

# Alive! AROUND THE WORLD

## 1 The Philippines



This photo, taken in Lipa City, Batangas, Philippines, is of Joseph and Zhenie Gutierrez. Joseph is Airports Maintenance Supervisor, Construction and Maintenance, Airports. Zhenie is a Maintenance Laborer, Construction and Maintenance, Airports.

- Joseph and Zhenie Gutierrez, Airports

**John's comments:** Thank you so much, Joseph! By the way, I did a little research on Lipa City and found that, in the late 1800s, Lipa became the world center of the coffee industry, helping it to become wealthiest and grandest city in the Philippines. In fact, it was so grand that its name was elevated to "Villa de Lipa" by Queen Maria of Spain, authorizing it to use the much-coveted coat of arms. Thanks again for sharing your travels!



Take the Club with you, wherever you go! Club members are a well-traveled bunch. Bring your copy of *Alive!* with you. Snap a photo with you holding a copy, send it in, and we'll publish it. Send to: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)



A depiction of the *Alive! Around the World* map at Club Headquarters

# Club Meeting a Festive Affair



■ Celebrating a great 2006 was the theme of the Club's 79th annual meeting, which carried a Mardi Gras flavor.



From left: The Club's Administrative Services Representative Lupe Medina and Member Services Counselor Arlene Herrero sport Mardi Gras masks.

**CLUB HEADQUARTERS** — "The theme for this year is 'Celebrate,' Club CEO John Hawkins told the enthusiastic attendees of the Club's 79th annual meeting, held Feb. 13 in the Tom Bradley Room atop City Hall. "We had a great 2006. There is so much to be thankful for, and proud of."

The Club's Board Chairman, Mike Biagi, Airports, listed the Club's great success:

- Club Membership now stands at 17,700, an increase of more than 1,200 since last year's annual meeting (an almost 7 percent increase);
- The Club reached 99.5 percent of its revenue goals, and the Insurance Services side reached 114 percent of its goal.
- Insurance in force held strong at \$2.14 billion
- Last year, *Alive!* published photos containing more than 10,000 City Employees and their families
- The Club launched a new Website, featuring transactions that are 40 percent faster and virtually 100 percent more secure
- A new rapid response team was set up to deliver responses to email inquires in no more than one hour during working hours, and no more than 12 hours during nonworking hours

"As always, the Association's staff continues to offer City Employees the ultimate in customer service, while at the same time celebrating their lives and work. It's what the Club is all about."

In other business at the Club Meeting, the Board was elected and sworn in. Members include:

- David Muraoka, LAPD, Secretary/Treasurer;
- Michael Leighton, General Services;
- Rita Robinson, Public Works;
- Michael Biagi, Chair, Airports;
- Maria Romasanta, DWP;
- Regner Globus, Vice Chairperson, Airports; and
- Robyn Barnes, Fire and Police Pensions.

Awards were also handed out. The award recipients were:

- Navin Cotton, a.k.a. the Club's Ticket Guy, won the President's Award, which goes to the year's outstanding Club staff member;
- Rose Hyland won the Chairman's Award, which goes to the year's outstanding Board Member; and
- Cheryl Power, DWP, won the Club Rep Award, which goes to the year's outstanding Club Rep.

And finally, the crowd bid adieu to Club Events Guru Michelle Moreno, who coordinated and produced the Club Meeting with Administrative Service Rep Lupe Medina. Events Guru Michelle Moreno left the Club two days after the annual meeting to embark on a 'round the world adventure.

Still, "Celebration" was the order of the day. "Let's make 2007 another stellar year!" Board Chair Mike Biagi announced to the crowd, which drew enthusiastic applause.



The Board is sworn in, from left: David Muraoka, Secretary/Treasurer, Principal Detention Officer, Van Nuys Jail; Michael Leighton, Board Member, Director of Publishing Services, General Services; Rita Robinson, Board Member, Director of the Bureau of Sanitation, Public Works; Michael Biagi, Chairperson, Chief, Landside Operations, Airports; Maria Romasanta, Board Member, Executive Assistant, DWP; Regner Globus, Vice Chairperson, Property Manager, Airports, and the Club's Chief Financial Officer Brian Trent, swearing in the board. Board Member Robyn Barnes, Senior Management Analyst, Fire and Police Pension System not shown.



Club President and CEO John Hawkins gives another one of his classic speeches.



Cheryl Power was presented with the Club Representative of the Year by Robert Larios, the Club's Director of Communications and Marketing.



Chairperson Michael Biagi awards Rose Hyland of the Club's Insurance Services Board with the Chairman's Award of the Year.



The President's Award went to Navin Cotton, a.k.a. the Ticket Guy.