

# LETTERS To the Editor

Tell us what you think! [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

## LETTER OF THE MONTH

### A Real Connection Made To 'People We See' Feature

Your November interview with Roger Siegel ["People We See"] literally knocked me out of my chair. Roger is a fraternity brother from our days together at UCLA.

Roger had been a successful attorney practicing downtown, and two other [fraternity] brothers, who also were attorneys, and I would talk with Roger at the Court House cafeteria. In the early 1990's, we lost contact with Roger for a couple of years, but he reappeared a much-changed individual. Roger showed up at the LA City Hall Mall, where he began to appear on a regular basis as one of those people who had moved away from society. When I would talk with him, he remembered me, but he would not be very forthcoming on where he lived or how I and our other brothers could help him. One day, Roger just didn't show up at the Mall, and we thought he had passed on. I retired from the City almost eight years ago without ever seeing Roger again. Then your column appeared, a real miracle.

I have been in touch with several of our fraternity brothers, and we would like to reestablish a communication with Roger and attempt to assist in whatever way he will allow us. I tried Roger's email, but it came back undeliverable.

I personally will be making a visit to the downtown area to locate Roger. I know your interview with him took place at Second and Los Angeles, and I hope this is a regular spot for him. If you can provide me with any other information that might help me in locating him, please send it on to me.

— Drew Sones, Retired, Club Member

Note to readers: We sent our best information to Drew about Roger's whereabouts; we frequently see Roger downtown. If you want to help anyone you see in our pages, drop us a line at [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com), and we'll try to point you in the right direction. We are all part of the same family. — Ed.



### Former Journalist Likes That *Alive!* Is Going to the Dogs

From a former LAPD journalist (who is still with Central Traffic as a Specialist Reserve Officer), your section on "K-9s on Duty at the Port" [December] was absolutely first class and first rate, photography and all!

— Phillip Barton, Retired, LAPD

Hi Phillip: From one set of professionals to another professional, we blush and say thanks for the shoutout! We truly enjoy what we do, and we're glad that's coming through. — Ed.

The City Dog story is amazing! I really love that photo of Boomer the police dog and Port Police Officer Anthony Reitz. Boomer looks like he's having a great time on the boat. These are such special animals, and I am so pleased to have them as part of the City family. We are so diverse! So cool! Thank you, *Alive!*, for sharing and telling us about this side of the City culture!

— Roy Trevor, General Services

### At End of the Year, Club Insurance Is a Good Idea

Hi Club! I want you to know that I am so pleased that you gave us a refund check this year. Now that I am a retired City Employee, every penny helps to keep my husband and I going during the holiday season and beyond. I had a chance to see your store, too! What a beautiful place, and the employees there are so warm and caring! It almost makes me want to return to the City to work again. Hmmm. Okay, I said more than I can chew. Merry Christmas!

— Gina Jones, Retired

Hi Gina, we are happy to return to eligible Club Members the insurance fees unspent in claims at the end of each calendar year. The Club's insurance services exist to protect and safeguard those who have it; after that, we return what we can.

Interested in Club insurance? It's smart and affordable, and it's a great deal. Contact the Club at (213) 620-0388. — Ed.

### It's a Wrap for Wrapping Station, a Club Holiday Hit

Is it true? No way! The Club Store has a wrapping station for Christmas gifts? The Club is truly a place for the City employee! Thank you!

— Maria Tallares, DWP

Hi Maria, yes, it's true. Although it's now dismantled for the season, the Club Store's wrapping station saw good use over the holidays, covering all those great Club gifts in bright, shiny holiday paper. Glad you put it to use! — Ed.

### Who Was the First Policewoman? Historic Hynda Was on the Case

That's a great story about America's first policeman, on page 26 of the December *Alive!* [History Comes Alive!]. Alice Stebbins Wells was the first; who knew? Well, Hynda Rudd knew, of course. Thank you for the story. My children and I love reading about the history of LA with *History Comes Alive!*

— Richard Moss, LAPD

### Sounds Like Michelle Has Somethin' Cookin' for Chef Larios

Once again, Chef Larios pulls through with a great recipe in the December newspaper. That pasta salad was to die for, and even more so when I made it for my family. They all loved it! We are having again for Christmas and New Year's Day. I am a true believer in Chef Larios, and everyone else should be, too. Keep on cooking and smiling, Chef!

— Michelle Chan, LAFD

## Corrections



Sgt. Leonard Valentine.

- In Hynda Rudd's "History Comes Alive!" column last month, the source of the photos of Charles Sebastian was listed incorrectly. The photos were courtesy the Herald Examiner Collection, Photo Archive, Los Angeles Public Library, Christine Rice, Acting Sr. Librarian.

### A Note of Sadness

- Alive!* is sorry to note the passing of Sgt. Leonard Valentine, who died a few weeks after we took his photo for the inclusion in the "Dinosaurs" story in the section for retirees. Leonard served the City for more than 44 years. Our sympathies go out to his family and friends.

## QUESTION of the Month

— Collected by Rachael Brecher, Club Store Rep



The Ticket Guy and Rachael at the Club Store ask Club Members fun questions when they visit to purchase tickets or great Club apparel and gifts. So, stop by and join in the fun!

## What's the one thing in the New Year you want to change or give up?

"Less time working, more time with family."

— Eric Wilson, DWP, 8 years of City service.



"For all City workers to be at peace."

— Susan Hernandez, LACERS, 2 years of City service.

"Exercise more."

— Elias Tirado, LAPD, 10 years of City service.



"Furlough days."

— Lori Lopez, LAPD, 10 years of City service.

"Spend more time with family."

— Adrian Barrera, Public Works, 19 years of City service.



"Be more active."

— Oscar Munoz, DWP, 24 years of City service.

"Be more positive."

— Francisco Castaneda, Airports, 1 year of City service.



"Furlough days."

— Cynthia James, LAPD, 15 years of City service.

"No more furlough days."

— Fernie Cabanillas, Public Works, 19 years of City service.



Something to  Think About

"I have always believed that quality is remembered long after the price is forgotten."

— Stanley Marcus, president, Neiman-Marcus

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