

** A Message From the CEO **

Firearm Unit Is Hawkins Specialty

by **John Hawkins**
President and CEO, The Club

December is family-centered for most, if not all, of us. That's usually due to Christmas and the holidays, and, for me, that's no exception this month.

But there's something else this time. This month's cover story, a look at the LAPD's Firearm Analysis Unit, is the latest in our ongoing series of the men and women who fight crimes via the Scientific Investigation Unit. But it really hits home.

My dad, **Bob Hawkins**, was a career firearm analyst with L.A. County, and then, in his retirement, as a firearm consultant with the LAPD. I always knew what my dad did when he went to work, but seeing the mechanics and intuition of his job firsthand, I was even more impressed, and proud.

Doreen Hudson, the Assistant Director of the LAPD Criminalistics Lab and manager over the Firearm Analysis Unit, was our host for our tour of the Firearm Unit. As it happens, she remembers my dad, and she made our visit even more meaningful to me by talking about him and the impact he made. The same is true for **Daniel Rubin**, Criminalist, who worked with my dad and shared stories. To Doreen and Daniel, many thanks; and to all those in the Firearm Analysis Unit, thanks for the good work you're doing to keep L.A. safe.

Hey, I loved reading about the fun Boss' Day festivities that the staff of Public Works/Sanitation threw for their boss, Enrique Zaldivar. Great idea! Everybody has a story of a bad boss somewhere in their past, but how often do you hear about a staff coming together to throw a party for their boss? Well, you've just heard about one in this month's issue. Nice going, Enrique, and here's to all of those bosses who make our workdays – which take up so much of our lives – productive, pleasant, complementary and worthwhile.

Meanwhile, 'tis the season – to overindulge! We all know that, so it's especially great to read about the successful fitness challenge met by the **LAPD's ITD Team**. The group lost more than 400 pounds, which is nearly 10 percent of their body weight. That's awesome! Let's keep that in mind; we can all help each other stay fit. That's really important. Enjoy the holidays, for sure, but take care of yourselves, too. That's the ultimate gift you can give yourself.

Speaking of the holidays, have you bought your movie tickets yet with the Club discount, to stuff those holiday stockings of your family and friends? What could be better, really? Make the Club Store your holiday headquarters for all sorts of unique City gifts, apparel, tickets and other merchandise. Nowhere else on earth can Santa get all these great things, so help him out and stop by! **Ticket Gal Rachael Brecher** will help you fill all your holiday gift needs.



Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from Club CEO John Hawkins and his family, from left: Kelley, Noah, John, Hannah and Isaiah.

Finally, as is my tradition, I send to all of you the very best and brightest Christmas greetings from my family – wife, Kelley; sons, Noah and Isaiah; and daughter, Hannah. We extend to your home peace, love and all good things. We fully plan on bringing all these good things well into the New Year, and we hope you do, too. So Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a great Club New Year to us all.

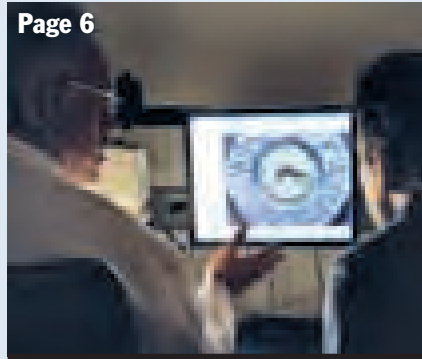
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20 Hail to the Boss

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