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California City Managers Who Are Fresno State Alumni

Retired City Manager **John Goss** suggested that we take a good look at City Managers who have graduated with at least one degree from California State University, Fresno; home of the Fresno State Bulldogs.

We have gone through this exercise with other institutions of higher learning, such as: **USC**, California State University, Long Beach and California State University, Fullerton. Of course, in each of those instances we missed some worthy folks that should have been included. I mention this now because I know that we will miss some deserving Fresno State graduates too. We apologize up front. We are trying to be as comprehensive as possible. However, to be human is to be fallible.



Larry Pennell contributed this photo taken at a recent Wasco Rotary Club meeting. The present, past, and future Wasco City Managers were there: (L to R) **Alan Christansen**, incoming Wasco City Manager; **Larry F. Pennell**, retired Wasco City Manager; and **Jim Zervis**, outgoing City Manager.

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At any rate we are beholding to **John Goss** for his suggested newsletter focus and some "base research." Thank you John! We hope you all enjoy this presentation.

Michael J. Powers is the current City Manager in King City. Mike began his local government service as a Maintenance Worker I in the City of Firebaugh when **Perry J. Powers** was the City Manager. In 1988 Mike took a Management Intern opportunity in Reedley. He became a Deputy Special District Administrator in Fresno in 1990, and in 1997 Mike was selected to serve as the Dunsmuir City Manager where he worked for some 5-years. In 2004 he was appointed City Manager in Ferndale, and in 2006 he was recruited for his current assignment as City Manager in King City. Mike has a BA from California State University, Fresno, home of the Fresno State Bulldogs. In 2007 he was the recipient of a 20-year ICMA Service Award.



Merced County Chief Executive Officer **Demitrios O. Tatum** earned a MS from CSU Fresno, and Merced County Assistant County Executive Officer **James L. Brown** graduated from CSU Fresno with a BS. **Craig L. Pedro**, who began his career in 1980 as an Administrative Analyst in Madera, and is currently the Tuolumne County Administrator earned a BA at California State University,



Architectural features include clock towers are in some successful community development projects.

Phillip Hawes, currently a resident of Chama, New Mexico, began his public management career in 1962 as the Administrative Services Officer in Kings County. In 1965 Phil took an Administrative Assistant job with Fresno, and in 1966 he was appointed Assistant City Manager in Indio. Phil was selected for the City Manager position in Indian Wells in 1968, and he served there for a couple of years before returning to the ACM post in Indio in 1970. He was elevated to the Indio City Manager position in 1971, and then served there for 19-years. Phil earned a AA from the College of the Sequoias and a BA and MA from California State University, Fresno. He was presented with a 25-year ICMA Service Award in 1988.

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Red Bluff City Manager **Martin J. Nichols** began his public management career as a Management Analyst in Contra Costa County in 1970. Marty was promoted to Deputy County Administrator in 11875. He moved to Butte County in 1983 as that county's Chief Administrative Officer. In 1989 Marty took the Assistant County Administrator post in Marin County, and he was appointed County Administrator there in 1994. After serving four years as County Administrator, Marty reclaimed the Assistant County Administrator roll. In 2001 he was appointed Executive Officer of the Marin Telecommunications Agency, Marin Emergency Radio Agency, and Marin General Services Authority. He left there in 2006 for his current Red Bluff City Manager position. Marty earned a Fresno State BA in 1970.



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Retired City Manager **John D. Goss** was an Administrative Intern in Phoenix, Arizona in 1962. In 1963 John took an Assistant Administrative Analyst position with San Diego, and in 1964 he moved north to be the Assistant to the City Manager in Fremont. John was appointed to the Alameda Assistant City Manager post in 1967, and he was elevated to the City Manager's office in 1973. He left Alameda in 1980 to become the Director of General Services in Oakland where he served until his appointment in 1983 to be the Chula Vista City Manager, a position he held for 15-years. Following John's retirement in 1998 he returned to work as the Interim Director of Planning/Assistant County Manager in San Bernardino County, and served there until 2004. Currently he works occasional assignments for an executive recruitment/management consultant firm. John earned a BA from California State University, Fresno and was elected Senior Class President. He got an MPA from **USC**. In 2004 he was the recipient of one of those rare 40-year ICMA Service Awards. John was the 1991 recipient of the ICMA Mark E. Keane Award. He served as President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities in 1993-1994. While John was doing his undergraduate work at Fresno State, he and his band "*John Gauze and His Band Aids*," were recognized among the students with a measured level of success and popularity.

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California State University, Fresno City Manager Alumni

As we previously noted, **John Goss** provided us with some base research naming a number of City Managers with California State University, Fresno background. However, not all of them are members of ICMA and therefore are not listed in the ICMA Who's Who Directory. Some are very difficult to find any information on. For instance, the [Exeter](#) City web page doesn't present information about their City Manager, though there is a "profile page," but Wikipedia confirms that the City Manager is **Randy Groom**, 45. And, **John Goss** says that Randy is a Fresno State graduate. We had to look beyond any official posted information to find what little we present here. Randy was appointed to the [Exeter](#) City Manager post in June, 2010 after gaining some 25-years of local government experience, including 18-years with the City of [Visalia](#). He served as the Director of Administrative Services with the Visalia Unified School District for four-years beginning in 2006. Previous to the school district job, he had worked his way up in the [Visalia](#) city organization to an appointment as the [Visalia](#) Deputy City Manager.

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Gabriel A. Gonzalez was the Finance Director in Arvin in 1995. In 2001 he was appointed Director of Managed Care at the Clinica Sierra Vista, Inc. in Bakersfield. After about 3-years on the private sector side, Gabe returned to public management as the City Manager in Mendota in 2004. Gabe served the Mendota community for about a half-dozen year before he was selected to be the Rohnert Park City Manager in 2010. He has a BA from National University and an MPA from California State University, Fresno. Gabe has earned a 10-year ICMA Service Award.



Oakdale City Manager **Steven L. Hallam** is a "two degree" guy from California State University, Fresno. He has a BA and an MCRP for the Home of the Bulldogs. Steve was the Community Development

Director in Auburn in 1986 and in 1990 he took a similar position with the City of Turlock, where he served for 8-years. Between 1998 and 2001 Steve worked with a consulting company, and in 2001 he was appointed Community Development Director in Oakdale. After about 5-years in that position, Steve was selected to be the Oakdale City Manager in 2006. Since 1996 Steve has been a part-time instructor in the Department of Public Administration at California State University, Stanislaus. [http://icma.org/en/Page/1041/Manager in Residence Pr ofiles_2](http://icma.org/en/Page/1041/Manager%20in%20Residence%20Pr%20ofiles_2)



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Riverside City Manager **Bradley J. Hudson**, appointed in 2005, previously worked with Riverside County for more than 14-years starting as a Deputy Chief Executive Officer for Eastern

Riverside County, and then as the Assistant County Executive Officer for the Economic Development Agency. Brad is a United States Air Force veteran, and he earned a BS from California State University, Fresno and an MPA from the University of San Francisco. <http://www.riversideca.gov/manager/>

Coronado City Manager **Blair F. King**, 53, succeeded the retiring **Mark Ochendusko**. In 1980 Blair was an Area Development Officer for the Inter Tribal Council of California. In 1983 he became a Redevelopment Specialist in Eureka, and in 1985 he was appointed Eureka Assistant Public Works Director. Blair move south in 1988 to accept the appointment of Assistant City Manager in Coalinga, where he worked until 1991 when he was selected to be the Soledad City Manager. In 1994 Blair was recruited to served Imperial Beach as City Manager, and in 1997 he accepted the appointment to be the Half Moon Bay City Manager. In 2001 Blair took the Assistant City Manager slot in Milpitas, and in 2005, four-year later, he was appointed City Manager in Lodi. He left Lodi for his current assignment as the Coronado City Manager in 2010. Blair in an International City/County Management Association Credentialed City Manager. He has a BA and MPA from California State University, Fresno. In 2009 Blair earned a 25-year ICMA Service Award.



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California State University, Fresno City Manager Alumni

Darrel L. Pyle was the Finance Director in Visalia in 1996. In 2001 he moved to the local school district to be the Chief Financial Officer of the Visalia Unified School District. After about a year with the school district, Darrel took the Administrative Services Director post in Porterville, and in 2003 he was promoted to the Porterville Deputy City Manager position. In 2005 Darrel left Porterville to accept the appointment of City Manager in Tulare. He served there until his November resignation last year. He has been serving in an "interim" capacity until recently. Darrel has a BS and MS from California State University, Fresno. **Dan Meiner** is the current Interim City Manager in Tulare, and it is estimated that a permanent appointment will be made this month.



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In 1980 **Kenneth R. Pulskamp** was a Management Analyst II in the City of Fresno. He was promoted to Deputy City Manager in 1982. Ken left Fresno in 1986 to become the Assistant City Manager (Administration) in Bakersfield. After working a year on the administration side, Ken was appointed Assistant City Manager, Development in Bakersfield. He left the city in 1988 when he was selected to be the Assistant City Manager in Santa Clarita with then-City Manager **George A. Carvalho**. In 2002 he was appointed first "Interim" and then permanent City Manager in Santa Clarita and has served there for the past 9-years. Ken is the Immediate Past President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities. He was an active President and remains a "go to" guy for city manager issues. Ken has a BA from California State University, Fresno and an MPA from the University of San Francisco. In 2009 he was awarded a 30-year ICMA Service Award. Ken in the 2005 recipient of the ICMA Program Excellence Award for Outstanding Partnerships; Public-Private Partnerships. He continues to participate with the ICMA Knowledge Network Leaders. Ken was also awarded the League's City Managers' Department "City Manager Award for the Advancement of Diverse Communities." He actively attends City Manager meetings throughout the State, including the City Managers' & Administrator Committee of the California Contract Cities Association. Away from the office Ken like to travel and has visited more than 70 foreign countries.



<http://www.santa-clarita.com/index.aspx?page=184>



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



<http://www.willdan.com/financial/home.html>

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California State University, Fresno City Manager Alumni



It was a unanimous City Council vote that appointed **Frank J. Oviedo** as the first permanent Wildomar City Manager effective September 1, 2009. Frank began his working career in the private sector in 1995. In 1997 he took a

Management Analyst position the Santa Clarita with then-City Manager **George A. Carvalho**. After about 5-years in Santa Clarita, Frank headed to Northern California to serve as the Assistant to the City Manager in Elk Grove. He was promoted to Elk Grove Deputy City Manager in 2004 and served there until he was selected for his current assignment in Wildomar. Frank has a BA from California State University, Fresno and an MPA from Arizona State University. In 2008 he was recognized with a 10-year ICMA Service Award.



Fresno City Manager **Mark A. Scott** began his public management career in 1971 as an Intern in Fresno. In 1972 he interned in Clovis, and he was appointed Assistant to the City Manager in Clovis in 1974. Following some three-years in

the private sector, Mark was hired in 1983 in Beverly Hills as the Executive Assistant to the City Manager, and in 1985 he was selected to serve as the Beverly Hills Director of Environmental Services. During the first part of 1990 Mark went to Santa Clarita as the Community Development Director, but he returned to Beverly Hills later in the year as the Beverly Hills City Manager, where he served for about 13-years. In 2003 Mark tried city management back east, when he accept the City Manager appointment in Spartanburg, South Carolina. In 2009 he return to the Golden State as the City Manager in Culver City. His service there was abbreviated when the opportunity to return home to Fresno developed in 2010. Mark has a BA from California State University, Fresno and an MBA from Stanford University. He earned a 30-year ICMA Service Award in 2008. <http://www.fresno.gov/Government/CityManager/default.htm>

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In January, 2010 **David E. Witt**, 59, was appointed La Mesa City Manager to succeed City Manager **Sandra Kerl** who left the position to become Deputy General Manager of the San Diego County Water Authority. David has worked for La Mesa since 1985. In 1990 David became the Director of Community Development, and in 2003 "Assistant City Manager" was added to his title. He has earned a BA from the University of California, Davis and a MURP from California State University, Fresno. Last year David received a 20-year ICMA Service Award.

John Goss lists some additional California State University, Fresno alumni: **Lehman Walker**, City Manager in University City, Missouri; **Les White**, retire City Manager from Fullerton and San Jose; **Ken Hampian**, retired San Luis Obispo City Manager; **Bruce Reiss**, Fresno City Manager between 1980 and 1983; **James Aldredge**, Fresno City Manager between 1985 and 1989; **Mark Joseph**, former American Canyon City Manager, who currently serves as an elected member of the City Council. After **Bruce Reiss** left Fresno he worked 25-years for the National Science Foundation. **James Aldredge**, who had been a professional baseball player, went on to obtain his PhD and retired as a Professor at Fresno State.

Many thanks to **John Goss** for the topic suggestion and for the base research. We hope that you all enjoy this presentation of California State University, Fresno alumni. Again, we apologize to those we missed.



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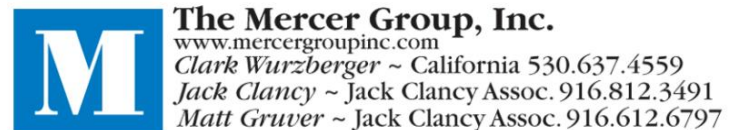


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Sean Smith, is the President and Chief Executive Officer, succeeding company founder and Chairman John Keenan in 2000. Prior to joining Keenan & Associates in 1989, Sean served as a major accounts manager for Anthem Blue Cross.

John Scatterday, Keenan's Public Agency Employee Benefits Practice Leader, began his career in the employee benefits business in 1984 with The Unum Group, a specialty insurance company, working in their New York City branch office.

John Stephens oversees the Property & Casualty distribution for Keenan's Public Agency Division which consists of 800+ public agencies, educational entities and joint powers authorities. He has been in the insurance and risk management industry for 15 years. John has been with Keenan for the past 9 ½ years.

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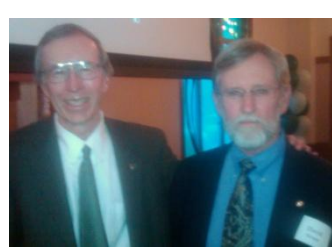
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A Professional Says "Good-bye"



From Photographer **Kevin O'Rourke**:

When the good folks of Mountain View officially said "good-bye" to well-thought of retiring City Manager **Kevin Duggan**, representatives of the craft from all over the State gathered to pay their respects. Cal-ICMA Board Member representing retirees, **Kevin O'Rourke** was kind enough to act as the Trackdown Northern California correspondent to cover the event. He says that he is not in the pictures because he was on the other side of the camera. (L to R starting at the top left): 1) **Ed Shilling**; 2) **Vern Hazen** and **Dave Mora**; 3) **Mike Johnson, Kevin Duggan & Mike Garvey**; 4) retired city managers **Ed Everett** and **Jay Baska**; 5) Retired Palo Alto City Manager **Frank Benest**, **Pat Martel**, City Manager in Daly City and current West Coast Vice President on the ICMA Executive Board, and **Susan Loftus**, City Manager in San Mateo. 6) **Eric Figueroa**, League of California Cities East Bay Regional Representative; **Rebecca Elliot** (retired League Peninsula Regional Representative), **Chris McKenzie**, and **Ed Schilling** (San Mateo/Santa Clara Range Rider) 7) **Kevin Duggan** and **Dave Knapp**, Cupertino City Manager. Thank you **Kevin O'Rourke** and congratulations and best wishes to **Kevin Duggan**.

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Picking Up the Pieces: Retired City Manager **Joe Tanner**, who presided at the wedding of **Mark Curran** and **Sophie Curran** a few years back, has been trying to get an appeals hearing with the PERS Board regarding his pension calculations. He contends that their errors have significantly reduced his well-earned pension. Prescott, Arizona's new Acting City Manager **Craig McConnell** has held engineering and public works director jobs in California, Florida, Nevada and Arizona. Retired Huntington Park City Manager **Gregory Korduner** has been playing some golf lately. This month he played in the *2nd Annual Kenny Landreaux Golf Tourney* sponsored by the 10-20 Club in Downey as a fundraiser to assist "at-risk" young people. Players in the inaugural tournament included: former MLB players **Tommy Davis**, **Al Downing**, **Daryl Jackson** and **Kenny Landreaux**, among other celebrities. An article in the Ukiah Daily Journal notes that **Sean White**, Manager of the *Russian River Flood Control & Water Conservation Improvement District*, and **Bill Koehler**, General Manager of the *Redwood Valley County Water District* have been discussing with their two Boards the advantages of a merger of sorts to combine forces in order to negotiate with the *Sonoma County Water Agency* for more water rights for the Redwood Valley. **Christopher Hazeltine** is the new Carlsbad Parks and Recreation Director replacing **John W. Coates**, who was promoted to an Assistant City Manager post last year. Chris has previous work experience in Oceanside and he has been serving as the Encinitas Parks and Recreation Director since 2004. Desert Hot Springs was ranked No. 2, and Santa Ana's city tap water was judged No. 3 in the world in taste by a panel of 12 judges in Berkeley Springs, West Virginia. Daytona Beach, Florida was selected as No. 1. **Dr. Bill Mathis** holds a Ph.D. in Clinical/Industrial Psychology from the University of North Dakota and a Master's Degree in Clinical



Psychology from the University of Portland in Oregon, and a Bachelor's degree in Chemistry/Biology and Psychology from the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma. Dixon City Manager **Nancy Houston** was appointed to her current assignment in June, 2008. Atwater Interim City Manager **Stan Feathers**, former Assistant City Manager, has stepped down. He has served as "Interim" since City Manager **Greg Wellman** retired last November. Retired City Manager **Ray Silver's** son **Matthew R. Silver** is an attorney in a Municipal & Redevelopment Law practice group. In 2001, Matt received numerous awards for heroism from various entities ranging from the City of Huntington Beach, the State Senate and Assembly to a member of the United States Congress for pulling a trapped man from a sunken vehicle in the Bolsa Chica Wetlands and performing CPR. In 2000 **Julia Burrows**, former Roseville Deputy City Manager, was named one of the Sacramento Business Journal's "40 under 40 Young Professionals" and in 2001 she was selected as one of five Sacramento area "Women Who Mean Business" by the Business Journal. Redwood City Human Resources Director **Robert Bell**, who has been serving as Interim City Manager since City Manager **Peter Ingram's** resignation last November, has been appointed City Manager. Bob was the 2004 recipient of the League's Career Leadership Award recognizing him as the top city Human Resources Director in California. He has a PhD from the University of San Francisco.



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Elaine Gerety-Warner – City of Culver City

Yoko Igawa - City of South Pasadena



More Pieces Picked Up: Veteran American Canyon City Manager **Richard Ramirez** has announced his retirement. Rich has served as City Manager in Lincoln, Paso Robles, Hemet, as well as,

Deputy City Manager in Sacramento. We believe he is the last active City Manager with personal "**Peter B. Feenstra** experience." The CCMF Board met in the Napa Valley this month. Glendora Deputy City Manager **Brenda Fischer** is the new Maricopa, Arizona City Manager. Brenda has an MPA from the University of Nevada and she is an ICMA Credentialed City Manager. Costa Mesa Administrative Service Director **Stephen Mandoki**, 52, is the new Lawndale City Manager replacing Interim City Manager **Dayle Keller**, who has filled in when former City Manager **Keith Breskin** left. Steve began his career in Carson and has worked as Assistant City Manager and City Manager in Murrieta. Sacramento Mayor **Kevin Johnson** announced the selection of **William H. Edgar** as Interim City Manager and **Betty Masuoka** as Interim Deputy City Manager.

Assistant County Manager **Birgitta Corsello** has been appointed to succeed Solano County Manager **Michael Johnson**, who has served in that position since 1992. Birgitta has been with the county since 1989. City officials of Murrieta and Temecula have met to discuss how they can work together to bring a university to the area. Yakima, Washington City Manager **Richard A. Zais, Jr.** plans to retire this summer. Dick is a former West Coast Regional Vice President on the ICMA Executive Board (1996-1998). Veteran City Attorney **Leland "Lee" Dolley** has been appointed Interim City Attorney in Manhattan Beach, where he is a resident. City Manager **Dave Carmany** notes that Lee will not be a candidate for the permanent City Attorney appointment. Lee previously served as City Attorney in Lomita, El Segundo and Alhambra. **Richard Warne** resigned from the Livingston City Manager position effective March 1, and Assistant City Manager **Vickie Lewis** has been appointed Interim City Manager.

Independent Cities Association

2011 Summer Seminar

July 7-10, 2011

Rancho Bernardo Inn

San Diego, California 92128

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