

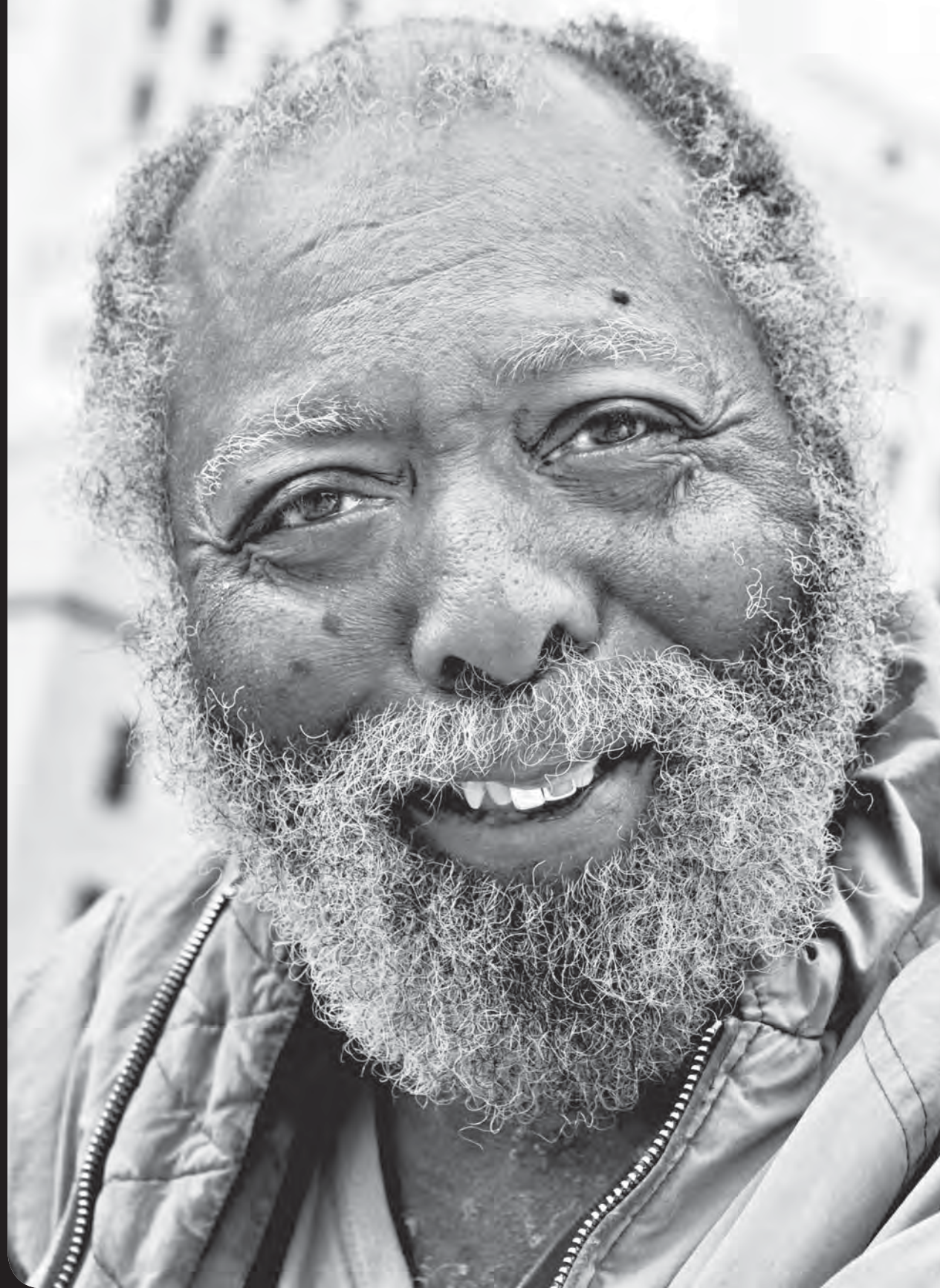


{ Who are the people you see every day? }

People We See

in downtown Los Angeles.

Meet Levert Robinson.



AGE: "I'm 74."

BIRTHPLACE: "Magnolia, Ala."

MARITAL STATUS: "Single."

FAMILY: "I have four brothers and five sisters. I am number three."

PARENTS MARRIED? "My mother was married twice."

MILITARY SERVICE: "No. I volunteered for the Army but was rejected."

WHEN DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES? "Dec. 19, 1964. I had a job waiting for me in LA. I was going to be doing sewing with sewing machines."

EDUCATION: "Halfway through the 12th grade I got a job and dropped out of high school. I went to Dixon Mills (Alabama) High School."

DID YOU PLAY ANY SPORTS? "No."

FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY: "I remember the first day of school in kindergarten; it was a good memory."

RELIGION: "No, but I believe in God. I was raised Baptist."

FRIENDS: "Nope. I pretty much stay to myself."

WHERE DO YOU LIVE? "On the street, usually at First and Grand. I basically gather as many blankets as I can to stay warm at night. I've been sleeping on the streets since 2006. In 1995, I began getting Social Security since I was deemed to be totally disabled. I have chest problems, high blood pressure. I have no strength in my right hand, and I'm right-handed, which makes it difficult."

WHAT WAS THE LAST JOB YOU HAD? "I worked in Hollywood at the studios for a spell."

FAVORITE ACTOR:

"I don't really have any."

FAVORITE ACTRESS:

"None come to mind."

FAVORITE MOVIE:

"No favorites."

FAVORITE TV SHOW: "I used to like watching *Gunsmoke*.

Anything with cowboys."

FAVORITE CANDY: "Peanut candy bars, like Baby Ruth."

FAVORITE FOOD: "Steak. Make that a T-bone!"

FAVORITE MUSIC: "It depends on my mood, but I pretty much like everything."

LAST THING EATEN: "I had some scrambled eggs and bacon this morning."

ON MEDICATION? "Nope, just some medication for my skin rash."

WHAT ITEMS ARE ALWAYS WITH YOU? "My blankets and a transistor radio."

WHO OR WHAT ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST HELP TO YOU? "Union Mission, I guess. I don't really use them that much."

IF YOU WERE MAYOR, HOW WOULD YOU HELP THE HOMELESS? "I would have programs for senior citizens that are homeless. I mean,

man, I'm 74 years old for crying out loud."

IF YOU COULD WISH FOR ANYTHING, WHAT WOULD IT BE? "I would wish for a house, and that it was paid for, so I own it."

IF YOU HAD \$1 MILLION, WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH IT? "I would invest it and live off the interest."

ADVICE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE: "Be concerned with what's going on around you. Do something; get involved."

The Club gave Levert a toothbrush and toothpaste, soap, two pairs of socks, shampoo, hand wipes, some food, \$20 and bottled water.

The interview took place Aug. 31 at Main and Temple Streets downtown. Photos by Angel Gomez.



{ In this monthly feature, Club CEO John Hawkins, Director of Member Services Angel Gomez, introduce you to people you see every day, but you might not know who they are. }
The Club reminds you that we all have names and stories to tell.