

LETTERS To the Editor

Tell us what you think! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

LETTER OF THE MONTH

Photos Are a Collaborative Effort

Hello kids! Just wanted to drop you a line to tell you how much I appreciate the time and effort you put into the front covers of *Alive!* I tried my hand at photography when I was younger, but my Brownie Hawkeye has nothing on what you have been able to produce. So, do tell, who is behind these great cover shots? Just curious. Good talkin' to you and I'll try to not be such a stranger ... the ol' arthritis has been kicking in lately.

— **Mary Rose Wilkens,**
Club Member and Retired City Employee



Thanks, Mary Rose. Some people might think that our covers are produced using stock photos (photos purchased from professional photo agencies), or that the Club hires professionals to come in and do the job. Well, as you can see in this behind-the-scenes photo of Club Member Services Manager Angel Gomez shooting the August cover of Harbor GM Geraldine Knatz, neither is the case. *Alive!* shoots its own covers, and is proud of it. The cover photos – and the big photo spreads that are more and more often gracing the inside of the paper – are the product of the *Alive!* staff working together, namely, Angel Gomez; editor, John Burnes; CEO, John Hawkins; and designer, David Jamgotchian. We'll keep shooting them as long as you keep appreciating them! —Ed.

DWP Website Could Provide Better Info on Energy Usage

Hey *Alive!*, I tried calling but got nowhere. Maybe you can ask the DWP if they would ever consider letting consumers log onto their Website to check their usage over the course of time. I think that would be a great tool for its customers so that they can track their electric and water usage.

Also, do you know if the City has a Renewable Energy Department or Division? Let me know what you find out. Thanks.

— **Todd Rayburn, Proud Club Member**

Hi Todd: As you probably know, DWP electric and water usage are listed on your bill, and you can check your bill online after you have created your account access. But you're right; there doesn't seem to be any way of charting your usage over time, unless you were to create your own chart at home, but where's the fun in that? Lots of people at the DWP read *Alive!* (we have lots of members there), so perhaps this letter will get a response. Secondly, about your renewable energy question: Look for a big DWP electricity feature in the very near future. We've been working on it for more than a month. And thanks for asking. — Ed.

Thanks to Hal and Ticket Guy, Going to Legoland Was a Snap

Please pass on a big "thanks" to the Ticket Guy and Hal Danowitz ("Adventures with Hal"). On Hal's recommendation and through the Ticket Guy's great deals, I took the kids to Legoland last weekend. What a fun time for all – the kids loved it and I really liked the miniature Lego city that went on and on and on. I was completely blown away.

I love your paper. Thanks for producing it each and every month!

— **Patty Montoya**

Story on LAFD Fire Boat 2 Leaves Dad, Daughter Floating

Wow! That story you published in last month's *Alive!* on Fire Boat 2 was fantastic! My daughter happened to see the picture of it in its dock and asked me to read the whole story to her. As I read, I became captivated, as did my daughter. She now wants to be a Fire Boat Captain! Thanks, *Alive!* Great photos, by the way. Keep up the great work.

— **Richard Simms**

Photos in Fire Boat Feature Showed It Off Really Well

Hey people of *Alive!*, I thought your Fire Department boat story was one of kind. At first I thought you used stock photos given to you by the Fire Department, but then I realized that many of your photos of the awesome sea beast were taken by your photographer, Angel Gomez. I really enjoyed the interview that Mr. Larios conducted with Capt. Gilbert Reyna and Pilot Ralph Enderle. The Warner L. Lawrence is a world-class vessel!

— **Roy Klein, General Services**

Hi Roy: Yes, Angel outdid himself again with the Warner L. Lawrence photos, although some of them were provided by the LAFD. There was an awful lot of channel traffic on the day we shot the feature, making it difficult to turn on all those sprays. — Ed.

Club Store Is Just the Ticket For Good Night at 'Color Purple'

The Ticket Guy and the Club Store come though again with great tickets to The Color Purple at the Ahmanson Theatre. It feels great to know that there's a place City Employees can go to get the best tickets at the best prices. Can't wait to get some tickets for the Clippers and Lakers basketball seasons.

— **J. Smith, DWP**

QUESTION of the Month

Our Club Counselors are all over the City, every day, serving our Club Members. While we're out, we'll be asking City employees a fun question. Keep your eyes open... you never know when we'll be asking you what you think!

What's your favorite scary movie?

"I don't watch many scary movies, but for me, it's Scary Movie 1."
— **Dora Briseno, Sr. Clerk Typist, DWP, Club Member**



"Halloween."
— **Marlon Young, Communications Operator, DWP, Club Member**



"The Hills Have Eyes."
— **Chavron Tolson, Utility Buyer, DWP, Club Member**



"Halloween."
— **Michael Chan, Equipment Mechanic, DWP, Club Member**



"I was five years old and watched Halloween for the very first time. I even had nightmares. Seeing that movie at that age really scared me, and nothing else comes close after it."

— **Jose Lopez, Water Utility Worker, DWP, Club Member**



ClubFest Photos on the Web!



As a great new Club service for Club Members, *Alive!* has placed all these ClubFest photos...and more...on the Web. Log on to see 'em all in color!

Go to: www.cityemployeesclub.com and click on **ClubFest** (Clubfest photos are expected to be on the Website in the second or third week of October.)