1985 to 2010: Third Installment
California City Managers
Still Working 25-years Later

With this third issue of April, 2010 we are finishing up our "Quarter Century" managers. We have added a couple of folks who are still in the trenches, though admittedly we have not got all who are still serving in one capacity or another. In this issue we have also attempted to present a "raw" list of those who were managers in 1985, and, though not still city managers, they continue to be members of ICMA and listed in the ICMA Who’s Who Directory. We apologize in advance for anyone we inadvertently missed.
3rd Installment: City Managers Still Serving 25-years Later

Continuing the “Quarter Century” service list, we continue to primarily rely on the ICMA Who’s Who Directory. We do attempt to find supplemental information from other sources, but time prevents in-depth research on each individual. We hope you enjoy this presentation.

In 1985 John Jalili was the Santa Monica City Manager. John began his public management career as the Assistant Director of Planning in Norman, Oklahoma in 1964. In December, 1966 he took the Director of Planning position in Ames, Iowa, and in March, 1970 John moved to California to be the Director of Planning & Development in Inglewood. In 1974 he moved to the Santa Monica Director of Environmental Services post. John was appointed Santa Monica Assistant City Manager in June, 1979 and in December, 1984 he was promoted to the City Manager position where he served until retirement at the end of 1999. John just recently concluded an Interim City Manager assignment in Lomita. He has a BA from Colgate University and an MA from the University of Oklahoma. He earned a 35-year ICMA Service Award.

In 1985 Charles E. McNeely was the Seaside City Manager. He began his public service career in 1972 as an Administrative Intern in San Diego. Charles took a Management Assistant assignment in Palo Alto in June, 1976, and was appointed Assistant to the City Manager there in 1978. In July, 1983 he was selected to be the City Manager in Seaside, where he served for a little more than 10-years before taking the Assistant General Manager post for the East Bay Utility District. In May, 1996 he became the City Manager in Reno, Nevada, and in June of last year (2009) he came back to California to be the San Bernardino City Manager. Charles has a BA and an MPA from the University of Kansas. Between September, 2001 and October, 2004 he served on the ICMA Executive Board as a Regional Vice President. He is the recipient of the 2004 ICMA Carolyn Keane Award, and he has earned a 30-year ICMA Service Award.

http://www.piperjaffray.com

http://www.contractcities.org/

7-year old Tyler Simpson Pouncéy on a visit to Norwalk City Hall

“Steve McQueen looks good in this movie. He must have made it before he died.” -- Yogi Berra
In 1985 Brock T. Arner was the City Manager in the City of Sonoma. Brock began his public management career as an Administrative Assistant in 1975, upon returning from Vietnam. In 1977 he was promoted to the Director of Administrative Services position. Brock headed north to take the Sonoma City Manager job in December, 1979 and he served there for some 15-years. In 1994 he was selected to be the Sausalito City Manager. In 2000 Brock moved to San Pablo, first as the Interim Community Services Director and then City Manager starting in July, 2001. Brock retired last month. He has a BA from the University of California, Santa Barbara, an MS from California State University, and an MPA from USC. Brock is an ordained minister through the Universal Life Church. He was inducted into the Buena Park High School Athletic Hall of Fame in 1991. Brock’s daughter Melanie Arner Corona is an executive in the San Francisco office of Piper Jaffray.
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In 1985 Kevin O’Rourke was the City Manager in the City of Stanton and in November, 1985 he was appointed City Manager in Buena Park. Kevin began his public management career journey following a couple of years in the private sector in 1977 as the Director of Human Resources in Stanton. In January, 1981 he was appointed Assistant to the City Manager, and in 1982 Kevin was appointed Stanton City Manager/City Clerk. In November, 1985 he moved to the City Manager post in Buena Park. Kevin served in the “Home of Knott’s Berry Farm” for nearly a dozen years before moving to Northern California to be the City Manager in Fairfield in March, 1997. Kevin retired from his Fairfield post in 2008, and became associated with Urban Futures, Inc. He jumped back into public management though, and is currently serving as the Interim City Manager in Stockton. Kevin has a BA from La Salle College, Pennsylvania. He served on the ICMA Executive Board from September, 2000 to September, 2003 as a West Coast Regional Vice President. Kevin is a past-President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities (1997 -98). He has also served on the Cal-ICMA Board, and he Chaired the ICMA Committee on Government Affairs (formerly Public Policy). He is an ICMA Credentialed Manager and earned his 30-year ICMA Service Award in 2007.

In 1985 Stephen L. Wright was the City Manager in Taft. Steve began his public management career in 1967 as an Administrative Assistant in Signal Hill, and he was appointed Assistant Administrative Officer in 1970. Steve was selected for the Assistant City Manager post in Lynwood in February, 1972 and was elevated to City Manager in December of that year, serving in that position until November, 1976. In 1977 Steve was appointed City Manager in Taft, where he served for a few months more than a dozen years. He moved to Big Bear Lake as City Manager in September, 1989, and in 1993 Steve moved north to become the first Truckee Town Manager. Truckee grew as a railroad town originally named Colburn Station, starting with the Transcontinental Railroad project. Steve retired from Truckee in 2005, and is listed as the Wheatland City Manager in the League's City Manager Directory starting in 2006. He has a BA from California State University.

http://www.kndinc.com/index.htm
In 1985 Tustin City Manager William A. Huston was the City Manager in Tustin. Bill started his public management career in November, 1970 as an Administrative Assistant in Simi Valley. In June, 1972 he was promoted to Assistant to the City Manager, and in 1975 he left Simi Valley to take the Assistant City Administrator job in Millbrae. In October, 1978 he was elevated to Millbrae City Administrator. In 1981 Bill returned to Southern California as the Tustin City Manager and he has served there since. He has a BA from the California State University, Northridge and an MPA from USC. He has earned a 35-year ICMA Service Award.

Tustin incorporated in 1927 with a population of about 900. During World War II, a Navy anti-submarine airship base (later to become a Marine Corps helicopter station) was established in unincorporated land south of the city; the two blimp hangars are among the largest wooden structures ever built and are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. After the war Tustin annexed nearby unincorporated land including the base.
In 1985 James L. Cox was the City Manager in Victorville. Jim started his public service career in the United States Navy. After an honorable discharge and graduating in 1966 as an Administrative Assistant in Indio. In October, 1967 Jim took a similar position in Victorville and started up through the organization from Administrative Assistant; Assistant City Manager, 1968; and City Manager in December, 1969. He retired as the Victorville City Manager 31-years later in 2000. That year he lost a bid to become a High Desert State Legislator, but was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Mojave Desert Resource Conservation District. Jim has served on the Victor Valley Hospital Board of Directors too. He was elected to the Victor Valley Water District Board in 2003, and served there until the District merged with the City of Victorville in 2007. In September, 2007 Jim was appointed Interim Town Manager in Apple Valley and served that community until August, 2008. In January, 2009 Jim returned to Victorville as the Interim City Manager, and in no time at all the “Interim” was dropped from his title. Jim has a BA from San Diego State University, and a MPA from USC.

In 1985 Ted Gaebler was the City Manager in Visalia. He was listed on our "Oregon experience" list already, but we cannot leave him off this "quarter century" list. It was in 1992 when Ted co-authored “Reinventing Government” with David Osborne earning some celebrity. Ted began his career in 1963 with a 3-month paid internship in Oxford, Ohio. In 1964 he served 6-months as an Administrative Assistant in Dayton, Ohio, and in June, 1965 he accepted an Administrative Assistant post in Salem, Oregon. He was appointed Assistant to the City Manager in 1969. In June, 1970 Ted headed east to become the Assistant Manager in Columbia, Maryland, and after nearly two years in that position he was appointed City Manager in Vandalia, Ohio in June, 1972. Ted moved back to California in November, 1975 to accept the Assistant City Manager post in Visalia, and in 1978 he was appointed Visalia City Manager. Ted served in Visalia until the summer of 1985 when he served five months as the San Rafael City Manager prior to taking the reins as President of The Gaebler Group, Inc. in December, 1985. Ted served a three-month assignment at Interim City Manager in Hercules in 1987, and a 6-month assignment as the Assistant Chief Executive Officer in Washington, D.C. in 1998. In January, 2000 Ted moved back into full-time local government employment as the County Executive Officer in Nevada County, California where he served until 2003. After a 6-month Interim City Manager assignment in East Palo Alto in 2003, Ted was appointed to his current post as Rancho Cordova City Manager in October, 2003. In addition to the BA from Miami University, Ted earned a MGA from the University of Pennsylvania. Besides his 30-year ICMA Service Award, Ted is the 1979 recipient of the ICMA Management Innovation Award, and the 2009 recipient of the ICMA Career Development Award in Memory of L. P. Cookingham.
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In 1985 Thomas G. Mauk was the City Manager in the City of Whittier. Tom began his public management career in 1967 as an Administrative Analyst in Los Angeles. In July, 1970 he moved to Montclair as the Assistant City Manager to City Manager Lauren M. Wasserman. In April, 1976 Tom was appointed City Manager in Norco, and in October, 1980 Tom was selected to serve the City of Whittier as City Manager. Tom’s Whittier tenure was more than 19-years, before he took the La Habra City Manager post in December, 1999. When Tom left La Habra in 2002 he took a short walk of the private sector side before being recruited to serve as County Executive Officer in Orange County in October, 2004 where he currently serves. Tom has a BS from California State Polytechnic College, and an MPA from USC. Tom was the 1995-96 President of the City Managers’ Department of the League of California Cities. He served on the ICMA Executive Board as a Regional Vice President, 1997-2000. Tom earned a rare 40-year ICMA Service Award in 2009.

In 1985 Andrew C. Lazzaretto was the City Manager in the City of Burbank, and it was that year that he founded A.C. Lazzaretto & Associates. Andy began his career as an Administrative Intern in Montebello in 1964. In 1965 he was selected to serve as the Assistant City Manager in Lynwood. (It was during this time that I first met Andy at an Area ‘E’ Civil Defense meeting.) In September, 1969 Andy was appointed City Manager in Walnut, and he left there in December, 1975 to take the Montebello Assistant City Administrator post. After nearly two years working with Montebello City Administrator Roy Pederson, Andy was recruited to be the City Administrator in Stanton in 1977. He was appointed to the Alhambra City Manager position in 1980, and served there until 1983 when he was selected to be the Burbank City Manager. In June, 1985 Andy founded his consulting firm and developed an outstanding reputation and, as a result, developed an excellent public agency client list. Andy served as the Pomona City Manager for a time, and in 2006 Andy returned to city government as the City Manager in Rosemead for a little more than a year. He has returned to his successful A. C. Lazzaretto & Associates professional research and management consulting firm. Andy has a BA from Saint Mary’s College in Moraga and an MS from California State University, Los Angeles. He earned a 20-year ICMA Service Award.
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In 1985 Leonard G. Wood was the City Manager in Claremont. Len started his career as an Administrative Aide in 1966 in Santa Ana. In November, 1967 he went to Burbank as an Administrative Analyst/Intern. In 1968 he was promoted to Administrative Analyst II and in 1969 he was appointed to a Burbank Senior Administrative Assistant post. In 1970 Len joined the Simi Valley staff as the Assistant City Manager & General Services Director, and in 1973 Len was promoted to Simi Valley Deputy City Manager. In December, 1973 Len was appointed City Manager in Rancho Palos Verdes, and in 1980 he took the City Manager assignment in Claremont. In January, 1988 Len started Len Wood Associates. Since then he has taken numerous “interim” assignments, including: Bell, La Palma, Signal Hill, Colton, Ontario, La Palma (again), Goleta, Signal Hill Deputy City Manager. He has provided many jurisdictions with needed consulting work and training. Len co-authored the book: “Tales From the Trenches,” and among other publications wrote “Local Government Dollars & Sense.” Len has a BA from California State University, Long Beach and an MPA from USC. He earned a 20-year ICMA Service Award.

“Tommy (Lasorda) doesn’t stop eating when he’s full; he stops when his arms are tired.”
---L.A. Dodger Second Baseman Steve Sax

In 1985 Anthony Bonilla Lopez was the City Manager in Corning. Tony began his career as an Administrative Intern in 1974 in Paramount. In 1975 he took an Administrative Intern position with the Long Beach Police Department. In 1976 Tony became the Director of Outreach Programming in Stanton and served there until January, 1980. In 1981 he took the Human Services Director assignment in Desert Hot Springs, and in 1982 he was appointed Administrative Services Director in Coachella. In November, 1984 Tony became the Corning City Manager, where he serves for nearly 9-years. In 1993 he moved to the Orange Cove City Managers post, and in 1998 he returned to Southern California as the City Administrator in Hawaiian Gardens. In December, 2002 Tony became the Temporary Public Works Department Finance Manager in Fresno, and in July, 2003 Tony was appoint McFarland City Manager where he served until 2006. Since 2008 Tony has served as a Criminal Justice Adjunct Instructor for ITT Technical Institute. Tony has an AA from Long Beach City College, a BS and MPA from California State University, Long Beach. He has earned a 30-year ICMA Service Award.

“May the saddest day of your future be no worse than the happiest day of your past” --- Irish Blessing
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Of course there are others out there deserving of recognition. We can feel it in our bones. If nothing else, we have provided a pretty good representative list. Our first two “Quarter Century” lists included: Kevin J. Murphy, Richard F. Pucci, Martin John Nichols, Kevin C. Duggan, Stephen R. Burrell, Gerald M. Caton, Robert F. D. Adams, Abdel Salem, Earl D. Wilson, Jr., James L. Armstrong, Steven M. Salomon, Richard D. Rowe, Kenneth C. Frank, Howard L. Chambers, Paul Jule Philips, Richard J. Ramirez, George E. Scarborough, David R. Mora, David M. Jinkens, James R. Erickson, James E. Starbird, Lloyd R. De Llamas, Gary A. Napper, Raymond L. Gibbs, Donald F. McIntyre, Donald E. Bradley, Timothy J. Casey, Carlos A. Urrutia, Frank G. Tripepi, Donald E. Penman, Gerald E. Newfarmer, Kerry L. Miller, and Richard C. Wilson.

We included a couple of folks like Richard Wilson, who we did not find in the ICMA Who’s Who Directory, but the ICMA records are our primary research source. We apologize to our Range Riders who were left out and promise that a future issue will focus on them.

Here is a list of those who were City Managers in 1985 and their 1985 city, who are still listed in the ICMA Directory: William O. Talley, Anaheim; Leland M. Walton, Antioch; Ross G. Hubbard, Atherton; John Longley, Avalon; George Caravalo, Bakersfield; Jack A. Simpson, Bellflower; Edward P. Everett, Belmont; Edward S. Kreins, Beverly Hills; Jack Smith, Cathedral City; John D. Goss, Chula Vista; Allen L. Goodman, Clovis; Ramon R. Silver, Coronado; Randy L. Johnsen, Cotati; Roy D. Bysegger, Crescent City; Roger A. Storey, Davis; Dennis W. Mc Duffie, Delano (currently CM in Diboll, Texas); Gerald F. Johnson, Desert Hot Springs; Robert R. Ovrom, Downey; J. Kenneth Caresio, Duarte; Richard C. Ambrose, Dublin; Arthur E. Jones, El Segundo; Robert A. Stockwell, Eureka; Byron Gale Wilson, Fairfield; Jack Ratelle II, Fontana; Robert M. Christofferson, Fresno; Dr. James M. Evans, Glendora; Douglas B. Dunlap, Hawaiian Gardens; Donald A. Blubaugh, Hayward;

http://www.bobmurrayassoc.com/

http://www.parsinfo.org/

http://www.fulbright.com/

www.msw-consultants.com

Lyle W. Alberg, Hemet; Paul S. Ogden, Hollister; Robert E. Hendrix, Humboldt County (retired as Morro Bay CM); Donald L. Jeffers, Huntington Park; Phillip Hawes, Indio; Paul D. Eckles, Inglewood; Damon B. Edwards, King City (currently CM in Highland, Utah); Lawrence J. Butzlaff, Kingsburg; James C. Gilley, Lancaster; Jack D. Shelver, Lemoore; Leland J. Horner, Livermore; Thomas A. Peterson, Lodi; Robert R. Mitchell, Loma Linda; Gene L. Wahlers, Lompoc; John E. Dever, Long Beach; Arne Louis Croce, Los Altos; Albert P. Beltrami, Mendocino County (Ukiah); Douglas R. Dawson, Mill Valley; Beryl P. Robinson, Jr., Nevada City; Robert Lee Wynn, Newport Beach; Phillip J. Brown, Novato; J. William Little, Orange; Bruce A. Altman, Palm Desert; Norman R. King, Palm Springs; William A. Holt, Paramount; Roger L. Kemp.
1985 Managers still listed in ICMA Directory:


Picking Up the Pieces: Hawthorne City Manager Jag Pathirana was abruptly dismissed and former City Manager Jim Mitsch was appointed to replace him at a noon special council meeting this month. Jag was Hawthorne City Manager since 2006. Jim Mitsch was a Hawthorne staff member for more than 20 years before he was appointed City Manager in 1991. He left the City Manager post in 1994. Former Finance Director Rebecca Craig has been appointed Assistant City Manager in Elk Grove by City Manager Laura Gill. Covina City Manager Daryl Parrish is looking for a safe comfortable pedestrian environment in the downtown area with sidewalk cafes, and slow traffic. Covina has launched a $215,000 study to develop a plan to provide widened sidewalks, bicycle lanes, slowed vehicular traffic and pedestrian safety on Citrus Avenue. Former South El Monte City Manager Gary Chicots, who recently concluded an Interim Assistant City Administrator assignment in Hawaiian Gardens with City Administrator Ernesto Marquez, is a Long Beach landlord. Former Irwindale City Manager Steve Blancarte has been working hard to improve and tune his golf game so that he might join the Senior Tournament Circuit. Lancaster Deputy City Manager Jason Caudle praises the environmentally compatible technology and the “fiscal sense” of the 2.5 megawatts solar electric power project approved in March. The new solar project will generate enough electricity to power four hundred homes. It will provide electricity for six different City sites including City Hall, Clear Channel Stadium and the City’s performing arts center. Upon completion, it will be one of the largest city-initiated solar projects in California. New Hanford City Manager Hilary Straus, 38, an antique car buff, has a BA from the University of California, Davis and an MPA from USC. Former Beaumont Finance Director Bill Aylward has been promoted to Assistant City Manager by City Manager Alan Kapanicas.

California Contract Cities Association
Annual Fall Seminar
October 29-31, 2010
Fess Parker’s Doubletree,
Santa Barbara, California

Veteran City Manager Paul Philips, who recently finished an “interim” assignment in Maywood.
“In today’s new economy businesses and communities need to work together to achieve effective results.”

--Larry Kosmont
President & CEO
Kosmont Companies

Kosmont Companies, a certified Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), is a development services firm offering a full range of real estate and economic advisory, brokerage, project finance, investment, and planning services for both the public and private sectors.

Founded in 1986, Kosmont Companies has become a nationally recognized expert in economic development and real estate development projects involving government and private sector partnerships.

Whether the objective is getting a project entitled and approved, financed, developed, leased or sold, or if the goal is to generate new tax revenues, jobs or business opportunities, Kosmont Companies ensures success. Our diverse and uniquely qualified development services team provides the depth and expertise required to help clients conceptualize, structure and implement projects of all product types, sizes and complexities.

From the earliest planning and feasibility stages and throughout project development, Kosmont Companies effectively guides clients through intricate transaction and policy issues to create viable economic development strategies, achieve redevelopment/revitalization goals, and produce real estate projects and public asset management solutions.

We recognize the powerful social and economic benefits of community development and redevelopment, and Kosmont is committed to bringing public, private, and non-profit organizations together in meaningful real estate transactions that help communities to flourish.

Larry J. Kosmont, CRE, is the President and CEO of Kosmont Companies, which he founded in 1986. He is Managing Partner of Renaissance Community Fund, which invests and develops mixed use, residential and commercial projects throughout California. Larry’s 32-year career encompasses negotiations, development, and management of real estate transactions exceeding $10 billion. He has an extensive track record as a public/private real estate advisor and developer. From 1975 to 1986, Larry served as a City Manager, Director of Community Development, and Redevelopment Director in the cities of Santa Monica, Seal Beach, Bell Gardens, and Burbank.

In 1995, he conceived of and created the Kosmont-Rose Institute Cost of Doing Business Survey®, which is now recognized as the industry standard for comparing city taxes and economic incentives. The Survey covers 400 cities in all 50 states, and is published annually by California’s Claremont-McKenna College.

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More Pieces Picked Up: Clearlake resident Shirley Howland is an outspoken critic of City Administrator Dale Neiman. Revenue producing development proposals have garnered local opposition and a law suit by the Sierra Club. Dale notes that the City’s fiscal condition is “terrible.” “We don’t even have enough money to have a Web site.” Actress Reese Witherspoon, 34, lives in Ojai. Sacramento County Chief Operations Officer Nav Gill is a former Assistant City Manager and Finance Director in the City of Folsom. Steve Pinkerton has been the City Manager in Manteca since June, 2008. He served as Redevelopment Director in Stockton from 1994 to 2008. He has also worked for the Cities of Long Beach and Redondo Beach. Steve earned a BA from the University of Missouri and a Master’s in Urban Planning and a Master’s in Economics from USC. Rio Dell Interim City Manager Jim Stretch has been dealing with a proposed annexation of the Scotia community. Veteran City Manager Gene Rogers continues to serve as the Coachella Interim City Manager, as the City continues its recruitment process for a new City Manager. The City hopes to have a new City Manager on board by July 1.

Richard B. DeLong (1930 - 2010)
Retired veteran City Manager George Caravalho informed us of the passing of his long-time friend and mentor Dick DeLong. George notes that Dick was a "great guy" and will be sorely missed. Richard B. DeLong began his public management career in 1955 as an Administrative Intern in Phoenix, Arizona. In 1956 he was hired on in Palm Springs as an Administrative Assistant, and he worked there until 1959 when he was appointed Assistant City Manager in Riverside. In December, 1962 he was selected to be the Milpitas City Manager. After serving in Milpitas for nearly 11-years, he was recruited to be the Mountain View City Manager in November, 1973. In September, 1976 Richard was appointed to the San Mateo City Manager post, and he served there until April, 1990 when he gave retirement a try. In 1991 in took the Interim City Manager assignment in Los Altos Hills. After retiring to San Luis Obispo he served on the San Luis Obispo County Arts Council. Richard earned a BA and MS from the University of Denver. He served on the Executive Board of the City Managers’ Department of the League of California Cities, and was President in 1987. He participated in the ICMA Exchange Programs in Australia (1987) and to the United Kingdom (1982). Richard earned a 35-year ICMA Service Award in 1993.

Former Lodi Planning Director Rad Bartlam has been tapped to serve as the City’s Interim City Manager temporarily replacing City Manager Blair King, who is the new Coronado City Manager. Veteran Benicia City Manager Jim Erickson, 64, has announced his retirement effective July 12. Jim served as City Administrator in Folsom and Millbrae prior to his current assignment in Benicia starting in 2003. The National Civic League announced the 2010 All-America City finalists include the California Cities of Dublin, Lynwood, Rancho Cordova and the Vernon Central (neighborhood). Long-time Laguna Beach City Manager Ken Frank has announced his retirement at the end of November, 2010. Ken has served as Laguna Beach City Manager since 1980. Vallejo is selecting an executive search firm to conduct a thorough search for its next City Manager. Interim City Manager Bob Adams estimates that a new City Manager could be in place as early as October. Bob replaced retired City Manager Joe Tanner on a one-year contract, and he has PERS approval to work up to an additional 960 hours in the next year. Bob retired as City Manager in Manteca, and previously was City Manager in Lafayette and Dinuba. Long-time Lomita City Clerk Dawn Tomita, 64, who was the City’s first employee following incorporation in 1964, is the new Lomita City Manager, succeeding Interim City Manager John Jalili and City Manager Tom Odom. In addition, Community Development Director Gary Sugano adds “Assistant City Manager” to his title. Though his performance met or exceeded expectations, Auburn City Manager Bob Richardson took a 10 percent reduction in pay and benefits during 2009, to help address a straining budget, according to a Placer Herald editorial. Menlo Park Chief of Police Bruce Golitia, 53, will retire June 1 and plans a family summer trip to Spain, and upon his return will look for part-time work, possibly in law enforcement. Bruce has been with the Menlo Park Police Department for 28-years and became chief in 2006. Downey Assistant City Manager Gilbert Livas, who is slated to succeed City Manager Jerry Caton when he retires next year, is the 7th child in his family, and born on the 7th day of the 7th month. Beyond that, he will become the 7th Downey City Manager and he came to work for the City in 2007. Condolences to Frank Tripepi, and Valentina Tripepi Shoop on the passing of their Dad, Frank Tripepi of Norwalk at the age of 91. Our prayers to the whole family.