

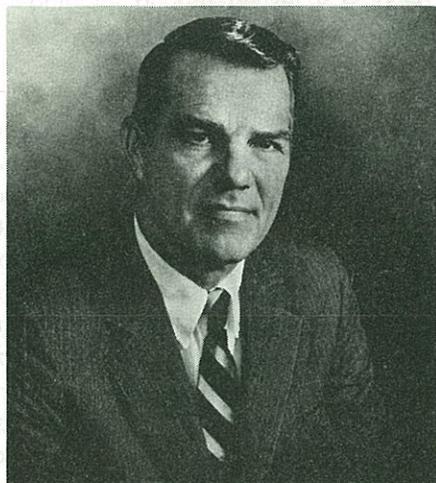


DIGEST

January 6, 1986

Volume 21 Number 1

Supervisor Pete Schabarum Assumes Chairmanship



*Chairman of the Board
Supervisor Peter F. Schabarum*

In assuming the chairmanship of the Board of Supervisors for the new year, Supervisor Peter F. Schabarum accepted the challenge in full knowledge of the demands and limitations of the job.

Yet, Schabarum believes that the Chairman of the Board in Los Angeles County can set standards and goals, establish priorities, and help the public understand the major issues facing County government.

As we move into 1986, Supervisor Schabarum plans to focus on improving the quality of life of County residents by;

- controlling or eliminating pollution of our ground water and ocean bays;
- improving hazardous and non-hazardous waste management;
- reducing crime and violence; and
- enhancing public transportation.

To stretch limited resources in

improving our quality of life, Supervisor Schabarum expects County managers to stay on a "lean and mean game plan" through greater productivity in the work place and a partnership with private enterprise when that course is clearly the best alternative. He expressed confidence that Los Angeles County can be a model government. "We have top managers, and an employee workforce that is among the best in the nation," he added.

Realistically charting his goals, Supervisor Schabarum stated that we also have enormous problems related to:

- overcrowded jails;
- no stable long-term financing of local government;
- aging public health facilities;
- care and help for the young and old; and
- the upkeep of our recreational programs.

"These conditions, admittedly, just scratch the surface," stated Supervisor Schabarum, "However, I believe that some of these problems can be solved. I do not look toward 1986 through rose-colored glasses. It will take money to deal with these very real problems while at the same time providing the County services expected by the public."

The new chairman concluded by stating, "The members of the Board of Supervisors meet in full public view and openly express differences of opinion. But these differences usually are on how to get there — not on what we need to do. I look forward to moving the County ahead on a sound and steady course."

Arboreta and Botanic Gardens

County residents and visitors often marvel at the lush plants and exotic blooms that abound throughout our County gardens. The Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens manages four gardens where plants, many of which are not indigenous to Southern California and are from all parts of the world, are grown and tested for suitability and adaptability in Los Angeles County climate. The department is unique as the only system of multiple gardens operated by a county in the United States.

The four gardens are the State and County Arboretum in Arcadia, Virginia Robinson Gardens in Beverly Hills, Descanso Gardens in La Canada/Flintridge, and the South Coast Botanic Gardens on Palos Verdes Peninsula.

Each garden specializes in particular groups of plants that grow best in the climate and soil conditions at each site.

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Earl Ross, staff orchid specialist; volunteer Joan Schmid; and John Provine, Arboretum superintendent, arrange orchids and bromeliads in a display for the Tropical Greenhouse.

Arboreta . . .

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The flowers in the gardens are not there just for beauty. Actually most plants have been included in the landscape to further the horticultural and botanical research programs carried on at the gardens. Each garden provides numerous classes as well as other educational and public services events including flower and plant shows each year.

The Los Angeles State and County Arboretum, the largest of the facilities, with 127 cultivated acres was once part of the 46,000-acre Baldwin Ranch which was the center of agriculture in Southern California. Most of the diversified plants in the collection are grouped with others from the same geographical location in the world, with an emphasis on areas that have climates similar to Southern California. For instance, the 150 species of eucalyptus trees in the Australian Section are so much at home here that

many people mistakenly believe that they are California natives. The other four plant groupings are the Mediterranean, North American-Asiatic, South African and South American. The Arboretum also houses one of the finest collections of species orchids under glass.



Joan De Fato, plant science librarian, finds a reference to help senior biologist James Bauml identify a plant specimen from the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum.

Descanso Gardens was once the site of a commercial camellia nursery and is now renowned for thousands of camellia shrubs that bloom under a canopy of native live oak trees. A "History of the Rose" garden is also a major attraction. In this fragrant 4-acre garden, paths lead to roses that were favorites of the ancient Romans and continue past others popular in later periods up to the most modern roses that were patented as recently as this year. The rugged slopes of the foothills at Descanso also make it an ideal location for the expanding native plant collection.

South Coast Botanic Garden presents a special challenge to the departmental staff. Only from one to three feet of topsoil cover the tons of trash buried under the manmade hills, limiting the plants that can be grown to those without deep root systems. Another factor, the cool, foggy weather along the coast, makes South Coast Botanic Garden an ideal testing ground for all the fig tribe, various pines and plants from the coast of Australia.

The unique character of **Virginia Robinson Gardens** springs from the imagination of the lady who began planting unusual specimens on her private estate three-quarters of a century ago. Although the garden is relatively small, about 6 acres, it provides a rare look at exotic trees and palms that have had time to grow to their mature size and form. Since the department assumed management of the garden about six years ago, it has become a testing ground for gingers, palms and other tender plants that thrive in the benign climate of Beverly Hills.

A small staff of about 90 permanent employees oversees and maintains the aggregate 365 acres in the four botanic gardens, providing the basic framework for a variety of public outreach programs. For implementation of these programs, however, the Department depends primarily on the volunteer support group at each garden.

Each year since 1970, hundreds of dedicated volunteers have donated tens of thousands of hours making the gardens' resources available to the people of Los Angeles County. Trained docents lead walking tours for school field trips and the general public; they staff the phone-in plant consultant's office and help out in many phases of garden activities from demonstration vegetable gardens to mapping, Arbor Day tree distribution, plant propagation and preservation of historical landmarks. Through their fund raising efforts, the support groups provide vital capital improvements such as exhibit halls and interpretative centers.

This partnership combining the unique resources of the Los Angeles County Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens with the efforts of many devoted individuals and organizations improves the lives of almost everyone in the County.

Even those who are not among the roughly one million people who visit the botanical gardens each year can indirectly enjoy the gardens' contributions every time they drive past a daisy-covered freeway embankment or look up at flowering tropical trees that now dominate the landscape.

County of Los Angeles

DIGEST

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Congratulations — Retirees

To those employees who ended their County careers at the end of the calendar year, we add "Happy Retirement" to traditional seasonal best wishes!

The following retirees with more than thirty years of County service will be missed and we wish them well.

Assessor: Delfin C. Magpantay
Sheriff: Robert Christiansen, Richard Ellis Miller

Public Works: Joan Hopkins, William N. Juan, Kermit D. Matthews, Jack R. Sullentrop, Agapito Viescas

County Engineer: Leonard A. Vanderhoof

District Attorney: Robert E. O'Grady
Museum of Natural History: Barbara Schultze

Probation: Reuben L. Buxton, Sammie J. Banks

Superior Court: Donald L. Ostrov
Municipal Courts: Arnold Figueroa, Jr., Carene E. Landino

Fire: Alvin Dee Hinton, Robert N. Hughes, Floyd H. Stubbs, Jr., William K. Taylor

DPSS: William I. Barker, Stella Johnson, Nancy J. Manchee

Facilities: Martin G. Amezquita, Andrew Roy Buchan, Elbert Wells

Treasurer-Tax Collector: Henry E. Bryant

We also congratulate the following retirees with over twenty-five years of County Service.

Agricultural Commission: James E. White

General Hospital: Marjorie Dwyer, Lubrina Castille

Parks & Recreation: Phillip Jackson
Sheriff: John R. Filby

Tax Collector: Ethel L. Jones

Public Works: James T. McGowan
Fire: Robert Lee Burns, Eugene L. Vickery, Fred Shafer

DPSS: Johanna L. Johnston, Edna Louise O'Keith, Roberta L. Smith, Hazel York, Robert L. Looper

Facilities: Joseph L. Lanier, Herman Wendell Newman

Public Health: William Bamattre
South Coast Air Quality Mgmt.: John McGregor

Election Results

On December 24, 1985, the Board of Supervisors declared the following results of the County Employees Retirement Association's December 10, 1985, election:

Board of Investment . . . Third Member
Robert S. Kennard, Assessor's Office
Board of Retirement . . . Third Member
Simon S. Russin, Health Services

Each elected member will serve a three-year term.

"Buckle Up"

One January 1, 1986, California became the 15th State to implement a mandatory safety belt law.

How does this affect you? As a driver, you will be responsible for maintaining all safety belts in good working condition, for requiring all passengers to buckle up, and, of course, for buckling up yourself.

Passengers 16 years of age and younger are solely the driver's responsibility. Passengers 17 years of age and older will have shared responsibility with the driver, and both may receive a citation for failure to comply. The only exemptions will be for medical reasons and will require written proof from a physician.

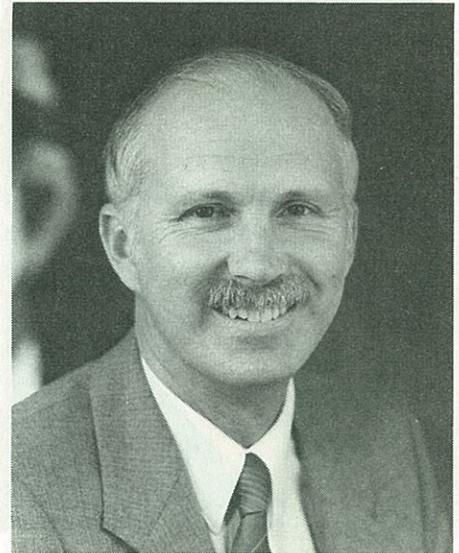
Passenger vehicles and trucks under 6,001 pounds unladen weight, manufactured after January 1, 1968 must have safety belts for each passenger. Exempted will be the cargo areas of pickup trucks and vans, the living area in motor homes, and the back seat of taxi cabs. Paper route and rural mail vehicles are also exempt during delivery only.

An offender may be cited if stopped for some other violation, with fines of \$20 for the first offense and \$50 for subsequent citations. However, such an infraction would not count as a point on driver history records.

The County of Los Angeles has had a safety-belt-use policy in effect since 1979. In October, 1985, due to the new California law, this policy was rewritten

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Robert F. Mann Is New Marshal



Robert F. Mann

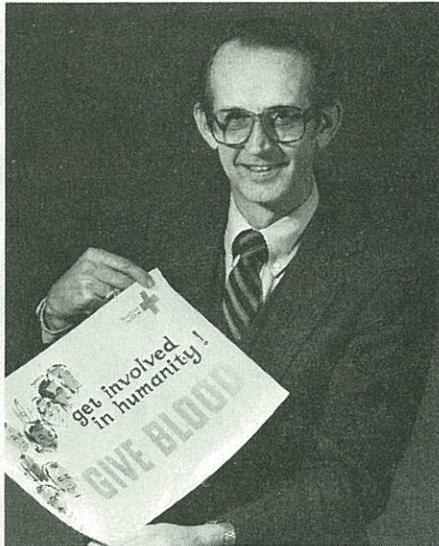
Robert F. Mann was recently selected as Marshal of the Municipal Courts by the Los Angeles County Municipal Court Judges.

With a staff of over 700 deputies and clerical personnel, the Marshal acts as the ministerial officer for all Municipal Courts in Los Angeles County. The Marshal furnishes bailiff services, and serves writs, warrants and other legal processes directed by the Municipal Court or other competent authority.

Marshal Mann, a 20-year veteran of the Marshal's Office, had been Acting Marshal for 18 months since the retirement of the former Marshal, John F. Mahon, Jr. Robert Mann has spent his entire career in law enforcement with the Marshal's Office, rising through the ranks to the position of Assistant Marshal in March, 1983.

He is a graduate of California State University, Los Angeles, holding a Bachelor of Science degree in Police Science and Administration. He has completed significant advanced training in Police Science and holds certificates in supervision and management from the California Commission for Peace Officers Standards and Training. He is also a Director of the Marshal's Association of California and a member of that body's executive council.

Meet Vern —



Vern Berkompas

Meet Vern Berkompas of the Auditor-Controller's office. Vern has worked for the County for over 27 years and has donated over 100 units of blood during the last 30 years. Vern looks forward to donating blood because he views it as an opportunity to help others and also obtain a quick checkup on his own physical condition.

Vern shares the gift of his good health with others through blood donorship because he realizes it has immeasurable value in saving lives and he invites you to do the same.

For your convenience, a number of blood drives have been scheduled to give you this same opportunity.

- Jan. 7 - Sheriff, 4554 Briggs Ave., La Crecenta - 12:30 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.
- Jan. 8 & 9 - Health Serv., 241 N. Figueroa, L.A. - 8 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.
- Jan. 10 - Sheriff, 29300 The Old Road, Castaic - 8 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.
- Jan. 15 - Sheriff, 5019 E. 3rd St., L.A. - 12 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.
- Jan. 16 - Olive View, 7533 Van Nuys Bl., Van Nuys - 10:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- Jan. 17 - Olive View, 14445 Olive View Dr., Sylmar - 10:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- Jan. 17 - Facilities Mgmt., 1100 N. Eastern Ave., L.A. - 8 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.
- Jan. 28 - D.P.S.S. - 2040 W. Holt Ave., Pomona - 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.
- Jan. 28 - D.P.S.S. - 9035 Canoga Ave., Canoga Park - 10 a.m. - 2:15 p.m.
- Jan. 29 - Parks & Rec., 3900 Chevy Chase, L.A. - 7 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
- Jan. 29 - Mental Health, 2416 W. 6th St., L.A. - 10 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.
- Jan. 30 - D.P.S.S. - 12735 S. Hawthorne Bl., Hawthorne - 10 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.
- Jan. 31 - D.P.S.S. - 955 N. Lake Ave., Pasadena - 10 a.m. - 2:15 p.m.

Calendar of Events

DESCANSO GARDENS, La Canada/ Flintridge

- JAN. 11 — 1 to 4 p.m.
Rose Pruning Demonstration
George Lewis and Staff
- JAN. 31 — FEB. 27 - 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Artists of the Month
Louise Forbes and Margaret Wilson
- FEB. 22, 23 - 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Camellia Show
Southern California Camellia Council

SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN

- JAN. 25, 26 - Sat. 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Sun. 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Camellia Show
South Coast Camellia Society
- FEB. 2 - 2 p.m.
Fuchsia Pruning Demonstration
Ida Drapkin
- FEB. 9 - 2 p.m.
Camellia Culture Lecture
Sergio Bracci
- FEB. 16 - 2 p.m.
Lecture on Fragrant Flowers
Dody Lyness

LOS ANGELES STATE & COUNTY ARBORETUM, Arcadia

- JAN. 25, 26 - 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Bonsai Show
Baiko-en Kenkyukai Bonsai Society
- JAN. 26 - 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Bulb Sale-So. Calif. Gladiolus Society
- FEB. 8, 9 - 1 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday
9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday
Camellia Show
Temple City Camellia Society

Buckle Up

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and strengthened. All County employees are required to use safety equipment while driving County or permittee vehicles on County business. Follow-up programs will be implemented periodically to review employee compliance.

Children under 4 years of age or under 40 pounds have been covered since January 1, 1983, by the Child Passenger Safety Law, which requires parents or legal guardians to buckle up their children in properly secured, federally approved child safety seats. Such children riding with drivers other than a parent or guardian must be secured by available safety belts. Failure to comply could result in a \$35 fine, which may be waived if the offender can show proof of purchase of a seat.

Ultimately, the major concern is for your safety and that of your passengers. Reducing the severity of injuries and preventing needless fatalities is the purpose of the mandatory safety belt law. Lets all make it work and buckle up ... for life.

New Hotline Opens

The Los Angeles Commission on Assaults Against Women announces the opening of a second 24-hour Rape Hotline. The new number is (213) 626-3393 and will specifically serve the Central Los Angeles area.

The free 24-hour services provided by this hotline include confidential counseling and support services such as legal, medical, and professional counseling referrals, which are easily accessible to those who live and/or work in central Los Angeles.

The new hotline is funded by a grant from the Office of Criminal Justice Planning, State of California. The Commission is partially funded by and is a member agency of United Way. For other than the central area, the Rape Hotline number is (213) 392-8381. Both hotlines are staffed totally by volunteers who are required to complete an intensive 50-hour training before serving on the line.

