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ICMA's 96th Annual Conference In San Jose, California

It was a relaxing Sunday morning drive that took me to San Jose for the 96th Annual Conference of the International City/County Management Association. Yes, I know "...the way to San Jose," though visits have been few during the past 40+ years as the most popular California conference sites are elsewhere.

To regularly exclude San Jose as a venue limits their opportunities to prove that they are an outstanding conference city. They have wonderful housing accommodations, many restaurants to provide excellent and memorable dining experiences, great meeting locations and leisure time facilities. Absolutely nothing against San Diego, Long Beach, Monterey, Sacramento, San Francisco, the Tahoe area, but perhaps, San Jose should be considered as a conference venue more often.



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Current La Puente City Manager **Josi Kenline** and Atascadero City Manager **Wade McKinney**, who began his career in 1979 in La Puente as an assistant planner. Wade is the current CCMF President.

Trackdown Posse Roster:

Gregory Korduner, Huntington Park
Howard Chambers, Lakewood
Mike Egan, Bellflower
Ernie Garcia, Norwalk
Joe Tanner, Retired City Manager
Bob Adams, Vallejo
Dave Carmany, Seal Beach
Maria Dadian, Artesia
Ken Bayless, Greater L.A. Vector Control District
Kevin O'Rourke, Urban Futures, Inc.
Tom Odom, Rancho Palos Verdes
George Rodericks, Belvedere
June Catalano, Pleasant Hill
Nelson Oliva, Hercules
Richard Ramirez, American Canyon
Vern Lawson, Lancaster
Fran Delach, Azusa
Bill Kelly, Urban Futures, Inc.
Chris Kelly, Chino Hills
Don Penman, Arcadia
Jason Gonsalves, Joe A. Gonsalves & Son
Anthony Gonsalves, Joe A. Gonsalves & Son
Paul Gonsalves, Joe A. Gonsalves & Son
Steve R. Thatcher, SRT Associates
Ernesto Marquez, Hawaiian Gardens
Gary K. & Mary Jo Sloan, La Mirada (Retired)
Bob & Nadean Dickey, South Gate (Retired)
Deborah Lopez, Pico Rivera
Jan Perkins, Management Partners
Andy Takata, Banning
Marcia Raines, Millbrae
Gene Rogers, Moreno Valley (Retired)
Anthony R. Ybarra, South El Monte
Arthur C. Simonian, Simonian Consulting, Inc.
Bob Griego, Irwindale (Retired)
Ken Caresio, Retired Duarte City Manager
Greg Nordbak, Midway City Sanitary District
Carlos Urrutia, Rocklin
Michael P. Busch, President, Urban Futures, Inc.
Wade McKinney, Atascadero
Andy Lazzaretto, A.C. Lazzaretto & Associates
Doug LaBelle (Maui Doug), Chino Hills (Retired)
John Keisler, Long Beach
Sheryl Lindsey-Boell, CH2MHILL OMI
Sam Olivito, California Contract Cities Association
Jack Lam, Rancho Cucamonga
Larry F. Pennell, Wasco (Retired)
Phil Vince, Martinez
Gary Chicots, Retired City Manager
Rod B. Butler, Crescent City
Debbie Smith, Independent Cities Association
Jerry Gruber, Atherton
Fred Latham, Santa Fe Springs
Anthony Lopez, Retired City Manager
Jim Gilley, The GILLEY GROUP LLC
Marshall Linn, Urban Futures, Inc.
Dr. Bill Mathis, Mathis Group
Jerry Forde, Huron
Fred Diaz, Fremont
City Of Cerritos
Linda Lowry, Pomona
Mike & Judie Sedell, Simi Valley
Roy Pederson, ICMA Past-President
Bruce Williams, Retired City Manager
Michael A. Sakamoto, Retired City Manager
Bill Holt, Retired City Manager & Executive Director of CJPIA
Oliver Chi, Management Consulting



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ICMA's 96th Annual Conference In San Jose, California

After checking into the Double Tree Hotel near the airport at 2050 Gateway Place, I drove to San Jose's McEnery Convention Center in downtown. It was an easy drive to the excellent convention center parking facility, conveniently located within short walking distance to the conference registration and assembly rooms. CRA Executive Director **John Shirey**, a former Cincinnati, Ohio City Manager, and a long-time member of the Long Beach management team, was the first acquaintance to say "Hello."

After picking up my conference registration packet and the cool ICMA-RC tote bag filled with material, John and I meandered into the Opening Session. We arrived just in time to benefit from the stirring invocation delivered by Los Gatos Town Manager **Greg Larson**. ICMA President **Darnell Earley**, City Manager in Saginaw, Michigan, presiding at the Opening Session, introduced San Jose Mayor **Chuck Reed** for a Welcoming Address, and then he shared some well-spoken conference opening remarks. Among the things he said was that we must help to attract and retain young leaders of the future to the city manager talent pool. We cannot allow the tarnish brought by the corruption charges in the City of Bell to dissuade the best and the brightest from public service.

San Jose City Manager **Debra Figone** introduced the Host Committee and thanked each of them for their efforts to make the 96th ICMA Annual Conference successful.

ICMA's 96th Annual Conference In San Jose, California

Jane McGonigal, Director of Game Research and Development at the Institute for the Future in Palo Alto made the feature presentation at the Opening Session. She is a leading innovator in the computer gaming industry. She said that "gaming" promotes collaborating and makes players happy in the process. She contends that games help develop an "urgent optimism," promotes improved "social fabric," provides for "blissful productivity," and develops "epic meaning." Dr. McGonigal, who earned her Ph.D. at the University of California, Berkeley, urged an open mind to the positive results of computer gaming.

Following the opening session the conference attendees convened in the Exposition area for the "A Blend of Cultures" Welcome Reception. It was a time to meet and greet many old friends and make some new acquaintances. Among those we saw there were: **Jeff Parker**, Claremont City Manager; City Administrator **Jorge Rifa** and Senior Management Analyst **Fernando Mendoza** of Commerce; La Puente City Manager **Josi Kenline**; retired City and County Manager, past ICMA President **Roy Pederson**, and his partner **Mary Jane Oring** (Roy currently live in Scottsdale, Arizona, and he has been Manager in Porterville, Montebello, Scottsdale, Colorado Springs, Maricopa County, Yolo County, Nevada County and Fountain Hills); Glendora Deputy City Manager **Brenda S. Fischer**; **Tim O'Donnell**, Brea City Manager; **Ed Everett**, former Redwood City City Manager; **Jennifer Hill Fernandez** and **Nicole Fernandez** of eCivis; **Frank G. Tripepi**, a retired City Manager who currently serves as the President & CEO of Willdan Financial Services; **Mark Risco**, **Katie Wilson**, and Scott **Dippolito** of WFS; Assistant County Manager Dave Childs of Washoe County, Nevada, the incoming ICMA President, and many others.



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ICMA Past President **Roy Pederson** chats with **Kent Myers**, City Manager in Port Angeles, Washington at the Welcome Reception at the 96th ICMA Annual Conference in San Jose, California.

Though there are no "hard and fast" rules on how or "why" we list folks in this narrative, we have attempted to refrain from being annoyingly repetitive. Certainly we saw the same people on a number of occasion during the conference. Some are listed more than once and some are not. Please understand that there is no attempt to slight anyone, it is simply going on the paper as we remember it.

As the Sunday evening reception wound down **Kevin O'Rourke** and I joined a group headed to the Networking Mixer at the Crowne Plaza San Jose. With what appeared to be a large crowd and a huge success, we all were not able to get into the mixer. Kevin (who is currently on an interim assignment in Solana County as the General Services Director) and I then walked to the Fairmont Hotel where the International Reception was planned. In the meantime we had dinner at The Grill Restaurant in the Fairmont. <http://www.thegrill.com/location677d.html>



<http://www.parsinfo.org/>

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After dinner on our way out of the restaurant, we came upon **John Shirey** and chatted for a time informing John of the International reception, and he dropped by after his dinner. Among the others we saw at the reception were: **George P. Barbour**, a former West Coast Regional Director for ICMA whose career includes nine years of military service, a stint with ABAG and as a department head in Redwood City (George currently lives in Maunaloa, Hawaii); ICMA Executive Director **Bob O'Neil**; **Shannon Flanagan-Watson**, a former ICMA staff member who currently serves as the Assistant County Manager in Arlington County, Virginia; former Santa Paula City Manager **Wally Bobkiewicz**, currently the City Manager in Evanston, Illinois (Wally served in Long Beach for about 10-years prior to going to Novato as Assistant City Manager and then to Santa Paula); former Sunnyvale and Lancaster City Manager **Bob LaSala**, currently the County



Administrator in Pinellas County Florida. Also a special treat was past ICMA President **Michael Willis**, who has work in New Zealand, Australia and the United Kingdom. A delightful individual, Michael and **Kevin O'Rourke** have become friends over their years of service to ICMA.

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After closing the reception, Kevin rode with me back to the Double Tree Hotel out by the San Jose Airport where we were both staying. Since it was Sunday, the bar had closed so there was no night cap. We did, however, have fresh cookies and some "cucumber water" in the lobby of the hotel.

It all started over again Monday morning. I drove in from the Double Tree and parked in the convenient McEnery Convention Center parking facility. The conference planners did yeoman work planning and scheduling concurrent sessions so that there was always something of interest to pursue.



Retired City Manager **Kevin O'Rourke** and Past ICMA President **Michael Willis** of Australia at the 2010 ICMA Conference International Reception at the Fairmont Hotel.

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In the Exhibit Hall, which opened at 9:30 a.m., I ran across retired Camarillo City Manager **Bill Little** and his wife Mary. Bill is a former ICMA Regional Vice President on the Executive Board, 1978-80. I also had the opportunity to chat with San Bernardino Assistant City Manager **Debbie Kurita**. Debbie is another past Regional Vice President member of the ICMA Executive Board, 2005-2008. She and her family are "big" hockey fans, and she confesses to being a San Jose Sharks fan. Around another corner and I happened upon **Dale Geldert** watching a demonstration. Dale had been appointed by Governor **Arnold Schwarzenegger** to serve as the Director of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. After Dale left the State assignment, he was the Beverly Hills Fire Chief under then-City Manager **Rod Wood** for a time. He has retired since. Dale's wife **Rita Geldert** is the Vista City Manager.



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ICMA provided a sandwich and drink lunch in the Exposition area. I sat with former City Manager **Lloyd de Llamas**, who along with **Bob Hinderliter**, was a founding partner of HdL Companies. It is always enjoyable to reminisce with old friends. Lloyd and I got talking about the late **Bill Stookey**, the "Will" in Willdan. Bill was an MIT and Cal Tech graduate, but one would never have guessed. He was a former City Engineer in Fullerton. His partnership with **Dan Heil** founded the Willdan consultant firm.



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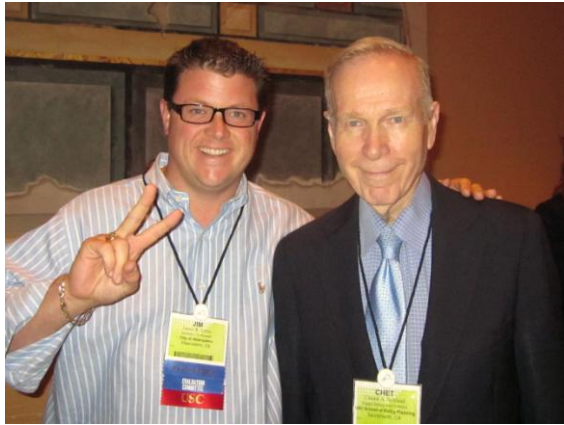
After lunch I ran across Eagle Mountain, Utah City Administrator **John F. Hendrickson**. John has served as a City Manager or City Administrator in the States of Utah, Idaho, and California, where he is a former La Habra Heights City Manager. I greeted Belvedere City Manager **George Rodericks**, who formerly worked in La Mirada, and also chatted with **Mary Strenn**, retired El Segundo City Manager who's last listed gig was Interim City Manager in South Gate. She said that she had just recently finished up an assignment as Interim RDA Executive Director in San Fernando, where she served as City Administrator, 1990-1997.



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In the Exposition area, I also chatted with retired City Manager **Edward G. Wohlenberg**, who currently serves as a Range Rider in the Ventura County area. Ed's California assignments included City Manager in Emeryville, Brea, Vallejo, South San Francisco, and he served as Interim City Manager in Half Moon Bay and Goleta. Claremont City Manager **Jeff Parker** explain that his city will continue providing refuse disposal service through in-house staff. He recently concluded 5-year dump site negotiations.

"Leaders are dependable people!"



Go Trojans! Atascadero Assistant City Manager **Jim Lewis** and **USC** Professor **Chet Newland**. Jim is a **USC** Alumnus and deeply committed to the University. Chet has taught at **USC** since 1966.

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Though short, I had an interesting discussion with premier executive recruiter **Bob Murray** of *Bob Murray & Associates*. We talked a bit about the resulting impacts of the "Bell fiasco" and how it has hurt the status and image of professionals in city management. Bob noted (and I agree wholeheartedly) that he hopes California can avoid the mediocrity in city management unlike the current State Legislature.

While walking through the exhibit booths, I stopped by the Range Rider's table to say "Hello" to **Nick Pavlovich**, who was sitting there with a cohort from Washington State. Nick retired from Reedley (his second stint there), but also served as City Manager in Selma and Madera, and did his initial City Administrator assignment in Reedley, serving a dozen years beginning in 1967. Norwalk Council Member **Mike Mendez** was in the Exposition area working for one of the vendors, InfoMate. Mike is a retired Director of Park and Recreation from Santa Fe Springs, and is one of the elected officials who have a good understanding of city management. I also ran across American Canyon City Manager **Rich Ramirez**. He was there with his **USC** jersey on to the most certain approval of Atascadero Assistant City Manager **Jim Lewis** and La Cañada Flintridge City Manager **Mark Alexander**.



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Monday's "Session of the day" had to be the 2:30 p.m. Educational Session entitled: **What'S a Manager Truly Worth?** ICMA Regional Director **David Mora**, a retired Salinas City Manager, served as the session leader for a panel that included: Livermore City Manager **Linda Barton**, President-elect of the League of California Cities City Managers' Department; **Kevin O'Rourke**, retired Fairfield City Manager representing the Cal-ICMA Encore City Managers' program; **Ken Pulskamp**, Santa Clarita City Manager and President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities; and Los Angeles Times writer **Jeff Gottlieb**, who was part of the reporter team that broke the "Bell fiasco" stories about Chief Administrative Officer **Bob Rizzo** and the alleged corruption in the city.

"Character is much easier kept than recovered."
--**Abigail Van Buren**



David Mora, ICMA West Coast Regional Manager and retired Salinas City Manager, presides at the "**What'S a Manager Truly Worth?**" session. Speakers include: L.A. Times Writer **Jeff Gottlieb**; **Linda Barton**, Livermore City Manager; retired Fairfield City Manager **Kevin O'Rourke**, currently with Urban Futures, Inc.; and Santa Clarita City Manager **Ken Pulskamp**, President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities.



<http://www.kndinc.com/index.htm>

We were among the first to find seats in the alternate room. The location was changed due to an anticipated large audience, which certainly came to pass. Looking around from my seat towards the rear of the hall, among those who gathered we identified: **Tina Haddad**, Assistant to the City Manager in Santa Clarita; Atascadero City Manager **Wade McKinney**, who is the current President of the California City Management Foundation; Laguna Hills City Manager **Bruce Channing**; Livermore Assistant City Manager **Troy Brown**; Range Rider **Ed Wohlenberg**; Santa Fe Springs City Manager **Fred Latham**; City Administrator **Jorge Rifa** and **Fernando Mendoza** of Commerce; **Norm King**, former Palm Springs and Moreno Valley City Manager and past ICMA President, 1995-1996; El Cerrito City Manager **Scott Hanin**; retired San Luis Obispo City Manager **Ken Hampian**, who began his career in 1975 as an Administrative Intern in Fresno; La Puente City Manager **Josi Kenline**; MMASC past President **Laura Biery** of Santa Clarita; Glendora Deputy City Manager **Brenda Fischer**; retired City Manager **Bill Little**; **Bob Murray** of *Bob Murray and Associates*; **Karen Pinkos**, El Cerritos Assistant City Manager and ICMA Regional Vice President; Professor **Chet Newland** of **USC**; retired Rosemead City Manager **Frank Tripepi**, President & CEO, Senior Vice President **Mark Risco**, and former City Manager **Katie Wilson** of *Willdan Financial Services*; and undoubtedly many more who we did not note.



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Jeff Gottlieb said that he became interested in Bell when he was asking questions about Maywood laying-off its entire staff. Ken, Kevin and Linda all addressed the response to the Bell stories by the State's City Managers. It was pointed out that City Managers are generally people of high integrity and principal. City Managers are an ethical group. **Dave Mora** said that he doesn't not know what a good City Manager is worth, but he knows that one is not worth three-quarters of a million dollars. **Karen Pinkos** of El Cerritos noted that most City Managers do good work constantly without fanfare, like her boss **Scott Hanin**. It was noted that **Connie Jackson** did amazing work responding to the San Bruno gas line disaster. **Chet Newland** said that scandals are nothing new, but most often City Managers act with integrity, brilliance and hard work. The public deserves good people and good people deserve to be compensated appropriately. Public trust must be earned. Livermore's **Troy Brown** noted that the Bell scandal undermined much of the good in city management. I chatted with Rancho Cucamonga City Manager **Jack Lamm** and retired Beverly Hills City Manager **Rod Wood** after the session on the way out of the room, both seemingly resigned to re-earn the public trust.

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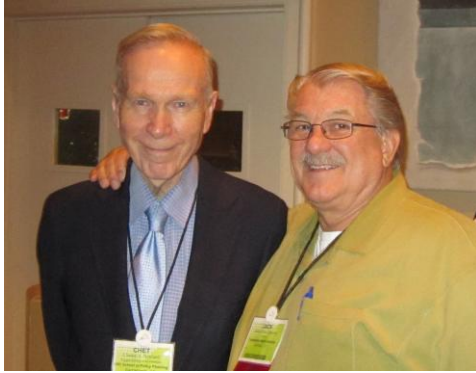
After that grueling session, it was time for the California reception at the Fairmont Hotel. It was nicely done and well-attended. In addition to those we have already listed the reception attendees included: MuniServices' **Fran Mancian**; **Scott Jacobson** of **USC**; former California City Manager **Sheryl Boell**, who currently works for CH2M HILL in Atlanta, Georgia; **Brad Kilger**, Ceres City Manager; **Francesca Fuentes** of Willdan; Banning City Manager **Andy Takata**; retired Highland City Manager **Sam Racadio** and his son **Chris Racadio**, Sam is a candidate for city council; former City Manager **Larry Kosmont** of the Kosmont Companies; retired Merced **Jim Marshall** and his wife **Gwendolyn Marshall**; former City Manager **John Nowak**; **Mina Layba** of Thousand Oaks; and many more. We apologize for those we missed on our list. Our truthful excuses are: 1) we simply do not know everyone; and 2) as I get older I cannot remember unless I write things down.



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USC Professor **Chet Newland** and **Jack Simpson** of the City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown.

ICMA's 96th Annual Conference

As I was leaving the reception and entered the hotel lobby the Monday Night NFL football game was on one television and the MLB play-off game was on another. As I slowed to check the scores, I was invited to join a group that was preparing to dine in at The Grill. As I had eaten there the night before, I knew it was a good decision to accept the invitation. I sat between **Valentina Tripepi-Shoop**, an Assistant Vice President of the Keenan & Associates' Regency group, and La Puente City Manager **Josi Kenline**. I had a nice time talking to Modesto City Manager **Greg Nyhoff**, who was there with his wife Cindy, who is an accomplished volleyball player (Greg is a former ACM in Colorado Springs). Among the others at the dinner were: Santa Clarita City Manager **Ken Pulskamp**; **Jennifer Hill Fernandez** of eCivis; **Trina Haddad** of Santa Clarita; **Francesca Fuentes** of Willdan; **Mark Risco** of Willdan Financial Services; **Larry Kosmont** of the Kosmont Companies; Placentia City Manager **Troy Butzlaff**; **Scott Hammond** of Edge Development; **Katie Wilson** and **Frank Tripepi** of Willdan Financial Services; Banning City Manager **Andy Takata**; **Scott Dippolito** of Willdan Financial Services; **Brenda Fisher** of Glendora; **Peter McNamara** of Keenan and Associates. The Grill is a great place to eat.



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On Tuesday morning I ran into Merced City Manager **John Bramble** on my way in from the parking structure. John has worked in the California cities of Belmont, Atascadero and Bell, where he served as City Manager from 1988 until 1993. He has earned a wonderful reputation for being a highly professional manager, and was the City Manager in Brighton, Colorado before accepting the Merced assignment in 2008.

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ICMA's 96th Annual Conference

I tried to get into the 9:45 a.m. session entitled: "What's Really Needed? Assessing the Technology Risks in Your City" but it was standing room only. **Scott Dippolito** of *Willdan Financial Services* was one of the presenters, along with **Mark A. Eich** of the Information Services Group, Larson Alley LLP, of Minneapolis, Minnesota. While taking another walk through the exhibit booths, I stopped to talk with Saratoga City Manager **Dave Anderson**. We talked about budget cuts during the economic downturn, and how sometimes you are placed in a position to eliminated services you need the most when times are bad. The late great lobbyist **Joe A. Gonsalves** once said that: "Lobbyist are like parachutes, when you need them they better work."

In the exhibit area we also saw: Belvedere City Manager **George Rodericks**; **Chet Newland** of **USC**; **Bob Murray**; **Josi Kenline**, the La Puente City Manager; and **Brian Jewett** of TischlerBise; and **A. J. Wilson** was at the Range Rider table. We also chatted with veteran City Manager **Paul Philips**; South Pasadena Finance Director **Chu Thai**; and **Alex Gonzalez** of Covina. Also, seen on the last day of the Exposition included: **Jim Marshall**; **Bob LaSala**; **Sam Racadio**; Claremont Economic Development Officer **Damien Arrula**; **Jim Lewis** of Atascadero; and Vista City Manager **Rita Geldert**.

At 2 p.m., I attended a session entitled: "The Human Side of Shared Services," where former City Manager **Paul Philips**, gave a good and account of the Maywood management problems and how they are related to the City of Bell and Cudahy. Those around me at the presentation felt that Paul should have been included in the earlier session on the Bell fiasco with L. A. Times writer **Jeff Gottlieb**. Covina Senior Management Analyst **Alejandro Gonzalez** presided.

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<http://www.publicceo.com/>

It was a pleasure to run into Rocklin's soon-to-be retired City Manager **Carlos Urrutia** in the convention center lobby. Carlos and I worked together back in the early 1970s. He has cobbled an amazing professional career. For a time, Carlos and I talked with **George Barbour**, telling old stories and reminiscing. I inadvertently mentioned I was with Carlos when responding to a text message from Huntington Park City Manager **Gregory Korduner**, and he wrote back: "Carlos is fabulous." His reputation is well-earned. Carlos will soon retire and is setting up a consulting practice. You may visit his web site at: www.carlosu.com

At the Marriott Hotel, I enjoyed a Happy Hour "slider" with Atascadero Assistant City Manager **Jim Lewis**. He urged me to join City Manager **Wade McKinney** and the Atascadero group for dinner at McCormick & Schmick's. A "no brainer!" It was an honor to be with Wade and his wife Cheryl, ACM Jim, Assistant to the City Manager **Marcia Torgerson** and **Jeri Corgill** of the city staff. In another area of the restaurant we visited Livermore Assistant City Manager **Troy Brown** and his wife Toni, who were there celebrating their 19th wedding anniversary. For those who have visited Troy's Facebook page, Toni is Troy's wakeboard boat driver. Happy Anniversary Troy and Toni.



<http://www.sycr.com/>

Among those we saw who were not previously mentioned: Daly City City Manager **Pat Martel**; Rolling Hills City Manager **Tony Dahlerbruch**; San Dimas City Manager **Blaine Michaelis**; retired City Manager **John Goss**; and **Toby Ross**, West Sacramento City Manager. We apologize to those we missed. This is not a comprehensive account of the conference, but a chronicle of our experience. San Jose proved to be an excellent venue for the 96th ICMA Annual Conference. Next year ICMA goes to Milwaukee City/County, Wisconsin, and in 2012 the conference moves to Phoenix/Maricopa County, Arizona. Congratulations to **Debra Figone** and the San Jose management team.



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Joe A. Gonsalves & Son was founded by **Joe A. Gonsalves**, in 1975. Joe served in the California State Assembly from 1962 through 1974. Prior to that he served on the Dairy Valley City Council, including two years as Dairy Valley Mayor. The City of Dairy Valley is now the city of Cerritos.

Anthony D. Gonsalves joined Joe A. Gonsalves & Son in January, 1977. Anthony previously served as a member of the California State Senate staff for a year and a half. The political process in Sacramento is exceedingly complex, with more than three decades of experience, Anthony has had the opportunity to master such complexities. Anthony is widely recognized as one of Sacramento's longest tenured, and most successful lobbyist.

In December, 1998, **Jason A. Gonsalves**, joined Joe A. Gonsalves & Son. This gave Joe A. Gonsalves & Son the proud distinction of being the first California lobbying firm to have three generations of legislative advocates in one firm at the same time. This distinction continued until Joe passed away in July, 2000. Jason has successfully represented many clients before the Legislature and with various state department and agencies in the areas of local government finance, utilities and commerce, public employees' retirement, workers' compensation, telecommunications, and conflict of interest issues.

In October, 2004, **Paul A. Gonsalves**, joined Joe A. Gonsalves & Son. Previously, Paul served as a Legislative Aide to Assembly Member Rudy Bermudez. Paul earned a B.A. in Political Science with a minor in Public Administration from San Diego State University.

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Describing **Joe A. Gonsalves & Son**, the late California State Senator Ken Maddy coined the description: "The Gonsalvi." When asked what he meant by the nickname, Senator Maddy responded "It's like alumni, when you guys are working an issue you are everywhere." Members of the Legislature continue to refer to the firm as "The Gonsalvi." When considering retaining a professional legislative representation firm, it is recommended that Legislators be asked about the **Joe A. Gonsalves & Son** firm.

No matter the issue, you may feel free to contact Anthony, Jason or Paul. They are confident in their ability to succeed.

A Reputation You Can Count On!



Picking Up the Pieces: Former Monterey Park City Manager **June Yotsuya** has been doing some "interim" work in San Bernardino. West Side Recreation and Park District has broken ground

a Multi-Purpose Facility that will serve the Taft community where **Bob Gorson** is City Manager. **Don Koenig** is the District Administrator. Klassen Corporation designed the new facility that will include a gymnasium, including three volleyball or three basketball courts, activity room, weight room, daycare, four bowling lanes and a lobby. Whittier City Manager **Steve Helvey** is recruiting a successor to retiring Chief of Police **David Singer**. Whittier has retained A. C. Lazzaretto and Associates to conduct a community survey to determine the public's opinions of the ideal characteristics of a future successful Whittier Police Chief. Former Bell CAO **Robert Rizzo** has lost his Hollywood Park horse owner's license after failing to attend a hearing on conduct detrimental to horse racing, according to the Associated Press. Glendora City Manager **Chris Jeffers** worked for the City of Monterey Park from 1985 until 2007, when he came to Glendora. Chris "earned" the "time off" benefits as all other city employees for his 22-years of faithful serves. It appears that veteran City Manager **Robert F. Adams'** tenure as the Vallejo City Manager is coming to a close. Bob has served as City Manager in Dinuba, Lafayette, and Manteca, as well as his long interim stint in Vallejo. Redding City Manager **Kurt Starman** has confirmed that the city has retained a private investigator to look into allegations that city employees on city time may have attempted to intimidate a business owner to influence the outcome of an election. Though Governor **Arnold Schwarzenegger** declared a "state of emergency" following a large fire in the Westfield Galleria mall in Roseville, City Manager **Ray Kerridge** reports that unburned portions of the mall could reopen within weeks. It is reported that the fire erupted after police arrested a man who had been barricaded in a store. About 20 Galleria stores were destroyed. The emergency declaration will help those who lost jobs and will suspend certain rules to accelerate reconstruction. Petaluma City Manager **John Brown** reports that his city has requested the Voter Fraud Division of the Secretary of State's office to investigate allegations that four local police officers used the Police Department address when registering to vote. According to Pasadena Star-

News writer **Rebecca Kimitch**, the El Monte City Council has increased the potential severance package for El Monte City Manager **Rene Bobadilla** to one-year as a reward for "phenomenal" work. Glendora Deputy City Manager **Brenda S. Fischer** previously worked as a PIO in Henderson, Nevada and the Director of General Services & Communications in North Las Vegas. Brenda has a BA from **USC** and an MPA from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Former Vernon City Administrator **Donal O'Callaghan** has pleaded not guilty to two felony conflict of interest charges in connection with alleged corruption for his role in obtaining city service agreements for his wife. Hercules Interim City Manager **Charlie Long** has requested a "scope-of-work" in an effort to deploy city staff to manage the Hercules Municipal Utility operation rather than the current private management provided by Municipal Management Enterprises LLC, former Hercules City Manager **Mike Sakamoto's** company. Originally private management was seen as a way to economize by minimizing city staffing salaries, retirement costs and health benefits. Canyon Lake City Manager **Lori Moss** publicly thanked the community residents who attended the Mayor's State of the City and 20th Anniversary Event October 15. Among the attendees were the first Canyon Lake City Manager and City Clerk: **Jeff Butzlaff** and **Kathy Bennett**. Lakewood has a new Deputy City Manager. **Carol Flynn Jacoby**, the Assistant to the City Manager and former Crime Prevention Manager, has been rewarded for her hard and effective work with a promotion. **Jill Keimach** of the Fremont management team has moved on to a new adventure as Town Manager for the Town of Moraga. Happy 19th Wedding Anniversary to **Toni Brown** and **Troy Brown**. Toni is Troy's wakeboard boat driver...and a good one too. **Dwight Stenbakken** addressed the CCCA City Managers about pending ballot measures.

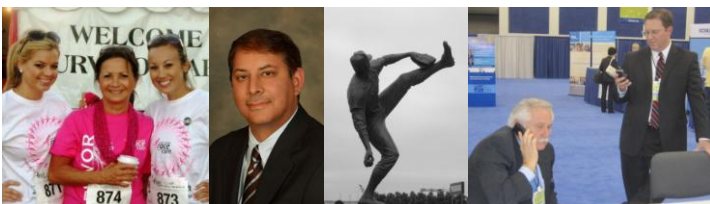


California Contract Cities Association City Managers Meeting

A solid group of City Managers and others assembled on Thursday, October 21 in Monterey Park for the monthly California Contract Cities Association's City Managers/Administrators' Committee meeting. City Managers in attendance included: **Mark R. Alexander** of La Cañada Flintridge, Committee Chair; **Tom Robinson** of La Mirada; **Jim Destefano** of Diamond Bar; **Josi Kenline** of La Puente; **Tony Ybarra** of South El Monte; **Shauna Clark** of La Habra Heights; **Ken Pulskamp** of Santa Clarita, the immediate past President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities; and **Darrell George** of Duarte the immediate past Chair of the CCCA City Managers' Committee.

Among the others at the meeting were: Santa Clarita Assistant City Manager **Ken Striplin**; Lakewood Assistant City Manager **Lisa Novotny**; **Carol Flynn Jacoby**, Lakewood Deputy City Manager; Paramount Assistant City Manager **John Moreno**; Pico Rivera Assistant City Manager **Jeff Prang**; former City Manager **Katie Wilson** of Wildan Financial Services; CCCA Executive Director **Sam Olivito**; **Richard Fierro** of CDS, a Republic Company; **John Kelly** of TNT fireworks; **Fran Mancia** of MuniServices; **Scott Hammond** of Edge Development; **Dwight Stenbakken** and **Jennifer Quan** of the League of California Cities; **Jeannette Ortega**, Assistant to the City Manager in La Puente; **Tony Olivito** of the CCCA staff; and Palmdale Director of Public Safety and Community Relations, **Anne V. Ambrose**.

Mark Alexander presided at the meeting, introducing presentations by **Sam Olivito** and **Fran Mancia**, who talked of the CCCA Associate Members Steering Committee. **Dwight Stenbakken**, who joined the group after travelling from Sacramento, reported on the "November Proposition Lineup."



A Few More Pieces Picked: Retired Irwindale City Manager **Steve Blancarte**, and Finance Director **Abe de Dios**, a Council Member and former Council Member are being charged with misappropriation of public funds for attending Broadway shows and ball games while on trips to New York in 2003 and 2005 to attempt to get improved bond ratings for pending issues. **Mark V. Bozigian** has been with the City of Lancaster for 15-years, the last two as City Manager. Prior to coming to the public sector Mark worked 10-years at Hughes Aircraft. **Bob Rizzo's** horse ranch is in Auburn, Washington. **Go Giants!**

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CCMF Attends ICMA Conference

In an ongoing effort to strengthen city government and unite city leaders across the state, members of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF) Board will attend the ICMA Annual Conference in San Jose, October 15-20. The conference's theme: "Innovative Applications in Extraordinary Times" explored ways to better serve the public, interact and engage with citizens, and deliver services more efficiently.

In light of recent scandals involving city management, city managers throughout the State understand the importance of rebuilding and maintaining transparency in the provision of city services, and ensuring that there is a concern for open and responsive city management in order to earn the public's trust.

"City managers are tasked with maintaining and improving infrastructure and ensuring the delivery of services such as police, fire, water, sewer and the maintenance of streets and parks. Ironically, it is often only when something goes wrong that their role is noticed," says **Wade McKinney**, CCMF Board President and Atascadero City Manager.

Wade also notes that despite the controversy in places like Bell and Vernon, the vast majority of California city managers are diligent, hard-working professional executives who put city services first.