

PUBLIC WORKS

A Legend Says Goodbye

Terry Aguilar, Club Member, retires from Public Works/Engineering after a whopping 52 years of City service.



Terry Aguilar, Club Member, retired after 52 years of City service.

Story by Brent Urban; Photos by Angel Gomez, Club Member Services Manager

A retirement party in celebration of Terry Aguilar and the end of her incredible 52 years of service as Chief Clerk kicked off on a peaceful hilltop location overlooking the San Gabriel Valley Nov. 18. Lifelong friends, family members and coworkers gathered in the grand ballroom at Luminarias restaurant to show appreciation and support for the conclusion of Terry's long run with Public Works/Engineering. More than 100 people came to witness a milestone in career achievement.

Winnie Harano hosted the event and chose to highlight a quote by author Aaron Rose: "In the right light, at the right time, everything is extraordinary." After 52 years of dedication, in the softly lit ambiance of the grand ballroom, this truly was something extraordinary.

Gary Lee Moore, City Engineer, Public Works/Engineering, gave the opening remarks.

Frank Bonoff delivered his reflections. Kimberly Barton performed "That's What Friends Are For," and Winnie Harano presented certificates. Other speakers included Sylvia Cunliffe, retired General Manager, General Services; John Franco, retired Chief Management Analyst; Terry's four sisters; daughter, Julie; granddaughter, Lauren Flores, and Terry's mother.

Teresa Maxine Aguilar was born in Los Angeles, graduated from Garfield High School and attended ELAC and Rio Hondo College. She began her City career in November 1957 as a Clerk Typist with Public Works/Engineering, Administrative Services Division. She was promoted in 1961 to Sr. Clerk Typist, where she supervised a clerical section in the support of all divisions and district offices in the Bureau of Engineering.

She was promoted to Principal Clerk in 1976, where she supervised a Word Processing Center and where she led the Bureau's clerical employees' transition from dedicated word processors to personal computers and provided workshops. She represented the clerical group in the Bureau by serving in the Right Skills and Right Staff to Meet Commitments Subcommittee and conducted the first clerical skills needs survey to prepare for the implementation of a Bureau Training Program.

In 1999, Terry was promoted to her final position of Chief Clerk with the Bureau of Engineering, where she played an integral role in the development of online resources including a Forms Library, Engineering Form templates, electronic files of Board Actions, Bureau Procedure Manuals, Special Orders, Address Contact Lists, Management Staff Charts, Board Report Tracking System, and Board Report Templates to standardize the language. She was responsible in developing the Bureau's 311 Citywide Services Directory.

Terry conducted historical research, which resulted in the display of a gallery of Public Works archived photos in the Intranet and past City Engineers on the Bureau's History Website. She created the Bureau's distinguished alumni booklet for retired managers; and for a number of years, she headed the Administrative Services Division's Daffodil Days fundraiser for the American Cancer Society.

Terry has been praised by former staff members for her efforts in developing their skills and motivating them to be promoted within the Civil Service System. She has supervised more than 100 employees and has developed and conducted Brown Bag Seminars designed to prepare clerical staff to take promotional exams.

Terry has served the City through the years with dedicated service illustrated through leadership, hard work, pride, honesty and professionalism. After retirement, she intends to spend additional time with family and friends, travel, devote more time to landscape painting and playing her new Vienna piano.

The Club sends its biggest and most sincere congratulations to you, Terry, on your extraordinary career. Enjoy your much-deserved retirement!

Special thanks to Winnie Harano for contributing information to this story.



A presentation guide and celebratory card cover.



From left: Julie Aguilar, Terry's daughter; Lauren Flores, Terry's granddaughter; Terry Aguilar, guest of honor; and (seated) Madeline Rangel, Terry's mother.



From left: Winfred Harano, Chief Management Analyst, Club Member; Angelo Incardona, Retired Engineer; Marsha Daidola; and Charlie Gonzales.



From left: Brian Griffith, Retiree, Public Works/Engineering; and Betty Cooper, Retiree, Public Works/Contract Administration.



From left: Louis Bicham, Principal Clerk; Myrna Braithwaite, Secretary; and Cheryl Fallon, Principal Clerk and Club Member.



From left: Terry Aguilar with Kiran Vohra, Sr. Civil Engineer.



From left: Myrna Braithwaite, Secretary; Terri Winfield, Executive Administrative Assistant, Club Member; Irma Pitt, Clerk, Club Member; Kim Barton, Secretary, Club Member; and Karen Cundiff, Sr. Clerk Typist.



Relatives of Terry Aguilar, from left: Monica Roselli, niece; Alice Saenz, sister; Georgianna Saenz, niece; and Bernadine Wilkeson, niece.



From left: Anita Moore, Retiree, Public Works/Engineering; (seated) Rosemary Caraveo, Secretary; Candice Arnold, Executive Administrative Assistant III, Club Member; and (seated) Deborah Weintraub, Chief Deputy City Engineer.



From left: Teresa Abraham, Sr. Management Analyst, Club Member; Essam Amarragy, Structural Associate IV, Club Member; and Shelly Wong, Clerk Typist.



From left: Vince Jones, Chief Management Analyst; Harshad Shah, Principal Chief Engineer; Richard "The Emperor" Chung, Senior Management Analyst, Club Member; and Robert Kadomatsu, Senior Management Analyst.



From left: Betty Cooper, Retiree; Carol Curry, Retiree; Henette Welsh, Retiree, Sylvia Cunliffe Retiree and guest speaker; and Lulu Fontes, Retiree.



Retirees from Public Works/Engineering, from left: Dave Brauns, John Franco, Glenda Nuzzi, Wally Yagi and Mary Bullock.



From left: Hugh Lee, Principal Civil Engineer; and Carl (retiree) and Cindy Lundquist.



From left: Frank Bonoff, Retiree, guest speaker; Wayne Savarin, Retired, Division Engineer; Homer Morimoto, Retired Engineer; and Larry Burks, Retired, City Engineer



From left: Noel Ricci, Director, RLECEI; and Rosemary Walker, Retiree, General Services.



From left: Lydia Gonzales, Sr. Management Analyst, Club Member; Rita Carranza, Retired, DWP; and Gloria Carranza, longtime friend of Terry Aguilar.