



It's holiday cheer all around as (from left) Security Officer Antonio Vasquez, Police Officer Spencer Chow, Sgt. Robert Payan, and dispatcher Emilia Cota deliver presents to their "adopted" families.



Sgt. Robert Payan (right) accepts a hug as he and Security Officer Antonio Vasquez (left) deliver gifts for the holiday.



From left: Sgt. Robert Payan and (in back) Officer Spencer Chow deliver a little Christmas cheer.



From left: Officers Hector Graciano, Julio Palomo and Alan Sepulveda delivered bikes to their "adopted" holiday families.



From left: Security Officer Antonio Vasquez, Police Sgt. Robert Payan, P.O. Spencer Chow, Dispatcher Emilia Cota and Clerk Typist Enriqueta Espinoza distribute gifts to their "adopted" family.

## Public Safety's Holiday Giving

### ■ Office of Public Safety gives to those in need over the holidays.

Story and photos courtesy Club Rep Lorena Dela Torre and Saida Beckum, Public Safety

**GENERAL SERVICES** — The Office of Public Safety was very successful in fulfilling the wishes from letters written to Santa by a few families in need. Many of the OPS family members opened up their hearts and collectively donated more than \$2,500 in cash and gifts to be distributed to seven families. The OPS team even received two pre-owned laptops, which the recipients were very grateful for.

With the cash donations, they were able to purchase items including food gift cards, Payless Shoes gift cards, Old Navy gift cards, blankets, clothes, movie tickets, boom boxes, dolls, an iPod Shuffle, a refurbished Nintendo DS, air mattresses, heaters and various toys. A few officers even donated bicycles and a Christmas tree.

The OPS team gives a great big thank-you to all for coming together to make it all possible, and a special thank-you to Sgt. Payan, officers Chow and Antonio Vasquez for donating their time and taking the team around town to deliver the gifts. And another special thank-you goes to Emilia Cota for initiating the experience.

## Giving From the Heart

### ■ Annual DWP Christmas Motorcycle Run delivered gifts to children at the Harbor UCLA Medical Center.

Story and photos courtesy Toy Run volunteers

DWP — The fourth annual Christmas Motorcycle Toy Run was held Dec. 2 to benefit the children of the Los Angeles County Harbor - UCLA Medical Center, and it was a success! Participating employees of the DWP and the Sundowners Motorcycle Club/San Fernando Valley co-sponsored the event.

Santa Claus, who resembled Ray Reynoso (founder of the Toy Run), was amazed by the number of riders who participated in this heart-filled event. The two satellite meeting locations brought their groups into downtown, to the official starting location, the Catch 21 restaurant on Fifth Street and Central Avenue. This is the second year Catch 21 allowed us to use their restaurant and parking lot for this event. The organizers give special thanks to Kenny, the owner.

The huge raffle was a success, with all the prizes being donated by great organizations. Many Harley-Davidson dealers donated wonderful prizes including gift cards, shirts, hats, coffee mugs and a jacket. Many restaurants including Acapulco, Red Robin, Millie's, Islands and Bubba Gump donated gift cards. Four special brunch gift certificates were donated by Jerrod Diaz from *i Cugini* of Santa Monica (Jerrod is the son of Tom Diaz, DWP). Other raffle prizes included three-day/two-night stays in Laughlin at the Riverside and the Pioneer Hotels. Work Boot Warehouse donated a \$50 gift certificate, and La Pera donated a custom motorcycle seat.

Also, the City Employees Club was very generous with its donations.

Wisam Petch, DWP Communications Technician, is an example of "giving from the heart." Wisam donated the event T-shirts sold as part of the fundraiser. He also donated T-shirts for the children in the hospital. Another outstanding donor was Rick Koenig from ROK Enterprises, who donated 300 Toy Run flags to be put on the bikes.

The DWP 1966 Kenworth truck driven by Greg

Algorri, DWP Senior Water Utility Supervisor, started the run from the restaurant to the hospital. Santa Claus led more than 150 bikes. Making sure no bikes were lost was Ray Algorri, DWP Water Utility Superintendent, in his 1953 Chevy pickup, followed by the trucks full of toys. The LAPD (thanks, LAPD!) escorted the bikes from Catch 21 to the freeway, and LA County Sheriff's Dept. (Thanks, Sheriff's Office!) escorted the bikes exiting the freeway to the hospital. People were seen pulling over on the freeway to take pictures of the awesome sight.

The bikes lined up and filled both sides of the walkway leading to the hospital. Many more bikes had to park in the parking lot. The gifts filled three pickup trucks. The bikers formed two lines from the back of trucks to the hospital entrance. The toys were handed in "fire-line" formation and collected just outside the hospital.

The patients, who were able to come down to watch were excited to see all the gifts, bikes, riders and Santa Claus. One little girl, Kelly, kept changing her mind on what gift she wanted as the pile grew larger. The patients who were not able to go downstairs heard the roar of the bikes as the riders arrived.

Jesus, a young patient, was asked to choose the bike to be taken into the hospital's children's ward. He chose a beautiful white Harley-Davidson Heritage Softtail. The eye-catching bike was clean and polished, and sparkled like a diamond.

The 2007 Toy Run raised a record amount for Child Life Services at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center. An astounding \$2,123 was given to the director of the program, Cristie Suzukawa, who said that Child Life Services is in constant need of donations, especially for infants and toddlers. Monetary donations and volunteers are needed throughout the year. For further information feel free to contact Cristie Suzukawa at (310) 222-5278, or by email at [csuzukawa@ladhs.org](mailto:csuzukawa@ladhs.org).

It is never too early to mark the calendars. This year's Toy Run will be held Sunday, Dec. 7. This year, the participating employees of the DWP and the Sundowners would like to welcome the new co-sponsor, Our Gang. This year is expected to be bigger and better! Anyone wanting to volunteer time or have ideas is welcome to contact Ray Reynoso at (562) 857-9888, or Ruben Montoya at (818) 634-9475.



# Holiday in the City



Laia Weaver, Clerk Typist, WLA, Club Member, and her husband, Jamar.



From left: Mario Macias, RCTO, North Central, Club Member, and his wife, Lessly; and Art Sanchez, RCTO Supervisor, North Central, Club Member, and his wife, Mina



From left: Andy Morales, RCTO, North Central, Club Member; and Cynthia Ruiz, President, Board of Public Works.



From left: Octavio Chapa, RCTO, North Central; Toni Chagolla, Sr. Clerk Typist, West LA, Club Member; and Andy Morales, RCTO, North Central, Club Member, 23 years of service.



Standing, from left: Mauricio Mateo, guest; and Jorge Hoyos, RCTO, North Central, Club Member. Seated: Yahaira Mateo, guest, and Yvonne Hoyos, wife of Jorge.



Carolyn and Harold Emery, RCTO, West LA.



From left: Bertha Flores, Accounting Clerk, CAO; and Adriana Nunez, Sr. CT, North Central, Club Member.



From left: Gerald Lopez, RCTO II, North Central; Raymond Lopez, brother; Linda Lopez, guest; and Dianna Mejia, guest.



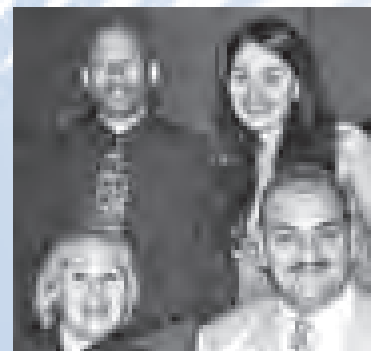
Standing: Jose Lopez, RCTO, NC, Club Member, and his wife, Leticia. Seated, from left: P. Vega, RCTO, NC, Club Member; and Beatrice Bermudez, guest.



From left: Maria Robinson, guest; John Salcedo, RCTO, North Central; John Wagoner, RCTO II, 20 years of service; and Janie Wagoner, Sr. Clerk Typist, 30 years of service, Club Member.



Cynthia and Jonathan Polk, Superintendent, South LA.



Standing: Guests Roland and Eva Oliver. Seated: Olivia and Jesus Jimenez, Supervisor, North Central.



From left: Irma Rizo, Clerk Typist, NC; and Hugo Rizo, Warehouse Worker 1, General Services.



Jesse Cruz, Superintendent II, North Central, and his wife, Brenda.

## Getting Together for The Holiday

### Sanitation's four yards come together for holiday dinner party.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor; Photos by Daniel Wang, Club Photographer

**PUBLIC WORKS** — Sanitation held its holiday dinner reception Dec. 15 at Quiet Cannon restaurant in Montebello. More than 300 guests were expected for the event.

It was the first time that four Sanitation yards – West LA, North Central, Harbor and South LA -- came together to celebrate the holidays. Thanks to Adriana Nunez and Toni Chagolla for inviting the Club!



From left: Lewis Cox, RCTO, West LA; Sherry Cox, Management Analyst, Personnel, Club Member; Charlie Reddis, RCTO, South LA; and Kimberly Reddis, Commercial Service Supervisor, DWP.



Sean Horace, GA, Harbor; and Moniquea McKee, Clerk Typist, South LA, Club Member.



From left: Ofelia and Andy Morales, RCTO, North Central, Club Member; Maria Duenas, guest; and Alicia Priedo, guest.



Carmen Martinez, guest, and Fernando Mirando, RCTO, North Central, Club Member.



From left: Mary Montoya, spouse; Debbie Villasenor, guest; and Michael A. Montoya, Maintenance Laborer, North Central, Club Member.



Steven Thompson, RCTO, West LA, Club Member; and Judy Thompson, Communications Operator, DWP.



From left: Terrence Barber, RCTO, South LA, Club Member; Jodie Jennings, RCTO, South LA; and Trina Hill, Traffic Officer, Transportation, West LA.



Shawndy and David Carlson, RCTO, North Central, Club Member.



From left: Jana Martinez, Sr. Clerk Typist, SRSSE; Leo Martinez, Assistant Division Manager 1, Club Member; and Cynthia Ruiz, President, Board of Public Works.



See these photos and more, in color, at [cityemployeesclub.com](http://cityemployeesclub.com) on the Web! Click on Photos at the top of Club home page.

The Alive! tradition of covering the City's parties is now on the Web!

