



For Retired Club Members

# The Best Years

## CITY RETIREE ASSOCIATIONS

### Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)



Ed Harding, *RLACEI President*  
www.rlacei.com  
Contact him: (800) 678-4145 Ext. 703  
E-mail: edwardjharding@rlacei.com

#### Change of Address?

If you change your address, notify Helen Salgado, Membership Chair, at (800) 678-4145 Ext. 713, or write to her at 8372 Arnett Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92647. Also notify LACERS.

#### Have News About Yourself?

Contact Mary Beetz, call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 711.

### Retiree Upcoming Events

#### Reservation Lines:

RLACEI events: (800) 678-4145, ext. 701  
DWP events: (626) 445-7376 (Dolores Foley)  
LARFPA: (888) 288-5063

- Sept. 4:** LARFPA general meeting and elections, 10 a.m. to noon, Grace E. Simons Lodge, 1025 Elysian Park Dr.
- Sept. 19:** RLACEI annual corporation meeting and elections, Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Dr., Los Angeles. 11:30 a.m. lunch; noon meeting.
- Dec. 5:** RLACEI holiday party, Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Dr., Los Angeles. Noon.

#### RLACEI Website

Hal Danowitz asks you to visit the RLACEI Website at [www.rlacei.com](http://www.rlacei.com) to find the latest retirement news. If you find it helpful, or have suggestions for improvement, call Hal at (800) 678-4145 Ext. 707.

#### Contact LACERS

The Los Angeles City Employees Retirement System is at 202 W. First Street, Suite 500, (LA Times Building), Los Angeles, CA 90012. Hours: 8AM-5PM. Phone (213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328. Contact them to arrange direct deposit of your retirement checks, change your tax withholding or beneficiary, or for questions about your health plans. [www.lacers.org](http://www.lacers.org)

#### DWP Retirees Association



Dolores Foley, *President*  
Phone: (626) 445-7376  
E-mail: [vincedolores@gmail.com](mailto:vincedolores@gmail.com)  
[www.dwpretirees.org](http://www.dwpretirees.org)

#### Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association (LARFPA)



Bill Quinn, *President*  
Phone: (323) 283-4441  
Fax: (626) 285-1461  
9521 Las Tunas Dr. #4,  
Temple City, CA 91780  
[www.larfpa.org](http://www.larfpa.org)

## RLACEI

### Reports: Pension Plans Are All Over the Map

By Ed Harding,  
RLACEI President

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



Ed Harding

I just returned from our annual retired member picnic and sat down and started writing this article.

Americo Garza, our Entertainment Chairman, and I talked about the food we received from Chris & Pitts. Next year we plan to do more and better than we had this year.

Again, I want to thank LACERS for sending us Lita Payne, Assistant General Manager, and Alex Rabrenovich, Chief Health Benefits Administrator, and their assistants to talk and answer questions on the status of our pension system. We are lucky to have them at our disposal. They are such a great people!

We are also lucky to have the City Employees Club's: John Hawkins and Robert Larios; they

are always very generous with their expensive gift certificates for our raffle prizes. Robert is always there with camera on hand to take pictures for *Alive!* Thank you for all you do for us!

Sept. 19 is our general meeting and election of officers at the Friendship Hall on Riverside Drive near Los Feliz Boulevard. We plan to have a great lunch. Be sure to call and make reservations.

### Pension Reports Reflect Pandemonium

Legislative Update and Pension Issues by Michael Karsch



Michael Karsch

In Illinois, Governor Pat Quinn vetoed the pay package for the state legislators who failed for a third time in 12 months to reach an agreement on how to fund the state pension shortfall. The leaders of the Legislature, Senate President John Cullerton and House Speaker Michael Madigan, then sued the governor for stopping their paychecks.

In New York, the head of the state Department of Financial Services, which is regulating all state and local pensions, is reported by AI-CIO.com as saying "our responsibility is to watch the watchers at the public funds to ensure they're upholding the public trust." The article then reiterates the controversy over the last three years in that state: In 2012, Chevron accused the New York State Controller, Thomas DiNapoli, of using his position to get donations for a large international lawsuit; also in 2012, a state court sentenced a former chief investment officer of the state employee pension system to a conditional discharge for allowing

a culture of corruption at the fund; and in 2010 the then-New York Attorney General Andrew Cuomo accused a top aide to the state comptroller of leading a \$35 million fraud scheme at the New York State Common Retirement Fund.

In Michigan, of course, the Detroit situation is a crisis. That City's bankruptcy's major cause is the unfunded liability of the pensions (\$3.5 billion) and the unfunded healthcare of the retirees (\$5.7 billion), per Kevyn Orr, the emergency manager of Detroit, according to BusinessWeek.com. A writer at Bloomberg, Stephen Eide, wrote in early July that the healthcare costs have not been funded in any way, nor is there the capacity to do so in the immediate future, citing the same unfunded liability figures above. He notes that the legal protection for pensions is far higher than for healthcare, arguing that the Michigan Supreme Court has ruled that the Michigan constitution protecting public pensions does not apply to Other Post Employment Benefits.

The City of Los Angeles has for almost 20 years set aside money for OPEB, such as healthcare, one of the few cities in the country to do so. Beyond this level of argu-

ment, however, is the provision in both the Michigan and California constitutions that prohibit the "impairment of contract." This is what the state and local agencies do when offering jobs to applicants, including the pension. Did such offers imply a contract to provide healthcare as well for the employee and the retiree? Or will the retiree over 65 have to seek Medicare on his/her own?

Pennsylvania has a combined unfunded liability in state pensions of \$47 billion. Philadelphia had its debt downgraded by Fitch Ratings at the end of July.

Meanwhile in California, the San Jose pension reform passed by the voters last year is going to trial on challenges by the city unions. This is a fight over what is a vested right, and whether San Jose's charter, which reserves the right of voters to make future changes in retirement plans, takes precedence (*San Jose Mercury News*, July 21, 2013). Those voters changed the pension system for current employees by increasing their contribution to maintain their program, or pay the same for a lesser benefit; and cost of living increases in the pensions could be suspended if the city declares a fiscal emergency.

### New York Times Defends Public Pensions

Pension Law and Policy by Michael R. Wilkinson



Michael R. Wilkinson

A major newspaper criticizing public pensions and even attacking the millions who depend on these vital retirement plans is not news. However, we have come to the point where one of the most respected news-

papers in the country coming to the defense of public pensions is news, since so few papers are willing to print anything good and valuable about the plans.

The *New York Times* published an editorial noting that, while all the news coverage goes to pension plans under fire in areas like Stockton and Detroit and Illinois and Connecticut, not all plans are in bad shape. The

Times noted that the difficulties for the beleaguered plans vary from the collapse of the real estate market to garden-variety mismanagement of public funds.

Some other papers including the *San Diego Union Tribune* and others are constantly on the attack and feed into the populist view that a public pension is

- continues on page 13



**Pension Law and Policy by Michael R. Wilkinson – continued from page 12**

some kind of public employee give-away. However, the *Times* points out that some of the attempts at “pension reform” would really make matters worse.

In particular, the *Times* observes that one of the suggestions from a politician (Orrin Hatch, R-Utah) would hurt retirement systems by forcing retirees into annuities and 401(k) plans, and that would likely

both cost more and be riskier than the current plans.

Not all of the *Times*’ editorial supports the current operation of even well-run plans. The paper also spoke approvingly of a new approach being tried in a Canadian province that would split retirement benefits into two categories: base and ancillary. The base is the core pension benefit, and the ancillary

benefit is cost of living and other benefits. This system allows the base to be fixed, but the ancillary benefit would move up and down depending on the financial health of the pension plan.

None of this has any effect on our LACERS pension, but it is valuable for us to look over our shoulders from time to time to see what is going on in the rest of the continent.

**LACERS Update**



Mary Beetz

**By Mary Beetz, RLACEI Publicity Chair**

**Save The Date: Attend an Open Enrollment Meeting**

LACERS Health Plans Open Enrollment for 2014 will run from October 15 through November 15. Open Enrollment meetings will be held at various locations and feature presentations from each of LACERS health plans to assist retirees and/or their surviving spouses or domestic partners in making informed decisions about 2014 medical and dental coverage. Please save the following dates for the meeting closest to you:

Date	Location
October 15:	San Fernando Valley
October 23:	Ventura County
October 29:	Ontario
November 1:	Las Vegas
November 6:	Los Angeles
November 8:	San Pedro

*Additional information as to time and address of Open Enrollment meetings will be included with your September paycheck.*

You can also check the LACERS website at [www.LACERS.org](http://www.LACERS.org) for updates.

**LACERS in Motion: Free Fitness Classes for September**

*LACERS in Motion*, the new fitness program sponsored by Anthem Blue Cross which launched in August with free exercise classes available to all LACERS retirees, continues in September with *Low-Impact Cardio* sessions at two Los Angeles County locations, as well as one location each in Riverside, Orange, San Bernardino and Ventura counties\*. For further details about the classes and the locations nearest to you, please visit the LACERS *Well* webpage at [www.LACERS.org/lacerswell](http://www.LACERS.org/lacerswell). Space is limited and registration is required. You may register on the LACERS *Well* webpage or by calling LACERS at (800)779-8328. For more information on *LACERS in Motion* fitness classes scheduled for September – December 2013, visit the LACERS *Well* webpage or call LACERS at (800)779-8328.

**Move More Free Health Education Class from Kaiser-Permanente September 17, 2013**

LACERS *Well* will host *Move More*, a health education class sponsored by Kaiser Permanente Healthworks, on Tuesday, September 17, 2013, from 11:00 a.m. – noon at the EXPO Center’s Roy A. Anderson Recreation Center in Los Angeles\*. This class will give you tips to help manage your weight and reduce the likelihood of developing chronic health conditions over your lifetime, simply by exercising more. Join us for a one hour session to learn how to become more physically active by pumping up your heart rate with some fun fitness and music. This is the third in a series of six free health education classes sponsored by Kaiser Permanente and open to all LACERS retirees. Space is limited and registration is required. You may register on the LACERS *Well* webpage or by calling LACERS at (800)779-8328.

*\*Please consult with your physician before starting this or any other exercise program.*

**LACERS**

**For Retired Club Members**

The **Best Years**

**RETIREMENT HELPLINE**

Who to call? Call the Helpline and reach the officers of the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. If you move or change your address, contact Helen Salgado. Also notify LACERS, ACEBSA and LAFUCU. For information on problems, activities, meetings or membership. Each officer’s extension is listed below.

**City Employees Retirement System:** (213) 473-7200

**RLACEI Retirement Counselors and Retiree Helplines** (800) 678-4145

- Mary Beetz Ext. 711
- Cliff Cannon Ext. 715
- Hal Danowitz Ext. 707
- Americo Garza Ext. 710
- Edward Harding Ext. 703
- Michael Karsch Ext. 704
- Gary Mattingly Ext. 702
- Phillip Orland Ext. 709
- Neil Ricci Ext. 714
- Helen Salgado (membership) Ext. 713
- Ken Spiker Ext. 705
- Tom Stemmcock Ext. 708
- Michael Wilkinson Ext. 712
- Questions: Ext. 0
- RSVP: Ext. 701

**DWP Retirement Plan Office** (213) 367-1722

**RLACEI:**

**Officers**

- Edward Harding: President
- Kenneth Spiker: First Vice President
- Tom Stemmcock: Second Vice President
- Hal Danowitz: Secretary/Treasurer

**Committee Chairpersons**

- Mary Beetz: Publicity
- Hal Danowitz: Finance
- Americo Garza: Picnic, Holiday Party and Installation
- Neil Ricci: Health and Nominating
- Helen Salgado: Membership
- Ken Spiker: Legal and Legislative
- Tom Stemmcock: Audit and Golf

**Directors**

- Mary Beetz
- Cliff Cannon
- Americo Garza
- Michael Karsch
- Gary Mattingly
- Phillip Orland
- Neil Ricci
- Helen Salgado
- Michael R. Wilkinson



**Life After Retirement**



**As a reminder:**

If you have news about yourself, family or other retirees that you would like to share with our readers, send it and we will publish it. If you would like to contact a former City Employee that you

met or worked with, send your contact information and we will publish it so they can contact you.

**Note:** Due to our confidentiality policy, we do not give out any information without authorization.

**Mail information to:**

Mary Beetz at 137 Westmont Drive, Alhambra, CA, 91801 or Email [mbeetz4841@aol.com](mailto:mbeetz4841@aol.com)

**New Officers on Slate at Sept. 4 General Meeting**

**LARFPA**



Lee Kebler

**By Lee Kebler, LARFPA Director**

It’s time for the changing of the guard. At our Sept. 4, 2013 meeting, we plan to have our annual election of officers and delegates who run your association. Candidates for the offices are President Paul Enox, Vice President Bob Olsen, Secretary Will Gartland and Treasurer Jim Chastain. Delegates are James Wilke, James Hill, Denis Cremins and Don Forrest.

We have had three of our longtime directors retire: Big Mike Dwyer, 19 years; Robin Welborn, 10 years; and Arnett Hartsfield, 11

years. They deserve a healthy round of applause (thanks!) for all that they contributed down through the years. The board has appointed James Hill, a retired Fire Chief, to replace Arnett, and Art Placencia, a retired Police Officer, to replace Mike Dwyer, and the board is in the process of selecting another police officer for Robin’s vacancy.

We have a great bunch of talented directors who are working to protect and preserve our retiree benefits. We are in a continual struggle to keep the politicians and reformers from changing and reducing benefits that you earned with many years of service for the

citizens of Los Angeles. We need your help in this battle. If you are not a member and are a retired firefighter or police officer, or a member of either department with 20 or more years of service, you are eligible to become a member of our association. This is very easy to do. Just call our toll free number, (888) 288-7053, and our staff will mail you the necessary information and forms. We need each other.

Don’t forget the Sept. 4 general meeting, from 10 a.m. to noon, at Grace E. Simons Lodge, 1025 Elysian Park Dr. in Los Angeles.



# The Best Years

For Retired Club Members



By Hal Danowitz, Secretary, RLACEI

## A Free Hat In Lisbon

PART ELEVEN



Hal and Co. continue their cruise from Cape Town to England.

Hal and Evelyn Danowitz invite you to:

### Travel to Cuba!

Havana - Trinidad - Cienfuegos

April 29 - May 10, 2014

12 Days \$4,995 per person\*



Join Grand Circle Foundation and Hal and Evelyn Danowitz in our mission to break down the cultural barriers between Cuba and the U.S.—at a pivotal moment in history for the people of Cuba, who are in the midst of major government reforms.

We will center our journey around three Cuban cities: the bustling capital of Havana (5 nights), including both 3 nights in the historic Old Town and 2 nights in the vibrant, downtown Vedado neighborhood; the harbor town of Cienfuegos (2 nights), and the colonial gem of Trinidad (3 nights). Throughout our journey, we will focus on meaningful cultural exchange with the people of Cuba — who you'll find to be warm, welcoming, and eager to interact with Americans. It's a rare, authentic view of daily life in Cuba today.

**Basic included features:**

- A full schedule of People-to-People exchange meetings
- Roundtrip airfare from Miami
- All accommodations: 1 night in Miami, 5 nights in Havana, 2 nights in Cienfuegos, and 3 nights in Trinidad
- 24 meals: 10 breakfasts, 5 lunches, and 9 dinners
- Services of an English-speaking Cuban guide and a Foundation representative from the U.S.
- Transportation aboard a private, air-conditioned motor coach
- Cultural discoveries, including discussions with locals, museum visits, musical performances, and many more
- Maximum 20 people

**For reservations and information call:**

Grand Circle Foundation  
(855)422-2825, option 2, code G4-25126

\*\$500 Deposit per reservation  
\*Cancellation date: February 21, 2014 - 100% refund

Evelyn and I took a 38-day trip, which included four days at the Botlierskop Safari Resort near George, South Africa; a 28-day cruise on the *Ocean Princess* from Cape Town, South Africa, to London; and four days in London at the end. Don and Myrna, our cousins, took the cruise with us.



Lunch in Cadiz.

The itinerary was as follows: Cape Town; Lüderitz and Walvis Bay, Namibia; Cotonou, Benin; Lome, Togo; Dakar, Senegal; Mindelo, Cape Verde Islands; Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands; Casablanca, Morocco; Cadiz, Spain; Lisbon, Portugal; Le Havre, France; and Dover, England.

We continue the story in the morning, and we are docked in Cadiz, Spain. It is the oldest continuously inhabited city in Spain and one of the oldest in all of southwestern Europe.

Last night on board the ship, we watched a cast show featuring the music of Cole Porter. The dancers were very talented. There was a tap-dancing number that was outstanding. Overall, the entertainment has been good. I really thought the costumes were the best I had seen on any ship. We really got a close-up view sitting in the front row, thanks to Myrna.

We turned the clock ahead one hour that night, because Cadiz is GMT - plus one. The next day we turned the clock back again because Lisbon is on GMT. Made us dizzy.

We had all been to Cadiz on our Rome to Fort Lauderdale cruise in 2009, but on that trip we took the all-day tour to Seville. We decided to use the Hop-On, Hop Off bus, but then Don and Myrna decided to just walk into the old city center, which ended very near to where we were docked. Evelyn and I wanted to see more of Cadiz, including the new parts of the city. We left the ship before 10 a.m. and while

walking to the bus stop I found that I had left the camera battery in the charger, so I had to go back to the ship. The cost of the Hop bus was €15. When I looked on the Internet to find out, it quoted the regular price as \$26 with an Internet special at \$20 plus a \$3.50 handling charge. At that time, €15 was less than \$20. My only problem was that I was using Euros I bought last year for \$1.50 each. The only plus is that I already considered the money spent. It is good to check the Internet for specials before you leave on your trip. A good site to use is [www.viator.com](http://www.viator.com).

It was very foggy when we left the ship, and the bus first went around the new city, outside the old wall, where the beaches were. It was hard to see in the fog, but the beaches reminded us of Santa Monica - a very deep beach, with lots of sand. It didn't look to be good for surfing, but maybe there are times of the year when it is. The weather reminded me of "May gray" or even "June gloom." A short distance from the beach road, it was clear and blue.

The bus then drove back to the old part of the city. It reminded us of Florence, with narrow streets and old buildings surrounding large open public squares. We passed the central area and then drove through a very nice residential area with a beautiful botanical garden at the edge of the bay. The gardens had palms and evergreens trimmed in shapes that were spirals and pinnacles. It reminded Evelyn of *Alice in Wonderland*. It



On the streets of Lisbon.

ran along the coast for at least a mile with paths, benches and a wide selection of blooming shrubs and flowers, really very inviting. Cadiz sort-of juts out, with the Atlantic Ocean on one side and a bay on the other. All of Cadiz is on the Atlantic side of Spain, with the Strait of Gibraltar to the east.

We went around again to get off at the central area and also to see if the fog had cleared; it had a little. The central square was very busy with a combination of tourist and locals. Another cruise ship was in port, the *Maria*, from Oceania. We found a café and sat outside and had lunch. The special included bread, olives, potato salad with tuna and olive oil, a plate of cold cuts served on a bed of potato chips, two beverages and paella for €18. It was way too much food, but we managed to eat most of it. Evelyn couldn't wait to get home to make the potato salad and paella. She had already purchased some saffron in the Canaries. The weather was great; the fog had lifted, and



Having lunch.



## RETIREES:

# Enjoy These Great Member Benefits



## City Employees Club of Los Angeles

*Celebrating the Lives of City Employees*

### Full Club Membership

Full Club Membership, including:

- **The cheapest tickets in the City – UP TO 70% OFF**
- Great Club apparel and gifts
- Group-rated insurance products for purchase
- Club-exclusive events
- E-mail notices about upcoming events and promotions
- Access to Club Website
- And much more!

## For Retired Club Members

As a member of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles, you'll enjoy these amazing benefits:

### The *Alive!* Newspaper

Your own personal edition of *Alive!*, delivered to you each month. (Sent to all RLACEI members in good standing). Stay connected to RLACEI, and to all your Retired City friends, read about exciting City projects, take full advantage of free *Alive!* classifieds, and much more.

### For more information, contact the Club:

- [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)
- [www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com)
- (800) 464-0452

we had bright sunshine and a temperature in the low 70s. After lunch, we walked the streets of the old city and then walked back to the ship. Our only purchase was a magnet. We looked for Spanish olive oil but didn't see any. Spain produces more olive oil, and some say it's better, than Italy.

Back on board, we had dinner in the dining room after drinks in the Casino Lounge. Tonight was "Dancing with the Stripes," a takeoff on "Dancing with the Stars," where the ship's dancers dance with a ship's officers. The show was at 10 p.m., and we wanted a front-row seat. The Cabaret Lounge was setup more as a nightclub, and the best seats were in the front row. Before the "dancing," there was a regular show with Gregg Scott, a very tall violinist from England, at 8:30 p.m. We finished dinner about 7:30 p.m., hung out by the showroom until the first show was over, and then ran for our seats. Myrna also got into a fight with a woman who outweighed Myrna by 100 pounds, but everything turned out okay and we got our seats. Evelyn and I had our iPads and read until show time. After the show, which was very good, we read some more until the "dancing" show. There were four pairs, and they all did a good job. There were judges, who were the comedy part of the show. The junior officer, Sebastian, our escort on the bridge tour, was dancing, and we supported him. He was doing a disco routine very well and won the competition with his partner, Rochelle, one of the dancers. She was from Australia, so the show was very multinational. The whole program was very entertaining. They perform that show only occasionally, and it was a specialty of the cruise director, David. The couples had to find time and space for rehearsal between their regular duties. It was really fun and a lot more entertaining than the

staff talent shows that are usually scheduled.

We didn't dock in Lisbon, Portugal, until noon. The last time we were here we were not able to get a Starbucks mug for Evelyn's collection, so this time I researched the location of four Starbucks so that we would make sure to get a mug. We would take a taxi to the shopping area from the port.

We had breakfast with Sebastian, who won the dance contest the night before. He's a very nice young man. He has worked

seas were calm and the temperature was in the mid-70s. The cruise port is right on a wide boulevard with a very pretty view of the city.

We left the ship just before noon and took a taxi to the city center. The first taxi we asked wanted €20 for the ride for the four of us. We laughed and found one for €4. He dropped us off in the central square of the old town and we walked the pedestrian street, window shopping and checking out the various cafés for lunch. We found one we liked

pickup time to 9 a.m. I checked the weather in London and I think we may need an umbrella.

We had drinks at the suite party. Many passengers could have taken advantage of the party, but not many did. There were fewer than 10 people in the room.

We had dinner in the buffet and the sat there as the ship sailed from Lisbon. Lisbon is not on the ocean, but is on the Tejo River.



Sailing into Lisbon.



Hal at the port.

for Princess for about four year and MSC (a cruise line of the Mediterranean Shipping Co.) before that. If my granddaughter Isabelle were here, she would be following him like a puppy dog. He was really cute and with that Italian accent, he was the whole package. I could tell he worked out, too.

We were now sailing into the Lisbon harbor area. It was very picturesque and the first time we were awake as we docked. The

and ordered sandwiches, and Evelyn had a salad. Don and I each had a very large beer. With tip, the lunch was €40.

Portugal, like Spain, makes very fine olive oil, though it is less available in the States. We purchased some on the walk back to the ship.

After lunch, we looked for a Starbucks. Evelyn bought her mug. We stopped for ice cream, and Don wanted to buy one of the hats the employees were wearing. It was a red English-style driving cap. The ice cream guy went in the back and gave Don a bag and wouldn't take any money. The hat was inside, and inside the hat was the name Ana, who either didn't work there anymore or was missing one hat. Don looked very debonair as we walked back to the ship. It was less than two miles and was good exercise.

Lisbon is a very beautiful city, and with more time we would explore more. We would even try the underground system they have. The architecture is a mixture of old and new. We saw the typical architecture of residential above and retail on the ground floor, with interior courtyards so familiar in Paris and other European cities. It is truly a beautiful city; it has many monuments and interesting street art. We passed their Museum of Modern Art and it had a large mural covering a space at least two stories high by 200 feet.

I decided to confirm our pickup in Dover, so I called them. There was no problem as they had our reservation. I changed our

It took more than an hour until we reached the Atlantic. With the sun setting, it was a nice show. The economies of both Spain and Portugal were hurting, but it was hard to see it in the areas we were in. We did notice a number of for-rent and sales signs on buildings in the commercial district in Lisbon, and the maintenance of some looked to be forgotten. On the other hand, we saw a number of construction cranes.

Next month we finish up the cruise with our stop in France.



Ana's hat.



# The Best Years

## RETIREES AROUND THE WORLD



1

### Bahamas



"My wife, Rhonda, and I took a five-day cruise and stopped off on the islands of Half Moon Cay and Nassau, Bahamas."  
 - Michael Holmes, Public Works/Street Services, Retired, 39 years of City service

Take the Club with you, wherever you go!



Club members are a well-traveled bunch. Bring your recent copy of *Alive!* with you. Snap a **high resolution** photo with you holding a **copy**, send it in, and we'll publish it. Send to: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

## Show Us Your Grandkids!

Retirees: *Alive!* wants to show off your grandkids! In an upcoming issue, we intend to begin running a small section of retirees and their grand-kids. So send 'em in!



Here's how:

1. **Make sure to have permission from their parents.** If you send in a photo, *Alive!* assumes you have already received that permission.
2. Photos with you in them are better... but if not, that's okay, too.
3. Make sure you list the names of your grandkids.
4. Tell us, in a sentence or two, a little bit about them - their school, their accomplishments, what they love to do, how proud you are of them, etc.
5. Digital photos are best! Send them to: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)



Print photos can be sent to:  
 Grandkids  
 City Employees  
 Club of Los Angeles  
 120 W. Second St.  
 Los Angeles, CA 90012  
 (800) 464-0452

If you want the print photo returned, make sure you write your name and phone number on the back.

## Retirements

Here's a listing of all those who retired from the City this month. To all we say, welcome to the Best Years!

NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS
Alarcon, Richard	Councilmember	Council	30	Hobbs, Korla Patricia	Traffic Officer II	Transportation	31	Reel, Judith E.	Deputy City Att. IV	City Attorney	28
Auzenne, Annie Ou	Sr. Pol. Serv. Rep II	LAPD	36	Hodges-Jimenez, Nancy	Council Aide VI	Council	24	Sato, Vincent B.	Asst. City Attorney	City Attorney	29
Bishop, Jule	Dep. City Att. IV	City Attorney	29	Joiner, David Edward	Street Service Inv.	Public Works	32	Sewell, Robert G.	Street Serv. Supv. II	Public Works	26
Boldware, Joann	Custodian	Airports	12	Johnson, Ralph	Custodian	Airports	15	Sharpless, Stephen	Storekeeper II	Transportation	29
Bremner, Michael	Equip. Specialist II	Transportation	26	Kishiyama, Ronald	Sr. Equip. Mech.	LAPD	34	Shimatsu, Rodger K.	Manag. Analyst II	Public Works	15
Brown, Sgt. Anthony	Airport Police Sgt.	Airports	30	Lampros, Sofia	Crossing Guard	Transportation	12	Simmons, Elizabeth	Custodian	Airports	14
Byrne, William	Librarian III	Library	18	Lingat, Panlilio Rodolfo	Wast. Tre. Oper. III	Public Works	25	Smith, Gail Elizabeth	Deputy City Att. III	City Attorney	7
Cajucorn, Emmanuel	Pr. Const. Insp.	Public Works	35	Lorenz, Richard Lewis	Pipefitter	Public Works	22	Soja, Dennis	Comm. Elec. Supv.	ITA	26
Clarke, Daniel	Info. Sys. Mgr. II	ITA	34	Madrid, Wilmer B.	Painter II	Airports	22	St. Peter, Shirley	Occu. Psychologist II	Personnel	13
Chu, Stella Y.	Criminalist III	LAPD	30	Marucut, Lucia A.	Cust. Service Spec.	Finance	26	Stancil, Richard	Motor Sweeper Ope.	Public Works	27
Dedios, Jose	Traffic Paint. Sign III	Transportation	28	Mirabal, Anthony	Gardener Caretaker	Zoo	18	Striker, Garry A.	Park Maint. Supv.	Harbor	33
Ford, Martin Joseph	Police Service Rep	LAPD	28	Munoz, Irene Hsu	Info Systems Mgr. II	ITA	26	Sugar, Philip J.	Asst. City Attorney	City Attorney	39
Forman, Donald	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	24	Niksich, George	Ref. Coll. Tru. Ope. II	Public Works	27	Thornhill, Robert E.	Sr. Librarian	Library	18
Friedmann, Ellen T.	Dep. City Att. IV	City Attorney	25	Nollan, James P.	Asst. City Attorney	City Attorney	40	Tworek, Grzegorz	Light Engr. Assoc. IV	Public Works	28
Garcia, Diana	Sr. Comm. Ope. II	ITA	26	Osmundson, Michael	Sr. Detention Officer	LAPD	29	Tworek, Zuzanna	Civil Engr. Assoc. IV	Public Works	25
Gonzalez, Everardo	Security Officer	Airports	11	Papilla, Hilario	Chief Buil. Op. Engr.	General Services	30	Ty, Carmencita A.	Sr. Clerk Typist	Planning	26
Gonzalez, Maria R.	Spec. Prog. Asst. II	Rec and Parks	2	Parreno, Amando	Accounting Clerk II	Harbor	27	Williams, Wanda A.	Police Service Rep	LAPD	28
Guilardi, Francis	Dep. City Attorney II	City Attorney	5	Pastran, Armando	Building Mec. Ins.	Building & Safety	13	Winger, Phyllis L.	Council Aide VII	Council	25
Grzybowski, William	Polygraph Exa. III	LAPD	13	Poje, David M.	Equipment Operator	Rec and Parks	28	Yamaguchi, Willard	Dep. City Att. II	City Attorney	6
Hawkins, Claudia	Sr. Data Pro. Tech II	ITA	26	Raeburn, Michele	Librarian III	Library	29	Yang, Angela Mei	Secretary	LAPD	27
Heinold, Sgt. Gerald	Airport Police Sgt.	Airports	30	Rangel, Pascual	Custodian	Airports	10				
Hill, Phillip C.	General Manager	Conv. Center	14	Ravelo, Marieta	Laboratory Tech II	Public Works	20				



# The Best Years

## For Retired Club Members



At the picnic.



At the picnic.



Michael Wilkinson campaigns for the LACERS Board.



From left: Fred Kong, Public Works/Contract Admin, 33 years of City service; Ed Shum, Public Works/Contract Admin, 35 years; and (in back) Olivia McGhee and Ruth Kong, wife of Fred Kong.



Henry Starks, Public Works/Street Services, 40 years of City service, and his Louise.



At the picnic.



From left: Lee Burell, General Services, 33 years of City service; and Sam Hochberg, Convention Center, 35 years.



At the picnic.



From left: Linda Wang, LAFD, 20 years of City service; Mary Beetz, RLACEI Director; Helen Salgado, RLACEI Director; and Martha Harding, wife of Ed Harding.

### RLACEI

## Picnic Time

LA Retirees Association hosts annual summer picnic.



From left: Julian Torres, Building and Safety, 20 years, with his wife, Rose, and daughter, Debra.

*Story and photos by Robert Larios, Vice President of Operations*

Retirees met for the annual picnic Aug. 8 at the Grace E. Simons Lodge.

Association leaders Ed Harding, Ken Spiker, Cliff Cannon, Helen Salgado, Mary Beetz, Phil Orland and Gary Mattingly, Dan Horowitz, Michael Wilkinson, Neil Ricci, Americo Garza and Tom Sternock made sure this was a fun event.

The meeting was not over until everyone won something from the raffle! There were lots of great prizes, some of which were donated by the Club.

*Thanks to Ed Harding for the opportunity attend and participate in this annual event.*



At the picnic.



At the picnic.



Carrie and Walter Wilson, Public Works/Street Maintenance, 30 years of City service.



At the picnic.



Martha Harding and her son, Richard Gomez.



At the picnic.



At the picnic.



Phil and Miriam Skarin.



From left: Sharie and Richard Telles, Rec and Parks, 35 years of City service.



At the picnic.



From left: Paul Coleman, Public Works/Street Services, 26 years of City service; Walter Wilson, Public Works/Street Maintenance, 30 years; and (in back) Altrichia and Curtis Hopson, Public Works/Street Maintenance, 30 years.



At the picnic.