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## California's ICMA City Managers Born Prior to 1945

This month we are taking a look at California's "most experienced" or "older" city managers. Palo Alto City Manager Dr. Frank Benest and others have pointed to the "Next Generation" of city managers with optimistic caution urging proactive preparation.

Many California managers are approaching retirement and will vacate positions in the near future. It is important that appropriate educational, training and instruction opportunities are provided to adequately prepare future city managers. Those currently practicing the city manager craft should not leave the future to "on-the-job-training."

The listing presented here is derived from the ICMA Who's Who Directory. Yes! There are others of advanced age who have not been listed. In order to be a part of this listing one must be active enough in the craft to be a member of ICMA, and a birth date must be listed with ICMA's records. Some ICMA members omit their birth date from the Who's Who listing.

What we have here is a good representative listing that demonstrates the aging of current California City Managers. The seminar and training efforts of Dr. Benest, Dr. Bill Mathis, Bill Garrett, Glenn Southard, Cathy Standiford, Rita Geldert, Kevin O'Rourke, Jeff Kolin, Bob LaSala and others through the League of California Cities, Cal-ICMA, MMANC, MMASC, colleges and universities and the California City Management Foundation are necessary elements to the healthy continuation of the Council-Manager Plan in California.

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Though not born prior to 1945, Palo Alto City Manager **Frank I. Benest** is a recognized leader among California City Managers. He is a past President of the League of California Cities' City Managers' Department, and a past ICMA Regional Vice president. Frank was born in May 1949. He has a BA from Yale University, an EdD from Brigham Young University and an MPA from California State University. Frank started in the Covina Recreation Department in 1970, and went to staff positions in Gardena prior to being appointed City Manager in Colton in 1986. He became Brea City Manager in 1989 and moved to Palo Alto in 2000. Frank is a leader in studying and planning for the Next Generation of City Managers. He is the recipient of ICMA's Clarence E. Ridley Award in 2003, an Award for demonstrating skill in Intergovernmental Relations. He also has a 35-year ICMA Service Award. Frank is listed as a supporter of the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition.

Born in October 1939, **Earl D. Wilson, Jr.** is the City Administrator of the City of Weed. Earl has a BA from Sacramento State College, and an MPA from California State College. He began his public management career in 1963 in the City of Auburn. He was appointed City Administrator in Escalon in 1968, and served as City Manager in Gustine and Rio Dell prior to joining the Weed staff in 1999. Earl has earned a 30-year ICMA Service Award.

**The future of California City Managers  
should not be left to "OJT."**

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## California ICMA CMs of age:

**Eugene L. "Jim" Dinkhouse**, City Manager in the City of Sanger, was born in May 1940. Jim has a 30-year ICMA Service Award. He began his public service career in Garfield County, Colorado. He served as City Manager in Monte Vista, Yuma and Central, Colorado; and Rawlins, Wyoming before coming to California.

Our "old" friend **Stephen B. Julian** was born in July 1941. Steve is the City Manager in Coalinga. He is another of those "Garden Grove Gang" folks. He started as an Intern in Garden Grove in 1967. He held staff positions in La Mirada, and Ontario before becoming the City Manager in Banning. He also was City Manager in San Juan Capistrano, Dana Point and Mammoth Lakes. He has a 30-year ICMA Service Award. Steve has a BA from California State University.

Delano City Manager **Abdel Salem** was born in June 1941. He has a 30-year ICMA Service Award. He was the El Centro Assistant Finance Director in 1973 and moved up to Finance Director and then El Centro City Manager in 1980 and served in that position for more than two decades. He was appointed City Manager in Delano, the second largest City in Kern County, in 2003. He has a BA from Alexandria University in Egypt.

"Water skier "and boat driver **Richard D. Rowe** is the City Manager in Needles, and was born in October 1941. He has a BA and MPA from California State University. He started his career as an Anaheim Police Officer in 1965. He then worked staff position in Anaheim, Bakersfield and El Monte prior to being appointed La Palma City Manager in 1981. He also was Chino City Manager, Ventura Interim County Library Director, and Interim Community Development Director in Hemet. He joined Needles as an Interim but was soon appointed permanent. He has a 35-year ICMA Service Award.

*"Proactive preparation will help  
the 'Next Generation'"*

Rancho Cordova City Manager **Ted A. Gaebler** was born in December 1941. He has a BA from Miami University, Ohio and an MGA from the University of Pennsylvania. Ted began his career in 1964 in Dayton, Ohio. He had positions in Salem, Oregon and Columbia, Maryland prior to being appointed City Manager in Vandalia, Ohio. He came to California as the ACM in Visalia where he was appointed City Manager in 1978. He also served as City Manager in San Rafael, County Executive Officer in Nevada County, and Interim City Manager in East Palo Alto. He was the President of successful and innovative The Gaebler Group, Inc. He is well-known for his writings on "Reinventing Government." He is the 1979 recipient of the ICMA Management Innovation Award. He has a 25-year ICMA Service Award.

A Past-President of the League of California Cities City Managers' Department, **Donald A. "Don" Blubaugh** is the current City Manager in Martinez. Don was born in March 1942. He has earned a 35-year ICMA Service Award. Don started his public management career in 1965 in Riverside. He has a BA from Shippensburg State University in Pennsylvania, and an MGA from the University of Pennsylvania-Fels Institute for Local and State Government. Don has served as City Manager in the Cities of Palm Springs, Hayward, and Walnut Creek. He was Interim City Manager in the Cities of Orinda, Oakley, and Martinez, where he accepted the official appointment in February 2007. Don remained active in the city management craft following his would be retirement from Walnut Creek in 2002. He served at the President of Public Service Search Skills. Don participated in the ICMA United Kingdom Exchange Program in 1987. He has a 35-year ICMA Service Award.

Torrance City Manager **LeRoy J. Jackson** was born in January 1944. He has a BPA from California State University. He began his career as an Intern in Pasadena in 1965. He went to Torrance in 1966 and served in various positions and was appointed Assistant City Manager in 1981. He became City Manager in 1983. He has an impressive 40-year ICMA Service Award.



*Pomona City Manager Doug Dunlap has announced his retirement. He was born in February 1946, and has a 30-year ICMA Service Award.*

City of Pomona Website:

[www.ci.pomona.ca.us](http://www.ci.pomona.ca.us)

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## California ICMA CMs of age:

Rosemead City Manager **Andrew C. "Andy" Lazzaretto** was born in October 1942. He has a BA from St. Mary's College and an MS from California State University. Andy received his current assignment in 2006 following a long and successful consultant career with A.C. Lazzaretto & Associates. Andy was an Intern in Montebello in 1964. He worked in Lynwood prior to his appointment as Walnut City Manager. After a revisit to Montebello as the ACA with Roy Pederson, he served as City Manager in Stanton, Alhambra, Pomona, and Burbank. Andy has a 20-year ICMA Service Award.

Walnut Creek City Manager **Gary F. Pokorny** was born in May 1942. He earned a BA and an MA from the University of Nebraska. He started his public career in 1970 in Woodbury County, Texas before moving on to Sioux City, Iowa where he became City Manager in 1974. He then served as City Manager in Corvallis, Oregon. Then, after a stint on the private side as a consultant, he became the City Manager in El Cerrito. He went to Walnut Creek in 2000 as the Director of Arts, Recreation & Community Services. He has been City Manager since 2006. He has a 25-year ICMA Service Award.

Selma City Manager **Douglas-Bruce "D-B" Heusser** was born in March 1943. He has an AA from Orange Coast College; a BA from California State University, Fullerton; and a MDIV from American Baptist Seminary of the West. D-B started his city career in 1995 as the Director on Economic Development in Selma. He was appointed Interim City Manager in June, 2000, and assumed the position in February 2001. He has a 10-year ICMA Service Award.

Another rare 40-year ICMA Service Award recipient is Chino Hills' City Manager **Douglas N. La Belle**. Doug was born in October 1943. He has a BA from the University of California. Doug began his public management career as an intern in 1964 in the City of Garden Grove. He worked in La Mesa prior to becoming the City Administrator of Marysville. After returning to Garden Grove as the Director of Community Development, Doug moved on to Gaylord Knapp's staff in Cerritos, and then to Huntington Beach as the Deputy City Manager. Doug then served as City Manager in the City of Signal Hill. He was appointed in Chino Hills in 1995.



*Ridgecrest City Manager Harvey Rose was born in June 1945. He has a 30-year ICMA Service Award.*

*Ridgecrest Website:  
[www.ci.ridgecrest.ca.us](http://www.ci.ridgecrest.ca.us)*

Sonoma City Manager **Michael "Mike" Fuson** was born in January 1944. Mike has a BA, MA and MPA from the University of Washington. Mike has a 30-year ICMA Service Award and is the recipient of the ICMA Award for Program Excellence for Community Partnerships for Cities with a population less than 10,000. He began his public management career in 1969 in King County, Washington, and came to the Pinole staff in 1972. He then joined the Novato staff where he served as Assistant City Manager prior to his appointment as City Manager in Sausalito. He also served as City Manager in Pismo Beach prior to his appointment in Sonoma in 2001.

Santa Clara City Manager **Jennifer D. Sparacino** was born in October 1944. She holds a BA and an MA from San Jose State University. Jennifer is a member of the League of California Cities' City Managers' Department Board. She began her public service career in 1976 the Santa Clara Recreation Department. She was appointed City Manager in 1987. She is a recipient of the ICMA Career Excellence Award in Honor of Mark E. Keane. She has a 30-year ICMA Service Award.

Santa Ana City Manager **David N. "Dave" Ream** started his public management career as a Community Development Analyst in Long Beach in 1971. Dave was born in July 1944. He has a BS from Arizona State University and an MBA from California State University. After getting his feet wet in Long Beach, Dave spent about 4 years in Lakewood before joining the Santa Ana staff in 1978. Dave held various positions in Santa Ana including Economic Development Director prior to his appointment as City Manager in 1986. Dave has a 35-year ICMA Service Award.

**“Everyone can use some training from time-to-time...even the trainers.”**

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## California ICMA CMs of age:

Redwood City's City Manager **Edward P. "Ed" Everett** was born in April 1944. He has a BA from the University of California and an MPA from Princeton University-Woodrow Wilson School. In 1973 he worked with the Palo Alto staff, and was appointed Fire Chief there before moving to Washoe County, Nevada as the Assistant County Manager. He was appointed Belmont City Manager in 1984 and went to Redwood City in 1991. Ed is the recipient of the 2002 ICMA Program Excellence Award for Outstanding Partnerships: Intergovernmental Cooperation. He has a 30-year ICMA Service Award.

Palos Verdes Estates City Manager **James B. "Jim" Hendrickson** was born in April 1944. He has a BA from Northwestern University, an MA from Georgetown University, and an MPA from Syracuse University. Jim worked various positions in Saratoga after starting there in 1972. Prior to his appointment as City Manager in San Clemente in 1984, Jim served as Assistant City Manager in Fresno. He received his current assignment in 1989. In 1996 Jim participated in the ICMA Exchange Program to Ireland. He has a 30-year ICMA Service Award.

**Fred E. Meurer**, City Manager of the City of Monterey, was born in March 1944. He has a BS from the United States Military Academy and an MSCE & MS from Stanford University. Fred was a Housing Director at Fort Ord prior to joining the Monterey staff in 1986. He was appointed City Manager in 1991. Fred is the recipient of the 2004 ICMA Innovations in Local Government Award. He has a 25-year ICMA Service Award.

A recipient of the 1985 ICMA Management Innovation Award for Arts & Cultural, **Howard L. Chambers** has served as Lakewood City Manager since 1976. Howard was born in December 1944. He has a BA from California State University, Long Beach; an MA from Pepperdine University; and an MPA from USC. Howard began his career in Lakewood in 1968, went to the Rosemead staff and then returned to Lakewood. Howard is a recipient of the El Gran Matador, the highest award presented by the California Contract Cities Association. He has participated in ICMA Exchange Programs to Japan and New Zealand. Howard has a 35-year ICMA Service Award.

Retiring Glendora City Manager **Eric G. Ziegler** was born in October 1944. He earned his 30-year ICMA Service Award with a career that started in 1974 in the Barstow Personnel Department. Eric rose through the ranks to be appointed Barstow City Manager in 1990. He also served as City Manager in Taft prior to coming to Glendora. Eric has a BA from Michigan State University and an MA from the University of California.

Born in August 1944, Dinuba City Manager **J. Edward Todd** has earned a 30-year ICMA Service Award. He has a BS and MPA from the University of Oregon, and is a former Board Member of the Oregon Section of ICMA. Ed started his career in 1972 as a Budget Analyst in Lane County, Oregon. Subsequent to that he held Finance Department positions in Springfield and Corvallis, Oregon. He was appointed Deputy City Manager in Corvallis in 1985. He has been the Dinuba City Manager since his appointment in 1988.

Colma City Manager and City Clerk **Diane McGrath** was born in December 1944. She has a BA from California State University, Long Beach, and an MA from the University of Colorado. Diane was a Senior Planner in Breckenridge, Colorado starting in 1978. After working in Foster City, she moved to Colma as the Assistant City Manager. Diane is a Past President and Honorary Member of MMANC.

Cathedral City City Manager **Donald E. "Brad" Bradley** was born in June 1944. He holds a BA from St. Mary's College, and an MPA from Golden Gate University. Brad has earned a 35-year ICMA Service Award. He began his public service career in 1967 in Livermore. Before his appointment in Cathedral City he served as City Manager in Pinole.



*Vallejo City Manager Joe Tanner was born in August 1947. He has a 30-year ICMA Service Award.*

*Vallejo City Website:*

*[www.ci.vallejo.ca.us](http://www.ci.vallejo.ca.us)*

**Congratulations to Gary Milliman!** Gary has received his dream position with his appointment as City Manager of the pretty Oregon coastal city of Brookings. Best wishes Gary for every future success. A Farewell Party is planned for June 27 at the Rio Hondo Country Club...information at South Gate.



Country Singer Casey Simpson of Nashville by way of Cerritos, California performed with the Consolidated Disposal Services group at the 48th Annual Municipal Seminar of the California Contract Cities Association. Note that the CDS boys are wearing special T-shirts designed by Greg Nordbak. CDS proved that beyond their signature quality refuse disposal services, they know about hospitality. Thank you Richard Fierro & CDS troops.

## ICMA Maintains a Next Generation Website

Society...all levels of government and the private sector...has experienced the drastic effects of the aging of the large crowd of employees born near the end of and shortly following World War II. Like the rest of American, the "greying" of the American population has had significant impact on city management.

Santa Paula City Manager Walter J. Bobkiewicz Chaired a Subcommittee on Internships for the ICMA Advisory Board on Graduate Education. Establishing a website to provide information on how to support internships, face transition issues, and a focus on critical training came out of the Subcommittee's work.

Walter said, "Everyone has a role in supporting and sustaining good local government management." <http://icma.org/nextgen/>

Please visit Cal-ICMA's Women's Leadership Program Website:

[www.womenleadinggovernment.org](http://www.womenleadinggovernment.org)

Every California City Manager should be a member of the California City Management Foundation.



[www.cacitymanagers.org](http://www.cacitymanagers.org)

### Picking up the pieces:

Newly install California Contract Cities Association President Sally Flowers of Artesia is congratulated on a successful 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Municipal Seminar. Outgoing President Jeff Prang of West Hollywood is congratulated on an outstanding year in the top office. Country Singer Casey Simpson sang the National Anthem at the opening session and a few songs at the hospitality suite of Consolidated Disposal Service ([www.caseysimpson.com](http://www.caseysimpson.com)). Congratulations to newly appointed Los Angeles County Assistant Sheriff Marvin Cavanaugh, truly one of the good guys. Taking after his NASCAR truck racing driver brother Ron in the "awesome department," Keenan & Associates' Robert "Bob" Hornaday gets our deepest gratitude. Many thanks go out to the CDS crew, especially Richard "El Jefe" Fierro and Greg Nordbak. It is always a good day to see Past CCCA President Larry Chimbole, who was his usual glib and dapper self at the seminar. Many "Thanks" to Howard Chambers and the Lakewood City Family for including Casey and I at their annual City Dinner during the seminar. Also, special "Thanks" to Ernie Garcia and the Norwalk City Family for taking care of us throughout the seminar and at the Installation Banquet. It was nice seeing G. David Huntoon of The Rose Institute of State and Local Government at the seminar. It was also good seeing Lyle Defenbaugh of Wachovia, who explained some great municipal investment opportunities. Another old friend at the conference was Past CCCA President Fred Guido. Congratulations go out to recently appointed L.A. County Sheriff's Department Leadership & Training Division Chief Roberta A. Abner.

Aliso Viejo City Manager Mark Pulone suggested that we take a manager and list all his/her former assistants that became city managers. He suggested former Cerritos & Lake Forest City Manager Gaylord Knapp. Please help us with the ones we missed. The list includes: Steve Thatcher, Gary Sloan, Art Gallucci, Jim Bowersox, Doug LaBelle, and Mark Pulone.

Jack A. Simpson

## Trackdown Management Developing New Format for Newsletter Distribution

Trackdown Management Services is in the development stages for a new website and newsletter distribution system. By the time you receive this newsletter by our old method of AOL email distribution, you should be able to click into our new website at:

[www.trackdownmanagement.net](http://www.trackdownmanagement.net)

Once there, please click into each of our first four newsletters.

We are in the development stages so please be understanding if everything does not immediately work the way it should.

We are also developing a Sponsor and Contributor system to help with the expenses. We will list Sponsors on our website and newsletters, and provide at least one story opportunity during the year. Contributors will also be listed on the website and newsletter. We are asking Sponsors for \$1,000 per year, for a guaranteed ten (10) issues. Sponsors will also be listed in all additional or special editions of the newsletter. Contributors will be listed in ten (10) issues for \$500.

We currently send our newsletter to officials in nearly every city in California and a few old city management friends outside the State. We have received a great many positive and encouraging comments regarding the newsletter.

Should you be interested in establishing a Sponsorship or being a Contributor, please contact us at:

[jsimpson@trackdownmanagement.net](mailto:jsimpson@trackdownmanagement.net)

Payments should be sent to:

**Trackdown Management Services**  
**16707 Gerritt Avenue**  
**Cerritos, California 90703-1442**

Thank you for your consideration:

Jack A. Simpson

## Congratulations once again Tyler Pouncey!



While we were at the California Contract Cities Association's 48th Annual Municipal Seminar May 17-20, Grandson Tyler got a call to do a print-work photo shoot for Mervyn's without audition. His mother Samantha brought him to the desert on Saturday to enjoy the pool though.

## 14 California City Managers listed by ICMA as being born in the year 1945 include:

Belmont's **Jack R. Crist** in February; **James R. Erickson** of Benicia in May; Camarillo's **Jerry Bankston** in September; Corning's **Stephen J. Kimbrough** in August; Loma Linda's **Dennis R. Halloway** in June; Morro Bay's **Bob Hendrix** in November; **John Sibley** of Orange in December; Oxnard's **Ed Sotelo** in June; **Carlos Ortega** of Palm Desert in December; **Larry Pennell** of Wasco in March; Wheatland's **Steve Wright** in May; Ridgecrest's **Harvey Rose** in June; Past ICMA President **Dave Mora** of Salinas in February; and San Ramon's **Herbert L. Moniz** in May. \*\*\*