

A Message From the CEO

Mukai Scholars Show City's Great Promise

by John Hawkins,
President and CEO, The Club

Have you read yet about our Club scholarship winners? Well, of course you haven't, since this column comes on page three, and the scholarship stories don't start until page 18!

I was just being rhetorical, of course. I can't help but talk about our winners, though. As I write this, it's Aug. 17, about a week after our committee finished its work and picked the recipients of our scholarships. And I'm still blown away by the quality of the applicants. With this level of smarts and initiative in the candidates, it's no wonder we gave out 20 awards. That's the most in recent memory, and we're proud to do it.

If you ever worry about the future of the world, do yourself a favor and read these profiles. I doubt that feeling will last long.

The late **Joannie Mukai**, former City Employee and Club Board Member who passed away in 2010, was a big believer in supporting our youths; that's why we named the scholarship program for her. She would be mighty impressed by this group. Medical students... jazz singers... bakers... rocket scientists... *fashionistas*... those who have succeeded despite long odds... and on and on.

So congratulations to our recipients. And I want to give a nod to those others who applied, but didn't make it this year. You're all winners in my book. Keep on being yourself, and I know you'll be just fine.

Moving on... and back to our friends and the LAPD's Scientific Investigation Division (our cover story). We've done several of these stories now, featuring the faces behind the scenes of the LAPD's efforts to investigate crimes. We've worked a lot with **Lennard Henkhaus**, Supervising Criminalist, to coordinate the facts and the details. He was a part of our first meeting, I believe, several years ago. But up until this month, he's never been featured. Well finally we get around to a unit that includes him – the Field Investigation Unit. Our *Alive!* team had another interesting and informative week at the LAPD's SID, and I know you'll find our main feature as interesting as I did.

Oh, before I forget – have you bought your tickets to the L.A. County Fair yet? They are always big sellers here at the Club, so don't wait!

I'm delighted that so many Retired Members who have just started receiving *Alive!* are really enjoying it. Receiving *Alive!* instead of your previous paper is a change, I know. But it's clear how much more you're getting now. We're getting phone calls and letters of thanks... and you're sending in your own cool info! You're sending in photos of your grandkids... you're sending in photos of your travels while holding your copy of *Alive!*... and you're saying hi to us at your Retiree meetings. It's all awesome to see. Keep contributing, keep enjoying, and keep living full lives. That's what it's all about!

And don't forget to become full Club Members by next May. We'll talk more about that when the time comes.

I want to give a quick shoutout to **Geraldine Knatz**, Ph.D., head of the Harbor and strong Club Member. She won a big award – I'll let you read about it. Nice going, Geraldine!

And finally, I want to add a quick word about my brother, **Ed Hawkins**, who passed away just a few weeks ago. You can read a little about him in this issue. It's still a shock to my family that such a young, vital and great guy could leave this earth so soon. Way too soon.

I want to thank everyone who sent condolences, who stopped what they were doing to lend an ear or a shoulder, or who took care of business when I was called away. I had just had lunch with Ed the day before he died in his sleep, so I was lucky, if you can call it that. We were on great terms. Life is shorter than we think, my friends; never take for granted those people who mean the world to you. Tell them. Now.

Have a great September, and we'll see you again next month.

JOHN

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On the Scene

LAPD's Field Investigation Unit collects and logs evidence, and plays a critical role in investigating crimes.

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The Club announces the recipients of its 2012 Joannie Mukai Club Scholarships.

29 To Sturgis!

City Employees climb aboard their Harley-Davidsons for their trek to the annual motorcycle rally in South Dakota.

32 Banning Thanks Safety Officers

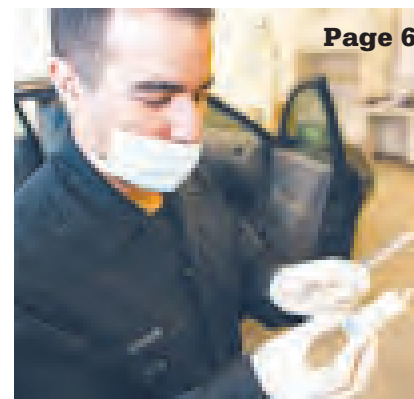
Banning community group says thanks to members of LAPD and LAFD in the Harbor area, and Port Police.

36 Aviation Careers

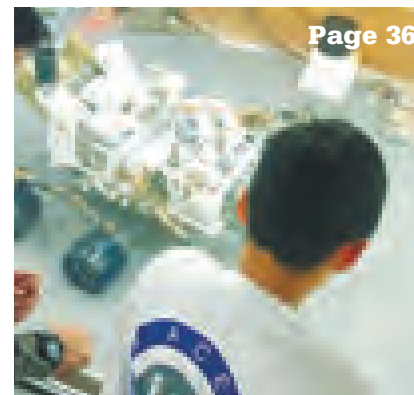
LAX hosts high schoolers interested in careers in aviation.

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LAFD hosts annual Kemper Softball Tournament for widows, orphans fund.



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Alive! Cover Picture

Alive! Behind the Scenes

Summy Lam, Club Director of Marketing, photographs Betsy Swanson, Criminalist II, 17 years of City service, as she looks for fluids, fibers or other evidence in this pair of jeans.