

the LAJCC SCENE



The official Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

March 2008

Member News

Members

We are interested in your contributions to the Scene. Tell us about your project experiences and committee efforts. Share a glimpse into your outside personal activities. Say congratulations to a fellow volunteer or staff member on a job well done. Submissions go to [Cheryle Babbitt](#).

Welcome New Members

Marcus Arredondo,
StudleyChristine Buckley,
Bienvenidos Children's Center
Cindy Burke, Learning for Life LA
Joanna Chan, Boston Consulting Group
Tamra Hanff, Capital Group
Dana Heatherton, Capital Group
Valentina Huang, Tree Top California, Inc.
Christopher Jefferson, Sign A Rama
Carly Keese, AVP Pro Beach Volleyball Tour
Vishal Patadia, Pipin Patadia, MD
Erinn Smith, Raytheon
Stephanie Young, Kaplan Gehring McCarroll Architectural Lighting

Happy March Birthdays!

Ricky Biel
Joshua Booth
Grace Chen
Jennifer Chung
Lance Eng
Eric Hass
Brian Helminski
Alexis Grant
Jed Kim
Sanghyun Kim
Neil Kumar
Seniwaty Lawi

March 20 - Happy Hour & Tequila Tasting

Join us at Ciudad, one of downtown's most popular restaurants, from 6:30 – 8:30 pm to sample some great tequila!

We'll enjoy a selection of tequilas plus some snacks to "cleanse the palate" between tastings.

The cost is just \$15 for LAJCC members and \$30 for guests of LAJCC members.

Ciudad is located at:
445 S. Figueroa, #100, LA 90071.
There is parking in the Union Bank garage for \$5 after 4 pm with validation. There is valet parking available on Figueroa after 5 pm for \$5.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, March 19th. Click [here](#) to sign-up online, or call Irene at 213-989-2152.

Space is limited so RSVP today!



CiUDAD

March 27 - Personal Financial Management

As we hear more and more about the perilous state of the economy, we are reminded that our personal financial well being is our own responsibility. But, we often fail to manage our income effectively or plan for our financial future adequately. LAJCC Board Member, and professional financial planner, [Michael Johns](#), will help us learn what we need to be doing to accomplish those two goals.

Join us on the road to financial stability and prosperity at 6:30 pm at the LAJCC – 201 S. Figueroa, Suite 300. We'll have a reception with some food at 6:30 so you can mix and mingle with other LAJCC members and guests, then we'll get down to business at 7 pm.

You are welcome to share this information with friends and co-workers and invite them to attend.

Parking is free for LAJCC members in the Figueroa Courtyard parking structure. Parking for guests in \$10.

Please RSVP to Irene at 213-989-2152 or ireneg@lajcc.org by Tuesday, March 25th.



April 7 - Urban Youth Golf LPGA Pro-Am

Robert Lopez
 Chris Lueck
 Benjamin Marcus
 Krystle McEachron
 Connie Moy
 Arianne Pagsisihan
 Ankit Patadia
 Paul Salazar
 Matthew Scord
 Erika Selsor
 Courtney Suthoff
 Mckinley Tennyson
 Julia Tock
 Anthony Vieyra

☛ **Happy April Birthdays!**

Marcus Arredondo
 Andrea Campbell
 Caroline Choe
 Matthew Coleman
 Deirdre Eckhart
 Jonathan Fetterly
 Leslie Garcia
 Walter Haybert
 Christopher Jefferson
 Claudia Keller
 Veronica Reyes
 Iris Rivera
 Indraja Sulcaite
 Dick Yuhnke

☛ **Congratulations...**

to **Celestin Shimabukuro** and husband Brian on the birth of Andrew Kenji in January.

to **Albert Chang** on his promotion at Passantino Andersen Communications.

☛ **New Member Referral Bonus**

If you're a current member of the LAJCC you're eligible for this great referral bonus. Just refer a new member (or several) and be sure they put your name in the "referred by" space. In short time you'll be receiving your \$50 VISA gift card.

☛ April showers bring May flowers...and the LPGA pro's back to the 2008 Urban Youth Golf Pro-Am to be held at Lakeside Golf Club on April 7. This year, 30 teams are expected at the annual event as well as 30 stars of the LPGA Tour. Our LPGA hosts Kay Cockerill and Nancy Harvey will be joined by LPGA Hall of Fame member Amy Alcott as well as Danielle Ammaccapane, Russy Gulyanamitta, Brandi Jackson, Siew-Ai Lim, Becky Lucidi, Sandra Palmer, Tina Tombs and many others. This year also marks a very special occasion, as we are joined by the first former Urban Youth Golf Program member to join the ranks of the LPGA Tour-Amie Cochran, now in her rookie season on the tour.

The event dates back to 1991 and has the unique history of pairing a foursome of sponsors with one LPGA pro and one program junior. Last year we joined forces with the L.A. County Junior Golf Foundation and hosted a record 30 groups! Playing and underwriting sponsorships are available and in-kind donations for the auction, raffle or gift bags would be gladly accepted. Some of the popular auction items are electronics, golf outings, entertainment tickets, bottles of wine, restaurant certificates and art work just to name a few. Please contact Urban Youth Golf Program Director, [Lisa Grimm](#), for more information.



LAJCC Manages 82nd Successful Tournament

☛ The LAJCC successfully managed its 82nd professional golf tournament in February. It's somewhat misleading because this was our first Northern Trust Open but far from our first tournament!

With the new sponsor came new challenges which our tournament staff (Tom Pulchinski, Stephanie Palmer, Andy Brisbois, Aldo Perez, Jessica Bietz and Mark Orlando) met impressively, with the help of countless volunteers and LAJCC staff.

The look of the Tournament was significantly different with lots of Northern Trust forest green signage, an elegant entrance into the Tournament and many other less obvious changes.

We were fortunate to have a great field of professional golfers so the play was exciting with Phil Mickelson winning the Tournament and the \$1,116,000 winners check! We were equally fortunate to have dry weather for the entire Tournament, something that hasn't happened too often.

Even though the Tournament week is over, there is still lots of work to be done by the Tournament staff, including starting work on next year's Tournament!

Thanks to everyone who supported the Tournament (and the LAJCC) by volunteering at or attending the first Northern Trust Open.



February Packed with LAJCC Activities



These members will receive a \$50 VISA gift card for each new member they referred to the LAJCC:

- Iva Chiu
- Michael Donovan
- Jimmy Olevson
- Jennifer Sarja
- Nick Steele

Congratulations & thanks!

Calendar

Every Saturday:
LAJCC Running Group

March 5
RVLDP Class 34 Foundation Giving

March 10
Board of Directors Meeting

March 18
LA Watts Summer Games
Steering Committee Meeting

March 20
Happy Hour
Downtown L.A.

March 26
RVLDP Class 35 Orientation

LAJCC Projects Committee Meeting

March 27
LAJCC Membership Reception
Personal Financial Management

March 29
RVLDP Class 35 Governance Study

Ready to Learn

April 7

LAJCC members made the most of the extra day we had in February. In addition to the Northern Trust Open, which had activities from February 9th through the 17th, we had a wine tasting (2/2), meetings of the LA Watts Summer Games, Projects and Membership Committees (2/5 & 27), a Board meeting (2/11), RVLDP (2/6), a happy hour (2/21), Ready to Learn (2/26), Salsa dance lessons and the weekly running group! Whew!

This just goes to show that the LAJCC is a happening place!

About a dozen members, including some new members, met at Hokuzai in Beverly Hills on the 21st for happy hour. Even though it was a rainy evening, the turnout was excellent and gave members an opportunity to chat in an informal and casual setting plus try a new restaurant. Board and Membership committee member **Rob Sherman** served as "host" for the evening. Thanks Rob!

Earlier in the month, a group of members attended a wine tasting at Malibu Winery for the rain delayed January membership meeting. Even though it was cool, it wasn't raining so everyone was happy (even before the wine tasting!) **Traci Torok**, of the Board of Directors and Membership committee, catered the afternoon event high in Malibu. The food was delicious, the wine was tasty and the company was great. What more could you ask for! Thanks Traci for your work in planning the wine tasting and feeding everyone!

The month wrapped up with Salsa dance lessons at Silhouette Jazz Club in Burbank. Instructors Sergio and Salud led more than twenty LAJCC members and guests in the basics of Salsa dancing. With the entire dance floor to ourselves, everyone was able to take the space they needed to practice what the instructors were showing us. While some caught on more quickly than others, everyone had a good time and had more of a workout than they expected. Salsa is work! Thanks to Membership committee member **Ben Chin** (himself an accomplished Salsa dancer!) for arranging the instructors and the club. Silhouette opened especially for the LAJCC. It's a nice place and is open regularly for Salsa dancing Thursday through Sunday at 245 E. Olive Avenue, Burbank.

Ready to Learn continues to go extremely well at the new site, Sunrise Elementary School. We had more kids in February than in January so we apparently have "positive word of mouth." Thanks to the LAJCC members and volunteers who made February's session possible: project chair, **Brian Chu**, **Anthony Vieyra**, **Mohit Sherchan**, **Eliza Lee**, **Kevin Gigax**, **Dene Preston**, **Leslie Garcia**, **Elnie Vannatim**, **Deborah Yim**, **Elizabeth Kim**, **Ernie Preciado** and **Virginia Franken**.

RVLDP: News from Orange County

The Capital Group Company Campus in Irvine was the site of the Riordan Volunteer Leadership Development Program's first agency fair in Orange County. Thanks to nonprofit agencies Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens, The Santa Ana Educational Foundation, College Bound, and the Orange County Ronald McDonald House for sharing information about their programs and board needs.

RVLDP has seen an increase in participants from Orange County and is exploring ways to expand the program to meet their needs.

We would like to thank the Capital Group Companies, especially **Keri Peterson** and **Kathy Makowski** for their



Urban Youth Golf Program / LPGA Pro-Am

April 9

RVLDP Class 34 Financial Management

April 14

Board of Directors Meeting

April 16

RVLDP Class 35 Board Governance

April 23

LA Watts Summer Games Steering Committee Meeting

April 26

Ready to Learn

April 30

RVLDP Class 34 Marketing/PR

June 7, 8, 14, 15

L.A. Watts Summer Games

August 23

Foster Family Picnic

assistance in organizing this event. Capital Group continues to be an outstanding partner with RVLDP.

Become A Mentor: By Norma Dominguez

► I invite LAJCC members to consider giving back by becoming a mentor through the Fulfillment Fund, a college access organization here in Los Angeles. As a Fulfillment Fund mentor, you receive training and are carefully matched with a promising high school student. I first learned about the Fulfillment Fund when I was a middle school student and on the other side of the mentoring relationship. Diann has been my mentor and friend for over 15 years now - she is a very important person in my life. The Fulfillment Fund also provided me with SAT workshops, college tours, and college counseling. Because of my experience, I knew that one day I wanted to become a mentor as well. Last fall I reached out to the Fulfillment Fund and was matched with Edlyn, a 10th grader at Venice High School. I am looking forward to developing yet another lifelong friendship.

I invite all of you who may want a more targeted and personal community involvement experience to consider becoming a mentor through the Fulfillment Fund. You can learn more at www.fulfillment.org.



Urban Youth Golf Program: Dustin Tygret

► Quiet Is for the Golf Course, Not the Governors' Budget Cuts According to Urban Youth Golf Program Member

Even from age 8, it was clear Dustin Tygret was a civic minded individual. He has been a member of the Urban Youth Golf Program since 1997 as a 1st grader. He has been a volunteer at the Northern Trust Open every year since age 9. Now, at 17, and a junior at North High School in Torrance he has become a man of action. He decided he would not quietly accept the proposed \$8.7 million in budget cuts for Torrance Unified in Governor Schwarzenegger's cost-cutting plan.

Dustin began a campaign to have teachers, students and parents write letters to the legislature to explain how it would impact the education environment. He hoped for 3000, but received 16,000. On Tuesday he left for Sacramento to personally deliver the letters. To read more about Dustin's campaign see these related news stories from The [DailyBreeze](#), [Fox News L.A.](#) and [ABC News-Sacramento](#)



Kay Cockerill and Dustin Tygret
2007 LPGA Pro-Am

Member Spotlight: Iva Chiu

Why did you join the LAJCC?

I joined the LAJCC because I have a passion for serving the community and I thought the LAJCC was a great organization to do so. In addition, I was interested in professional development, meeting a diverse group of other young professionals, and becoming a participant in the Riordan Volunteer Leadership Development Program.

How long have you been a member?

I have been a member since January 2007

What projects &/or committees have you participated in?

In 2007, I was a member of the Projects Committee, a Class 33 participant in the Riordan Volunteer Leadership Development

Program (RVLDP), the Basketball Tournament Site Coordinator at Hamilton High School for the LA Watts Summer Games, an Operations Team Member for the Foster Family Picnic, one of the coordinators of the RVLDP Class 33 Fundraising Event, a volunteer at the Dream Center food delivery day, and a chaperon for Disneyland Day.

Currently, for 2008, I volunteered at the Northern Trust Open working in Corporate Hospitality, I am a member of the Projects Committee and the Membership Committee, I am partnering with the Ready to Learn Program and Sunrise Elementary School to coordinate a financial literacy program for the students, and I will be a site coordinator for the LA Watts Summer Games in June.

What has been your most memorable/enjoyable experience at the LAJCC?

My most memorable experience with the LAJCC has to be last year when I volunteered to be one of the chaperones for Disneyland Day. I had the opportunity to spend the entire day with the 8 kids in our group (Along with **Albert Chang**, my co-chaperone), and really get to know the kids and what makes them happy. In addition, it was a great feeling to know that we provided them with an experience that I believe every child should have the opportunity to enjoy. Afterall, Disneyland is the "Happiest Place on Earth".

What have you learned from your LAJCC experience?

Even though I have worked a lot in teams at work and with other nonprofits, each project I work on brings its own set of unique challenges and personalities and it is always a great leadership experience to work with such a diverse group of people with one common goal, which is to serve our community and grow personally and professionally. It's always a fine line when you're working with volunteers to push them just enough to where you get them to realize their potential or you push them too far to where they don't want to volunteer anymore. This is always one of the challenges that we face as a nonprofit project coordinator but it is also what makes the experience so rewarding.

What are your current job responsibilities/job title/ employer?

I am a CPA and work as a Senior Financial Analyst with CBS Television Distribution. I work on analyzing the budgets and financial data for shows such as Entertainment Tonight, Judge Judy, The Insider, and Star Trek. In addition, I work as a marketing coordinator for my parents restaurant, UCC Cafe Plaza, and I recently started assisting my boyfriend **Raymond Fong** with his online marketing business at which point I also decided to start on my own entrepreneurial venture. I am also involved with a number of other nonprofits because I am passionate about serving the community and empowering people to realize their possibilities. Before working with CBS, I did a short stint with a nonprofit and spent almost 4 years as an Auditor with Deloitte & Touche.

Where did you attend college and what is your degree in?

I went to UC Santa Barbara and received my Bachelors of Science in Business Economics with an Emphasis in Accounting in 2003. I am also a 2006 graduate of the Riordan Fellows Program at UCLA Anderson.





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