

{ Who are the people you see every day? }

No. 55 in a series.



People We See

in downtown Los Angeles.



Meet Clark Lewis.

AGE: "I'm 66."
BIRTHPLACE: "I was born in Harlan, Ky., the same place Nick Lachey, the guy who married Jessica Simpson."
MARITAL STATUS: "Married, but I don't know where my wife is. She's somewhere in Los Angeles."
FAMILY: "None."
PARENTS MARRIED OR DIVORCED? "They passed away."
MILITARY SERVICE: "I was a firefighter in the Army. I was in Vietnam for nine months in 1969. I was in Quan Loi and Bong Son."
WHERE DO YOU LIVE? "Right here, on the sidewalk."
WHEN DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES? "1984."
WHY DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES? "Basically, I was homeless. Los Angeles seemed like the best place."
HOW DID YOU BECOME HOMELESS? "I'm not really sure. I just kind of ended up here. It's a blur."
EDUCATION: "I graduated from Selma High School in Selma, Ala."
PLAYED SPORTS IN HIGH SCHOOL? "Nope."
RELIGION: "Baptist."
MEDICATIONS: "Nope."

FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Mission: Impossible."
FAVORITE CANDY: "Hershey's Chocolate bar."
FAVORITE FOOD: "Grilled cheese with Swiss."
LAST JOB: "I worked at Ford in the '70s in Michigan. They closed down and I lost my job."
FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY: "Fishing with a friend in Selma. I was just a kid. It was lovely."
LAST THING EATEN: "I had a cheese sandwich that was given to me."
WHO ARE YOUR FRIENDS? "I have some friends on the streets, right around here."
MAKE A WISH: "I wish for a home, four rooms and a bathroom."
ITEM ALWAYS WITH YOU: "Food, sandwiches, cookies."
MOST PRIZED POSSESSION: "I have no money, no wallet, no income. I do not get any subsidy checks of any kind. I don't even have I.D."
ADVICE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE: "I hope your business prospers."

The Club gave Clark a Bucket and a Blanket (see below), a toothbrush and toothpaste, soap, two pairs of socks, shampoo, hand wipes, some food, \$20 and bottled water.

The interview took place Jan. 4 at Third and Los Angeles Streets downtown
Photos by Angel Gomez and John Hawkins.



Donate to Club Angels

Donated in 2012:
\$2,126

Help us reach our 2013 Goal:
\$4,200

When you donate to Club Angels, you're helping us Blanket the City... and perform other charitable activities.

Blanket the City is a Club winter tradition that provides blankets for downtown's residents of the streets. Each blanket costs \$7. (Blanket the City works with Buckets and Blankets in cooperation with Creative Solutions - Fred Fowlkes and Sue Manzo, LAFD.)

Club Angels wants to double its donations in 2013, and help make a difference to those in need. Join the effort, and be a Club Angel!

See the story on page 36 for information on donations and how to give.

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

jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com or agomez@cityemployeesclub.com



{ 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. }