



City Employees Club of Los Angeles 120 West 2nd Street Los Angeles, CA 90012



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Memories

of the Conv.

Center

Convention Center

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Veteran Convention Center employees say goodbye to their former workspace, and then to each other with a final farewell party.

> ost Convention Center staffers Spent the final months of 2012 moving to their new assignments within the City, or elsewhere. On Oct. 9, the City Council voted to move management of the Convention Center to an outside contractor, AEG, for at least the next five

> > The decision was said to have been made to better connect the center with AEG's worldwide network in the event and trade convention industry.

The Convention Center remains a City facility, and a small skeleton crew of City Employees – and Club

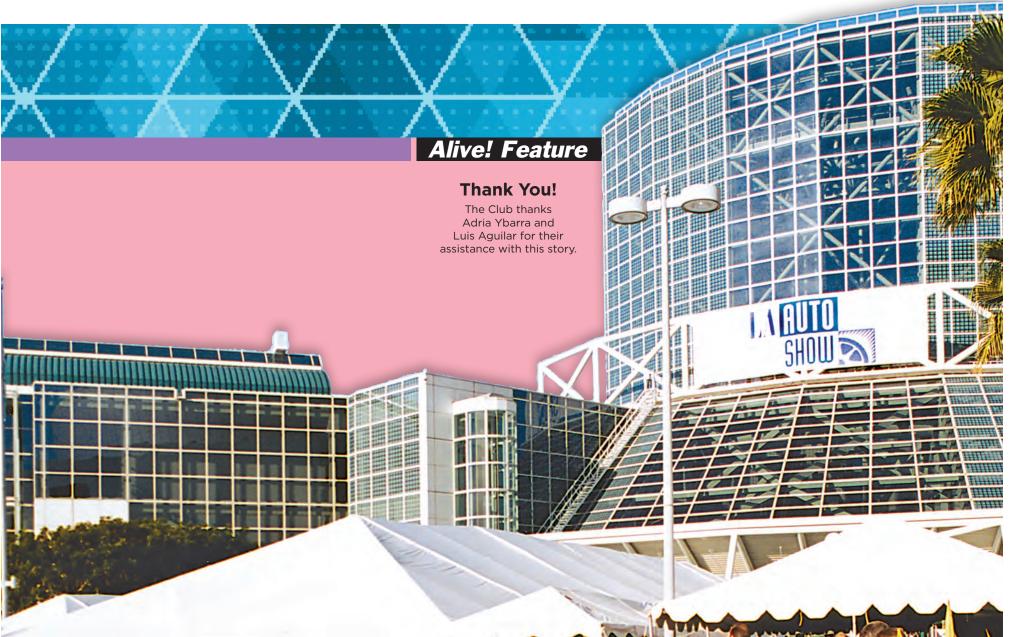
manage the facility and look out for the City's interests.

It's clear to anyone who reads Alive! that the Convention Center staff has done an awesome job over the years of updating the plant and keeping its offerings fresh. Here, as a tribute to the men and women who ran the Convention Center, Alive! looks back at our Convention Center stories... and the good things its employees achieved.

The Club congratulates all the former Convention Center employees for the job you did, and wishes you good luck in your new endeavors.







The Farewell Party

Convention Center employees both veteran and new threw a farewell party Dec. 6 at El Compadre downtown. More than 160 people attended.

The Convention Center employees would typically raise funds throughout the year to pay for an end-of-the-year holiday party. This year, the employees decided to host a farewell party instead. There was no formal program, except that Executive Director Bud Ovrom spoke briefly to those gathered.

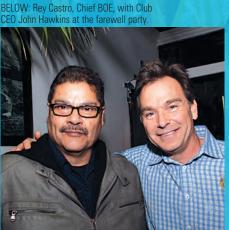
Here are some photos from the event. The Club thanks Adria Ybarra, Club Member, who's remaining as part of the skeleton crew at the Convention Center, for her assistance in producing this article.



BELOW: At the farewell party, from left: Monica Shelton, Principal Clerk; Annett Anderson, Payroll Supervisor; Rose Watson, Sales



ABOVE: At the farewell party, from left: Monica Shelton; Karen Won, Clerk Typist; and Inda Salazar, Parking Attendant.









At the farewell party, from left: Victoria Law, Chief Accountant; Claudia Brett, Sr. Sales Manager; and Pam Hirneisen, Vice President of Sales.





At the farewell party,

from left: Carlos Pulido, Electrician;

Pat Hermosillo, Sr.

Clerk Typist; and Kevin

Rodriguez, Plumbing

Supervisor.

A Job Well Done

Convention Center Employees of the Convention Center share their memories with Alive!.

Memories

y reign was just short of three years with LACC. However, from day one I felt like part of a big, big family! Thank you so much for all your help, kind words and just a simple smile to make my everyday workday a pleasure. I'm moving on to Sanitation and will take a piece of all of you with me! Again, I will not say goodbye but see you later as I know our paths will cross again!

- Meredith Gaines, Administrative Services

24 years ago, at the tender age of 18, I began employment here at the Los Angeles Convention Center. In that time I have learned so much, accomplished a lot, and made many friends.

I have spent more than half my life here at the center, so this departure is near and dear to me. I want to thank all of you for your support, being that I was an extreme introvert. Some of you identified that and helped me through the meetings and other public speaking events. In my old age I have finally conquered that fear.

Anyway, I will greatly miss this place, not only because I have learned so much and enjoy the work but for the people that I have developed relationships with and truly became family.

I will be reporting to Public Works, where I begin my new chapter.

Until we cross paths again God bless and good luck! James Simon

t's been a pleasure working with you beautiful people of the Convention Center. I'm happy that my first job here in America is in the Los Angeles Convention Center.

I'm proud to be a member of this "world-class facility" serving people from all walks of life. As Mr. Ovrom said, "As you leave the building, you should hold your head up, for you did an outstanding job." Thank you! Until next time.

> - Josephine Serrano, Clerk Typist/ **Timekeeper, Security Services**

've served the Los Angeles Convention Center for the past 19 years of my life. There are several of you that I've been there with from my beginning and others I've met along the way. I look back over the years and I have many fond thoughts of the fun we've shared as we cranked out our "World Class Service."

The many nights spent here, working late just to ensure that we had all aspects of our shows ready. The birthdays we've celebrated, the babies we've all waited for with excitement to arrive and ultimately come into the fold. The marriages. Christmas parties, contractor parties and events. It's all been such a wonderful ride. I thank you all for being a part of that ride and welcoming me into the fold that became family.

I will miss my Convention Center family more than I have words to express. Farewell my friends/family, I so hope to see you all again in our futures.

Jacqui Davis-Frazier, Event Manager

From February 1984 to December 2013 – I have spent more than half my life here at the center; it's been a

I will be reporting to General Services/Piper Tech. Until we meet again, God bless.

> - Stephen Alderete, Sr. Mechanical Repairer II, Fuel Coordinator

have enjoyed many things in my 29 years here at LACC, including challenging projects, great clients, the South Hall and Concourse expansion, creation of new events, etc... but the thing I have enjoyed most is the fellowship and camaraderie we have shared over the years. The "things" we accomplish can be rewarding, however, the human connection and interaction and the "who" we are doing these things with is everything. Once again, it has been a sincere joy, honor and privilege working with you.

To those of you venturing off to other City departments, I wish you all the best in your new job. May you make the most of your new opportunity, and be blessed with many rewards.

To those of you continuing with the remaining group, and those transferring to AEG, I look forward to continuing our working relationship and in our continued effort to make LACC all it can be

> - Thomas Fields, Chief Operating Officer, **Assistant General Manager**

uring the last couple of months I have been very touched by all of the "farewell" messages I have seen from departing LACC employees.

Although I have only been with you a few months, it is very clear what a great sense of "family" the Convention Center has had.

In this one last message to that family, I want to again express my great admiration for the outstanding work all of you have contributed to the Convention

> last few difficult months of transition, your dedication and commitment has been nothing short

Center during your time here. Particularly during these

As I have said before, the decision to "privatize" was based on broader considerations and is *not* a reflection on your personal work. As you leave the building for the last time, I hope you hold your head high - you did an outstanding job!

Each of us will now head down different paths some to retirement, some to other City departments, some to AEG and a few staying here. To each and every one of you, I thank and congratulate you for your outstanding service to the City of Los Angeles and to the L.A. Convention Center. You will forever still be a part of the LACC family. If there is ever anything we can do to help with your transition, please do not hesitate to contact us.

My very best wishes.

Bud Ovrom, Executive Director

have enjoyed working here for a little more than 13 years. It has been a good ride. From the glory days when we had money and staff, to recent times understaffed, figuring out a way to make it work. I have learned a lot during my stay here. I will carry those experiences to my new City adventure at Rec and Parks. I wish you all

- Thomas Turner, Sr. Plumber







