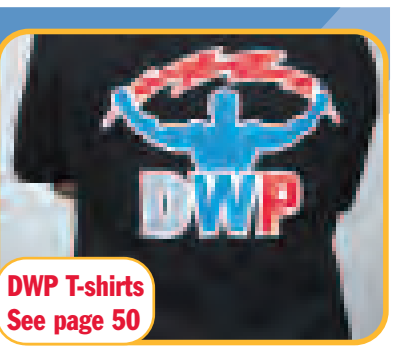
Alive!

Vol. 6 ■ No. 1 | Empl… …ngeles | Jan. 2007

SERVING OVER 17,000 CITY AND DWP EMPLOYEES



DWP T-shirts
See page 50

Enjoying the Harbor's Holiday party were, from left: Tish Lorenzana, Sr. Management Analyst, Harbor, with her husband, Richard Lorenzana, Wharfinger, Harbor; and Richard's sister, Kathleen Bautista, Sr. Clerk Typist III, Harbor.

She's The First Lady of DWP Holiday Lights

■ Anita Wright, Club Member, is the first woman to supervise the field operations for the DWP's Holiday Light Festival.

DWP — The first time Anita Wright experienced the DWP's Holiday Light Festival, in 1996, she drove through it four times.

"I love Christmas," she said.

That's a good thing, because, during the holidays in 2006, she could go through it as often as she liked.

Anita, an Electrical Mechanic Supervisor with the DWP, was in charge of building all the electrical infrastructure necessary to power the hundreds of thousands of lights at the event; coordinating all the materials and crews; following all safety systems; bringing all the power to the displays; and powering up all the lighting displays

Anita Wright , Electrical Mechanic Supervisor, DWP

– See DWP Light Lady, Page 7

Insider Chosen As Acting Chief Of Fire Dept.

■ Douglas Barry, promoted from within, is named Acting Fire Chief as Chief William Bamattre retires.

Story by Brian Humphrey, LAFD;
Photo courtesy LAFD

FIRE DEPT. — Douglas L. Barry has been promoted to Acting Fire Chief and took over the department Jan. 1 after the retirement of previous Chief William Bamattre.

Chief Barry is a 31-year veteran of the LAFD, with an exemplary record as a Firefighter, Engineer, Captain, Battalion Chief, Chief of Staff, and Assistant Chief.

Chief Barry joined the LAFD as a Firefighter Feb. 16, 1975, and was quickly promoted to Apparatus Operator in 1979 and Engineer in 1980. Chief Barry then earned promotions to

Douglas L. Barry, Acting Fire Chief, LAFD

– See New LAFD Head, Page 9

City Employees Club of Los Angeles
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Happy New Year from the Club!

Serving the City for 78 years

The City Parties!

From left: Art Sanchez, RCTO Supervisor, Club Member, and his wife, Mina.

Mike Solis, Supervisor.

From left: Danny Arevalo, RCTO, with his wife, Donna.

From left: Lupe Placencia, Childcare Associate, Rec and Parks; and Manuel Placencia, RCTO, Club Member.

From left: Vincent and Dolores Hernandez, guest of Gerald Lopez, RCTO III.

End of the Year at North Central

■ Sanitation Yard hosts second annual holiday gathering to celebrate the end of the year.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

PUBLIC WORKS — The North Central Sanitation Yard hosted its second annual end of the year holiday dinner Dec. 9 at the American Legion Hall in Montebello.

The Club donated prizes for the event.

Guests dined on chicken fajitas, chicken Colorado, rice, beans, garden salad, fruit salad and cake. Approximately 120 employees and guests came out to enjoy their evening.

Special thanks to Adriana Nunez and Andy Morales for their assistance.

From left: Melody Lopez and Michael Adame, RCTO.

From left: Lessly and Mario Macias, RCTO, Club Member.

From left: Diane and Mario Martinez, RCTO.

From left: Tony Handy, RCTO, Club Member, with his wife, Sandra; and Donna and Carlos Chaffino, RCTO, Club Member.

From left: Raymond, Melinda and Gerald Lopez, RCTO III.

Gerald Lopez, on left, with his family.

From left: Christine and Anthony Perez, RCTO.

From left: Ofelia and Andy Morales, RCTO II, 20 years.

Standing: William Scott, Maintenance Laborer. Seated, from left: Irene and Frank Ruacho, RCTO.

From left: Magdalena and Matias Perez, RCTO.

See all the photos on the Web!

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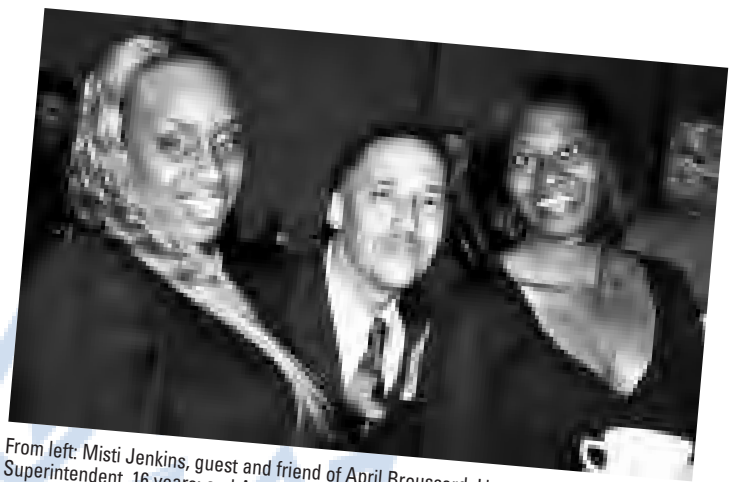
The City Parties!

From left: Toni Chagolla, Sr. Clerk Typist, 9 years, Club Member; with Jon Reed, RCTO, 21 years, Club Member.


From left: Misti Jenkins, guest and friend of April Broussard; Lloyd Gaines, Superintendent, 16 years; and April Broussard, Sr. Clerk Typist, 20 years, Club Member.

From left: Peter Gonzalez, RCTO, 3 years, Club Member, and his wife, Jennifer.

West LA Sanitation Makes Merry

■ **LAX holds party for families.**

Photos by Robert Larios, Director of Communications and Marketing

PUBLIC WORKS — The West L.A. Sanitation Yard held its festive holiday party Dec. 9 at Quiet Cannon in Montebello.

Thanks to Toni Chagolla for providing information on the event and for inviting the Club.

From left: Vanessa and Bonaventure Butts, RCTO, 25 years, Club Member.

David Pinkney: RCTO II, 17 years, Club Member.

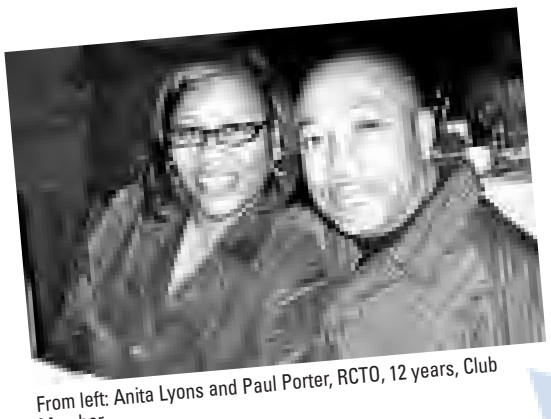
From left: Wilhelmina and Joseph Norwood, RCTO, 19 years, Club Member.

Richard Humphrey, RCTO, 20 years, Club Member, and his wife.

From left: Marlis and Manfred Hornong, Equipment Mechanic, Retired, 8 years.

From left: Steven Thompson, RCTO, 20 years, Club Member, and his wife, Judy.

From left: Robert Parra, RCTO II, 6 years, Club Member, and his wife, Maria.


From left: Anita Lyons and Paul Porter, RCTO, 12 years, Club Member.

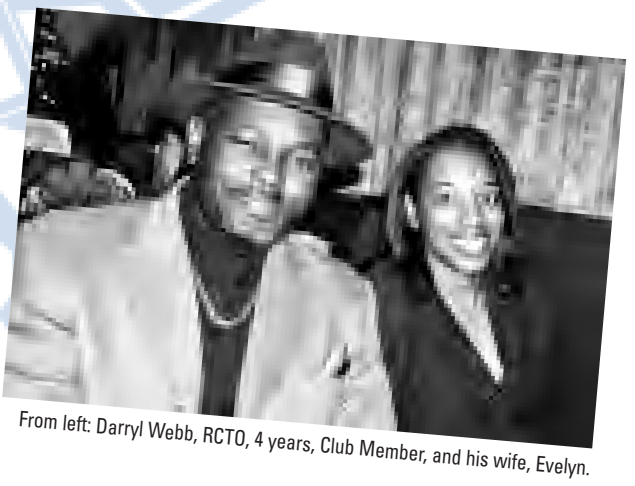
From left: Raul Cobos, RCTO, 3 years, Club Member, and his wife, Sonia.

From left: Raul Velasco, RCTO, 7 years, and his wife, Martha.

From left: Joe Ballard and his fiancé, Rhonda Wright, RCTO, 1 year.

Johnny Berru, RCTO, 3 years, Club Member.

From left: Elma and Frank Sanchez, RCTO, 7 years.


From left: Darryl Webb, RCTO, 4 years, Club Member, and his wife, Evelyn.

See all the photos on the Web!

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The City Parties!

The Holiday Party Committee, from left: Terry Pina, Angie Rios, Biniko Hawkins and Tierra Jones.

Eric Robles hosted the event.

Henry De La Cruz and Jacqui Bell.

From left: Arnold Medina, Carpenter; Juan Calderon, Brick Tender; and Charlie Helganz, Electrician.

From left: Gaby Vidales; Senior Parking Attendant; and David Delao, Plumber.

General Services Celebrates

■ General Services celebrated the holiday with a large gathering.

Photos by Michelle Moreno, Club Events Guru

GENERAL SERVICES — General Services honored the holiday season with a general party Dec. 7 at the Quiet Cannon banquet facility in Montebello.

Eric Robles hosted the event.

The Club congratulates the committee that produced and coordinated this annual get-together and thanks the committee for the invitation.

Welcome to the party.

Ernest Del Real, Dispatch; and Norma, guest.

From left: Richard Kelly, Craft Assistant; Jesus Gallo, Carpenter; and Roger Alanto, Carpenter.

Debbie Ramos, Assistant General Manager, General Services.

Alvin Blain, General Manager, General Services, in good company.

Top, from left: Eric Newman, Program Assistant; and Richard Wuerth, Building Emergency Education Director. Bottom: Lourdes Morales, Building Emergency Education Assistant Director; Mona Curry, Special Events Coordinator; and Kathi Mixon, Finance.

From left: Chito Jurado, Electrician Supervisor; and Calvin Dennis, EQ Repair Supervisor.

Raul Gutierrez, Carpenter, with his wife, Pauline.

From left: Bob Nieto, General Auto Supervisor; Alan Schilt, Training in Safety; and John Nerio, Welder Supervisor.

The one and only Kim Daniels.

From left: Stephan Nalbountian, Press Operator II; Michael Leighton, Director of Publishing Services; Amy Lloyd, Senior Accountant II; Tracy Vu, Systems Analyst II; and Myrna Pilkington, Accountant II.

Construction Forces: Tom Bylard and Carol Holguin.

From left: Renee Mustafa, Senior Systems Analyst I; Allie Taylor, Clerk Typist; Novel Ang, Accountant; and Perla Togonon, Accountant.

From left: Pat Webster, Clerk; CJ the DJ, Maintenance and Construction; and Linda Mayfield, Craft Assistant.

From left: Javier Zambrano, Carpenter; Jose Nelson Mozo, Carpenter; and Alonso Garcia, Laborer.

From left: Kain Flores, Equipment Specialist; Carlos Meza, Equipment Repair Supervisor; and Kris Goolsby, Acting General Auto Supervisor.

Dave Wilson (right) with guest.

From left: Angie Acosta, guest; and Raul Macias, Superintendent.

From left: Cliff Cartes; Clerk Typist; and Pierre Riotoc Management Assistant.

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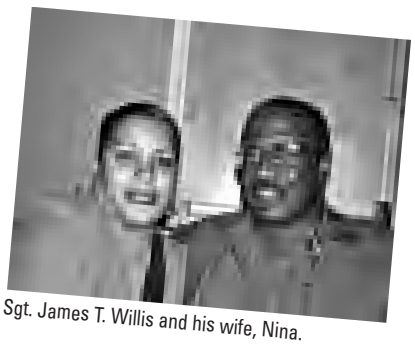
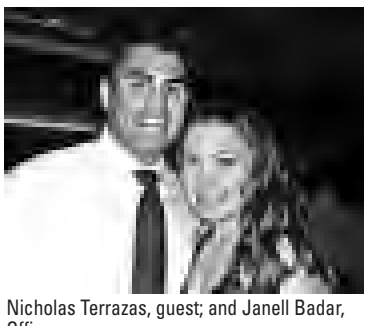
The City Parties!


Sgt. James T. Willis and his wife, Nina.

The Central City Police Boosters Board, from left: David Garrison, Diane Hyde, Marie Kardiban, Daisy Barajas and Tom Hyde.

Det. Ysabel Villegas and Capt. Jorge Villegas.


Nicholas Terrazas, guest; and Janell Badar, Officer.

Top, from left: Maria Gonzales, Explorer; and Gabriel Zamora, Explorer. Bottom, from left: Adrienne Brundage, Volunteer; Arlette Meza, Volunteer; and Travis Jones, Officer.

Holiday Boosters

▪ LAPD Central City Police Boosters host their holiday party.

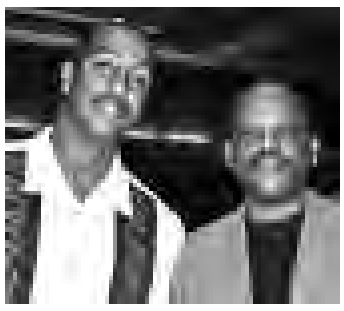
Story and photos by Michelle Moreno, Club Events Guru

LAPD — The LAPD Central City Police Boosters held the group's annual holiday party at the Downtown Sheraton Hotel Dec. 2.

Among the entertainment was an a cappella group, great prizes, and delicious food.

The Club thanks Officer Marie Kardiban for inviting us.

Officer Craig Marquez and his wife, Maggie.


From left: Randy McCain, Officer; and Earl Wright, Officer.

Deputy Chief Lee Carter and his wife, Diane.

From left: Sal Reyes, Officer; Miguel Arambula, Officer; and Maribel Arambula, Officer.

Agies Side Effect, entertainment.

From left: Patricia Ulloa, guest; Hector Ulloa, Officer; Viridiana Rodriguez, guest; and Tony Guttierez, Officer II.

Senior Lead Officer Joe Lopez and his wife, Bernice.

Guests Laura and Augustine Liera.

Detective Bryce Spafford and his wife, Dong.

Mina Gonzalez, guest, and John Cervantes, Officer.

Officer Jeff Kievit and his wife, Tammy.

Cynthia "Fabulous," PSR II; and Lamar.

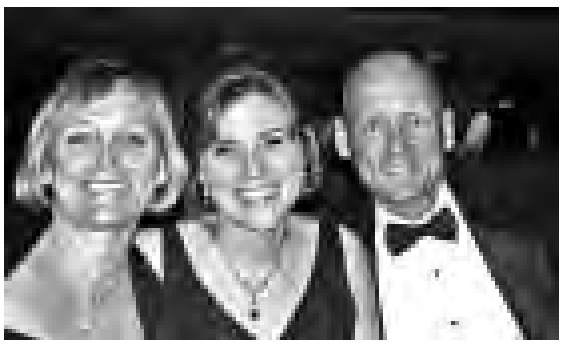
From left: Juan Moreno, Officer; Javier Navarro, Officer; Maureen Navarro, guest; Tyler Fox, Officer; and Megan Fox, guest.

Officers Reginald Gay and Danielle Banks.

Detective Mark Campbell and his wife, Chris.

Officer Gorden and his wife, Marie.

From left: Robert Jaramillo, Officer; Carole Thomas, guest; Lorena Sillvestre, guest; and Angel Silvestre, Officer.


From left: Capt. Jody Wakefield; Stephanie Sorensen, guest; and Capt. Andrew Smith.

From left: Lt. Tom Brascia; Marjean Brascia, guest; Sophie Brascia, guest; and Jeremy Brascia, guest.

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The City Parties!

From left: Mei Ong, Management Analyst, 35 years; and Berni Edwards, Sr. Clerk Typist, 20 years.

From left: Otis Maxwell, Vocational Worker, 9 months; Carlos Arroyo, Custodial Service Attendant, 2 years, Club Member; Ernest Cheatam, Custodial Services Assistant, 3 1/2 years, Club Member; and Michael Christian, Custodian Assistant, 6 months, Club Member.

From left: Bahram Roshanian, Sanitation Manager I, 20 years; and Mihram Sarkisium, Sanitation Wastewater Manager, 32 years, Club Member.

From left: Dennis Harrison, Electrician, 9 months; Brett Edwards, Electrician, 1.5 years of service, Club Member; Hector Olivo, Wastewater Electrician I, 7 months; Ed Meza, Electrician I, 6 months; Will Carter, Electrician, 15 months; Milly Ben-David, 6 months; Kim Byous, Electrical Craft Helper, 6 weeks; Emil Ruian, Electrician, 3 months; and Guillermo Chavez, Electrician, 1 year.

A Hyperion Holiday

■ Hyperion celebrates the season with a party sponsored by the Hyperion Employees Association.

Photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager

PUBLIC WORKS — The Hyperion Treatment Plant held its holiday party Dec. 7, in the Fleet Services Building.

The menu featured Mexican, Asian and other foods. Entertainment was provided by a DJ, dancers, and a singalong.

The large and diverse menu and extensive program were put together by the Hyperion Employees Association.

Special thanks to Mei Ong for assisting the Club with this story.

From left: Dion Brumfield, Custodian, 1 year, Club Member; and Dwayne Rochett, Sr. Custodian, 3 years.

Emorette Hinton, Purchasing Maintenance, 3 years, Club Member, owns Emorrette's Unique Designs, which put the event together.

From left: Daniel Hillman, Billings and Grants, 2 years, Club Member; and Lyretta Johnson, Sr. Clerk Typist, 5 years.

From left: Encarna Scott, CE Associate II, 17 years; Hassena Khan, Sr. Clerk Typist, 6 years; and Jerry Hernandez, Sanitary Engineer, 37 years.

Back: Cynthia Jackson, Sr. Clerk Typist, 18 years. Front, from left: Juanita Anderson, Sr. Clerk Typist, 30 years; Rita Robinson, Director of the Bureau of Sanitation, Club Board Member; Michelle McElroy Wicks, 13 years, Club Member; and Dee Hines, Principal Clerk, 6 years.

Rodrix Jennings, Management Assistant, 1 year, Club Member.

From left: Hugo Rujeles, Wastewater Treatment Electrician, 1 year, Club Member; and Robert Jones, Wastewater Treatment Electrician, 1 year, Club Member.

From left: Bounsom Sananikoni, Systems Programmer, 12 years; and Ken Iseri, Management Assistant, 5 years.

Back, from left: Marvell Zachery, Pipefitter, 13 years, Club Member; and Sugar Daddy, Painter, 20 years. Front: Earl Mallet, Mechanical Helper, 17 years; Anthony Jones, Wastewater Treatment Mechanic, 18 years, Club Member; and Carvellia Woodward, Heavy Truck Operator, 25 years.

See all the photos on the Web!

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The City Parties!

Two riders arriving at Santa Clarita.

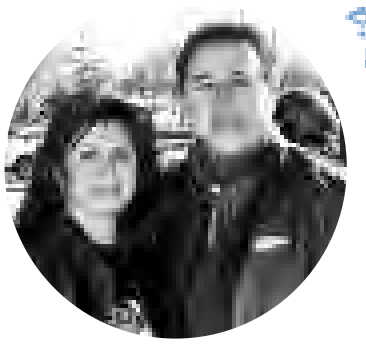
Marty Rios, President of the Choir Boys.

Bikers visiting the hospital.

Marty Rios and his bike in a pediatric ward.

The Choirboys Motorcycle Club.

Ray Reynoso (a.k.a. Santa), founder of the Toy Run.


Eloy Flores and his wife, Martha.

Christie, Santa (a.k.a. Ray Reynoso) and patients.

Holiday Hog Heaven

■ DWP employees and two motorcycle clubs have a Toy Run for charity.

Story by Cheryl Power, DWP, Club Rep; Photos provided by Cheryl Power

DWP — On Dec.3, DWP employees, with assistance from The Geezers Motorcycle Club held their third annual Toy Run to benefit the children of Los Angeles Harbor U.C.L.A. Medical Center. The Toy Run is held annually on the first Sunday in December.

Hundreds of bikers attend this event each year. The Toy Run's founders are Ray Reynoso, DWP, and Steve Thompson, Retired DWP. Ray had been active in numerous toy runs for different organizations; he began thinking that, since the DWP has so many riders, a toy run could be organized to meet the needs of a hospital in the surrounding area. Ray started to contact hospitals, and quickly found one that fit the bill.

Ray and Steve spread the word, and the first DWP Toy Run was born in 2004. Ray purchased a Santa Claus outfit and has dressed as Santa right from the start. The first year, 2004, the 50/50 raffle was won by Tom Diaz (DWP). Tom, without thinking twice, donated the money to the kids at the hospital. Steve Thompson, co-founder is retired now, but stays active and still supports the Toy Run. Steve travels from Lake Havasu, Ariz., to participate.

The second year of the Toy Run, the Geezers Motorcycle Club jumped in and volunteered to help. The Geezers Club is an informal club with riders' ages between 21 and 67. The club formed four years ago.

Each year the Toy Run attracts more and more riders; this year the Choir Boys were out in number. The Choir Boys are avid active and retired law enforcement officers who enjoy riding their Harleys. The club was founded in 1971, and named after the Joseph Wambaugh novel, The Choirboys.

There were three meeting spots for the Toy Run: one in Riverside, one in Santa Clarita, and the main location in the City of Industry. Riders from Riverside and Santa Clarity converged at the City of Industry location, so all the bikers could ride en masse to the hospital.

This year, the severe Santa Ana winds kept some riders from participating from the San Fernando Valley, Santa Clarita, and the Lancaster/Palmdale areas. But it didn't put a damper on the fun once they riders reached City of Industry. The annual raffle featured many great prizes.

Next years' toy Run will be held on Dec. 2. It is always the first Sunday in December.

If you are a City Employee, the Employees of DWP and the Geezers welcome you to join!

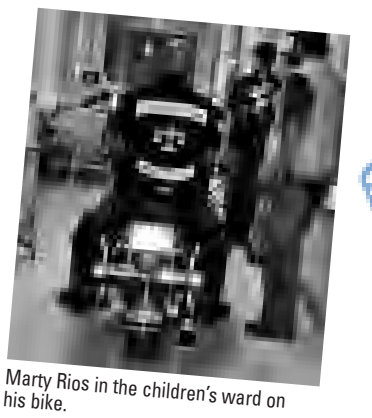
To learn more about the Geezers Motorcycle Club visit their Website at www.geezersmc.com

To learn more about the Choir Boys Motorcycle Club and their ride for fallen officers each September, please visit their Website at www.choirboysregion1.com

Passing down the toys, hand by hand.

Lynn Kadesh, Geezers Motorcycle Club.

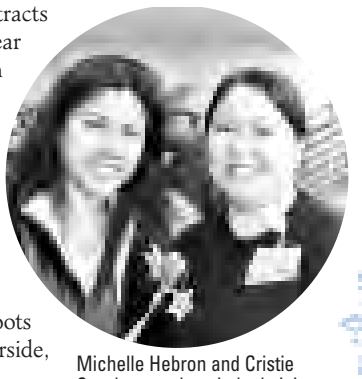
Woody and Tom Diaz.

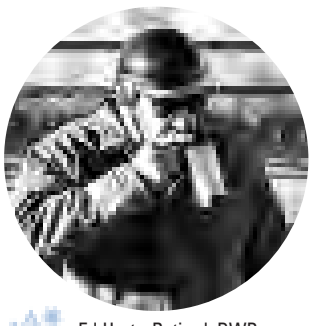

Marty Rios in the children's ward on his bike.

The line of the bikes at the hospital.

Ray Reynoso and Hector Valez (the 5050 raffle winner).

Cheryl Power, DWP, with a pile of toys.


Michelle Hebron and Cristie Suzukwawa, hospital administrators.


Ed Hartz, Retired, DWP.

The 1966 DWP Kenworth Show Truck.

A few of the raffle prizes.

See all the photos on the Web!

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The City Parties!

From left: Ana Laura Mayorga and her husband, Sgt. Gabriel Mayorga, Club Member.

From left: Michael Hwang, Police Officer; and Maggie Chang, guest.

From left: Javier Llanos, Police Officer, and his wife, Rachel.

From left: Hector Graciano, Sr. Lead Officer, Club Member, and his wife, Diana.

Standing, from left: Janet Ramirez, guest; and Isabel Vasquez, Clerk Typist. Seated: Nasario Vasquez, guest; Adriana Vasquez, Clerk Typist, Club Member; and Bernardo Vasquez, guest.

A Safety Holiday

■ Office of Public Safety has its holiday party.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor; Photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager

GENERAL SERVICES — The new Office of Public Safety within General Services hosted its holiday party Dec. 2 at the San Antonio Winery downtown.

Clerk Typist Kidd Wong entertained by singing "O Holy Night" and "Silent Night."

Many thanks to Chief Gary S. Newton, Lydia Marquez and Lt. Wong for their assistance.

Chief Gary Newton welcomes attendees and reflects on his last four years. "What a difference a year makes," he said.

From left: Phil Graciano, Police Officer, Club Member, with his wife, Gina.

From left: May, Ester and Kidd Wong, Clerk Typist, Club Member.

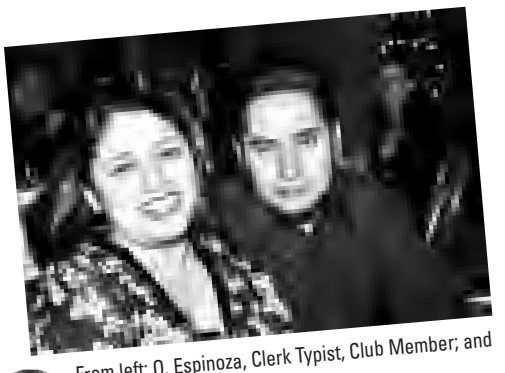
From left: Dominick Geary, guest; Blanca Araujo, Clerk Typist, Club Member; Rosio Zapata, guest; and Karin Suyo, guest

From left: Shannon Jackson, guest, with Sgt. Kevin Ahlemeir.

From left: Guadalupe Abarca, guest, with Sgt. Maria Abarra, and her husband, Francisco Rojas.

Adriana Vasquez, Clerk Typist, Club Member, with Kidd Wong, Clerk Typist, Club Member, sings "Silent Night."

Standing, from left: Cindy Mendez, guest; Lt. Wong, Club Member; and Lydia Marquez, Secretary, Club Member. Seated: Lupe Plaza, guest.


From left: Q. Espinoza, Clerk Typist, Club Member; and Robert Ceja, guest.

From left: Frank Crescenzo, Security Officer; daughter, Magdalena, 6; Maria Crescenzo, LAPD Officer; and son Frank Jr., 4.

Capt. Perez, Club Member.

From left: Maria and Capt. Richard Musquiz, Club Member.

A guided wine tour.

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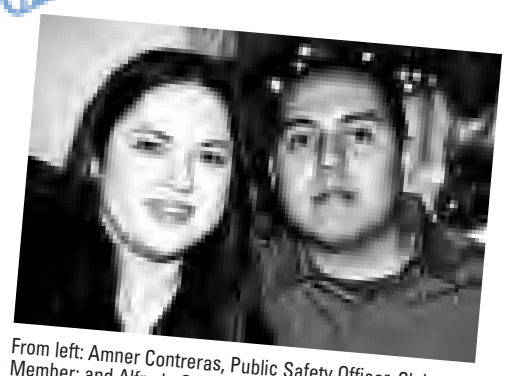


From left: Amner Contreras, Public Safety Officer, Club Member; and Alfredo Garcia, Detention Officer at 77th Jail Division.

From left: Lael and John Shea, Director of Security Services, OPS Convention Center Section.

Standing, from left: Amanda Skorniakoff, guest; Ryan Bleecker, Security Officer; Rose Morales, guest; and Joseph Orlanes, Police Officer. Seated: Alex Diaz Valle, Police Officer, 6 years, Club Member, with his wife, Gladyss.

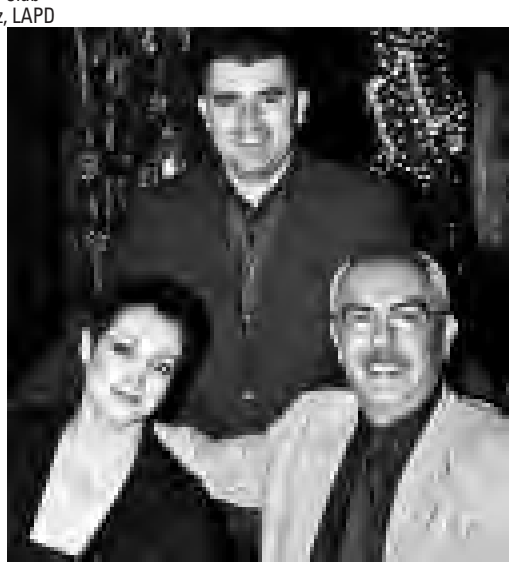
Frank Pazasis, Director of Security Technologies, Club Member.

From left: Charlotte Hagos, Police Officer; Joe Perez, Police Officer.

Kidd Wong, Clerk Typist, Club Member, with his solo of "O Holy Night."

From left: Gerardo Rodriguez, Street Services Investigator, Club Member; Rozana Castro, OPS Security; and Jose Gutierrez, LAPD Officer.

From left: Lisa Micheli, guest; and Chief Gary Newton.



Standing: Elmer Moreno, Security Officer, Convention Center. Seated, from left: Alice Teran, guest; and Sgt. David Lopez, 10 years, Club Member.

The children from the neighborhood John Ritter Elementary surrounding Santa.

22 Years of Toys

▪ Southern Parking Enforcement Office hosted a day with Santa, for neighborhood kids.

TRANSPORTATION — For the 22nd year, the southern Transportation office hosted a very special visit from Santa for neighborhood kids.

This year, the youngsters came from John Ritter Elementary. Each received multiple gifts from Santa and coordinated through Santa's helpers at the Traffic Office. This year marked the largest group of children in attendance – 32. Lunch was also provided, as was Christmas music by Retired Traffic Sgt. Al Luevano, who has been part of the event since day one. Also playing a role since the beginning was Officer Lois Thomas.

The event started in 1985, when the South Office sponsored a Christmas party for the House of Uhuru, a home for battered women and their children. About nine years ago the shelter stopped housing the children, so the office started adopting nearby schools. The school selects the children and provides the office with names, ages and sizes. To help Santa, the Traffic Officers and other employees each adopt one of the children; each employee must provide a warm winter jacket for their child.

The Traffic Officer Chapter donates items to the event, and all else is donated by the staff. The kids get to meet Santa, enjoy pizza and entertainment, all provided by City Employees.

This is sponsored by the Southern Parking Enforcement Office personnel, but over the years others from other Enforcement Offices and the LAPD have participated, too.

The Club congratulates all who participated in this worthwhile event, and especially thanks Traffic Officer Berdena Garrett for her assistance.

Ret. Traffic Sgt. Al Luevano has been a part of the event since its inception in 1985. In the past, he has played Santa. This year, he provided entertainment.

Kneeling, from left: Pamela Dortch-Lee, Henry Corrales, Natalie-Bailey-Gray and Arlecia Clay. Standing: Estell Ezell, R.C. Smith, Lois Thomas, Barbara Bowers, Ida Byas, Berdena Garrett, Carolyn Walton-Joseph, Sandra Pollard and Donna Jones.

Stay tuned for Part II of Alive's holiday party coverage in the February issue.