



# Holiday Happenings



## ZOO

### City Employees Get Zoo Discounts

Club Member  
**DISCOUNT!**

During January only, City employees get Zoo discounts.

*Photos courtesy Tad Motoyama*

The Zoo is offering all City Employees a discount off the price of admission as well as discounts on food and drink at the Zoo. Through Jan. 31, City employees will receive \$3 off the price of general admission for adults and \$2 off the price of a child's admission. In addition, City employees will also get 10 percent off the cost of food and drinks at the Zoo.

To get these discounts, you'll need to bring your City-issued ID badge to the ticket counter.



## REC AND PARKS

### It's Great to Skate

*Downtown on Ice* celebrates 12th season.



Central City's traditional holiday favorite, *Downtown on Ice*, returns for its 12th season, running through Jan. 18.

*Downtown on Ice* features the City's largest outdoor ice-skating rink with the lowest admission cost, producers say.

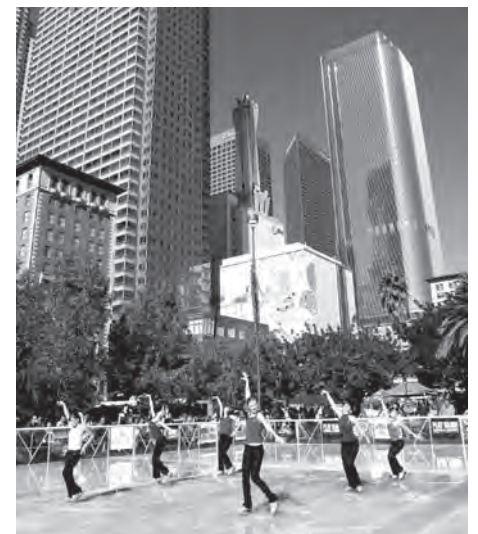
The facility boasts a medley of free events including a holiday concert series, a Winter Holiday Festival, championship skating exhibitions, and more. New this year are special "Mommie and Me Stroller Skate" sessions on select Tuesdays.

Celebrating its 12th season for skating under the sun and stars at picturesque Pershing Square, 532 South Olive, the facility is open every day through Jan. 18.

Framed by towering skyscrapers and stunning historical landmarks, the spacious rink and event are sponsored by Rec and Parks, and Councilmember Jan Perry, Club Member.

Centrally located in the heart of downtown, the facility is easily accessible by car, bus or Metro. A partnership with Metro and Metrolink allows riders to receive a \$1 skating session discount by showing a coupon available on all mass transit lines. The convenient stop at Pershing

Square Station makes getting there easy. Underground discount parking is available with validation. For more info and a detailed session schedule go to [www.laparks.org](http://www.laparks.org) and click to Pershing Square or call (213) 847-4970.



Past years at *Downtown on Ice*.

## Downtown on Ice

**When:** Now through Jan. 18.

**Where:** Pershing Square, downtown at 532 S. Olive St., across from the Millennium Biltmore Hotel.

**Admission:** One-hour session: \$6. Skate rental: \$2.

**Hours:** Open every day. General schedule: Monday – Thursday, noon – 10 p.m. Friday-Sunday, 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. Special Extended Holiday Hours: 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. Dec. 18, through Jan. 10.

**Special hours** apply on Christmas, New Years Day and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

**Transportation:** Easily accessible by bus or rail, exit at Pershing Square Station. Metro and Metrolink allows riders to receive a \$1 skating session discount by showing a coupon available on all mass transit lines. Pershing Square offers underground parking at a discount with ice skating validation.

**Free Winter Concert Series:** Friday nights, 8 – 10 p.m. Classic rock 'n' roll. Saturdays: Youth Fun Series, 1 – 3 p.m. Sunday Family Series, 2 – 4 p.m. (Weekday afternoon concerts during extended holiday hours.) Check Website for updates.

**Free Winter Holiday Festival:** Snow party for sledding and romping, Christmas tree decorating, "make and take" children's crafts, Community youth performances, photo mementos, and more. Rink is available for holiday skating (admission required). Dec. 12-13, noon to 8 p.m.

**Mommie and Me Stroller Skate Sessions:** Moms and babies can share outdoor fun, 10 to 11 a.m. Tuesdays, Dec. 1, Dec. 8, Dec. 15, and Jan. 12. (Moms skate and push babies in their strollers on the ice.)

**Iced Tea:** Wednesdays through Sundays, 2 to 5 p.m., the Millennium Biltmore's Rendezvous Court celebrates the season with the Biltmore Angel's Tea, a memorable event for the entire family. Just across the street, families can skate together at the picturesque holiday rink amid the towering skyscrapers.

**Information:** Pershing Square Hotline, (213) 847-4970, or [www.laparks.org](http://www.laparks.org) (click on Pershing Square).

# Happy New Year

*From the Club!*

May your 2010 bring you  
health, humor and happiness.



The City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
Celebrating the Lives of City Employees



# Holiday Events 2009



## CONVENTION CENTER

### Turkey Giveaway

Convention Center partners to provide turkeys for Thanksgiving.



Photos by Tom Hawkins, Club Photographer

On Nov. 23, for the second consecutive year, the Convention Center and Aramark, the convention center's food service partner/caterer, were joined by local elected officials to hand out 2,000 turkeys and trimmings to local Los Angeles families in need to ensure they enjoyed a traditional Thanksgiving meal. Butterball donated the turkeys to be shared with local families.

Ocean Spray and Basic American Foods donated cranberry sauce and mashed potatoes, respectively.



## THE CITY

### City Hall Tree Lighting

The 2009 City of LA tree-lighting ceremony was held Dec. 9.



Story by Yvonne Liu, Office of Finance; Photos by Tom Hawkins, Club Photographer

The 50-foot white fir dressed in more than 4,500 lights came from Mount Shasta area in northern California. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa led the countdown, then turned a vintage 1920s electrical switch, transforming City Hall into a glow of a beacon in the night sky. The ceremony included holiday greetings from Council President Eric Garcetti; Councilmember Jan Perry, Club Member; Councilmember Paul Koretz; Police Chief Charlie Beck; and Project Restore Chair Tim Psomas. They were joined by representatives of IBEW, Local Union 11, Kevin Norton and Shomari Davis.

The Mark Twain Ringers in blue and white from Mark Twain Middle School in West Los Angeles started the evening with a festive ringing of hand bells. Other melodious harbingers of peace that sang while the evening descended upon the City Hall Forecourt were the United Voices of Peace, the Hope Institute of Music Children's Choir, and the Happy Music Band.

In addition to the festive holiday tree lighting, the historic Charles Lindbergh beacon on top of City Hall was also lit and will be turned on every night from dusk until midnight for the rest of the holiday season. Illuminating the tower incorporates the City Hall Building into the city nightscape that can be seen from miles away.

Staff from General Services/Special Events set up the outdoor program.

The ceremony followed a tradition that started 17 years ago by Project Restore in partnership with a joint labor management project.

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union 11 (IBEW) represented the labor side, and the Los Angeles County Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) represented the management side.

"We initially started illuminating City Hall



because the Lindbergh beacon used to be dark," NECA, LA Chapter Manager Jim Willson recalled.

"We've moved on to lighting the holiday tree in the last 3 to 4 years," he added.

Project Restore is a nonprofit organization committed to the historic restoration and preservation of the civic integrity of the City of Los Angeles. Its staff of three study streetscapes and provide an overall plan for sections of Downtown planning such as the Police Headquarters. Currently, they are working on restoring the Hollyhock House, a national historic landmark, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright and located in the Bamsdall Art Park.



## COUNCIL

### Hollywood Christmas Parade

Photos courtesy Hollywood Christmas Parade

The Hollywood Christmas Parade, sponsored by the City, marched through Hollywood Nov. 29.

The parade, in operation for more than 80 years, had been known by that name for decades, but when it looked likely to die three years ago. But the City – notably Councilmembers Eric Garcetti and Tom LaBonge, Club Member – took charge and continued the parade. The name was then changed to Santa's Hollywood Parade.

But everything old is new again, and the name has reverted back to the Hollywood Christmas Parade.

The parade featured entertainers, celebrities, marching bands, floats, equestrian units and food. The parade started on Hollywood Boulevard at Orange Street. The U-shaped route followed east to Vine Street, south to Sunset Boulevard and west back to Orange.

