

City Manager Newsletter By TRACKDOWN MANAGEMENT

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City Management Community"*

October, 2019 Special

Volume No. 12: Issue No. 16



Former City of Coronado city staff colleagues recently came together. Left to right in the picture are: **Ray Silver**, **Jim Benson**, **Luci Romero Serlet**, and **Les Jones**. Ray is a past President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities (2002-2003). Ray was the Coronado Director of Administrative Services (1977-1979) and then was City Manager (1979-1987). Jim was Director of Administrative Services (1981-1987) and Assistant City Manager (2000-2009). Luci was a Coronado Administrative Intern (1985-1987). She was later the Los Alamitos City Manager (2006-2007). Les was Public Services Director (1985-1991) and Assistant to the City Manager (1983-1985). He later served as the Los Altos Hills City Manager (1991-1996).

Women Professionals In Cities Listed Alphabetically From the City of Placentia

A continued list of women city government professionals in California cities. The listed in this 25th installment in this issue alphabetically starts with the City of Placentia. This issue begins with Placentia and takes a look at cities through the City of Point Arena.

There are many highly qualified and dedicated professional women serving California cities. The list is impressive and addresses the rhetorical question: Where are the women in city management?

Again, we apologize up front to anyone we miss and do not list. The failures of others to not post profiles makes it difficult to be comprehensive. Please know that we try.

Jack & Susan Simpson, 16707 Gerritt Avenue, Cerritos, California 90703-1442

Jack's M | 562/896-5424; Susan's M | 310/418-1035

www.trackdownmanagement.net | jack@trackdownmanagement.net

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Ron Molendyk, Retired City Manager

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Howard Chambers, Retired Lakewood City Manager

Dave Carmany, West Covina, Interim City Manager

Ken Bayless, Ret. GM LA Vector Control & Ret. LASD Chief

Don Penman, Retired City Manager, Arcadia

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Dr. Bill Mathis, Mathis Group

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Dale Geldert, Retired CDF Director

Gary Milliman, City Manager, Brookings, Oregon

Doug Dunlap, Retired City Manager, Pomona

Jim Lewis, Pismo Beach City Manager, Pres. CM/LCC

Kevin Duggan, ICMA & retired City Manager; Past Pres. CM/LCC

Rod B. Butler, Port Hueneme City Manager

Ray Harris, Ret. County Official, fmr Hawaiian Gardens CM

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Cynthia Kurtz, Retired City Manager; Past Pres. CM/LCC

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Retired City Managers **Gene Rogers** and **Dr. Carlos A. Urrutia** in Gordes, France this past summer, 2019.

Women Professionals In Cities Listed Alphabetically From the City of Placentia

Placentia incorporated in northern Orange County in December, 1926. Its 2018 estimated population is 51,671. In 1971, Placentia was honored as an "All-America City" by the National Civic League. **Damien Arrula** is the City Administrator and **Robert S. McKinnell** is the City Clerk. **Kimberly Ann Krause** is the Placentia Finance Director. Kim executed her employment agreement with the city in March, 2018.

Sandra Gonzalez is the former Placentia Director of Community Services (February, 2016-September, 2019). Sandra served as a Bureau Manager, in the planning and development with the Long Beach Parks and Recreation Department (2002-2012). She worked as the Director of Parks and Recreation in Pico Rivera from 2013 to January, 2016 when she joined the Placentia city staff. Sandra left Placentia in September, 2019 to become a Principal Construction Program Manager with the Office of the Chancellor of the California State University. Sandra earned a BS from California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, and an MPA from California State University, Long Beach.



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Ryder Todd Smith, Founder and President of **Tripepi Smith & Associates**

Among other outside activities, Ryder serves on the Board of the Rose Institute of State and Local Government at Claremont McKenna College.

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Among those recently joining the firm is
Blair Welch



Tripepi Smith welcomed **Blair Welch** as a Junior Business Analyst in August 2019. Blair's excellent writing skills will be well served in her work with the **Civic Business Journal**, as well as working with social media and marketing at Tripepi Smith.



"True champions aren't always the ones that win, but those with the most guts."

--U.S. soccer player **Mia Hamm**



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Sylvia Ballin of the City of San Fernando is the current President of the ICFA Board of Directors.

Jose Solache is the ICFA Treasurer, and **Marilyn Sanabria, Leticia Lopez, Emma Sharif, Ricardo Pacheco**, and **Jorge Morales** complete the Board.

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Elsa Robins is a Management Analyst in the Placentia Public Works Department. She began her public service as a Campaign Intern in an Orange County Supervisor campaign in 2010. She took an Intern post for three-months in the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Person with the U.S. Department of State in January, 2011. Elsa joined the staff of the Port of Long Beach in July, 2011 as a Government Affairs Intern. In May, 2013 she became an Administrative Support Assistant in the Facilities Management group for California State University, Long Beach. After moving to Student Affairs for a couple of years, Elsa joined the Placentia city staff as a Senior Administrative Works Department in October, 2015. In August, 2017 she was promoted to Management Analyst. Elsa earned a BA and MPA from California State University, Long Beach.

Jeannette Ortega, Assistant to City Administrator, and Economic Development Manager

Julie Kennicutt, Senior Management Analyst, Police Department

"My biggest challenge has been to get through year one and learn the way that this city does all of its special events and all of its programs. I have a lot of experience, but I didn't want to come in and change everything." –**Sandra Gonzalez**



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Retired City of Cypress executive **Gonzalo Vazquez**, his wife Vickie and family are Angel fans to the end.

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Kevin O'Rourke, Senior Consultant
Telephone No. 707-249-5356

Kevin@kolgs.com

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Placerville is in El Dorado County, and it was incorporated in May, 1854. After gold was discovered in nearby Coloma in 1848, sparking the California Gold Rush, the small town of Placerville was known then as *Dry Diggin's*. Placerville became a central hub of the Mother Lode region. The 2018 estimated population of Placerville was 11,048. **M. Cleve Morris** is the City Manager and **Regina O'Connell** is the City Clerk and Human Resources Officer.

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Michael Colantuono is Managing Shareholder. He currently serves as City Attorney for the City of Grass Valley.

Members of the **CH&W** firm serve as City Attorney or General Counsel in: Auburn, Barstow, Calabasas, Grass Valley, Lakeport, Ojai, Sierra Madre, and Yountville and more.

The firm was recognized as one of California's Top Ranked Law Firms by Martindale-Hubbell in 2014 and **Michael Colantuono**, **Terri Highsmith**, **Jenni Pancake**, **Michael Allderdice** and **Scott Howard** have each achieved the highest AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell.

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Pleasant Hill is in Contra Costa County, and incorporated in November, 1961. Pleasant Hill is the home of the John F. Kennedy University. The areas former agricultural land began to be developed in the 1920s. The 2018 estimated population of Pleasant Hill is 34,903. **June Catalano** is the City Manager and **Andrew Murray** is the Assistant City Manager. **Carol Wu** is the Pleasant Hill City Clerk.



June Catalano has served as the Pleasant Hill City Manager since September, 2006. Prior to that, she was the City Manager for the City of Martinez (2001-2006), and Assistant City Manager in Milpitas (1998-

2001). June also served as the Director of Development Services in San Leandro, Director of Planning and Building in Santa Ana, and as the Laguna Beach Director of Community Development. June served as a Member of the Board of the East Bay Regional Communication System Authority, and she is a past member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF). June is a past President of the California Redevelopment Association. June earned a BA from the University of Tulsa and a Master's from Syracuse University. She received a 35-year ICMA Service Award in 2018.



"I was told I would never make it because I'm too short. Well, I'm still too short, but I've got 10 All-Star games, two World Series championships, and I'm a very happy and contented guy. It doesn't matter what your height is, it's what's in your heart."

—**Kirby Puckett**



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Retired City Managers **Fran David**, **John Shirey** and **Jeff Kolin**, a past President of the City Managers Department of the League of California Cities, all serve on the Avenue Advisory Board.

California Offices in El Dorado Hills, Fresno, Pleasanton, Sacramento and Westlake Village.

Fran Mancia may be reached at 559-288-7296. Fran is a member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF).



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Matt Knabe is the Managing Partner. Matt is a graduate of Pepperdine University. Matt and his family are residents of Long Beach. Matt's contact information includes

Telephone Number: 213-741-1500, Ext. 520

Email: Matt@ekapr.com

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Among the other individual's names we discovered while looking at Pleasant Hill are: **Danielle Habr**, Senior Management Analyst & Deputy City Clerk; **Mary McCarthy**, Finance Manager; **Ericka Mitchell**, Human Resources Manager; **Pam Mosher**, Neighborhood Watch Coordinator; **Ann James**, Assistant Engineer; **Lori Radcliffe**, Associate Planner. We apologize to those we have left off this list.



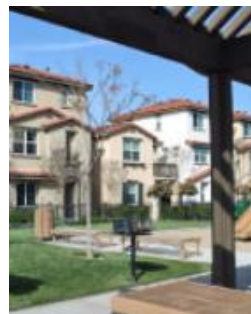
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Pleasanton is an Alameda County city that incorporated in June, 1894. The 2018 estimated population is 82,372. Prior to the Pleasanton name, the area was call "Alisal." The city is named for Union Army Cavalry Major General **Alfred Pleasanton**. A typographical error apparently led to the current spelling. In 1917, Pleasanton became the backdrop for the famous movie: *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm* starring **Mary Pickford**. **Nelson Fialho** is the City Manager and **Karen Diaz** is the City Clerk.

Rebecca "Becky" R. Hopkins, Assistant to the City Manager, in Pleasanton served as the Community Services Manager starting in March, 2014. She continues in that roll and has the added responsibility of Assistant to the City Manager beginning in July, 2017, after serving as Interim Assistant to the City Manager starting in March, 2016.

Pamela Ott worked as the Executive Director for the Pleasanton Downtown Association from November, 2001 to November, 2003. She was hired as the City of Pleasanton Economic Development Director in November, 2003, and



continues in that post 16-years later. Pam earned a BS from the University of Florida and an MS in organization development from the University of San Francisco.



<https://www.cacitymanagers.org/>

Ken Puskamp, Executive Director



HdL Companies President **Andy Nickerson**; Trackdown's **Jack Simpson**; **Lloyd de Llamas**, an HdL Founder, and former City Manager **Bret Plumlee**, now with **HdL Companies**, at the 2019 League of California Cities Annual Conference and Exposition.



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Women Professionals In Cities Listed Alphabetically From the City of Placentia



Born and raised in Sacramento, **Tina Olson** served as an Intern in the District Office of Assembly Member **Phil Isenberg** in 1987, before going to work as a Project Assistant with the California Postsecondary Education Commission. Tina next took a position as a Technical Assistant with the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board in 1989. After leaving there and working as a Senior Analyst with a large national accountancy firm, Tina joined the San Francisco Department of Public Works as a Senior Transportation Finance Analyst in August, 1994. She was promoted to Finance and Budget Manager in October, 1996. Tina nearly worked 10-years with the Public Works Department before being hired as the Deputy Director for Finance and Administration for the Port of San Francisco in May, 2004. In December, 2009 Tina joined the City of Pittsburg city staff as the Director of Finance and Administration. She left Pittsburg in 2015 to accept the Director of Finance position with the City of Pleasanton. Tina earned a BA from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and an MPA from San Francisco State University.

Other women found while looking a Pleasanton include: **Ellen Clark**, **Cindy Chin**, **Debra Gill**, **Heidi Murphy** and **Kathleen Yurchak**.



"People would say, 'Girls don't play hockey. Girls don't skate.' I would say, 'Watch this.'"
---**Hayley Wickenheiser**

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Plymouth, California is in Amador County, and was formerly known as Puckerville, Pokerville and Poker Camp. The town incorporated in February, 1917. It's 2016 estimated population was 971. The City Manager is **Rex Osborn** and **James Beggs** is the Planning Director. **Valerie Klinefelter** is a Member of the City Council.



Nanci Lima served as the Plymouth Interim City Manager from December, 2018 to May, 2019. Nanci worked as the Secretary to the City Manager in the City of Lemoore in 2002-2003. She worked as the Lemoore

Deputy City Clerk (2003-2004) and then became City Clerk, serving 8-years from 2004 to 2012. Nanci left Lemoore and worked as Chief Deputy City Clerk in Chowchilla in 2012, before she was appointed City Clerk. After serving in Chowchilla for a little more than 3-years, she took the Interim City Clerk post in Emeryville in January, 2016. After her "interim" roll concluded, Nanci worked in Records Project Management for Emeryville. She joined the Rancho Cordova city staff in 2017 as a City Clerk consultant, and Deputy City Clerk. She then joined Plymouth as Interim Deputy City Clerk to the elected City Clerk, and she was appointed Interim City Manager in December, 2018. Nanci is retired and serving as a Trainer for the City Clerks Association of California. Nanci earned an AA degree from Tacoma Community College.

"History is just what happened before and cannot be changed. Use it as a learning tool, and create your own history with your own story!"

---Anonymous



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Roxanne Diaz, Steven L. Flower, Peter M. Thorson, Kevin Ennis, Gregory W. Stepanicich, Serita Young and Craig Steele are among the City Attorneys on the **RWG** staff.

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Women Professionals In Cities Listed Alphabetically From the City of Placentia

Point Arena is a coastal community located in Mendocino County, and is one of the smallest incorporated cities in California. The 2016 estimated population is 452. **Richard Shoemaker** is the City Manager and **Paul Andersen** is his Administrative Assistant. **Barbara Burkey** is the Vice Mayor and **Anna Dobbins** is a member of the City Council.



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RW&G is a full-service law firm, headquartered in Los Angeles with offices in Orange County, San Francisco, and Temecula. **RW&G** has specialized in the representation of public and private sector clients for more than 50 years. The depth and diversity of the firm's experience cannot be duplicated. **RW&G** is comprised of lawyers that are committed to excellence in the legal services they provide and to solving problems of business and the public sector with the highest quality legal services.

Roxanne Diaz, Steven L. Flower, Kevin Ennis, Peter M. Thorson, and Gregory W. Stepanicich, Serita Young and Craig Steele are among the many City Attorneys on the **RW&G** staff. **Roxanne Diaz** serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF).

RWG serves as City Attorney for the following cities and towns: Agoura Hills; Artesia; Banning; Beverly Hill; Brea; Buena Park; Calimesa; Covina; Fairfield; Hidden Hills; Highland; Indio; Jurupa Valley; La Mirada; Manhattan Beach; Mill Valley; Monrovia; Moorpark; Norwalk; Rancho Cucamonga; Ross; San Marino; Seal Beach; South El Monte; Temecula; Upland; Westlake Village; and Yucaipa.

RW&G's lawyers have specialized in representing all types of public agencies since 1954. The firm currently serves as City Attorney, Bond Counsel, General Counsel and Special Counsel to more than 50 public agencies throughout California, including airports, cities, towns, community services districts, counties, joint powers authorities, redevelopment agencies, libraries and water districts.

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

Historically, **Glenn Watson, Richard Richards**, and colleague **Robert G. Beverly** opened the **RWG** firm's first offices in downtown Los Angeles in the fall of 1954. At the time, the firm maintained its founders' focus on real estate and business litigation. The attorneys were joined from the first day and for the next 43 years by **Beth Donald**, who served as both a Legal Secretary and Office Manager. From the early 1970s until her death in 1997, she was the Municipal Law Administrator – responsible for assisting City Clerks in preparing their meeting agendas, assisting City Attorneys in drafting resolutions and ordinances, handling the billing for most of the Firm's cities and maintaining (in her head) an encyclopedic database of California municipal law.

Please visit the Richards Watson & Gershon web page at: www.rwglaw.com

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Picking Up the Pieces: Palo Alto Library Director **Monique le Conge Ziesenhenn** has been selected by City Manager **Ed Shikada** to serve as the new Assistant City Manager. She has served as the Library Director

since 2011. Prior to joining the Palo Alto city staff, Monique worked as the Director of Library and Cultural Services in the City of Richmond. La Mesa City Manager **Yvonne Garrett**, 59, will retire effective December 30, 2019. Yvonne joined the La Mesa city staff in January, 2000 as the Director of Community Services. She is an avid tennis player, and her husband is an official with the U.S. Tennis Association. Assistant City Manager **Greg Humora** will serve as Interim City Manager while the city recruits to fill the vacancy. Yvonne became the La Mesa City Manager in 2016. Los Angeles County Chief Executive Officer **Sachi A. Hamai** will retire as the administrative leader of the nation's largest municipal government in early 2020. Sachi was appointed CEO in 2015 capping a 31-year public career. She was named by the Los Angeles Business Journal in 2019 for the fourth consecutive year as one of L.A.'s Top 500 most influential leaders. Santa Clarita Assistant to the City Manager **Jerrid M. McKenna** is among the 2019 ICMA Government Excellence Awards recipients. Jerrid joined the Santa Clarita city staff in 2012 as a Recreation Coordinator. He worked his way up in the ranks, serving as a Communications Specialist, Administrative Analyst, and Management Analyst before assuming his currently post in the City Manager's Office. Jerrid received the Award in Memory of former ICMA Executive Director **William H. Hansell Jr.**, awarded to recognize an outstanding early career of a local government professional who has demonstrated leadership, competency, and commitment to local government as a professional. Fresno City Manager **Wilma Quan** threatened to sue the city and requested an investigation into claims that Fresno Council Member **Miguel Arias** defamed her, discriminated against her and created a hostile work environment. The Council Member apparently alleged a relationship between the City Manager and a top police lieutenant, which allegedly influenced her decision in naming the new Chief of Police. New City of Portola City Manager **Lauren Knox** is a former valedictorian and student body President as Portola High School. She earned a BS in city and regional planning from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. She began her public service career with the City of Reno, and then she took a job with the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency (TMRPA).

September, 2018 Front Page Picture



Water temperature here is between 32 and 37 degrees. This is University of Washington student **Katie Hearther** during a special research expedition to Greenland and the Arctic Circle. Katie is a former resident of the City of Coronado where she served as Miss Teen Coronado, but relocated to Hawaii with her family when her father was reassigned. He is a Captain in the United States Navy. Katie and the other students took a 35-passenger airplane from Denmark to Greenland.



On a trip to his nephew's wedding, retired La Mirada City Manager **Tom Robinson** stopped at the Red Wing Shoe Company's headquarters store and museum in downtown Red Wing, Minnesota to see the world's largest boot. It is constructed exactly like actual boots, and you can smell the leather used in the construction,

experience the heft of the massive laces and feel the cool touch of the metal eyelets. In case you're wondering, the world's largest boot is size 638 1/2 D. Built in 2005 to celebrate the Red Wing company's 100th birthday, the boot is 16 feet tall, 20 feet long, weighs over a ton. "Too big for the Statue of Liberty to wear," is its motto. Tom adds that for any City Manager who ever put his foot in his mouth, "this will cure you."



More Pieces Picked Up: Mill Valley City Manager **Jim McCann** will retire effective in February, 2020 after a 35-year career in local government. Jim joined the Mill Valley city staff as City Manager after serving as City Manager in the City of Calistoga for 11-years. Prior to his service in Calistoga, Jim worked in the Cities of Petaluma, Napa and Rancho

Mirage. New Brighton, Minnesota City Manager **Dean Lotter** has been selected to serve as the next City Manager in the City of Eureka. Dean is a former City Administrator in Minnetrista and Janesville, Minnesota. Dean earned a BA from the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point, and an MA in urban studies from Mankato State University. Dean is replacing City Manager **Greg Sparks**, who is retiring at the end of the year. Deputy City Manager **Aldi Dodds** joined the Fresno city staff in 2016 in the Parking Services Division. Aldi later worked in the Development and Resource Management Department as a Management Analyst. She then took a Senior Management Analyst post in the Housing and Community Development Division. Aldi has now replaced Deputy City Manager **Laura Merrill**. Aldi earned a BA, and an MBA from Fresno State University. **Jim Purtee** became Palmdale's City Manager on October 5, 2015. Jim earned a bachelor's and master's degrees from California State University, Northridge. He is also a graduate of the International Council of Shopping Centers - Shopping Center University in San Francisco and the Government Finance Officers Association - Advanced Government Finance Institute at the University of Wisconsin. He previously worked for the City of Simi Valley.

"Life is fraught with opportunities to keep your mouth shut." ---**Winston Churchill**



Happy Halloween one and all!



Resembling Trisha Yearwood and Garth Brooks, are **Shelly Piccardi Wishner** and her husband with the guitar at the Ryman, **Rob Wishner**. Rob is the City Manager in the City of Walnut. They were in Nashville for the 2019 Annual ICMA Conference.

2019 CCMF New & Future City Manager Seminar Attendees:

Arn Andrews, Los Gatos
Antonia Castro-Graham, Huntington Beach
Shannon DeLong, Whittier
David Guhin, Santa Rosa
Andy Haussler, Clovis
Justin Hess, Burbank
Joe Irvin, Healdsburg
Mike James, Lemon Grove
Nick Kimball, San Fernando
Jacqui Kitchen, Bakersfield
Joan Malloy, Union City
Chris Mann, Canyon Lake
Ken MacNab, Windsor
Brittany Mello, Monrovia
Keith Metzler, Victorville
Ara Mhuranian, Rancho Palos Verdes
Matt Mogensen, Marina
J.J. Murphy, Palmdale
Keith Neves, Lake Forest
Alexandra Orologas, El Cerrito
Jason Simpson, Lake Elsinore
Larry Theis, Orinda
Scott Trujillo, Indio
Lauren Vasquez, Monrovia
Andrew Vialpando, Long Beach
Tony Winney, Vista
Gabriella Yap, Rancho Palos Verdes



Still More Pieces Picked Up:

Retired Moorpark City Manager **Steven A. Kueny**, 65, retired last March after serving more than 30-years. Steve began his public management career in 1975 as an Administrative Aide in the City of Commerce. He became an Administrative Assistant in Walnut in May, 1976. Steve was promoted to Assistant to the City

Manager in June, 1978, and Assistant City Manager in July, 1980. In June 1981 he was appointed City Manager in Tehachapi, and he became the Moorpark City Manager in July, 1984. Steve earned a BA and MS from California State University, Los Angeles. **Stefan Chatwin** is the next City Manager in the City of Fairfield. **Sean Quinn** is the Interim City Manager. Stefan is the current City of Imperial's City Manager. He is a former Air Force 2nd Lieutenant. He previously worked as the City Administrator in Hayden, Idaho (2009-2015), and as City Manager in Santaquin, Utah (2004-2008). Stefan earned a BA from Brigham Young University. He received a 10-year ICMA Service Award in 2013.

SHORTS: *Sacramento Council of Governments (SACOG) Executive Assistant **Tina Hubert** is the new City Clerk in the City of Galt, and was sworn in by veteran City Clerk **Donna Settles**, who is retiring. ***William H. Parness**, born in March, 1926, served as City Manager in Claremont (1953-1957), San Rafael (1957), Livermore (1957-1978), and Belvedere (1978-1980). *Solana Beach resident and veteran local government public works and planning consultant **Richard Jacobs** is from Portland, Maine. *Manteca Acting City Manager **Miranda Lutzow** earned a BA in political science from the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada. *Deputy City Manager since 2008, **Laurie Montes** was appointed Stockton Interim City Manager on September 17, 2019. *Sonora City Manager **Tim Miller** has retired and the city is conducting a recruitment to fill the position. *Retired Vacaville City Manager, and past President of the City Manager Department of the League of California Cities, **John Thompson** was recently spotted on the Mississippi River and in Branson, Missouri. ***Manuel Enriquez** is the new Interim City Manager in the City of Duarte where City Manager **Darrell George** retired. *Retired Sacramento City Manager **John Shirey** is being inducted into the USA Track and Field Officials Hall of Fame in Reno, Nevada this December. *Palmdale City Manager **James Purtee** has announced that he will retire at the end of the year. Thank you to **Jim Barisic** for his POL support and participation. ***

Random Pictures from the 2019 Annual Conference and Expo of the League of California Cities in Long Beach



Pismo Beach City Manager and past President of the City Managers' Department **Jim Lewis**.



Bellflower City Manager **Jeff Stewart** at the 2019 League Exposition.



Mark Risco of **Willdan Financial & Economic Services**, and Indian Wells City Manager **Chris Freeland**. Mark is a member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF). Chris is a past President of the Municipal Management Association of Southern California (MMASC, 2006-2007).