

A Message From the CEO

Summer Fun In the City

by John Hawkins,
President and CEO, The Club

What are you doing this summer?

I know that, for a lot of us, school is starting earlier in the fall; that can often mean late August. And summer activities – camping, ball teams, etc., can take us pretty much from June until August.

So that leaves this month with a lot of families looking at each other, wondering what to do.

Have you visited our good friends at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium yet? This month's cover story might get you interested; that's our plan!

The aquarium isn't as well known as it should be. The neighboring Harbor is massive, busy and important, and it's most of the City government's presence in San Pedro. But it's not all there is; tucked away down there in the shadow of the huge Harbor is Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, a City gem, too. To see the countless streams of young students there on a recent morning tells just how important Cabrillo is to the City, its history and its relationship to the Pacific Ocean. Club Members **Mike Schaadt**, Director; **Larry Fukuhara**, Programs Director; **Margo Kennedy**; **Juliette McAllister**; and all the good folks are doing a great job.



Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Mike Schaadt (left background), Club Member, explains the Tidepool Touch Tank to the Club's Angel Gomez, as Angel's family explores the tank.

In these days of limited resources, the City focuses on core services like streets, sanitation, police and fire, legislation, and, of course, the revenue producers like Airports, the DWP and the Convention Center, all of them excellent. But there's something to be said for the rest of life, too; cultural institutions like Cabrillo, **Dr. Ed Krupp's** Griffith Observatory, the L.A. Zoo, the Hollyhock House, and many others; they are critical to our right to calling Los Angeles a great City.

And maybe best of all, they're incredibly affordable. Griffith Observatory is free for general admission; Cabrillo suggests a donation of \$5 for adults, \$1 for children and seniors (consider that's about half the cost of a movie, even with the Club's fantastic discount); and the Club offers discounts to the L.A. Zoo.

So, to use a phrase from our story, what are you waiting for? Visit Rec and Parks' Cabrillo with your family, a date, or by yourself. August is the perfect time!

Speaking of critical City services, I have to add my congratulations to all those awarded Purple Hearts or Medals of Valor during the recent LAPD ceremony honoring them. I try never to take for granted the awesome jobs our public safety employees do for us. But I'm reminded once again of their dedication every year when I read the harrowing stories that accompany our feature starting on page 20. These heroes showed incredible bravery in the toughest and scariest of circumstances. I applaud them, I congratulate them, and, simply, I thank them.

There are a lot of noteworthy elements in this month's paper – contributor **Juan Guerra** sent us amazing photos of a horse rescue (more from Juan in the future); Club Board Member **Martin Chavez** contributes his always worthy story of those with perfect attendance at the Harbor; it wouldn't be summer without the cool (and popular) Sanitation Open Houses; our Retirees section keeps getting better and more fun; I wish I could have been with **Hal and Evelyn** as they toured the Taj Mahal; and have you signed up for the Club Cruise 2013 yet? It's going to be another winner!

I could go on, but it's time to head outside with my family and enjoy August. That's really what this month's cover story – and the Club, really – is all about: making your lives as memorable and meaningful as possible. Enjoy!

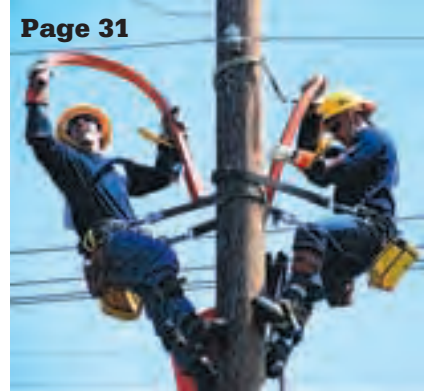
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Alive! IN THIS ISSUE

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Be Alive! at Cabrillo This Summer
Come along as the Club's Angel Gomez brings his family to visit Rec and Parks' Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.
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LAPD awards its annual Medal of Honor to true heroes.
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Police Dept. hosts kickoff for annual celebrity golf tournament for charity. Actual tournament is scheduled for October.
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Harbor honors its stellar employees at annual awards program.
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Public Works participates in annual nationwide effort that focuses on public projects.
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DWP's finest linemen participate in local portion of national competition.



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Alive! Cover Picture

Alive! Behind the Scenes

Cabrillo Director Mike Schaadt hosting Angel Gomez and his family.