

LETTERS To the Editor

Tell us what you think! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

LETTER OF THE MONTH

Cameron's Very Fetching As He Shares Mila's *Alive!*

This picture was taken at home with my buddy, Cameron.

I was reading the September issue of *Alive!* when Cameron decided not only to share my space, but my reading material as well!



As I got up from the chair to give him more space, I noticed that he struck an irresistible pose in front of *Alive!* that was just too precious to pass up.

Well, somebody has to be the photographer, so I propped up *Alive!* at the background and took this photograph of my "rescued" and I hope not just a "vacationing" pal, Cameron!

— **Mila Castaneda, Club Member**

*Between your trusty Cameron, and last month's photo of Sonny, who also enjoys *Alive!* in his own, doggone special way, we suspect we have come upon a new breed of *Alive!* reader. Cameron and Sonny are giving us a new leash on life! Thanks for sending it in. —Ed.*

Not Even in Silicon Valley Is There a Paper Like *Alive!*

You and the entire staff over there do a real quality job on *Alive!* It's very professional and informative. I am especially impressed with the manner in which you cover many, if not all, of the City's Departments and their activities.

And the photos – wow. Angel and staff do a superb job with photos of employees and their families, and the many special events going on with City Departments. It's an absolutely great publication that has no comparison or competition. I originally came from San Jose, and I can tell you that nothing produced in Silicon Valley bears any semblance to the quality *Alive!* editions we receive each month. Keep up the good work. I look forward to opening the mailbox once each month to receive and become *Alive!*

— **Russ L. Russell, Port Police**

Wow, Russ. I don't know what to say other than thank you ... and now we had better live up to our reputation! Thanks for the compliment; it's always good to hear we're on the right track. — John Hawkins, Club CEO

Holiday Pics Prove That City Employees Have Fun

I look forward to seeing the holiday parties you guys put up in the newspaper. I don't think anyone can say that we don't work hard and have fun. I especially like the photos from General Services. They all look so happy! Big smiles and great clothes!

— **Gerald Flowers, Rec and Parks**

*Hi Gerald: *Alive!* loves printing the holiday party pics from City Employees. It's our annual tradition! We wish we could attend all the parties, but we're glad that good people send them in. There are a lot more pics this month, so dig in. —Ed.*

Rest Assured, Rest Insured Is Worth Archiving on Web

Hello *Alive!* people. I just wanted to send a message of my appreciation for the car insurance article that your writer puts together [*Rest Insured*]. It's always informative and cov-

ers a wide variety of topics. It's all about saving money and getting the right insurance coverage. I was thinking that maybe there should be a place where all these articles are put on the Club Website. I'm not a marketing guy, so maybe I don't know what I'm talking about. In any case, Jeff Gelineau rocks!

— **Kenneth Martinez - LAPD**

Hi Kenneth: You do know what you're taking about; it's a good idea. Let's see what we can do to archive Jeff's Rest Insured columns. Stay tuned. —Ed.

Ted Thanks *Alive!* for Not Forgetting About Retirees

I am so delighted that your paper does not forget about the retirees. I look forward to seeing the articles in the Best Years section. I especially liked the story and pictures on RLACEI holiday party. There were a lot of pictures, and they deserve the media coverage just for all the sacrifices they made while working for the City.

I also want to send my thank you and appreciation to both the Director and the CEO for attending that party. They must think we're still important, and it's good to see.

— **Ted Smith, Retired**

Sure thing, Ted. Speaking of retirees, check out our cover story this month on City Retiree John Bogdanoff. His old stories had us down for the count! —Ed.

Todd's Picture Was Perfect Enough for Ancient Details

I'm so impressed with the Picture Perfect Contest. City employees are great photographers! The picture of Alaska by Todd Rother and the one from Brent Tuttle of the Step Pyramid of Sakkara are my favorites! The detail on the cobra sculptures is out of sight. Four-thousand years have passed and the detail is still intact! You can see the scales, the detail in the cobra eyes and mouth. The Egyptians knew what they were doing, just as Brent knows how to take a great photo.

— **Holly Bustillo, General Services**

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!

Stop by the Club Store and get in on the fun!

What's your favorite flower?



"Gardenias."

— **Beatriz Lopez, Transportation**



"Orchids."

— **Mike Zepeda, Public Works**



"Lilies."

— **Patricia Sanchez, Transportation**



"Roses."

— **Ralph Jauregui, Airports**



"The mango tree."

— **Rick Knapp, LAFD**



"Sunflowers."

— **Tina Huang, Transportation**



"Birds of Paradise."

— **Van Tran, LAFD**

Something to  Think About

"It's kind of fun to do the impossible."

— **Walt Disney**

A reminder from L.A. City's Quality and Productivity Commission:
Always do your best!

Correction

In last month's "Question of the Month" feature, the title of Michael Holmes was misstated. He's a Lot Cleaning Superintendent I. Sorry about that, Michael.