

{ Who are the people you see every day? }

No. 54 in a series.



People We See

in downtown Los Angeles.



Meet John Leroy Washington.

AGE: "I'm 51."
BIRTHPLACE: "Elizabeth, NJ."
MARITAL STATUS: "Single."
FAMILY: "I have one younger brother."
PARENTS MARRIED OR DIVORCED? "Married."
MILITARY SERVICE: "No."
WHERE DO YOU LIVE? "No particular area, mainly around here on the sidewalk."
WHEN DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES? "Three years ago."
WHY DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES? "I was in Phoenix for seven years, and everyone kept saying that there was work in Los Angeles. But that's not really true. Before that, I roamed Alabama and North Carolina, looking for work."
EDUCATION: "I graduated from Weequahic High School in New Jersey."
PLAYED SPORTS IN HIGH SCHOOL? "I played soccer."
RELIGION: "Nope."
MEDICATIONS: "No."
FAVORITE MOVIE: "*The Avengers*."
FAVORITE TV SHOW: "*Laurel and Hardy*."
FAVORITE CANDY: "I love chocolate."
FAVORITE FOOD: "Steak!"
FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY: "Museums."
LAST BOOK READ: "A book about the FBI."
LAST JOB: "After high school, I worked for UPS for 10 years, then I was fired because the manager didn't like me. My last job was at a Greek restaurant in Phoenix, mainly cleaning up tables and washing dishes."
FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY: "I loved visiting my grandparents."
FIRST NIGHT ON THE STREET: "Back in 1991, I simply had no place to go, and I didn't know anyone. It just kind of happened."
LAST THING EATEN: "This morning I had a breakfast burrito that a stranger gave to me."
WHO ARE YOUR FRIENDS? "I have one good friend."
MOST HELPFUL ORGANIZATION: "St. Vincent's. The only problem is that you have to wake up at 4 a.m. and vacate. And you have to be in by 10 p.m. Kind of restrictive if they really care about the homeless."
ADVICE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE: "Be careful."
MAKE A WISH: "I wish for a million dollars! I would save it and live off the interest."
MOST PRIZED POSSESSION: "My I.D. ... and my underwear."

The Club gave John Leroy a Bucket and a Blanket (see left), a toothbrush and toothpaste, soap, two pairs of socks, shampoo, hand wipes, some food, \$20 and bottled water.
 The interview took place Sept. 13 at Third and Main Streets downtown.
 Photos by Angel Gomez and John Hawkins.

Buckets and Blankets!

Join us as we help those who live on the streets with Buckets and Blankets. Donate to the cause as the Club distributes food, toiletries and blankets to those in need (blankets cost \$7 each).



Buckets and Blankets is produced in cooperation with the **Club Angels** program and **Creative Solutions** – Fred Fowlks and Sue Manzo, LAFD.

Contact John Hawkins or Angel Gomez, and we'll take it from there:

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CREATIVE SOLUTIONS



{ In this monthly feature, Club CEO John Hawkins, and 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. }