

City Manager Newsletter by **Trackdown**

"Providing thread to help stitch together the fabric of the City Management Community"

December, 2013
Volume No. 7, Issue No. 21



This picture was taken at a holiday lunch at Taps in [Brea](#) on December 11th. Seated from (L to R) are **Darrell Essex**, retired [Cypress](#) City Manager; **Doug Dunlap**, retired [Pomona](#) City Manager; **Greg Korduner**, the recent [Los Alamitos](#) Interim City Manager; and retired [Norwalk](#) City Manager **Ernie Garcia**. Standing are **Bill Crowe**, former [Rosemead](#) City Manager & retired [El Segundo](#) ACM; **Paul Philips**, a veteran City Manager who currently serves as the Deputy Executive Director of the California Contract Cities Association; and retired [La Mirada](#) City Manager **Gary Sloan**. Also attending the event were: **John Hammargren**, **Jim Barisic**, **John Jameson**, **Bill Holt**, **Ray Harris**, and **Jack Simpson**. **Tim O'Donnell** and **Steve Harding** stopped by.

"Gonsalves" City Managers

Happy Holidays to one and all! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! We wish everyone the best for a happy and prosperous New Year. Let's make 2014 a G-R-E-A-T year!

It has been our experience that professional City Managers take every opportunity to learn and gain up-to-date information about nearly anything and everything. It is imperative to do the best you can to learn and understand to the best of your ability just what the heck is "really" going on at the federal and state levels of government. The old "trickle down" theory's effect usually means dumping on local government. We should all use our resources wisely in pursuit of knowledge!

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Trackdown Posse Roster:

- Gregory Korduner, Interim City Manager, Los Alamitos
- Howard Chambers, Lakewood
- Mike Egan, Norwalk
- Lyle Defenbaugh, CalTrust
- Ernie Garcia, Retired Norwalk City Manager
- Joe Tanner, Interim City Manager, Rio Vista
- Dave Carmany, Manhattan Beach
- Ken Bayless, Greater L.A. Vector Control District
- Kevin O'Rourke, KOLGS/PARS & Santa Ana Interim CM
- George Rodericks, Atherton
- Richard Ramirez, Retired City Manager, American Canyon
- Vern Lawson, Lancaster
- Don Penman, Interim City Manager, San Fernando
- Jason Gonsalves, Joe A. Gonsalves & Son
- Anthony Gonsalves, Joe A. Gonsalves & Son
- Paul Gonsalves, Joe A. Gonsalves & Son
- Ernesto Marquez, Hawaiian Gardens
- Gary K. & Mary Jo Sloan, Retired La Mirada City Manager
- Jan Perkins, Management Partners/ICMA
- Andy Takata, Banning
- Marcia Raines, Millbrae
- Anthony R. Ybarra, South El Monte
- Arthur C. Simonian, Retired City Manager
- Ken Caresio, Retired Duarte City Manager
- Michael P. Busch, President, Urban Futures, Inc.
- Wade McKinney, Indian Wells CM & President of CCMF
- Doug LaBelle, Retired Chino Hills City Manager
- John Keisler, Long Beach
- Sam Olivito, California Contract Cities Association
- Jack Lam, Retired Rancho Cucamonga City Manager
- Larry F. Pennell, Retired Wasco City Manager
- Gary Chicots, Retired City Manager
- Rod B. Butler, Patterson
- Fred Latham, Retired Santa Fe Springs City Manager
- Anthony Lopez, Retired City Manager
- Dr. Bill Mathis, Mathis Group
- Linda Lowry, Pomona
City of Cerritos
- Roy Pederson, ICMA Past-President
- Bruce Williams, Retired City Manager
- Troy Butzlaff, Placentia
- Rod Foster, Laguna Niguel
- Gerald Forde, Huron
- Oliver Chi, Barstow ACM
- Dale Geldert, Retired CDF Director
- Rita Geldert, CCMF Exec. Director & retired Vista CM
- Gene Rogers, Moreno Valley Retired City Manager
- Mary Soto, Vice President, CiteZONE.com
- Chuck Robinson, Deputy City Manager, Tustin
- Gary Milliman, Brookings, Oregon
- John Gillison, Rancho Cucamonga
- Laura Behjan, Retired CM, Simi Valley
- Doug Dunlap, Retired City Manager, Pomona
- Richard Rowe, Interim CM, Canyon Lake
- Robert Dickey, Former CM & retired DPW, South Gate
- Randy Bomgaars, Bellflower, Past CCCA President
- Marshall Linn, Urban Futures, Founder & Chairman
- Stan Morgan, Winners Ink & Toner/former Mayor & ACM
- Jeff Mathieu, Big Bear Lake
- Clay Curtin, Menlo Park
- Jim Lewis, Pismo Beach
- Kevin Duggan, ICMA & retired City Manager



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MuniServices, LLC, Vice President of Governmental Relations for the Western Region is **Fran Mancia**. Fran is a member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation.

"Gonsalves" City Managers

Each November the City Manager in the Joe A. Gonsalves & Son client cities gather to discuss the government landscape. Anthony, Jason and Paul Gonsalves report on recently adopted and pending legislation, and on the State level political rumor mill. The meeting kicked off in a public meeting room in Indian Wells on Thursday, November 7, 2013. Those who participated in the program included: Santa Fe Spring City Manager **Thad McCormick** and Finance Director and Administrative Services Director **Jose Gomez**; **James DeStefano**, Diamond Bar City Manager, who is also the current Chair of the California Contract Cities Association's City Managers & Administrators Committee; Palm Desert City Manager **John M. Wohlmuth**; Indian Wells City Manager **Wade McKinney**, who is the President of the Board for the California City Management Foundation; Victorville City Manager **Doug Robertson**; **Steve Harding**, City Manager in Jurupa Valley; Commerce City Administrator **Jorge Rifa**; Norwalk City Manager **Mike Egan**; City of Industry City Manager **Kevin Radecki**; Banning City Manager **Andy Takata**; former City Manager **Paul Philips**, currently the Assistant Executive Director, and **Tony Olivito** of the California Contract Cities Association; Lakewood City Manager **Howard Chambers**; and retired City Managers **Gene Rogers**; **Frank Tripepi** of **Willdan**; and Trackdown's **Jack A. Simpson**.



This beautiful Huntington Beach sunset comes courtesy of **Kellee Fritzal** of the Huntington Beach city staff. Duke's is on the shore-end of the pier.



www.brandywindev.com

In 1994, former City Manager **Jim Barisic** founded Brandywine with a business plan to help revitalize established neighborhoods and to convert existing underutilized space into needed housing.

Many issues were discussed, questions addressed and speculations wondered. The possibility that San Diego Assembly Member **Toni Atkins** may be the next Speaker of the Assembly was mentioned. She represents the 76th Assembly District and has been serving as the Assembly Majority Leader. Toni served as a member of the San Diego City Council between 2000 and 2008.

Former Assembly Speaker **Robert Hertzberg**'s run for the State Senate was also noted. With State Senator **Alex Padilla** running for Secretary of State, former Assembly Member Hertzberg is running for that Senator seat. He is interested in the "Fiscalization of Land Use" as an issue to be addressed. The "fiscalization" of land use is the utilization of land use planning and development to encourage revenue production as a first-order goal to provide government revenues.

"Gonsalves" City Managers

Though we highlight the Gonsalves Client City City Managers in this December, 2013 list, our wishes for a Happy Holiday Season and a successful and enjoyable future goes out to everyone, especially those who practice city management throughout California.

Trying to avoid the alpha listing of folks, we have made this list completely random. We have attempted to find as much information as possible, and, as usual, our primary source is the ICMA Who's Who Directory. Those not listed in the directory provide a challenge for information gathering.

Thaddeus McCormack is the current City Manager in Santa Fe Springs. Thad succeeds long-time City Manager **Fred Latham**, who succeeded **Donald R. Powell**, who succeeded **Robert Williams**. Thad is the son of Irish immigrants, and grew up in the Whittier area of Los Angeles County. After working in the private sector for a number of years in the customer relations field, Thad took an Administrative Intern post in Santa Fe Springs in 1998. Since that time, he has worked his way up in the organization as an Administrative Assistant, Management Analyst, Assistant to the City Manager and Assistant City Manager. He became City Manager in 2010 when Fred retired after 38-years with the City. Thad earned a BA from California State University, Long Beach and an MPA from California State University, Fullerton. The Santa Fe Springs web page notes that Thad is married and is the father of three sons.

Accompanying City Manager **Thaddeus McCormack** was Santa Fe Springs Assistant City Manager, Administrative Services Director, and Finance Director **Jose Gomez**. Jose is a former member of the City of Paramount staff.



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Lakewood City Manager **Howard L. Chambers**, has been attending the **Joe A. Gonsalves & Son** annual City Manager Get-together for many years. Howard received a 45-year ICMA Service Award at ICMA's 99th Annual Conference in Boston. Howard has been listed in a number of Trackdown issues. It is believed that he is the California City Manager with the longest tenure in a single city. Howard was appointed to Lakewood's top spot in March, 1976. After serving with Lakewood's Parks & Recreation, Howard was appointed Administrative Aide in 1968. He then worked in Rosemead for about 4-years before returning to Lakewood in 1973. Howard earned a BS from CSULB and Masters degrees from Pepperdine and **USC**. He received the ICMA Management Innovation Award in 2001. He is a past participant in the ICMA Japan and New Zealand Fellowship Exchange programs.



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"Gonsalves" City Managers

Diamond Bar City Manager **James DeStefano** was 53-years old in July, 2006 when he was appointed to succeed City Manager **Linda Lowry**. Linda left for a position in Pomona where she is the current City Manager. Jim was the Community Development Director in Chino Hills at the time of his Diamond Bar appointment. Previous to his Chino Hills service Jim served as the Community Development Director in Diamond Bar. He currently Chairs the City Managers and Administrators Committee of the California Contract Cities Association.

Palm Desert City Manager **John M. Wohlmuth** began his public service career as an Administrative Intern in Grand Terrace in 1983. In 1986 he joined the Palm Desert staff as an Administrative Assistant in Public Works. In 1987 he was promoted to the Public Works Senior Administrative Assistant post. In 1989 he became the Palm Desert Environmental Consulting Manager, and in 1993 he was appointed Administrative Assistant to the City Manager. John was named Assistant City Manager/Director of Administrative Services. He left Palm Desert in 1999 to be the County Administrative Officer in Mono County where he served until 2003. John became Executive Assistant for the Coachella Valley Association of Governments in 2003 and served the COG for the next half dozen years. During that time he was elevated to the Executive Director position. In 2009 he was selected to serve as the Palm Desert City Manager following the retirement of City Manager **Carlos L. Ortega**. John earned a BS at the University of California, Riverside, and an MPA at California State University, San Bernardino. In 2011 he received a 25-years ICMA Service Award.



Jose Vera of Stifle and Norwalk City Manager **Mike Egan** at a city government event in Temecula.



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



Indian Wells City Manager **Wade G. McKinney** stopped by for part of the meeting, though he devoted his weekend to a special CCMF training session.

Wade serves as the President of the California City Management Foundation Board. He began his public service career in 1979 as an Assistant Planner in La Puente. Wade was appointed to the Taft Director of Planning position in 1980 with then-City Manager **Stephen L. Wright**. He was promoted in 1984 to assume the Assistant City Manager/Director of Planning & Building post in the City of Taft. Wade was appointed City Manager in the City of Shafter in 1986 and served in that position for some 11-years. In 1997 Wade was selected to serve as the City Manager in Atascadero where he served for about 16-years. He left Atascadero earlier this year (2013) to become the City Manager in Indian Wells to relieve Interim City Manager **Rod Wood**, a retired Beverly Hills City Manager. Wade earned a BS from California Polytechnic University, Pomona. He was the recipient of a 30-year ICMA Service Award in 2009. In addition to serving on the CCMF Board, Wade has also served on the Cal-ICMA Board.

"A good conscience is a continual Christmas."
--Benjamin Franklin



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

"Gonsalves" City Managers

Victorville City Manager **Douglas B. Robertson** was hired by Victorville as a Senior Management Analyst in August 2002. Doug was promoted to the Deputy City Manager position in March 2004. Doug has devoted most of his working career to the public service. Previous to Victorville he worked for California State University, San Bernardino, and for the City of San Bernardino. He was born in Washington, D.C. and moved often during his childhood years as a member of an Air Force family. He settled in Omaha, Nebraska where he was able to finish high school. Doug's family is now established in Victorville, with both of his parents, his wife's parents and his wife's brother living locally. Doug does not list career path information in the ICMA Who's Who Directory. One of Doug's current City Council Members is former Victorville City Manager **Jim Cox**.

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Steve Harding currently serves as the City Manager in the City of Jurupa Valley in addition to being a Senior Consultant for **The Kosmont Companies**. Steve also is an Instructor with Northwestern University and an Adjunct Professor at the University of La Verne. Steve's extensive and storied career has allowed him to serve more than 40 public and private organizations as a consultant, developer and/or public manager. His teaching has allowed him to mentor many of California's future public managers. He began his career in 1975 as an Administrative Analyst in Norwalk, and in 1977 he became a Community Development Aide; 1979, Community Development Specialist; and in 1980 he was elevated to the Norwalk Assistant Community Development Director. Between 1981 and 1985 Steve served as the Deputy City Manager in Bell Gardens, and in 1985 he joined the Azusa city staff as Community Development Director. Between 1987 and 1989 Steve served as the President of the San Diego SE Economic Development Corporation. Before going to the private developer side as a Vice President with The Larwin Company (1990-1992), Steve served as the Community Development Director in Lancaster in 1989 and 1990. He joined the Murrieta staff in 1992 as the Planning Director, and in 1994 he was appointed to the Murrieta City Manager position. In 1998 he joined **Marshall Linn** with the **Urban Futures** consulting firm. In 2001 Steve went to work for the Rosenow Spevacek Group as Director of Governmental Services. Steve took the Interim City Manager post in San Jacinto in 2002 and he became the Deputy City Manager/Development Services in Santa Ana in 2003. Steve began his college teaching career in 2005 with the University of La Verne, where he continues to serve. He returned to **Urban Futures** in 2008 prior to being appointed Interim Assistant City Manager in Hemet. In 2009 he joined the professional staff of **The Kosmont Companies**. In 2010-2011 he served as the Interim City Manager in Menifee and he went to the City of Jurupa Valley in 2011. Steve earned a BA and MPA at California State University, Long Beach. In 2008 he received a 25-year ICMA Service Award. Steve served on the ICMA Advisory Board on Graduate Education from 2011-2013.

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Keenan & Associates Executive Vice President
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"Gonsalves" City Managers

Commerce City Administrator **Jorge Rifa** was the recipient of a 35-year ICMA Service Award at the 99th ICMA Annual Conference in 2013. Jorge began his public management career in 1978 with the Compton Redevelopment Agency. He left the Compton Deputy Director post in 1983 to accept the Associate Executive Director position for the El Monte Redevelopment Agency. In 1984 Jorge moved to Monterey County when he was selected to serve as the City Manager in Soledad, where he worked for about the next 7-years. In 1991 Jorge was recruited to join the Salinas city staff as the Deputy City Manager to then-City Manager **David R. Mora**. He work with the Salinas for 17-years bringing his Monterey County service to 23-years. In 2008, at the age of 58, he was selected to serve as the Commerce City Administrator. He earned a BA from California State University, Long Beach. He served as a member of the ICMA Committee on Regionalism in 1991-1992. At the time of his appointment in Commerce, he claimed to be an avid fan of the San Francisco Giants.



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"Gonsalves" City Managers

Andrew J. Takata is the current City Manager in the City of Banning. Andy began his public management career in 1978 as a Senior Recreation Supervisor in the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District in Simi Valley. In 1981 he became a Recreation Supervisor in the City of Santa Fe Springs. In 1986 Andy was appointed Director of Parks & Recreation in the Town of Mammoth Lakes, and in 1989 he moved to Atascadero as the Director of Community Services. After about three years as a department head, Andy was selected to serve as the Atascadero Assistant City Manager in 1992 and then he became City Manager in 1993. After serving about 4-years as the Atascadero City Manager, he was recruited to serve as the City Manager of Newcastle, Washington. Andy moved back to California after about 7-years in Newcastle to take the Town Manager position in Yucca Valley, where he served until 2010. Andy was appointed to the Banning City Manager position in 2010. Andy earned a BA at California State University, Fullerton and he completed graduate studies as Claremont Graduate School. In 2011 he was the recipient of a 30-year ICMA Award. Andy served as a member of the Board of the Washington City/County Management Association in 2003-2005. Andy is an internationally recognized water polo official, and has officiated as an Olympic games referee. He is currently a member of the Collegiate Water Polo Association's Technical Water Polo Committee. He formerly served as Vice President and Treasurer of USA Water Polo.



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Through many years of experience, **Bob Murray** and his associates have created an ideal recruitment process by combining an ability to help determine the direction of a recruitment and the types of candidates needed.



Mike Egan is the City Manager in the City of Norwalk. He succeeded long-time Norwalk City Manager **Ernie Garcia**, who retired in August, 2011. Mike began his public management career in the City of Bellflower in 1989 where he joined the city staff as a Community Service Coordinator. He was elevated to Administrative Assistant in February, 1990 and in August of that year (1990) he was promoted to Assistant to the City Administrator. In October, 1992 Mike became the Deputy City Administrator. He was named Assistant City Administrator in 1995, and in 1997 he was named City Administrator. Bellflower changed the organization's top spot to City Manager in 2005, and he held that position until his resignation to join the Norwalk staff. Mike is not listed in the ICMA Who's Who Directory, though he has been active in inter-city city manager groups. He is also a past President of the Bellflower Kiwanis Club. Mike is a Southern California product who graduated from Lowell High School in Whittier. He is a huge University of Southern California (**USC**) football fan!



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In June 2013, **Fulbright & Jaworski** L.L.P. joined forces with Norton Rose as Norton Rose Fulbright.

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"Gonsalves" City Managers



Kevin L. Radecki is the City Manager in the City of Industry. He served as the City of Industry **Redevelopment Agency** Executive Director prior to his appointment.

The City of Industry incorporated in 1957. It has a daytime population of more than 50,000, and has an annual budget of about \$248 million. Kevin's father **John Radecki** is a former Industry City Engineer. The city is served by three separate school districts: Bassett Unified School District, Hacienda La Puente Unified School District, and Rowland Unified School District. The Industry Regional Sheriff's Station services the City of Industry, the City of La Puente and the unincorporated towns of Avocado Heights, Valinda and Bassett. Industry is home to the Puente Hills Mall that was used as the "Twin/Lone Pines Mall" in the *Back to the Future* movie series. As we pointed out in the April, 2013 issue of the City Manager Newsletter by Trackdown, **Kevin Radecki** is the first Kevin to serve as City Manager in Industry where **Bob Rope** was the first City Manager.

We tip our cap to those who devoted their time and effort to participate in the annual **Joe A. Gonsalves & Son** client city managers get-together. We recognize that media criticism is quick to splash across the pages of local newspapers as reporters develop shocking exposés regarding the expenditures of time and money. It is important that public managers avoid the fear of participating. Continuing education is important and should not be shunned. Developing valuable working relationships will help a manager do an improved job while in the office. Many thanks to the "Gonsalvi" for devoting their time and resources to assist local management. We hope you have enjoy reading this material. **Please accept our sincere wishes for a wonderful Holiday Season 2013, and a Happy and productive New Year.**



Picking Up the Pieces: Blue Lake City Manager **John Berchtold** earned an MA at Central Michigan University and a BBA at Temple University. John began his public management career in 1974 as an Assistant to the Manager in Yeadon, Pennsylvania. He served in a number of Michigan local governments and left the County Administrator post in Montcalm County, Michigan in 2007 to become the City Manager of Lake Butler, Florida. He moved to California in 2010 to become the Blue Lake City Manager. Morro Bay City Manager **Andrea Lueker** has reached a severance agreement with the city and has resigned. Administrative Services Director **Susan Slayton** has been appointed Interim City Manager. Andrea has worked for the City of Morro Bay since 1987, moving up through the organization from a Lifeguard to Director of Parks and Recreation, Assistant City Manager and then City Manager starting in 2007. Retired Moreno Valley City Manager **Henry T. Garcia** is the new Interim City Manager in Cudahy. Henry also served 10-years as the Rialto City Manager, and has worked for the cities of Colton, Azusa, San Jacinto, Fontana and Riverside. He earned a BA from the University of California, Riverside and an MA from the University of California, Los Angeles (**UCLA**). Assistant City Manager **Robert Walker** will serve as Interim City Manager, filling in behind the retirement of Sunnyvale City Manager **Gary Luebbers**. Gary announced his retirement in August. He stayed with the city beyond his retirement date of October 5, but his final day with the city was December 13. Bob will serve as Interim City Manager until the recruitment process for a new City Manager is complete.

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Fran Mancina of **MuniServices** is a member of the Board of Trustees for the California City Management Foundation..

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More Pieces Picked Up: Millbrae City Manager **Marcia L. Raines** served on the 17-members ICMA awards evaluation panel. Her term on the panel expired at the 99th ICMA Annual Conference. Marcia is a member of the Board of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF). Municipal Management Association of Southern California (MMASC) President **Brett Channing** has been appointed Assistant to the City Manager in El Cajon. He says that it was a difficult decision to leave the Brea staff, but he could not pass up a good career opportunity. **Patrick Wiemiller**, Fresno's Director of Public Utilities and the Department of Public Works, is the new City Administrator of the City of Lompoc in Santa Barbara County. He will begin his tenure in Lompoc on January 6, 2014. Pat is succeeding retiring City Administrator **Laurel Barcelona**. Lompoc Assistant City Administrator **Teresa Gallavan** has been appointed Interim City Administrator. Retired Beverly Hills City Manager **Rod Wood** has been serving as the Interim City Manager in Cathedral City since former City Manager **Andy Hall** left the city to take the Imperial Beach City Manager post. Cathedral City has been working with the **Bob Murray & Associates** executive search firm to find the next Cathedral City City Manager. Rod served as the Indian Wells Interim City Manager prior to the appointment of current City Manager **Wade McKinney**. Council Members in the City of Calistoga in the Napa Valley Wine Country have approved a three-year employment agreement with City Manager **Richard Spittler**. Richard took the Calistoga City Manager post in December, 2010. He has lived in Calistoga for 26-years. He is a former City Planner and succeeded City Manager **Jim McCann**, who left Calistoga to become the Mill Valley City Manager. Canyon Lake's new Mayor **Randy Bonner** is looking for a new City Manager. Acting City Manager **Deborah Harrington**, who took over for Interim City Manager **Richard Rowe**, must adhere to PERS retirement system rules, like Richard, and leave her current position by March 15. The city explored the notion of withdrawing from PERS in order to keep Deborah's services, but have discovered the cost too pricey for the Canyon Lake budget. The City Council gives Deborah rave reviews on her performance. Deborah is a retired City Clerk who served in a number of cities including: Bellflower, Solana Beach and Camarillo. Hawaiian Gardens, whose City Manager is **Ernesto Marquez**, was honored by First Lady Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" program for the City's fight against childhood obesity. Only 18 cities were singled out Nationwide.

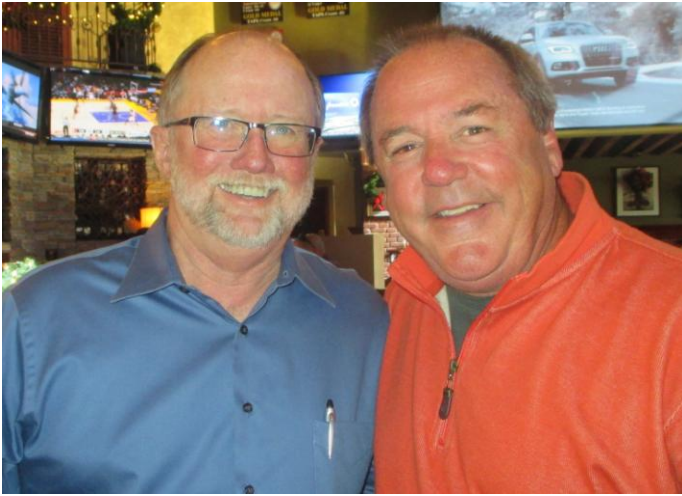


Former San Diego City Manager **Jack McGrory** has provided a second contribution of \$1.2 million to San Diego State University. The money will be split among the Joan And Art Barron Veterans Center; the School of Public Affairs and the Department of Classics and Humanities. Jack earned an MPA from San Diego State University in 1976. He teaches a graduate level course in public administration. He currently serves as the CEO of La Jolla MJ Management Inc. He served as the San Diego City Manager from 1991 to 1997. Former Newport Beach City Manager **Robert L. Wynn** died Saturday, November 30, after a short illness caused by a fall several days ago, according to current Newport Beach City Manager **Dave Kiff**. Bob worked for Newport Beach from 1971 until his retirement in 1991. He died at the age of 83 at Hoag Hospital.



Written by a long-time highly professional well-respected City Manager, this book is a "must read" by every City Manager, former City Manager, would-be City Manager and everyone else. It was released on Amazon.com in September. <http://www.amazon.com/City-Management-Snapshots-On-Run-ebook/dp/B00FOBPTVU>

Antioch will replace retiring City Manager **Jim Jakel** with the current Hercules City Manager **Steve Duran**, 58. Steve served nine years in Richmond from 2002 to 2011 as the Economic Development and Redevelopment Director. He has served as Hercules City Manager for the past two years. La Puente has appointed veteran City Manager **David Carmany** to serve as their new City Manager succeeding City Manager **Brett Plumlee**, who took a similar position in the City of Los Alamitos in Orange County. Retired LaVerne City Manager **Marty Lomeli** has served as the Interim City Manager for a short time. David is the former City Manager of Agoura Hills, Malibu, Pacific, Seal Beach and Manhattan Beach. He also served for a time as an executive with **PARS**. CCMF Executive Director **Rita Geldert**, retired Vista City Manager, has been living in the hospital for more than two months and expects about nine months in recovery. On November 27 Rita said that she expected to go home within a week or so. Her husband **Dale Geldert** continues to be a great support for her.



Brea City Manager **Tim O'Donnell** and former Signal Hill and Bellflower City Manager **John Jameson**. Tim and John worked together many moons ago in Signal Hill.

Still More Piece Picked Up: Albany's Recreation and Community Services Director **Penelope Leach**, 50, has been appointed to replace the retiring Albany City Manager **Beth Pollard**. Beth retired in August after 12-years as City Manager. She was replaced on an Interim City Manager basis by **Patrick O'Keefe**, the former City Manager in Emeryville. **William Rawlings** is the new Artesia City Manager. He has been serving as the Artesia Interim City Manager since May 6 following previous Interim City Manager **Don Powell**; following the retirement of City Manager **Maria Dadian**. Bill is a former City Manager in Menifee and prior to that the Redevelopment Agency Director in Vista, and Orange County real estate operations prior to that. Bill earned a BA from California State University, Fullerton and a Juris Doctorate from Western State University, College of Law. Hawaiian Gardens, whose City Manager is **Ernesto Marquez**, was honored by First Lady Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" program for the City's fight against childhood obesity. Only 18 cities were singled out Nationwide. **Scott P. Johnson**, Oakland Assistant City Administrator, is the new Assistant City Manager in Concord. Scott has worked in Finance Departments in Santa Clara, Milpitas and San Jose. He was the Director of Finance in Milpitas and San Jose. Scott earned a BS in Business/Accounting from California State University, Hayward. Lawndale Mayor **Harold E. Hofmann**, 81, passed away of natural causes at home on Saturday, November 16. Harold was first elected to the Lawndale City Council in 1980 and he was elected Mayor in 1990. He was elected to 12 two year terms as Mayor. Harold is a Past President of the California Contract Cities Association. He founded a sewer-contracting company at age 23 after being discharged from the U.S. Army.

He never retired from Hofmann & Son or his public service career. He is survived by his wife of about 60-years, **Doris Hofmann**. **Andrew Murray**, former Assistant to the City Administrator in Oakland, is now the Assistant City Manager in Pleasant Hill where **June Catalano** serves as City Manager. **Alexander J. Henderson** is the new Kingsburg City Manager. At the time of his appointment he was the Deputy Village Manager in Bayside, Wisconsin. He succeeds retired City Manager **Don Pauley**, who left last July after 13-years as the Kingsburg City Manager. Alex has earned both an undergraduate degree and MPA from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. He will report to his new Kingsburg position on January 13, 2014. Jurupa Valley City Manager **Steve Harding** is now an Adjunct Professor in the Master of Public Administration Program at California State University, Northridge. Jurupa Valley Assistant City Manager and City Engineer are **George Wentz** and **Roy Stephenson** respectively of HR Green. Police Chief **Jeff Laws** has been appointed City Manager in Lemoore. He has served with the Lemoore Police Department for the past 16-years, and he has been Chief since 2010. Jeff has been the Acting City Manager in Lemoore since City Manager **Jeff Brittz** resigned in March. Yuba City Assistant City Manager **Steve Kroeger** is serving as the Acting City Manager in Yuba City since City Manager **Steve Jepsen** has returned to Oceanside as the Oceanside City Manager. Former Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Chief **Paul "Stump" Strohm** would be 86-years old if he were still alive. Among his many assignments while with the department, he was the Commander of the Lakewood Sheriff's Substation on two separate occasions. **Stacy B. McLaughlin** is the new Chief Financial Officer for Willdan. She succeeds **Kimberly Gant**, who served in the post during the past 6-years. Stacy has been promoted from her Compliance Manager position with the company. She earned a Masters in Accounting from the University of Southern California (**USC**). **Robert Van Nort** was 46 years of age when he was appointed to serve as the first Diamond Bar City Manager in 1989. Paramount City Manager **Linda Benedetti-Leal** serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the Greater Long Beach & Rio Hondo Chapters of the American Red Cross. The group is largely a group of community volunteers and local business folks. Long Beach Police Administrative Bureau Chief **Braden Phillips** and Long Beach Fire Chief **Mike Duree** are also members of the Board, as is **John Holmes**, the Deputy Executive Director of the Port of Los Angeles. The Board is Chaired by realtor **Mollie Beck**. **Margaret Arbini Madonna** is the Chief Executive Officer.

A Picture Page to Close out 2013:

