

LETTERS To the Editor

Tell us what you think! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Shoutout!

Angel Inspires This Family To Hike and, Well, *Be Alive*

My family and I are so happy that Angel Gomez keeps introducing newer and newer "hot spots" to visit within our beloved City [in his *Be Alive!* monthly feature - Ed.]. We have tried some trails previously trekked by Angel. It was a lot of fun for all of us. I would like to share a few memorable moments about our recent excursion to Millard Canyon Falls.

Thank you, Angel; thank you, John Hawkins; thanks for all of you making it possible.

— **Robbie Horvath, Public Works/Hyperion and his family**



Thanks for sending in the photos of you and your family, Robbie! Always great to know we can help keeping families strong and active.
—Ed.



Budget Cuts Brings Out More Ideas, Comments

I agree with Mayor Villaraigosa's proposal that requires six mandatory days off without pay. I would rather sacrifice six days than to see layoffs of more people. The country is going through hard times. The cost of gas is going up, along with food prices and other commodities. Homes are in foreclosure. Six days without pay is a small displeasure when you look at the bigger picture. I consider myself lucky to work for a great organization that would give furloughs as an option instead of just mass layoffs.

— **William Flowers, Airports**

Well, it seems to me that if we all must share the burden except police, fire, sanitation and those who couldn't balance the budget, it's those bigshot elected officials who failed to do their job. It's not fair that we city workers be burdened and have to take six days off without pay.

— **Bill Larsen, Rec and Parks**

It just amazes me that they continue to come up with short-term fixes. Then they come up with all of these "great ideas" for the City to save money when there's a budget crisis. Why aren't they simply implementing these "great ideas" all the time?

— **James, Club Member**

It seems rather hypocritical for the mayor to propose a plan where "everybody shares the

burden" when he is still riding around in fancy cars with a private security detail, when many of our City Departments practice wasteful habits (like the LAPD with its "overtime" issues), when our City Council members have fat budgets, etc., etc.

The City knows exactly where it can and should save money but, as usual, that stuff is overlooked.

I say: It is time to trim the fat, not the meat! Why is it always the worker bees who must sacrifice? When I see the feds taking their own cuts, I may think about an unpaid leave. Until then, leave me alone, let me work and earn my pay so that I can survive in this tight economy!

— **Ramona Gonzales, LAPD**

Club Member Used Discount, Saved 15 Percent on Flowers

Hi Club! Just wanted to let you know that I just saved 15 percent on flowers with the Club's 1800flowers.com discount code. My friend was sick, so I sent her a beautiful bouquet (it was the Martha Stewart Vibrant Purple Bouquet in a Lily Pond Thumbprint Vase). My total savings was \$7.49 on a \$49.95 arrangement. Thank you so much for offering this! Oh, and thanks for putting the promotion code on the back of our membership cards. That sure makes it easy to find it when you need it. Keep up the outstanding work!

— **Cindy, Public Works**

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!

Where do you cool off when it gets hot?

"Camping in Mountain Lake Resort in Lytle Creek, Calif.!"

— **Ray Reynosa, Heavy Duty Truck Operator A, DWP Fleet Services, 18 years of City service.**



"At home with the AC on full blast."

— **Juan Navarro, Public Works/Street Services, Maintenance Laborer, 8 years of service.**

"At the park under a shady tree."

— **Raul Mazariego, Traffic Officer, Transportation, 18.5 years of service.**



"The backyard and the pool by the pond."

— **David Mills, Commercial Field Representative, DWP, 18 years.**

"The river, with a cold beverage in hand!"

— **JR Garcia, DWP.**



"The beach."

— **Leon Bland, Maintenance Laborer, DWP, 29 years of service.**

"At work in the Control Room with the AC."

— **Isaac Alvarez, Bureau of Street Services, Asphalt Plant Operator II, 18 years of service.**



"In the library!"

— **Lilia Solis, Management Analyst, Library, 28 years of service.**

"No question about it - it's the beach!"

— **Manny Jacquez, Warehouse and Tool Room Worker, DWP, 24 years of service.**



"The movie theater."

— **Richard Rea, Traffic Officer, Transportation, 19 years of service.**