



Alive!



Club to Help You Get Fit In New Year

Great new Club benefit: 24 Hour Fitness annual pass at over 50% off the regular price!

THE CLUB — Get fit in 2009! And the Club is here to help you!

The Club is going to help you keep that New Year's resolution and get in shape for the New Year. Introducing the Club's newest benefit: annual passes to 24 Hour Fitness for just \$199! That's a discount of **over 50% off** the 24 Hour Fitness' regular fee of \$533.97 annually. That's an amazing deal!

"Keeping City Employees healthy, happy and insured has always been what the Club's services have been about," said John Hawkins, Club CEO. "Robert Larios and The Ticket Guy really worked hard to get Club Members this great deal. I encourage everyone to take advantage of it; you owe it to yourself and your family."

The Club's price -- \$199 per year -- breaks down to \$16.67 per month. Purchase your 24 Hour Fitness annual pass at the Club Store online (www.cityemployeesclub.com) or at the Club Store and Service Center, 120 W. Second Ave., 90012 downtown.

Details of the Club's newest benefit are on page 43.

Alive! Looks Back On Best, Saddest Moments of 2008

How much do you remember of 2008? This month's special feature brings it all back.

THE CLUB — From the highest highs (the Club opened its fantastic new Club Store downtown) – to the lowest lows (the death of beloved Club colleague Howard Pompel) – 2008 was truly a memorable year at the Club.

And in true *Alive!* fashion, a special section in this month's paper helps you relive some of the bigger stories, and some of the great *Alive!* photos, too.

Do you remember going along with Mr. L.A., Councilman and Club Member Tom LaBonge, as he drove our reporters to the scene of a major fire? Or surveying the new growth at Griffith Park, in the aftermath of the devastating fires of 2007?

Or how about St. Baldrick's? Or another great ClubFest, taking place on about the most beautiful day possible?

And you can't forget about all the great locations all over the world where our Club Members snapped a photo of themselves, holding their copy of *Alive!*

It all starts on page 6. Happy New Year!



The City Parties!

Alive! continues its annual holiday tradition of printing the images of your parties from the holiday just past. Enjoy!

See the party pics, beginning on page 12.



City Employees Club of Los Angeles
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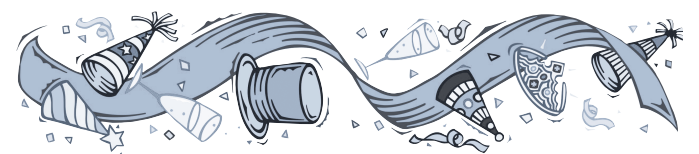
Be My Club Valentine!

Send your sweetie a Valentine
... right here in *Alive!* See page 44.





*Special Holiday
Party Section*



*It's an annual *Alive!* tradition!*

Every year, City Departments put aside their hard work and come together for fun and socialization at their festive holiday parties. And *Alive!* publishes as many of your party pics as we can.

Starting this month, we cover the City Parties. And we'll continue in the next months as the photos continue to trickle in.

Happy New Year!

The City Parties



From left: Frank Hsu, Erick Chang, Shawn Farzan and Tri Nguyen.



From left: Jensen Wu, Jenny Tsang, Marina Quinones, Nancy Avila and Ben Gaetos.

A Holiday Party, By Design



Bill Lee and Ajit Syan.

■ Bureau of Engineering's Architectural Division hosts its annual holiday luncheon.

Story and photos by Yvonne Liu, Office of Finance

PUBLIC WORKS — The Public Works/Bureau of Engineering's Architectural Division held its annual holiday party at the Almansor Court in Alhambra Dec. 17. The attendees included more than a dozen consultants working alongside City employees throughout the year.

If you think being a City employee carries no perks, Architectural Division employees paid \$25 per ticket, while consultants paid \$35.

Division Head Principal Architect Mahmood Karimzadeh opened the luncheon with his welcome remarks, praising the projects that the Division completed this year.

Senior managers offset the cost of the holiday luncheon for the employees by contributing \$50 to \$100 or more each. The remaining funds went to prizes including warm throws, a toaster, a blender and a coffee maker.

Management Analyst II Cynthia Shaw and Landscape Architect Steve Davis carried home the two top prizes: four-gigabyte MP3 players.

Everyone enjoyed the eight-course international buffet while listening to Steve Davis read aloud an especially entertaining version of the Christmas story, rewritten by Senior Clerk Typist Antoinette Barrios.

Some of the games included the paper dance. Prizes were given to the most innovative and the best dancer.

The highlight of the party was entertainment provided by The Safety Girls, a music group of college students. The four women have made many professional appearances in the last two years, including early December at the Pasadena Mayor's Holiday Party. Although each young woman has her own special accomplishments, Elene Perry, daughter of Architect

Hsiao-Ling Ting, is the key member that got them the gig at the Architectural Division party.

For more about the Safety Girls, go to: www.thesafetygirls.com

"Being part of a team is what I enjoyed the most about my Division," said Hsiao-ling Ting, who has served as the Chair of the Holiday Luncheon Committee for the third consecutive year.

The other Committee Members were Antoinette Barrios, Nishith Dhandha, Ben Gaetos, Herbert Guevarra, Asatur Keymetlyan, Kevin Payne, Marina Quionez, Pradeep Ranade, Houshang Shahidi, Cynthia Shaw, Jenny Tsang, Yvonne Upton and Erick Villanueva.

For more about Bureau of Engineering, go to <http://boe.ci.la.ca.us/>



Principal Architect Mahmood Karimzadeh makes his welcome remarks.



From left: Herbert Guevara and Paul Young.



From left: Antoinette Barrios and baby Aidan.



From left: Greg Nuno, Joan Kaplan, Meliana Susanto, Nishith Dhandha and Rick Fisher.



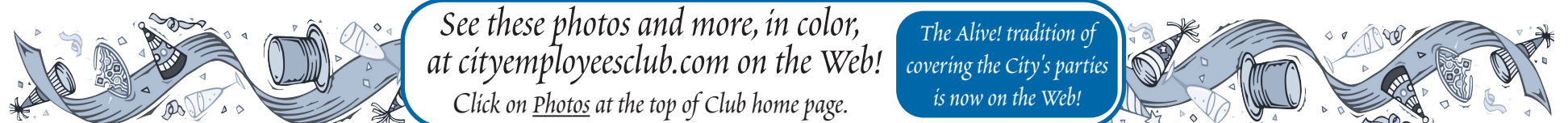
From left: Vinh Ha, Steve Murata, Mai Tran, Jack Bornoff and Jennifer Lau.



From left: Houshang Shahidi, Massoud Tayyar, Frank Hsu, John McNeil and Erick Chang.

See these photos and more, in color, at 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!



The City Parties



From left: King Miranda, ECH, 7 years; Richard Sainz, ECH 5 years; Frank Ayala, Asst. Tree Lighting Electrician, 23 years, Club Member; and Daniel Thome, ECH asst, 8 years, Club Member.



From left: Rodney Chamberlain, ECH, 2 years, and Felipe Rodriguez, Supervisor I, 22 years, Club Member.



Jim Josephson, Electrician 15 years, and his wife, Juanita.

Lighting Up the Holidays

■ Street Lighting hosts its annual party.

Story and photos by Tiffany Sy, Club Counselor



From left: Chris Mossman, Supervisor, Street Services; and Kristina Briones, Accounting Clerk, 5 years.

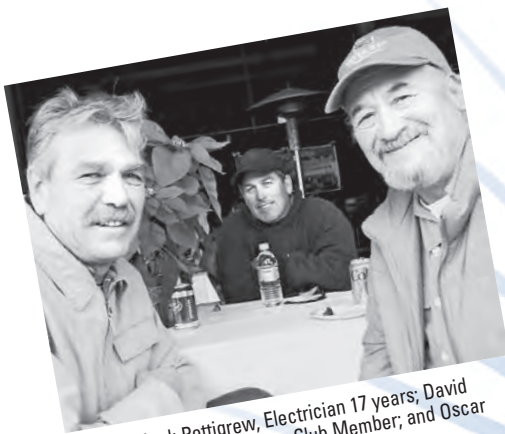
PUBLIC WORKS — Public Works' Division of Street Lighting hosted its annual holiday party Dec. 18.

The party was held at Street Lighting's West District office on Santa Monica Boulevard.

The Club thanks Street Lighting for inviting us to the annual party.



From left: Carlos Gonzales, GSD Truck Operator, 37 years, Club Member; and Carl Bolton, Principal Supervisor, 24 years.



From left: Jack Pettigrew, Electrician 17 years; David Dobens, Electrician 10 years, Club Member; and Oscar Reyna, Electrician 21 years, Club Member.



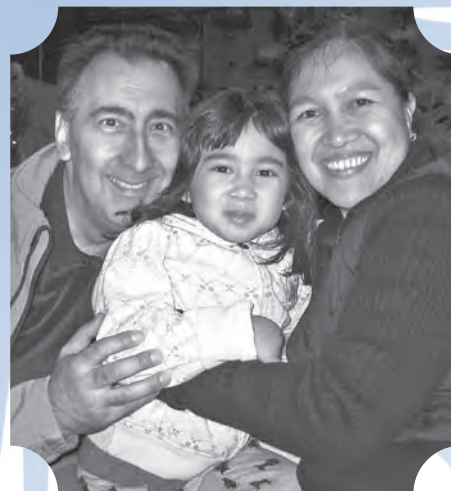
Al from Bureau of Street Services won the raffle. He won a stainless steel watch donated by the City Employees Club.



From left: Larry Spillman, Mech Helper, 21 years; and Evelyn Jones, Clerk Typist, 47 years.



The live entertainment.



Rosemarie Ostic, Management Assistant, 2 years, with her husband, Ernie, and her daughter, Heather.

Party in the Valley

REC AND PARKS — The Valley Region Headquarters staff of Rec and Parks gathered Dec. 16 at the Odyssey Restaurant in Granada Hills for the office's annual Christmas party. Thanks to Lou Loomis, *Alive!* movie reviewer extraordinaire, for sending it to us.



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

The City Parties



Office of Public Safety hosts annual party.



Photos by Robert Larios, Director of Operations

GENERAL SERVICES — The General Services/Office of Public Safety threw its annual holiday party Dec. 19 in the Tom Bradley Room high atop City Hall.

The OPS would like Pitfire Pizza, which provided the party's food at especially low cost, so OPS could raise money for its other holiday event, providing charity for the children of its adopted school, Fletcher Drive Elementary School.

The OPS Holiday Committee included:

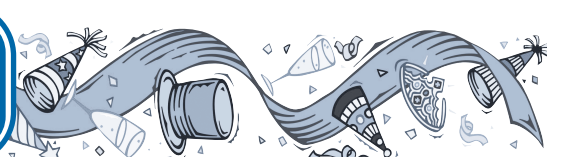
- Juli Kolb
- Officer Patricia Escalante
- Lydia Marquez
- Officer Claudio Barrazo
- Chief David Aguirre
- Colette "CoCo" Wilbourne, and
- Enriqueta Espinoza.

The Club thanks Rick Thorstensen and Lydia Marquez, Management Analyst II, for providing information.



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The City Parties



A Day at Dave and Buster's



■ **General Services comes together for one huge, annual holiday party.**

Photos by Joon Lee and Brenton Guy

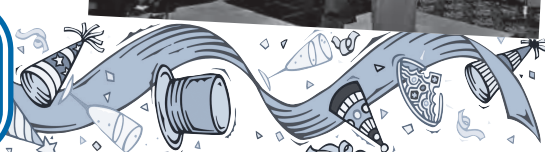
GENERAL SERVICES — General Services' annual holiday luncheon took place Dec. 11 at Dave and Busters in Arcadia.

Many thanks to Val Melloff, Assistant General Manager, General Services, for sending us the information on the event.



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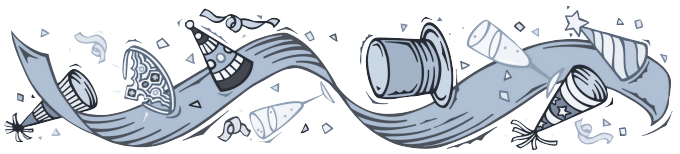
The City Parties

General Services - continued

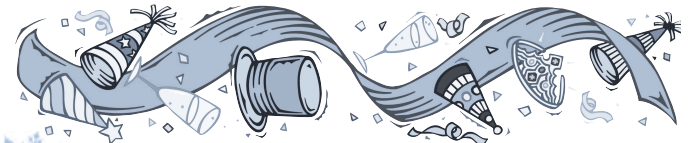


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The City Parties



From left: Michael Lapid, Yo! Case Manager; Nancy Herrera, MA II Yo! Systems 25 years; and Richard Benbow, General Manager.



From left: Evangeline Carlos, Management Analyst II, 20 years, Club Member; and Leonor Palangio, Management Analyst II, 20 years.



Theresa Clemente, WDD, 15 years, Club Member; and Vicky Marinas, WDD, 9 years, Club Member.



Filipino dancers.



Filipino dancers.

CDD Has Filipino Holiday Touch

Story and photos by Tiffany Sy, Club Counselor

CDD — The Community Development Filipino Holiday Party took place Dec. 11 during lunchtime at 1200 W. Seventh St. downtown. Authentic and delicious Filipino food was served to hundreds of CDD employees and guests.

Also, a variety of choreographed performances was delivered by graceful Filipino dancers.



Corazon Soriano, Committee and Organizer of the Holiday Party, 22 years.



From left: Amelia Marucut, CDD Youth; and Richard Benbow, General Manager, CDD.



From left: Pam Williams, CEA II, Club Member; Lashontza Spates, Sr. Clerk Typist, 12 years, Club Member; and Marina Sanchez, Executive Assistant, 14 years.



From left: Jimmy Lee, Sr. Systems Analyst II, 18 years, Club Member; and Mimi Donlin, Sr Systems Analyst II, 27 years.



From left: Dennis Parks, WDD, 6 years; and Elliott Blue, WDD, 12 years.

Holiday Fare and Square

■ A 'Hollywood Squares'-type game highlights Personnel's annual luncheon.

Story by Yvonne Liu, Finance, with information and photos courtesy Bruce Whidden, Personnel

PERSONNEL — More than 230 employees of Personnel gathered at the Omni Los Angeles

Hotel Dec. 10 for the department's holiday party. Baritone Jansen Hodge, a Clerk Typist in the Public Safety Bureau, began the annual event, designed to foster fellowship and holiday cheer, by offering his rendition of two holiday favorites, "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" and "Sleigh Bells."

While guests feasted on an entrée choice of braised short ribs of beef or sage roasted breast of chicken, they listened attentively to their numbers to be called for door prizes. This year's



"Personnel Squares" host John Dunlop, Chief, Public Safety Bureau, and contestant Janeshia Robinson, Senior Personnel Analyst, Public Safety Bureau, play the game.



Baritone Jansen Hodge, a Clerk Typist in the Public Safety Bureau, offered two holiday selections, "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" and "Sleigh Bells."



Department senior managers gathered on stage to form the familiar tic-tac-toe in the Department's rendition of "The Personnel Squares." Lead by center square Maggie Whelan, General Manager, one contestant from each table had the opportunity to come up and agree or disagree with the managers to win wonderful prizes. Pictured, from top left: Dru Ross, Safety Administrator; Beth Camarco, Workers' Compensation Division; Dave Noltemeyer, Chief, Workers' Compensation Division; Scott De Young, Chief, Examining Division; Maggie Whelan, General Manager; Raul Lemus, Chief, Employment Services; Phyllis Lynes, Assistant General Manager; Angie Chang, Assistant General Manager; and Gloria Sosa, Assistant General Manager.

master of ceremonies, John Dunlop, Chief of Public Safety Bureau, drew name after name out of a silver bucket to give away scores of coveted prizes including gift cards for Starbuck's and Quiznos. To welcome the year 2009, the year analog TVs became history, Senior Personnel Analyst II Art Irigoyen of Equal Employment Opportunity Division won the grand prize of a 22" flat screen digital TV.

A highlight of the day was when senior managers gathered on stage to form the familiar tic-tac-toe in the department's rendition of "The Personnel Squares." Led by center square

Maggie Whelan, General Manager, one contestant from each table had the opportunity to come up and agree or disagree with the managers to win more wonderful prizes.

The event was supported by the Personnel Department Employee Benefits Association, a department organization that fundraises throughout the year to underwrite the price of the holiday party as well as hold other employee appreciation activities held within the department. This year, PDEPBA underwrote each ticket by \$13 to bring the ticket cost to each employee attending to just \$25 per ticket.



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