro, the band has appeared in the Harbor area at Music by the Sea, the Brewing Company and the Warner Grand Theatre, winning the "battle of the bands" at the Taste of San Pedro in 2006. The Bad Boyz have also played Latitudes in Manhattan Beach and the Brass Elephant in Monrovia and are seen monthly at Taco Beach in Long Beach.

Bad Boyz & Company consists of Fernando Magallanes, drums; Byron "Kenny" Cole, bass; Horace Coleman, Traffic Officer, Transportation, lead vocals; Chris "Doc" McCollum, keyboards and vocals; and Mike Bailey, guitar and vocals.



**To get your tickets, use the order form on page 31.**

# Public Safety Office: Well Begun

## Oversight Committee

Continued from Page 1

At the meeting, the committee was given general information about the new office, and was updated with current statistics about its services.

### Status Update

- The committee was told:
- General Services is a service provider to client departments.
- The Office of Public Safety staff meets monthly with client department staff to resolve concerns and improve service.
- Overall deployment, training and background standards have been enhanced by efficiencies realized by implementation of the consolidation plan.
- A Memorandum of Agreement has been negotiated with the LAPD, defining both LAPD and General Service's scope of responsibility at City facilities including more than 400 parks, 72 libraries, the Convention Center, Zoo and a variety of municipal buildings.
- A Senior Lead Officer (SLO) is assigned to each of Public Safety's seven patrol districts to meet and resolve concerns with community groups, City staff and elected officials with a primary focus on "quality of life" issues affecting facilities and the community.
- Public Safety staff works closely with the LAPD and the Mayor's Office on security improvements recommended as part of the "Archangel" program.

"The Office of Public Safety is a customer-based organization," General Services General Manager Alvin Blain said. "This philosophy is not new to General Services. We have always been customer-based, so the Office of Public Safety services are merely an extension of an existing philosophy."

The committee was told that it took more than two years to implement the Office of Public Safety, striving to anticipate every detail and scenario. On Feb. 19, the new Office of Public Safety began in a smooth and methodical fashion.

This process continues to this day, refining small logistical details that continue to expand efficiencies.

An overview of staffing levels and calls for service was then given:

As of June 30, authorized staffing was 439 positions, with 383 filled positions. The Office is working closely with General Services' Personnel Division and the City's Personnel Department to fill vacancies. Forty-five Security Officers are in the background investigation process, and the Office has been quite successful in its goal of placing two Special Officer candidates in each LAPD police academy every 28 days.

### Calls for Service

Since the consolidation, calls for service have increased. Here are the numbers presented to the committee:

- March: 1604
- April: 2031
- May: 2209
- June: 2338

This represents a 35 percent increase in calls for service since implementation. The Office attributes this to its educational campaign, where District SLOs distributed Public Safety contact

literature to every park, library and key locations within the Convention Center and Zoo. This provided communities and staffs an additional resource at a level that they did not have prior to the consolidation. Another contributing factor is that calls for service traditionally rise during summer months when public facilities experience peak usage.

Of note, calls for service at Library facilities have increased 44 percent.

### Policies and Procedures

The 2006 Division manual is being distributed at this time. Two new policies post-printing have been established. One is a revised pursuit policy and the other is a backup firearm policy.

### Complaints of Misconduct

Regarding complaints of misconduct, the Office has standardized investigation and tracking of misconduct complaints against officers. All complaints received are reviewed by management staff and either assigned to a supervisor or

an investigator of the Professional Standards Section for investigation and adjudication.

### Arrests

From March through June, officers of the Office of Public Safety have made 24 felony arrests and 181 misdemeanor arrests, which include on-site releases from custody. Total arrests are 205.

### Annual Disciplinary Summaries

The Professional Standards Section continues to track personnel investigations and related discipline. An annual disciplinary summary will be presented to the Committee at the first meeting following the first year of operation.

### Officer Training Programs

Since creation of the Office, all new Public Safety sworn staff have attended the Los Angeles Police Academy. This academy course lasts eight months and has significantly increased the level of training and inter-agency cooperation between the LAPD and General Services. Officers also attend in-service training offered by the LAPD, including supervisory and watch commander school, specialized training including juvenile procedures and bicycle training, and the West Point Leadership Program.

Public Safety has developed and implemented an ongoing in-service training program for security officers. A class is held each week, and topics including policy, procedure and defensive tactics are discussed as well as practiced in a "hands-on" capacity. In addition, Public Safety has begun to send its security staff to an 80-hour training course at Rio Hondo College that Public Safety designed in coordination with Airports to train the security staff of both departments.

The Club congratulates General Services on the successful consolidation and implementation of this important office, and thanks Rick Thorstensen, Management Analyst II, Office of Public Safety, General Services, for his assistance.



Present at the first meeting of the Oversight Committee for the new Office of Public Safety were, front row, from left: Tony Royster, Assistant General Manager, General Services; Rita Walters, Library Commissioner; Shelby Jean Kaplan-Sloan, Zoo Commissioner; Sontue Beacham, Management Assistant, Public Safety; Janet Jackson, Deputy City Attorney; and John Czerwinski, Sr. Clerk Typist, Public Safety. Back: Gary Newton, Chief, Public Safety; Peklar Pilavjian, Convention Center Commissioner; Alan Skobin, Police Commissioner; Alvin Blain, General Manager, General Services; Rick Thorstensen, Management Analyst II, Public Safety; and Brittany Cotto, Clerk Typist, Public Safety.

# Tom LaBonge Says Thanks

## ■ Fourth District has annual thank-you barbecue.

Story and photos by Liz Montes, Club Counselor



COUNCIL — Councilmember Tom LaBonge and the staff of the Fourth District invited City Employees to a barbecue Aug. 3 at the Griffith Park Ranger Station. Hundreds of City Employees from the Los Angeles Zoo, Rec and Parks, General Services, LAPD, LAFD, Animal Services and various other departments enjoyed the complimentary barbecue. The event allowed Councilmember LaBonge to say thanks to all City employees who work in his district.



From left: Maria Escobedo, Fire, 30 years; Tim Kelly, Fire, 19 years; Dacia Gonzalez, Fire, 19 years; Leonard Thompson, Fire, 31 years; Gigi Galias, Council District 4, 5 years; and Ronnie Villanueva, 23 years.



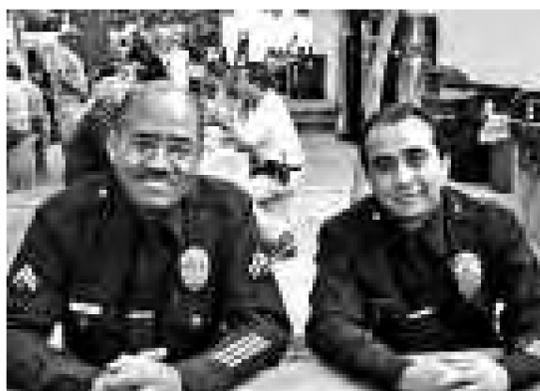
From left: Josie Herrera, City Planning, 25 years; Haydee Urita, City Planning, 6 months, Club Member; Joni Quinn, City Planning, 6 years; and Mariana Salazar, City Planning, 5 years.



From left: Raul Landeros, Rec and Parks, 32 years; Alonso Guerrero, GSD, 14 years; and Henry Mazin, GSD, 16 years.



From left: Sgt. Iral Turner, 16 years, Club Member; Terri Utley, 13 years; Pete Paramo, 9 years; and Caroline Walton-Joseph, 19 years, Club Member.



Herman Landry, Sr. Lead, 38 years; and Hector Diaz, 16 years.



From left: Gerald Hill, Animal Services, 11 years, Club Member; Rene Jones, Animal Services, 7 years, Club Member; Shawn Colon, Animal Services, 8 years; Torrie, Strawn, Animal Services, Club Member; Cpt. Wendell Bowers; David Diliberto, Animal Services, 17 years, Club Member; and Karen Stepp, Animal Services, 18 years, Club Member.