

ClubFest 2007

ClubFest Sells Out

■ More than 1,500 Club Members enjoy a beautiful ClubFest day.

CLUB HEADQUARTERS — Sold out more than a week before the actual day, ClubFest 2007 was another big hit.

More than 1,500 Club Members and their families and friends gathered Oct. 7 at Calamigos Ranch in the hills above Malibu for sun, fun, rides, booths, a raffle, great live party music and, for the first time, ribs, which proved even more popular than Club officials predicted.

"Every year is great, but this might have been the best ClubFest yet," said John Hawkins, Club CEO. "There were a lot of great people there, although we made sure to stop selling tickets before it got too crowded. The food was good, and I had a lot of fun!"

Those of you who tried to get tickets but were too late, the Club apologizes but reminds you to buy your tickets a little earlier next year.

Thanks to the ClubFest team, especially Robert Larios, Director of Marketing and Communications, and Navin Cotton, a.k.a. the Ticket Guy, for their hard work to make ClubFest 2007 the best one yet.

See everyone next year!

ClubFest 2007 photos by Summy Lam, Club Tech Guru; Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager; Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor, Robert Larios, Director of Marketing and Communications; and John Burnes, Alive! editor.



Dwayne Ellis.



Leigh Thompson and the family.



From left: Suz, John, Jimmy and James.



From left: Shontae Jones, Thurman Jones and Kijana Wallace.



Janet Dunham, Ranika Morris, Remington Dunham, Tay or Durham



From left: Rick, Pat and Max Sterner, with Michelle and Jack Lucas.



From left: Debra Nunez, Christina Kusch, Kenny Estrada, Susan Everett and Isaiah Everett.



From left: Club Staffer Arlene Herrero and her new friend.



From left: Becky, Marla and Club Staffer Howard Pompel.

Fun! Fun! Fun!

From left: Martin Chavez, Harbor, with Regina, Joseph, Sarina and Cochise.



From left: Chef Larios' nephew, Oscar Meza, and son, Robby Jr., wait for the festivities to start.



From left: Kimberly Smith, DWP, 9 years of service; and India Parks, DWP, 10 years of service.



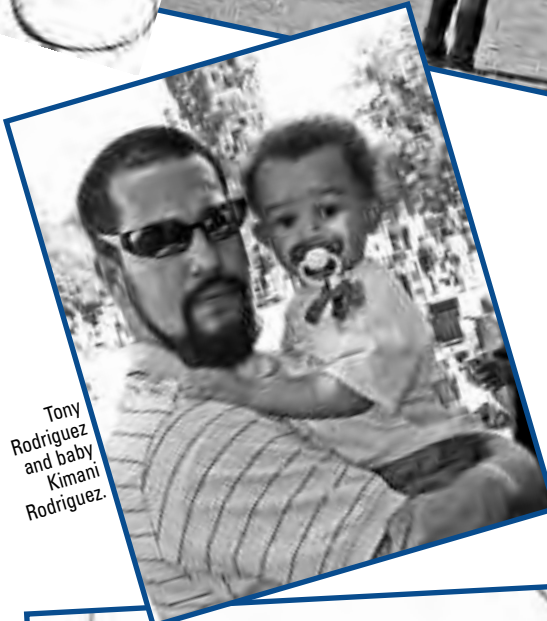
From left: Alan and Julio Ramos.



From left: Miles LeBlanc and Rhea Madison, Harbor, 2 years of service.



From left: Jennifer Lee, ITA, 5 years of service, with her husband, John.



Tony Rodriguez and baby Kimani Rodriguez.



From left: Federico Ramirez, Harbor Department, 5 years of service; Suszan Smoth; and James Smith, Harbor Department, 30 years of service.



From left: Vanessa Ruiz; Alejandro Ruiz, ITA, 8 years of service; Silvia Ruiz, baby Matthew Mendoza; Veronica Mendoza; and Alejandro Ruiz III.



ClubFest Photos on the Web!



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Let's have fun!



From left: Club staffer Cecilia Talbot and her better half.



Ken Lam and Family, ITA, 16 years



Sydney Orellana-Martinez, riding a pony.



The Screaming Race!



Club CEO John Hawkins (left with Vas and Narinder Singh. Vas works for Public Works/Contract Administration.



A First-Person Report

■ Club Member Yvonne Liu reports on her first ClubFest.

Story by Yvonne Liu, Office of Finance



Yvonne Liu and her son, Benjamin.

CLUB HEADQUARTERS—On Sunday, Oct. 7, my family and I went to check out the ClubFest festivities for the first time.

The ranch itself is beautiful: There are soft, pasture-like lawns and many shady trees for children to explore. Event organizers planned for clearly marked booths for food and activities, plenty of clean picnic tables and dining tables and easy parking. The weather was perfectly warm enough for getting wet on waterslides and water balloon battles, but not unbearable if you were standing under the sun dancing to the live music provided by The Latin Gents, Jamnesia and Bad Boyz & Company.

My husband, sons, Benjamin, and Oliver, 9 months; my mother; and my sister and her two children, Nikita, 11, and Ananda, 6, accompanied me to the Fest. All the children, including the baby, were seasoned festival participants and they all gave ClubFest 2007 their thumbs up.

My mom was impressed with the customer service: the cooking, parking and cleaning staff. She was also impressed by the quality of the entertainers, especially the rodeo clown, the puppeteer and the face painters. As a mom, I was thrilled that one low-price ticket covered live bands, all-you-want-to-eat barbecue lunch, Popsicles and drinks, rides, games for children and raffles for adults. No wonder many of the guests are returning guests.

Rewanda Mason-McGee, DWP, with 35 years of City service, has not missed one ClubFest in the last seven years. She said, "I come with my best friend, and we bring all the grandchildren and we have a great time! Every time. I love the food, the entertainment and chatting with my friends and family."

Juan Camales, son of Jose Camales, DWP, came with nearly a dozen family members. His sons, Kevin, 10, and Gabriel, 5, both enjoyed the game *Scream and Run*, where each contestant must run as far as they can scream without stopping. Gabriel and his father also participated in the *Balloon Waddle*, where they had to complete a relay race carrying a balloon, like a penguin carrying an egg. Juan, who had recently taken his family to Knott's Berry Farm, said, "Coming [to ClubFest] is much safer. It is a beautiful location, and [the activities] get the kids moving."

While I was waiting in line with Benjamin for face painting, he spotted the puppet show 10 yards away and took off to join the other children seated on the floor. He was enjoying the friendly and lifelike puppet emu, rabbit, and dog so much that I saw him waving goodbye to them. Where else can you bring your family to an event like this and safely have your small children run about?

In fact, kids are one of the most important reasons to come to ClubFest. First-timer Ken Lam of ITA and Jeanie Lam of Public Works/Bureau of Engineering said that's why they brought their four children. Their older children's favorites were the Ferris wheel and the waterslides.

David Muraoka, LAPD and Club Board Member, wouldn't miss ClubFest any year. This year he brought his grandchildren. With 33 years of City service behind him, David said, "It's a pleasure for me to see the kids have a great time. It's truly heartwarming to see the members and their families enjoy themselves. [ClubFest] is all for the kids."

Benjamin's favorites were the cow-juggling clown, the pony ride and the tractor-pulled hayride. Oliver was happiest clapping and bouncing to the music. While Nikita said the ribs were the best, Ananda liked the winged dragon that he had painted on his cheek. Nikita also said the site passed her test for easy wheelchair accessibility. By the look of their happy faces, I'm very sure we'll be coming back, too.

When asked what he enjoys the most about ClubFest, Club CEO John Hawkins said, "Seeing more and more City Employees taking advantage of the only picnic in the City that brings all departments together, whether it's Fire, Sanitation, General Services or Airports."

"It's just a fun-filled day with nonstop fun, food and wonderful music," he added.



David Patron and family, Sanitation, 6 years.



ClubFest 2007

It's Time to Play!



Diana Medina (Club Rep), Public Works – Accountant, 34.5 years.



Delia Mayorga, Library - Clerk Typist, 10 year.



Chel Tinsley and Family, Airports, 8 years



Mark Jackson, Courtney, Brandon, Harbor Dept, 3 years



Alicia Marques (Club Rep), DWP-CSR, 25 years



Sandra Smith, LAX Airports – Police Officer, 40 years



Armando Lopez and Family, Animal Services, 1 year



Howard Pompel and his grandson Travis, Club In-House Counselor

We Had a Great Time!



Regner Globus, Chairperson, Club Board.



Virginia Young, Sonya Manning, James Hines – Airports



Rita Scott, Inez Forrest



Deborah Hill and family, DWP – CRC



Art Meza with son in law, Saul Campos, LA Animal Services, 8 years



David Murakai and Family, Club Board Member



Dwayne Ellis and Family, DWP – Harbor, Cement Finisher, 20 years



Elvira Dunkle, Don Ackerley and Family, Housing Dept., 7 years

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On You Mark, Get Set...Have Fun!

Club Fest 2007



Time to Eat!





From left: Tridell Whitfield, DOT, 10 years of service, with his son, Shane Borland.



Kiah and Christina Kusch.

From left: Natalie, Alex, Karla and Edwin Realegeno.



Let's Party!



Maurice LaCourt and Family, Sanitation, 15 years



Lois Starks and Henry.



Ray Garcia, DWP - Senior Electrical Dispatcher, 31 years



From left: Sabrina Peters, Transportation, 7 years of service; and Stanley Barr, Transportation, 2 years of service.



Cecilia and Joanne.



From left: Edwin Verela; Tony Murillo; and Juan Salazar, GSD, 2 years of service.



Jolanda Norris and Jeanene Barnett



From left: Stanley, Lai, Lah and Imunique.



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