



Alive!



Come Get the Refund Check At Club Store

Club giving back \$281,000 to holders of Club Life Insurance. Checks available at Club Store Dec. 1-4.

THE CLUB — Starting Dec. 1, the Club will be returning more than \$281,000 in refunds to more than 8,500 holders of the Club's Life Insurance product.

NEW THIS YEAR: The refund checks will be available Dec. 1 - 4 at the Club Store only. Those checks not picked up personally during that time will be mailed starting Dec. 7.

What will you be doing with your refund dollars? It's up to you ... but only if you have Club Life Insurance.

Members pay premiums each month for the insurance, and that money is paid for life insurance claims. At the end of the year, money that is not paid in the administration of the claims is returned. This year, that totals approximately \$281,000.

"The Club's Life Insurance is always there for those in need," said Brian Trent, the Club's Chief Financial Officer. "It's our highest insurance priority."

"But we love giving back, too, and we have returned money in all but three years of our 81-year existence."

Read the story on page 33 for details on the check disbursement, and how you can be eligible for next year's Club Life Insurance refund.

Port Police Ready With Tactical Div.

Port Police inaugurates new Tactical Planning Division to handle emergency events.

HARBOR — The Port Police has created a new division: the Tactical Planning Division, an assembly of Port Police officers and staff dedicated to preparing for emergency events.

The Port Police has assembled an emergency preparedness team, under the leadership of Capt. Don Farrell, called the Tactical Planning Division (TPD). The TPD's main focus is mitigation and management of natural or manmade disasters in the Port. Being the nation's largest port, it is imperative to continue operations even when disaster strikes.

Read all about the new division in the story on page 35.

Proud Paws Keep the Port Safe



The Port Police K9 Unit keeps the harbor safe from threats both small and large. See the officers and their dogs in action in this second part of *Alive!*'s series on City K9s in Action.

SEE PAGE 7

Port Police Officer Anthony Reitz, Club Member, with Boomer, Patrol/Explosives Detection Dog, on a Port Police vessel.



Alive! photo by Tom Hamblitz



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HERE COME THE *Holidays*

CITY EVENTS ... TOY DRIVE ...
CLUB TREE ... GREAT CLUB GIFTS:
SEE PAGES 6 AND 14!

Alive! Feature

Harbor



K9s On Duty At the Port

Protecting citizens against threats at the Port – and protecting a major asset that’s critical to both the City of Los Angeles, and the United States – is the task of the Port Police K9 Unit. On the next pages, see the officers and their dogs checking for explosives, inspecting for narcotics, and keeping us safe.



Officer Nick Marbach, Club Member, with Charlie, Patrol/Narcotics Dog, with the Port of Los Angeles in the background.



Harbor

Protecting the Port



Sr. Lead Officer Ismael Flores, Club Member, and Achilles, Patrol/Narcotics Dog, begin their inspection demonstration.

Port K9 Unit In Action

Here are demonstrations of typical Port Police K9 Unit activities to keep the Harbor safe from a variety of threats. Explaining these activities is Port Police Sgt. Daniel Dayton, supervisor of the Port Police K9 Unit.

Patrol/Bite Dog Demonstration: Port Police K9 Training Field

Here's a demonstration of using a dog in a use-of-force situation. "The law says that canines are not deadly force," Sgt. Dayton says. "If you think about some of the options we have for force - firearms, which are clearly a deadly force; dog bites; batons; Tasers; pepper spray; our hands - these are all tools with varying degrees of effectiveness, depending on the situation. Sometimes, a dog is the best way to go. Often the mere presence of a dog will cause a 'give-up.'

"The dogs can help us by quickly locating a suspect, too.

"To train a dog, we use a piece of equipment, a bite suit, that protects the officer to his ankles. This is different than just a protective sleeve worn on the arm. This resembles a suspect more. And the decoy - the term for the bad guy here - he's capable of moving, giving the dog some opposition.

"We also use a method of training that uses a dog muzzle, with no bite suit. The bad guy then would look much more normal."

In these photos are examples of both high and low bites.



Alive! Feature

“All of our dogs work for positive praise. [They] love their work.”

Port Police K9 Unit helps keep the City safe from terrorist attacks, narcotics trafficking and other safety issues.

Alive! photos by Tom Hawkins

At the Port of Los Angeles, the dogs take well to water – and we’re all the better for it.

The Port Police K9 Unit is active 24/7 in helping to keep us, and this huge City asset, safe from a number of threats.

The dogs are purchased by the Harbor Dept. when they are two years old. The animals purchased have been bred for their “working” aptitude. All of the Port Police dogs come originally from Europe. The dogs and their handlers regularly train together to maintain a high level of readiness. Certification testing is completed annually to assure competence.

Port Police dogs are faced with the additional challenges unique to working within the Port complex. Handlers and dogs are often tasked with negotiating significant obstacles prior to arriving to a call. Vessels and terminals can provide challenges including gangways, ladders, slick floors, engine room noise and vibration. Much of the work of the Port Police K9 Unit includes keeping the animals’ agility skills and confidence levels high.

All of the canines within the unit are “take-home” dogs, and officers are on call to respond to the Port if the need arises.

Explosives Detection Teams

The Port Police functions with four handler/canine explosive detection teams. This portion of the unit was created following the events of Sept. 11, 2001, and is tasked with patrolling the critical sites within the Port complex. Specific functions include random checks of luggage, responding to unattended and/or suspicious items, vehicle and vessel inspections and critical site checks of container facilities, fuel terminals, cargo facilities and oil terminals.

Narcotic Detection/ Patrol Teams

The Port Police Narcotic/Patrol canine portion of the unit began in 1989 with a single dog dedicated to the Port. The unit now uses three dog/handler teams. These teams are proactive in detecting and deterring narcotic activity that occurs within the Port. The unit’s canines are also used by Port Police Detectives when narcotics violations are suspected. These skills, combined with the additional ability to locate and apprehend suspects, provide an additional important tool to the overall Port Police mission.



Sr. Lead Officer Ismael Flores, Club Member, and Achilles, Patrol/Narcotics Dog.



Sgt. Dan Dayton, Club Member, supervisor of the Port Police K9 Unit.

‘High’ Bite



Sr. Lead Officer Ismael Flores, Club Member, and Achilles, Patrol/Narcotics Dog, with Sr. Lead Officer Tom Yamamoto, Club Member, in the bite suit.

‘Low’ Bite



Sr. Lead Officer Jerome Niles, Club Member, with Rambo, Patrol/Narcotics Dog, and Sr. Lead Officer Tom Yamamoto, Club Member.

– CONTINUES



Patrol Dog Demonstration, Aboard Port Police Boat 23

“Here is Boat 23, one of our police vessels,” Sgt. Dayton continues. “This boat goes out on patrol within the Port of L.A. every day and night, 24/7. Police cars on the street do traffic stops; a boat like this is used to do vessel stops.

“If we need to get a canine to a call, [we’ll use this kind of a boat]. We have an entire fleet of boats like this. Our animals are prepared to travel on the open water and be transferred to another vessel like a barge, sailboat, powerboat or commercial vessel. And then they would conduct a bomb sweep or narcotics sweep, or be used for a suspect search.

“The canines don’t patrol regularly on a boat; it would be for a specific reason. We can access most of the places we need to go by land. But if an officer on a boat patrol encounters a situation where they need a dog, this is how [the dog gets to where it’s needed].”



Officer Anthony Reitz, Club Member, with Boomer, Patrol/Explosives Detection Dog.



Explosives Detection Demonstration, Fuel Storage Facility

“This is a critical location for national security,” Sgt. Dayton explains. “An incident here will affect the whole port. In fact, the Port Police Dive Team [previously featured in *Alive!*] inspects this area regularly, too.”

“Here, we’re not as concerned with narcotics unless we had intelligence that pointed us here, or we had a burglary situation. We look primarily at issues concerning explosives here.”



Explosives Detection Demonstration, Terminal Island Cargo Facility

“These dogs have one task in mind – remembering and locating the 15-plus odors associated with improvised explosive devices,” Sgt. Dayton continues. “This training is completely different than the narcotic training. When the bomb dogs detect a location, instead of an aggressive find – pawing and scratching at the item – they sit for the handler. They sit in front of where they smell the item. We don’t want them touching or messing with things. We want as calm and business-like an approach as possible.

“The reward system is very similar, though. The dogs are taught to enjoy searching. It’s a game. It’s fun. That’s why they do what they do. And when they accomplish their mission, they get a reward – either an actual find, or a training aide that’s placed in place of an actual find. The dogs always leave happy, and always get paid for what they do.”

Sr. Lead Officer Tom Yamamoto,
Club Member, with Rika,
Explosives Detection Dog.



Port Police K9 Unit

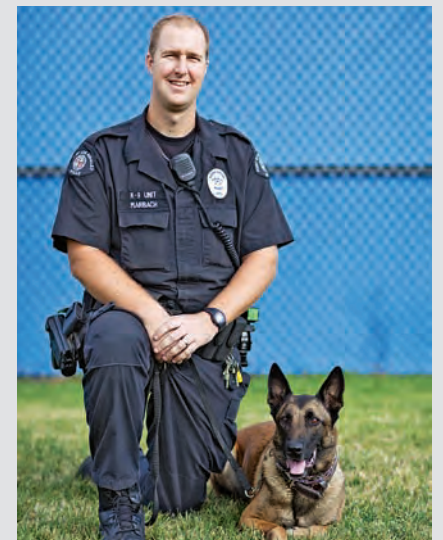
These officers and
K9s form the
Port Police K9 Unit:



Sr. Lead Officer Jerome Niles, Club Member,
with Rambo, Patrol/Narcotics Dog



Sr. Lead Officer Ismael Flores, Club Member,
with Achilles, Patrol/Narcotics Dog



Officer Nick Marbach, Club Member,
with Charlie, Patrol/Narcotic Dog

Alive! Feature



1



2



3

Officer Nick Marbach, Club Member, with Charlie, Patrol/Narcotics Dog.



Narcotics Detection Demonstration, Terminal Island Cargo Facility

“When we come out to search a terminal like this, we’ll pick an area to work – it’s a pretty large terminal,” Sgt. Dayton says.

“The contraband we look for is typically marijuana, heroin, methamphetamines, cocaine ... and even things like Ecstasy. We’re looking for large quantities. Even though these are sealed containers, [the contraband] is still going to [send enough of a] signal to the dog of what we’re looking for.

“In this particular example, you can see the dog has found something. He’s biting and scratching at that ‘foot’ on the container, and you see that his tail’s up; he’s very intense and fully going at that thing. His body language changes. After doing many searches with his dog, each handler learns that dog. Some will move their tail, some will turn their head, or their ears will come up, or the dog might get more animated ... there are just any number of things that will help the handler know he’s in the presence of that contraband.

“Depending on the situation, when we would find something for real, we then would meet with federal authorities and other

agencies like U.S. Customs and Border Protection. The canine creates the reasonable suspicion that something illegal is inside there, so we would break the seal and search the interior of the container.

“All of our dogs work for positive praise. It’s a game – they’re looking for something that is unique in terms of an odor, in this case, narcotics. And when they find it, they signal to the handler, and they’re rewarded with a toy they like.

“But if they don’t find anything, then the handler or a secondary officer will plant what they call a training aid, to give the dog a positive reward nonetheless.

“The dog always has to have a positive find at the end. He needs to be rewarded for his work. That’s how he gets paid. He always wins; that’s the key. “The dogs love their work.”



2

Sr. Lead Officer Jerome Niles, Club Member, with Rambo, Patrol/Narcotics Dog.



1



3



Sr. Lead Officer William Yocham, Club Member, with Bear, Explosives Detection Dog



Sr. Lead Officer Tom Yamamoto, Club Member, with Rika, Explosives Detection Dog



Officer Maria Hernandez, Club Member, with Edo, Explosives Detection Dog



Officer Anthony Reitz, Club Member, with Boomer, Explosives Detection Dog