

HARBOR

Lt. Aleman Retires

Lt. Daniel Aleman, Port Police leader, union organizer and Club Member, retires from Port Police after 26 years of City service.



From left: Lt. Daniel Aleman, Retiree, Club Member, and his wife, Wanda.



From left: Mike Freese, Local 13; Lt. Dan Aleman, Club Member; and Lt. Mike Kettelkamp, Club Member.



From left: Pauline Hospe, Port Pilots; David Bailey, Retired; Jessica Bautista, MA, Club Member; and Lt. Ken Hawkes, Port Police, Club Member.



From left: Jeanne Schwab, Dispatcher; David Knight, Retired, Club Member; Sgt. Michael Alva, Port Police, Club Member; Maria Alva, Sr. CT, Club Member; and Sgt. Brent Smith, LAPD Harbor.



From left: Capt. Al Rosario, Port Police, Club Member; LaChelle Washington, Dispatcher, Club Member; and Jason Ho, Civil Engineering Associate.



Julie Di Tucci, Secretary, Club Member, and Anthony Di Tucci, Captain, Angelina II.



From left: Muna Beusailah, Attorney; and Lt. Titus Smith, Port Police, Club Member.



From left: Carolyn and Sgt. Dan Cobos, Club Member.



Sgt. Rosario Ferrara, Port Police, Club Member, and his wife, Jessica.



From left: Wanda Aleman, wife of retiree, Lt. Daniel Aleman; Michael Canlas, P2, Club Member; and Erica Saavedra, niece of Lt. Daniel Aleman.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

A retirement celebration was held January 30 honoring Lt. Daniel Aleman, Club Member, who retired from the Port Police. He was also active in the support of union activities. He started working for the Dept. in 1982.

The celebration was held at Ports O'Call restaurant in San Pedro. Many attended, including Councilwoman Janice Hahn, Club Member.

Here's a career retrospective of Lt. Dan, in his own words:

"In 1982, I started my career as a Port Warden. And then in 1983 I attended the Long Beach Police Academy.

"I was fortunate to be teamed up my partner Al Guerrero, without him I probably would have turned out to be just a regular deputy. Under his tutelage, I became a very good cop. He taught me what was expected of a deputy Port Warden, and he taught me how to be a very good boat operator. He explained to me that a good cop always does the right thing. It took me five years to feel comfortable to do it all.

"In 1988, our name change went into effect. We went from deputy Port Wardens to L.A. Port Police Officers. In 1989, our classification in the Penal Code was changed, and it was a great day for our Department and our Officers. In 1991, we officially became the L.A. Port Police Assn., and I became its first president. I held the position for 13 years, and I made quite a bit of strides for our Officers during my tenure.

"In 1992, I was promoted to Senior Lead Officer. This is where I started learning the power of politics. I made many friendships with the politicians in my zone and the owners of fish markets at B-72. I made many friendships with the Locals (ILWU) and the presidents.

"In 1995, to secure better pay and benefits, as president of LAPP, I joined in a relationship with ILWU. It was a very radical move and sent shockwaves throughout the City. It worked, and we were awarded a very large pay and benefit package. It brought us 2% percent below LAPD as far as pay.

"In 1998, I was promoted to Port Police Sergeant, and I was put in charge of the Bike Team, Boating Enforcement, and Special Events, and I still held the position of President of LAPP and the President of Local 65-ILWU all at the same time. I negotiated with Environmental Affairs for six free motorized bicycles and four free mountain bikes for our

Bike Teams. I was able to get about 12 officers trained and certified as Bike Enforcement officers. As special events coordinator, I assisted with the security of some of the largest events in the Port, namely the Fourth of July, Concerts by the Sea and the Lobster Festival, to name a few.

"In 2005, Ronald J. Boyd was promoted to Port Warden/Chief of the Port Police. He brought vision, experience and commitment to the Port Police Department. One of his visions was to enlarge our Department to 200-plus Officers. I was selected to head the recruitment campaign. During my tenure, we expanded from 55 officers to 135, where we are at right now. I was very fortunate to have Officer Dianne Kelly to help me meet my goals. I couldn't have done it without her.

"In April 2008, I was promoted to Port Police Lieutenant, still in charge of Recruitment. On Jan. 29, 2009, I retired. It was the hardest decision I have ever had to make because I loved being a Port Police Officer."

Congratulations on your great success, Lt. Dan. And many best wishes for happiness in your retirement.

Special thanks to Officer Dianne Kelly for her assistance with this article.



The retirement celebration flyer.



From left: Jessica Ferrara, wife of Sgt. Ferrara, Club Member; and Sgt. David Clements, Port Police, Club Member.



From left: Det. Al Alvarado, Club Member; and Mikki Mowrer, Dispatcher, Club Member.



From left: Michael Canlas, P2, Club Member; and Lt. Ken Hawkes, Club Member.



From left: Karin and Lt. Michael Capodanno, Port Police, Club Member; and Robert Dunbar, Hydrographic Chief of Operations.



Lt. Daniel Aleman, Club Member, with Councilwoman Janice Hahn, Club Member.



Back: Tony Alvarado, Security Officer, Club Member. Seated, from left: Damon Lankford, Sr. Security Officer, Club Member; Christine Pina, Port Police Cadet; and Sr. Lead Officer Brandon A. Smith, Port Police, Club Member.



From left: Nilza Serrano, guest; Daniel Aguilera, guest; Margie Hernandez, Contracts and Purchasing Director, Club Member; and James Acevedo, Former Port Commissioner, and his wife, Leticia.



From left: Sr. Lead Officer Porfirio Blas, Port Police, Club Member; Rene Melo, Principal Clerk; Ted Fernandez, MA II, Club Member; and Ricardo Hon, Harbor Area Director, Office of the Mayor.



Erika Cabrera, Student Worker, Club Member; and Sgt. Glenn Twardy, Club Member.



From left: Lt. Titus Smith, Port Police, Club Member; Julie Di Tucci, Secretary, Club Member; and Sr. Lead Officer Porfirio Blas, Port Police, Club Member.



From left: Danny Rodriguez, Port Police, Club Member; Melody Ugalde, MA, Club Member; and Claudia and Alex Castillo, P2, Club Member.



From left: Alex Bernard, Retired, Airports; Sgt. Ken Huerta, Club Member; Julie Huerta, Commission Chief Administrative Officer, Club Member; Debbie and Capt. Tracy, Port Police; and Sgt. Vince Garcia, Airports.



Back, from left: Sgt. Nathan Ewert, Club Member; Lt. Rosa Reynoso, Club Member; Alex Castillo; Officer Omar Cuevas, Club Member; Lt. Ken Hawkes, Club Member; Sr. Lead Officer Ismael Flores, Club Member; Roberto Redondo, P2, Club Member; Officer Freddy Moya, Club Member; Officer Jose Magana, Club Member; Officer Dianne Kelly, Club Member; and Officer Jane Chiappetta, Club Member. Front: Sr. Lead Officer Mark Renteria, Club Member; Sr. Lead Officer Brandon A. Smith, Club Member; and Sgt. Al Guerrero, Club Member.



From left: Port Police Chief Ronald J. Boyd, Club Member; and Lt. Daniel Aleman, Club Member.