



Congratulations to the Perfect Attendance Award Recipients, pictured with (at left) Alice Goff, President of Local 3090, AFSCME.



With a Certificate of Recognition from Councilman Dennis Zine's office were, from left: Regino Sarabia; Cliff Ruff, Chief of Staff for Councilman Dennis Zine; and Kevin Ward, Club Member.



Receiving the Dedicated Team Member Award was Napoleon Fuller, Club Member (center), with Alice Goff, President of Local 3090, AFSCME (left) and David Pongvarin, Supervisor.



Receiving the Exemplary Employee Award was Gustavo Cortes Jr., Club Member (center) with Alice Goff, President of Local 3090, AFSCME (left) and David Pongvarin, Supervisor.



Sonissa Norman, Messenger Clerk and Club Member, proudly holds her digital camera donated by the City Employees Club of Los Angeles.



Receiving the Outstanding Customer Service Award was Jacobi Patterson, Club Member (center), with Alice Goff, President of Local 3090, AFSCME (left) and David Pongvarin, Supervisor.

Mail Services Appreciation

■ Mail Services says thanks to employees with a luncheon.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

GENERAL SERVICES — Mail Services held its sixth annual employee appreciation luncheon Jan. 24 in the Tom Bradley Room atop City Hall.

Forty-three percent of the entire division's employees received perfect attendance certificates.

The first-year Perfect Attendance recipients were: Terry Brummund, Peggy Moore and Terra Jones. Second-year recipients were David Pongvarin and David Meraz. The third-year recipient was Napoleon Fuller III. The five-year recipient was Jack Callies, and the sixth-year recipients were Michael Hammersley and Randy Gordon.

The Dedicated Team Member Award went to Napoleon Fuller III; the Outstanding Customer Service Award went to Jacobi Patterson; and the

Exemplary Employee Award went to Gustavo Cortes Jr.

Opening remarks were delivered by Melody McCormick, Director, Facilities Management. The Welcome Remarks were by Aram Salmasi, Mail Services Division Manager; Tony M. Royster, Assistant General Manager; and Alvin Y. Blain, General Manager.

An in memoriam tribute was given in honor of James Owsley.

The Club donated gift items as part of the recognition awards.

The Club congratulations to the entire Mail Services Division: Jeannette Arnold-Lindley; Ernest Bernal; Rick Brown; Terry Brummund; Jack Callies; Maria Cibrario; Gustavo Cortes Jr.; Napoleon Fuller III; Randy Gordon; Ersalyn (Lyn) Green; Michael Hairston; Steven Hesse; Terra Jones; Timothy Lamb; Ying (Ken) Mak; David Meraz; Margaret (Peggy) Moore; Brenda Nichols; Sonissa Norman; Jacobi Patterson; David Pongvarin; Esperanza (Espie) Reynoso; Mary Ann Ruiz; Aram Salmasi; Regino (Reggie) Sarabia; Cindy Serrano; Angelia (Angie) Stovall; and Kevin Ward.



From left: Rick Brown, Delivery Driver, 2 years; Chi Lam, Secretary, 3 years, Club Member; and Jacobi Patterson, Delivery Driver, 5 years, Club Member.



From left: Tony Royster, Assistant General Manager, Club Member; Kevin Ward, Messenger Clerk, 13 years, Club Member; Espie Reynoso, Messenger Clerk, 8 years; Regino Sarabia, Messenger Clerk, 4 years; and Napoleon Fuller, Delivery Driver, 6 years, Club Member.



From left: Ernie Bernal, Delivery Driver I, 6 years, Club Member; Timothy Lamb, Delivery Driver I, 3 years; and Gus Cortes Jr., Delivery Driver I, 2 years, Club Member.



Ken Mak, Clerk, 8 years; and Angelia Gray-Stovall, Principal Clerk, 13 years, Club Member.



From left: Michael Hairston, Delivery Driver, 3 years, Club Member; Jeannette Arnold-Lindley, Chief Clerk, 28 years; Michael Hammersley, Delivery Driver, 7.5 years; and Jack Callies, Delivery Driver, 10 years.



From left: Peggy Moore, Messenger Clerk, 16 years, Club Member; and Brenda Nichols, Messenger Clerk, 21 years, Club Member.



From left: Mary Ann Ruiz, Clerk, 4 years; Randy Gordon, Clerk, 19 years, Club Member; and Alvin Blain, General Manager, Club Member.



From left: Rafael Gonzalez, Assistant Director, Office of the Mayor; Sonissa Norman, Messenger Clerk, 1 year, Club Member; Cindy Serrano, Delivery Driver I, 2 years, Club Member; and David Paschal, Assistant General Manager, Property Management.



From left: Terry Brummund, Delivery Driver, 29 years; David Meraz, Delivery Driver II, 13 years; and David Pongvarin, Delivery Driver III, 8 years.

Baker to Vegas: Training for the Big Race



Off they go as part of a training exercise.



Anita Whited, Sr. PSR I, Club Member and Team Captain.

■ Training continues in preparation for the annual Baker to Vegas relay, an on-foot relay race for safety officers.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor; Photos by Arlene Herrero and C.T. Feng, LAPD

POLICE DEPT. — Training is in full swing for this month's 24th annual Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup, scheduled for April 19-20.

The annual Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay was created and is produced by the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club (LAP-DRAAC). The Club is grateful for their leadership in this event.

Hundreds of teams now compete in the Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay, which challenges teams of runners to race (on foot) from Baker, Calif., to Las Vegas. It was founded by Los Angeles Police Officers Chuck Foote and Larry Moore in 1984 with the continuous financial support of LAPRAAC. It began with 19 teams composed of law enforcement officers who faced the harsh Mojave Desert to prove which team was up to the "challenge" and would come away the winner of the Challenge Cup.

The race has become the largest law enforcement athletic event of its kind worldwide. Participation includes 10,000 law enforcement personnel of all ranks and agencies including the LAPD, the Sheriff's Dept., federal agencies, United States military, the

Chief of Police, Department heads, agents in charge, and special VIP guests, celebrities, dignitaries, family members, race sponsors, press and media.

Alive! checked in with two teams that the Club is sponsoring, the LAPD Communications team, and the Port Police.

LAPD Communications

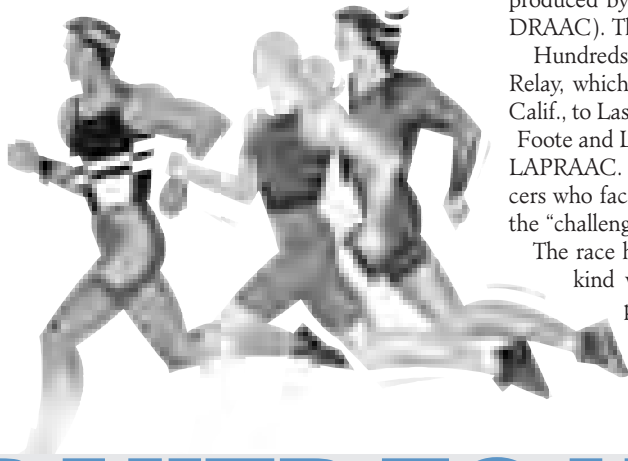
Alive! spoke with Anita Whited, LAPD Communications and Baker to Vegas team captain. Here's her report:

"This is my fifth year as team captain," Anita began. "Last month I appointed Berta Ugas as my co-captain, because she is my glue, picking up pieces and keeping me on track, and ensuring that what needs to get done, gets done!"

"Our goal this year is to bring home mug no. 5 and to stay under 100 [of the more than 200 teams that compete]. The better we get, which we have gotten better each year, it gets more and more challenging. You get into a league where the real athletes live, and now this year with 245 teams, it just got tougher.

"The team spirit motivates me. This race takes so much heart, determination and self discipline. For a team of 55 to 65 each year to understand what it takes and to succeed is tremendous. I love the team effort, everyone working together. The people on this team inspire and motivate me for sure.

"Ninety percent of the team is comprised of return runners. We have



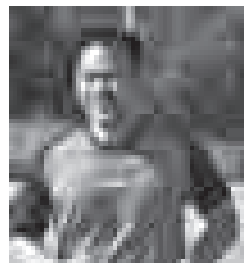
BAKER TO VEGAS BAKER TO VEGAS



Ricardo Lopez, PSR II, Club Member, and Anita Whited, Sr. PSR I, Team Captain, Club Member, push each other along.



Gricelda Aceves, PSR II, Club Member.



C.T. Feng, PSR III, Club Member, is all smiles despite the heat.



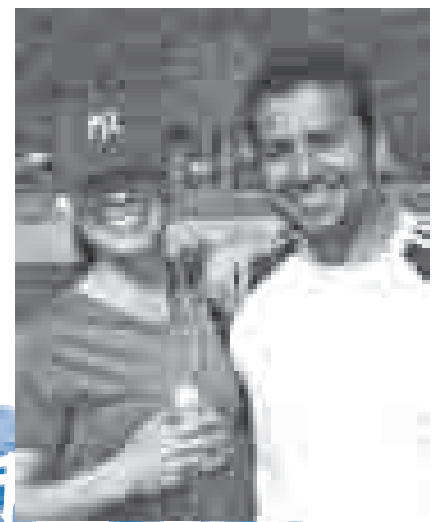
Maria Coronado, PSR II, Club Member, is a four-year participant with her eyes on leg 14 of the course.



Carlos Mejia, PSR II, Club Member, is a seventh-year participant with his eyes on leg 6.



Way to go Gricelda (Aceves) ... swing those arms.



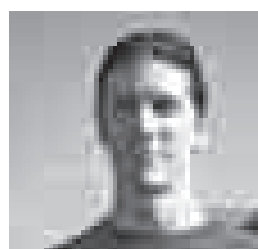
Debbie Ramsey, PSR III.



Autumn Kohoutek, PSR II, is a new participant hoping for "an easy leg."



The LAPD Communications Team trains at the Rose Bowl.



Ricardo Lopez, PSR II, Club Member, is back for his second year and is ready for any leg of the course that he is assigned to.



Sgt. Gregory Hoyt.



Angelina Ortega, PSR III.



Capt. Al Rosario, Club Member, is a second-year participant and leads this running pack.



Port Police Officer Alex Castillo, Baker to Vegas Team Co-Captain and Club Member.



Slow and steady wins the race!



Off they go, as they train for the Baker to Vegas race.



Run, Officer Cobos -- someone is sneaking close behind you.



Follow the leader.



Their training regimen pushes the team through the Cabrillo Aquarium.



Pushing hard towards the finish line!



Capt. Al Rosario, Club Member, second-year participant, looks to improve his time.

BAKER TO VEGAS BAKER TO VEGAS

four new members. My advice to new runners is to stay consistent to avoid injury; do not increase your weekly mileage too quickly. Most importantly, get fit for a pair of running shoes! Be patient; it takes time to become a stronger, faster runner. If you stay consistent you will improve and you'll be injury free.

"This year as every year, I'm looking forward to seeing my team out there on the race course, doing what they've been preparing to do since last year. It truly fills my heart with so much pride. I am so proud of each and every one of them. This is not an easy thing that they have entered into; they know it and they show up with commitment and heart. It's so wonderful!

"My least favorite part of this event is waiting Sunday evening outside the war room for the results to be posted. Talk about nerves, stress, fear ... wow! I think I get more of an emotional cardiovascular workout at that moment, than running my leg in the race.

"I continue to request that the City Employees Club be our sponsor, because every interaction and every business transaction, every feeling about the Club, is pure. When I deal with the Club I deal with honest, kind, sincere people and that is so very important. The customer service is great, and as a partner there is no doubt that they are on our side. I know that they have our best interests at heart.

"There are so many people to thank for our success. This race does not happen without hundreds of people behind us, literally. All the people who support, organize and work the fundraisers; the people in the front office, approving our functions, training, fundraisers etc. and sign checks for us; the people who take it upon themselves to help me distribute Baker to Vegas gear that has been purchased by the PSRs on every watch; the people who stay behind and work the floor while we are doing what needs to get done for this race, not to mention when we're away on race weekend. The list goes on and on. So thank you to everyone for your support. We do this to grow as individuals, and also for the division, so each year in the world of athletes and champions we can hold our heads a little higher each year, all of us."

Thanks to Anita, Marisol Vielma and CT Feng for their assistance.

Port Police

Alive! interviewed Port Police Officer and Club Member Alex Castillo about the Port Police Baker to Vegas Team's training and preparation for the big race.

"Lt. Michael Kettelkamp is the overall captain of the team, and I am the co-captain.

"Our team goal is to shave off time, to get no penalties, and to win a mug. The motivation comes from being proud of working for such a professional organization like the Los Angeles Port Police and the support I receive from the command staff and all the other officers.

"The surprising thing of last year was that we were able to run the challenge relay cup for the first time and not receive any penalties or have anyone drop out.

"I would say 50 percent of our runners are returning this year. My advice to new runners is train, train, train, because it will get nasty.

"We're looking forward to being able to represent our department in Baker to Vegas for a second year in a row, this time in a new category (150 sworn employees or under) because we have hired a lot of new Port Police officers. The least favorite would be organizing, fundraising and getting our team squared away for the big day.

"Special thanks go to Lt. Michael Kettelkamp and Officer Rudy Meza for getting all the logistics and intelligence for Baker to Vegas. Special thanks to The Los Angeles Port Police Command Staff for supporting this event. And special thanks to the runners and support staff who will represent our agency."

Thanks, Alex, and good luck from the Club!



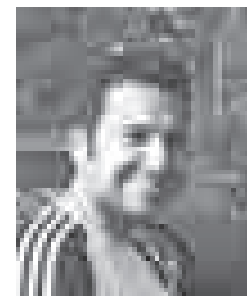
C.T. Feng, PSR III, Club Member, 7-year participant, who hopes to run the shortest leg of the course.



Lourdes Veras, PSR II



PSR IIs Eddie Gomez and Susan Reynoso.



Quincy Mirage, PSR II.



Emiko Uyeda, PSR II, second-year participant.



Gloria Martinez, PSR II, another newcomer to the team, is willing to run "wherever Anita needs me."



Sharon Dormitorio, PSR II, second-year participant, is asking for peace and leg 10 or leg 11 of the race.