

A Message From the CEO

The Power of Working Together

by John Hawkins,
President and CEO, The Club

Here at *Alive!*, we feature City departments all the time. It's what we do; we celebrate your lives.

But this month's cover story sets some sort of record, as far as I can remember: No fewer than six City departments are featured in the awesome project on our cover—Phase Three of the restoration of Hollyhock House.

Those departments are, in no particular order—Public Works, Project Restore (a public/private partnership), Cultural Affairs, Rec and Parks, General Services, and Planning. (And if I know the way the City works, I'm sure other departments spent some time on this project, too.)

Whew! Can you remember another story we've done that so intersected across so many departments?

That's the beauty of working in a place like the City of Los Angeles ... and it's the beauty of *Alive!*, too ... no one else really tells these kinds of stories, that encompass so much of the City's abilities and strengths, and that carry so much good news. Any number of outside historic restoration companies and architects could have been brought in to run the project, but, for this very important landmark, the City chose its own—



The Club wishes a happy birthday to Irene Tresun, Retired Club Member and subject of a cover story a few years back on City nostalgia.

Public Works, and Project Restore. That's **Kevin Jew**, Club Member, and **Hsiao-Ling Ting**. It could have hired any number of curators, but it chose its own very capable staffer, **Jeffrey Herr**.

And clearly it could have hired any of a thousand contractors to do the actual work, but the City saw that it had very capable hands in its own house—General Services. (Some very specific outside contractors have participated in the project, but their work has been minimal.)

So, hats off to all those producing this awesome restoration ... and congrats to the City for recognizing the strong and willing employees it has on its own team. It's a win-win ... win-win-win-win!

In a similar vein, I couldn't help but notice that *Alive!* carries no fewer than three stories this month about departments and other associations hosting career training days, or symposia, and the like, for their members. That's a sign of real strength. In these uncertain times, it pays to be prepared, and to spend time bettering yourself, your abilities and skills, and your confidence. So, I applaud all those out there determined to make something more of yourself.

Speaking of that, have you or a family member applied for a **Joannie Mukai** Club Scholarship? We're accepting applications until June 29. Read the rules on page 29.

I can't let this month pass without giving shout-outs to a couple of great Club Members. First is the irrepressible **Dr. Ed Krupp**, Director of the Griffith Observatory. This month's *Alive!* features more photos of him holding his copy on his travels. What I love about his frequent submissions is that he never fails to be a teacher. I always learn something from his submissions. So, thanks, Dr. Krupp! I can't wait for your next lesson.

And I want to wish a happy birthday to **Irene Tresun**, great Retired Club Member and subject of a cover story a few years back on City nostalgia. I won't say which birthday it is for her, but I will say the first digit is a 9, and the second digit isn't a 0. Happy birthday, Irene! Many, many more.

And finally, let's take the time to wish our mothers a very happy Mother's Day. Enjoy our annual feature in this month's *Alive!*, and let's be grateful for what really matters in our lives.

JOHN

jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com

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Tom Hawkins, Club photographer, captures Kevin Jew, Chief Operating Officer, Project Restore, Club Member; and Hsiao-Ling Ting, Project Architect, Public Works/Engineering, at the City's Hollyhock House.