

Club Member Lights Up Holiday

DWP Light Lady

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at the event every night, and powering them down at close.

As such, she was the highest-ranking technical officer at the location. That made her the first woman in charge of the day-to-day electrical operations of the Festival, which closed for the season at the beginning of this month.

"I didn't realize on my first day that [the festival] would be my responsibility," Anita explained from outside her temporary office at the midway point of the annual light festival route in Griffith Park. She was assigned to supervise the geographical area that includes Griffith Park six months ago. "But a few days later, when I met the crew, they told me, 'Guess what, Anita. We do the Light Festival!'"

"The crew is really proud that they do it," she continued. "It's something we can bring our families to. Our usual work involves upgrading high-voltage transformers, circuit breakers and bus work in the City's distribution system. The work is not accessible to people outside the department. We can't bring our families to the stations. But we can bring them to the Light Festival. It's one of the few projects where we say, 'Come on down!' Everybody knows about the festival. It's fun."

She explained that producing the Light Festival doesn't require her and her crew to work more, in general, but it requires more preparation. "We have to do it on time, of course. We have to hit critical benchmarks by certain dates."

"It requires about 2,100 man-hours to produce, but three-quarters of those hours are before the event opens."

Anita, an enthusiastic Club Member, started with the City 16 years ago as a Steam Plant Assistant. She then was promoted to Electrical Mechanic, then to her current position as Supervisor.

She started coming to the Light Festival in 1996, when she came four times. She came at least once every year since, and she celebrated the first night of her first year in charge of it by attending the Festival on bike. This was the first



Anita Wright, Electrical Mechanic Supervisor, DWP, is the first woman to be in charge of the technical aspects of the DWP's annual Holiday Light Festival.

year the DWP offered a night exclusively for bikers. Anita attended the bike event with her son.

She also credited the many City departments who play a critical role in the success of the Festival: Transportation, Rec and Parks, Building and Safety, the Zoo and the Fire and Police Departments.

How does it feel to be the first woman in charge of all the technical aspects of the Festival?

"Well, pretty much everything I do is a first," she laughed. "There is only one other woman supervisor [in a similar capacity], Lisa White. And I know she didn't have the geographic area, so I would be the first to do the Light Festival."

"I love my work. I love coordinating, planning and scheduling. I talk to hundreds of people every week so that my crew can continue working. We need everything to be in place to be as efficient as possible."

"If there's no power, there's no Festival. We would be out of business. That's why our role is key. 'I'm looking forward to doing it every year!'"



Harold Johnson seems to fit right in at Ontario.

Johnson to Ontario

■ LAX's popular Public Relations specialist moves to Ontario.

AIRPORTS — Harold Johnson, the former editor of the Airports newsletter, the Aerogram joins Ontario Airport Principal Public Relations Representative in the ONT Community and Public Affairs office. Harold previously served as Public Relations Specialist at LAX Public Relations.

Harold's duties and responsibilities at ONT include public

relations, community relations, media relations, educational outreach, crisis management, writing, design, advertising, special events, customer relations, airport spokes-person, information technology, and photography/videography.

Harold holds a Bachelor's degree in journalism from California State University at Northridge and an Associate's degree in television and video communications from Rancho Conejo College.

hobbies include astronomy, photography and videography.

Harold and his wife live in Phelan.

The Club congratulates Harold on his move.



Tuned



by TONY IGHANI
Station Manager,
LA Cityview 35



Your Feedback Builds Programs

On behalf of the entire staff and management of LA Cityview 35, I wish a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year to all readers of Alive! We at LA Cityview 35 have enjoyed being a part of Alive this past year. We hope that we have been able to share with the readers important programming highlights, which we proudly bring to our viewers. Stay tuned as we bring you new programs about our communities, our City government and the partnership we have with our constituents.

As part of our efforts to better understand the programming priorities and the needs of the community, we invite your input about what you would like to see on Channel 35. Give us a call at our 24-hour Viewer Talkback hotline at (213) 473-3946, and let us know what you think. Your suggestions and feedback will be an important part of our development process for new programs. Unlike commercial television stations, we don't rely on a rating system to know which shows are popular with the viewers, and that's why hearing direct feedback from our viewers is so critical. It is that feedback that lets us know whether we're on the right track or if need to make adjustments. So, thank you for your support in helping us to better serve our viewers and our communities.

Programming Highlights in January:

Disability Forum

The Department on Disability's Seventh Annual Accessibility Expo at the Los Angeles Convention Center will be highlighted, including employment opportunities for disabled persons, the Housing Rights Center, and remarks from 9th District Councilmember Jan Perry. We will also look into the accessibility of the City's public transit system and affordable and accessible housing in Los Angeles.

Aging in LA

Host Paul Petersen and his guests discuss critical topics including patient advocacy and assistance, healthcare, Medicare, and private insurance; "Aging on Skid Row;" osteoporosis and prevention; and managing and preparing for the final stages of life. Seniors, caregivers and loved ones alike should tune in to these informative new episodes.

At Your Library

The Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL) is considered one of the most technologically advanced libraries in the world, and in this second episode of "At Your Library," host Franklin D. Neely takes a look at how the LAPL is bridging the digital divide that separates those who have computers and Internet access from those who don't.

Home Shopping Petwork

Host Andrew Tarr, along with Capt. Karen Knipscheer and Officer Susan Greenberg from LA Animal Services, are back to showcase a new group of pets looking for a home. They will also offer tips on turning your faithful companion into a traveling companion.

LA Fire in Action

Premiering this month is a special episode of "Your LAFD in Action," which gives the viewer an inside look into the Los Angeles Fire Department. What's special about this episode is an entirely new look to the series. "We are taking it to the streets," says producer Robert Manciero. "In past shows we highlighted new equipment and all the toys like the helicopters and fireboats. This time we take the viewers inside the fire station to see what it's really like to be a firefighter on the streets of Los Angeles."

We'll visit with Tamara Chick, Captain I of Fire Station 64, "A" Platoon. Fire Station 64 is in South Los Angeles, where there is no such thing as a routine day. You'll step in her boots to and see the daily challenges and rewards of being a female captain.

Also, we will spend a day at Fire Station 9 on skid row. Station 9 is known as one of the busiest Fire Stations in the country. With an average of more than 60 runs daily, Station 9 serves downtown Los Angeles, from the high rises and convention center, to skid row. With such a diverse population, every call is unique until itself.

For airing schedule of the above programs, and for more program listings and information, visit www.lacityview.org.



LA Cityview 35 is the City of Los Angeles' Emmy-award winning government channel. Managed and operated by City employees, LA Cityview 35 serves Los Angeles by bringing government closer to their homes. With innovative and timely programming, citizens now can have an active voice in what happens in their local government.

Contact Tony with your questions: channel35@cityemployeesclub.com

Channel 35 Viewer Comment Hotline: (213) 473-3978

See you on LA Cityview 35!