

City Manager Newsletter By TRACKDOWN MANAGEMENT

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

December, 2019 Special

Volume No. 12: Issue No. 19



Vern Lawson and Lancaster City Manager **Jason Caudle** at the December 4, 2019 "Proof of Life" lunch at the North Woods Inn Restaurant in La Mirada. Vern is a former City Manager in Walnut and Lancaster and retired as the Lancaster Director of Community Development. After Vern left the Lancaster City Manager post he was the Executive Director of the Lancaster Economic Development Corporation before returning to city service.

"Proof of Life" Program Gains Interest Throughout the State

It is healthy to keep in touch with old friends and colleagues. It can be lonely out there without continued personal contact and interaction. A few years back a small number of retired City Manager and friend began meeting for lunch quarterly. The initial luncheon meetings were held in the lounge area of Taps Fish House & Brewery in the City of Brea. Early sessions included retired Pomona City Manager **Doug Dunlap**, former Hawaiian Gardens City Administrator **Ray Harris**, retired Huntington Park City Manager **Gregory Korduner**; former Rosemead City Manager and retired El Segundo Assistant City Manager **Bill Crow**; the late retired Paramount City Manager and CEO of the California JPIA, **Bill Holt**, and a few others. The group met at Taps for a few years and continued to grow until it was too large for the Brea venue. The next steps were to find another convenient venue and develop a group name.

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

“Proof of Life” Program Gains Interest Throughout the State

When friends get together for lunch, one never knows what wild plans may hatch. The actual inception of the “Proof of Life” lunch program resulted from a lunch with a few friends at the Wood Ranch Restaurant in Cerritos. Tap’s was chosen as the first venue because it provided enough room for a moderate sized group in its lounge area. Besides retired Pomona City Manager **Doug Dunlap** knew the people at the restaurant, which helped. The first few lunches at Tap’s gathered near 20 folks, and then word of mouth marketing developed a broader interest.



One of the early “Proof of Life” lunches at Taps Fish House & Brewery in Brea in December, 2013. included: the late **Darrell Essex**, retired Cypress City Manager; **Doug Dunlap**, retired Pomona City Manager; **Gregory Korduner**, retired Huntington Park City Manager; and **Ernie Garcia**, retired Norwalk City Manager, all seated. Standing are: **Bill Crowe**, former Rosemead City Manager and retired El Segundo Assistant City Manager; **Paul Phillips**, a veteran City Manager, who at the time was with the staff of the California Contract Cities Association, and is currently the City Manager in Bell; and retired La Mirada City Manager **Gary Sloan**. On the other side of the camera was former Bellflower City Administrator **Jack Simpson**.

Not only was the group getting too big for the Tap’s lounge, but a parking structure was being built for the area businesses, which made parking nearly impossible for Tap’s. Also, the groups attendance increased to where Tap’s did not want to provide individual checks to pay for the meals. The veteran Tap’s attenders are the people who kept the lunches going, and brought success to this effort: the on-going “Proof of Life” lunch program.



<https://www.avenueinsights.com/>

There’s never a good time for operational downtime, or a good time to fall short on revenue. For governments to serve their communities, they need solutions they can depend on, run by partners who understand how the public sector works.

That’s why thousands of State and local government leaders turn to **Avenue**. Although the name is new, the company roots serving government officials go back nearly 100-years.

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).



<http://www.willdan.com/solutions/financing-and-revenue-optimization.aspx>

Among the company professionals are: **Chris Fisher**; **Gladys Medina**, **Anne Pelej**; **Jennifer White**; **Dan Jackson**; **Tara Hollis** and **Jeff McGarvey**.

Willdan Financial Services can enhance city efficiency, effectiveness, and credibility by helping to generate revenue and optimize its administration. Willdan, founded in 1964, is a nationwide provider of value-added professional technical services.



*WFS President & CEO **Mark Risco** is a member of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF) Board of Trustees.*

**Call Willdan Financial at
telephone No. 800-755-6864**



This picture was taken at the December, 2014 "Proof of Life" Holiday lunch at Tap's Fish House & Brewery in Brea. Seated from left to right are: Retired Yorba Linda City Manager **Terry Belanger**; **Anne Haraksin**, La Mirada Deputy City Manager; retired La Mirada City Managers **Tom Robinson** and **Gary Sloan**; retired Norwalk City Manager **Ernie Garcia**; retired LA Sheriff's Department Commander **John Hammargren**; and former Hawaiian Gardens City Administrator, who retired as a Deputy to Supervisor **Don Knabe** of the County of Los Angeles, **Ray Harris**. Standing from the left are: former South El Monte City Manager **Gary Chicots**; retired Rosemead Assistant City Manager **Don Wagner**; former Artesia City Manager **Jim Barisic**, now with **Brandywine Homes**; **Gregory Korduner**, retired Huntington Park City Manager; former Rosemead City Manager **Bill Crowe**; former Jurupa Valley City Manager **Steve Harding**, now a university professor; **John Bolan** of Structured Finance of America; and **Sam Olivito**, retired Executive Director of the California Contract Cities Association. On the other side of the camera was **Jack Simpson** of Trackdown.



<http://ekapr.com/>

Englander Knabe & Allen is the fastest growing public affairs firm in Southern California.

EKA's partners **Harvey Englander**, **Matt Knabe**, **Marcus Allen**, **Eric Rose**, **Jeff McConnell** and **Adam Englander** provide strategic counsel.

They are expert in local government issues, from land use to public safety, and they help build public/private partnerships.



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



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

A Woman-Owned Firm:

Newcomb Williams Financial Group (NWFG) is a woman-owned affiliate of an investment banking firm providing underwriting and financial advisory services to public agencies, including school districts, and non-profit corporations.

Experts in mobile home park financings, certificates of participation, general obligation bond financings, tax allocation refunding, revenue and expense projections modeling, utilities and energy financings and implementation of special tax methodologies.



Pam Newcomb, **Janees Williams** and **William D'Allaird** are among the firm's professionals.
Telephone No. 760-860-022



Trackdown Posse Roster

Executive Level Posse Roster:

Wade McKinney, Retired Indian Wells City Manager

Michael J. Sedell, Retired Simi Valley City Manager

Larry F. Pennell, Retired City Manager, Wasco

Marcia Raines, Retired City Manager & Principal

with Public Sector Services

Kevin O'Rourke, KOLGS/PARS; Retired City Manager

Glenn Southard, Retired City Manager, Indio &

Claremont

Joe Tanner, Retired Vallejo City Manager

Denise Ovrom, Former City Manager &

Principal, **HdL Companies**

Charles G. "Guy" Huffaker, Retired Porterville CM

Vern Lawson, Retired, Lancaster

Ernesto Marquez, Former City Manager

Gary K. Sloan, Retired La Mirada City Manager

Robert T. Dickey, Former Walnut CM; retired South Gate Public Works Director

Doug Dunlap, Retired City Manager, Pomona

Rita Geldert, Retired City Manager, Vista

Charles Huffaker, Retired City Manager, Porterville

David Jinkens, Retired City Manager

Joe Goeden, Retired W. Sacramento City Manager

Ron Molendyk, Retired City Manager

Posse Roster:

Gregory Korduner, Retired City Manager

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

Sam Olivito, California Contract Cities Association

Dr. Bill Mathis, Mathis Group

Roy Pederson, ICMA Past-President

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

John F. Shirey, Retired Sacramento City Manager

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

Lee C. McDougal, Retired Montclair City Manager

Ray Silver, Retired City Manager, Past Pres. CM/LCC

Mark Scott, Indio City Manager

Dr. Carlos A. Urrutia, Retired Rocklin City Manager

Anthony D. Gonsalves, **Joe A. Gonsalves & Son**

Jason Gonsalves, **Joe A. Gonsalves & Son**

Paul Gonsalves, **Joe A. Gonsalves & Son**

Jeff Mathieu, Big Bear Lake, City Manager

Greg C. Devereaux, San Bernardino County CEO

Doug LaBelle, Retired City Manager

Ron Stock, City Manager, Weed



<https://gonsalvi.com/>

Joe Gonsalves said: "Lobbyist are like parachutes; you don't need them often but when you do they had better work."



The firm was founded by the late former California State Assembly Member **Joe A. Gonsalves**. Until his passing, Joe, his son **Anthony D. Gonsalves** and Anthony's son **Jason Gonsalves** served as the first three generation lobbying firm in Sacramento.

Anthony, Jason and Paul Gonsalves are expert local government lobbyists. The firm represents fifty-plus cities and is a key player in city legislation. **Anthony** is a member of the CCMF Board.

Call the "Gonsalvi" at
Telephone no. 916-441-0597

925 L Street, Suite 250 Sacramento CA 95814



Picture taken at the December, 2015 "Proof of Life" lunch at Tap's in Brea. From left to right are:

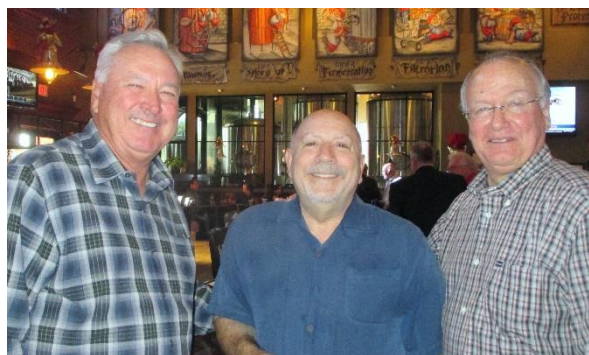
Don Wagner; Don Penman and Jeff Stewart.

Don Wagner retired as the Assistant City Manager in Rosemead and recently served as the Interim City Manager in Maywood. **Don Penman** retired as the City Manager in Arcadia and since he has held a number of "Interim" posts, including in Ventura. Jeff is a former City Manager in El Segundo and Los Alamitos, and he is now the Bellflower City Manager.

“Proof of Life” Program Gains Interest Throughout the State

A pretty large list of veterans of the Tap's lunches developed so that when the change of venue was necessary there was a solid foundation of interested participants. This venue is on the Interstate 5 Freeway and easily accessible. The North Woods Inn Restaurant management and serving staff are cooperative and helpful. As an example of the attendance increase since moving, here is a list of the 35 folks who RSVP'ed for the June 28, 2017 lunch held at the North Woods Inn in La Mirada:

Larry Kosmont
 Gregory Korduner
 Jack Simpson
 Tom Robinson
 Pat West
 Wayne Wedin
 Glenn Southard
 Terry Belanger
 Mary Strenn
 Don Pruyn
 Terry Matz
 Tony Ybarra
 Don Vestal
 Paul Philips
 Sam Olivito
 Don Wagner
 Ken Bayless
 John Hammargren
 John Moreno
 John Bramble
 David Carmany
 Andy Takata
 Ray Harris
 Tim O'Donnell
 John Bolan
 Gary Chicots
 Bill Crown
 Wesley Wolf
 Fred Latham
 Ken Caresio
 Anne Haraksin
 Luci Serlet
 Don Penman
 Lloyd de Llamas
 John DiMario



At Tap's, longtime CCMF Board Member and Past President **Glenn Southard**, retired Indio and Claremont City Manager, with retired Westminster and Huntington Beach City Manager **Ray Silver**, and retired Jurupa Valley City Manager, Professor **Steve Harding**. Ray is a past President of the City Managers' Department of the League of California Cities (2002-2003).

PUBLIC
AGENCY
RETIREMENT
SERVICES

PARS

TRUSTED SOLUTIONS. LASTING RESULTS.

<http://www.pars.org/>

For more than 35 years, PARS has provided retirement plan and trust solutions designed exclusively for public agencies. With programs like the **Pension Rate Stabilization Program (PRSP)** and the **PARS OPEB Trust**, PARS has helped over 400 clients address unfunded obligations and lower liabilities. PARS is the pioneer of the PRSP, a first-of-its-kind program designed to provide local control over assets and potential for greater return than the general fund. With innovative retirement solutions tailored to the unique needs of each agency, PARS is a leading provider of retirement programs for public agencies, and the largest private provider of multiple-employer Section 115 trusts in California. Since 1984 the **PARS** team has **provided retirement services designed** specifically for each public agency's unique needs aiming to provide superior employee benefits while improving management effectiveness, reducing costs, and simplifying administration.

PARS can craft customized solutions; provide agencies guiding through the process to achieve bottom-line results; and redefine goals and objectives.

Mitch Barker, Executive Vice President

(800) 540-6369 ext. 116 or mbarker@pars.org



In December, 2015 twenty veteran public managers gathered for an informal "Dutch Treat" lunch at Tap's Fish House & Brewery in Brea! See if you know any of these guys. Glenn dubbed this a "Proof of Life Photo." From left to right they are: **Tom Robinson** (La Mirada), **John Bolan** (Structured Finance of America), **Don Penman** (Arcadia), **Ray Silver** (Westminster), **Ray Harris** (Hawaiian Gardens), **Jeff Stewart** (Bellflower), **Sam Olivito** (CCCA), **Frank Tripepi** (Rosemead), **Bill Crowe** (Rosemead), **Jack Simpson** (Trackdown), **Gary Chicots** (South El Monte), **Don Wagner** (Rosemead), **Glenn Southard** (Claremont & Indio), **Wes Wolf** (Wolf & Company), **Gary Sloan** (La Mirada), **Greg Korduner** (Huntington Park), **Steve Harding** (Jurupa Valley), **John Hammargren** (LASD), **Jim Barisic** (Brandywine Homes), and **Terry Belanger** (Yorba Linda).

STIFEL

www.stifel.com

Stifel was founded in 1890 and has become one of the nation's premier wealth management and investment banking firms.

Stifel's passion of and commitment to public finance is evidenced by its unparalleled experience in providing bond underwriting services to local agencies of all shapes and sizes.

Comprised of over 20 professionals located in Los Angeles and San Francisco, the **Stifel** team is ready and eager to assist agencies throughout the state.

Contact (213) 443-5000 for more information on how **Stifel** can assist today.



www.usi.com

USI has developed sophisticated employee benefit programs for public entities for more than 30-years.

USI helps agencies design innovative benefit solutions and provide benefit education to bargaining units.

For more information contact **Gary Delaney** at (424) 390-0010 or gary.delaney@usi.com

USI Insurance Services

21250 Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 380
Torrance, CA 90503

Email: gary.delaney@usi.com

21250 Hawthorne Boulevard, Suite 380,
Torrance, CA 90503

“Proof of Life” Program Gains Interest Throughout the State

Perusing the RSVP list one can see that the “original” “Proof of Life” includes those still in-service, as well as, retirees and former public managers. It is a way for those of the past to have an opportunity to interchange and discuss current events and past successes and failures with those who are still working as public managers. Some of those still in-service who are “Proof of Life” lunch veterans include: **Anne Haraksin**, Assistant City Manager in La Mirada; **Ernie Hernandez**, Hawaiian Gardens City Manager; **Darrell George**, Duarte City Manager; **Karen Herrera**, Duarte Deputy City Manager; **Jason Caudle**, City Manager in the City of Lancaster; **John Moreno**, Paramount City Manager; **Jeff Stewart**, Bellflower City Manager; **Long Beach City Manager **Pat West** (who has retired and continues to participate); **Tom Modica**, Long Beach Assistant City Manager; Irvine City Manager **John Russo**; **Don White**, City Manager in Laguna Hills; **Debbie Kurita**, former City Manager in Alameda and currently with the Orange County LAFCO; **Jonathan Shull**, Chief Executive Officer of the CJPIA; **Jeff Collier**, Whittier City Manager (who continues to participate following his recent retirement); **Jennifer Vasquez**, Maywood City Manager; **Troy Butzlaff**, City Manager, Azusa (now retired); La Mirada City Manager **Jeff Boynton**; **David Carmany**, West Covina City Manager; **Paul Philips**, Bell City Manager; **Jose Ometeotl**, Lynwood City Manager; **Wade McKinney**, Indian Wells City Manager (now retired); **John DiMario**, Director of Development Services, La Puente; **Norm Lefmann**, Assistant Executive Officer of the CJPIA; and Hall of Fame Water Polo Official **Andy Takata** currently the City Administrator in DuPont, Washington. The original “Proof of Life” program includes and welcomes those still in-services.**



California JPIA

<https://cjpia.org/>

Providing innovative risk management solutions for public agencies for more than 40-years, the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority (California JPIA) is one of the largest municipal self-insurance pools in the state, with more than 100 member cities and other governmental agencies. Members actively participate in shaping the organization to provide important coverage for their operations. The California JPIA provides innovative risk management solutions through a comprehensive portfolio of programs and services, including liability, workers' compensation, pollution, property, earthquake coverage, and extensive risk management training and loss control services.

Jonathan Shull, Chief Executive Officer
8081 Moody Street
La Palma, California 90623
Telephone No. 800-229-2343



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

MMASC is one of the oldest and the largest associations of its kind in the nation and is recognized by both the International City / County Management Association (ICMA) and the League of California Cities. The organization's more than 800 members represent local governments serving an estimated 22 million residents.

Izzy Murguia of Poway is the current President
Kristen Nelson, Indian Wells, is Vice President

“Proof of Life” Program Gains Interest Throughout the State

While gathering a group of participants at a Tap's “Proof of Life” lunch, someone said something like, “Everyone down at this end of the room for a group picture.” **Glenn Southard** quipped, “It like a ‘Proof of Life’ picture.” It was Glenn who, without knowing it at the time, named the luncheon program: “Proof of Life.” We have used that nomenclature since that time. **Greg Korduner** has been the one to work with the venues, and Trackdown has sent the invitations and keeps the RSVP list.



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

Telephone No. 714-879-5000

HdL was founded in 1983 by former City Manager **Robert "Bob" Hinderliter**, who successfully championed legislation allowing independent verification of State Board of Equalization records.

HdL expanded and improved with the help of a partnership with former City Manager **Lloyd de Llamas**, the firm's Executive Chairman. **Andy Nickerson** is the President of the firm.

HdL Companies offers diverse services that include: allocation audits, economic analysis and program software regarding Sales Tax, and Property Tax, and Economic Development Services.

Office: 120 South State College Boulevard
Suite 200
Brea, California 92821



“Good is not good when better is expected.”

—Vin Scully



<https://www.wolfhousing.com/>



Former City Administrator

Wesley Wolf, Founder

Telephone No. 909-345-7849

wesley@wolfco.net

Wolf & Company Inc., founded in 1993, provides municipal consulting services, program administration and oversight & insurance advisory serves to state and local governments, housing finance agencies, not-for-profit corporations, insurance companies, mortgage bankers, investment bankers and institutional investors in the tax exempt and taxable municipal market.

Tammy Ofek is a registered Municipal Advisor with **Wolf & Company Inc.**

Municipal Advisor **Tammy Ofek**

tammyo@wolfco.net

Wolf & Company is register with the SEC and MSRB as a municipal advisor.

Wolf & Company Inc.

1408 Copper Mountain Drive
Diamond Bar, California 91765



RICHARDS WATSON GERSHON

<http://rwglaw.com/>

RWG is committed to excellence in the legal profession. The lawyers of choice for clients seeking reliable, efficient, and effective legal counsel. **RWG** delivers practical advice and solutions tailored to the unique needs of public entities.

Working seamlessly across offices in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Orange County, Temecula and the Central Coast. The **RWG** team of experts provides the full scope of public law services.

Roxanne Diaz is a member of the Board of Trustees of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF).

Call RWG at telephone No. 213-626-8484



www.brandywinehomes.com



Former Artesia City Manager **Jim Barisic** founded **Brandywine** in 1994. Jim and his three sons **Brett Whitehead**, **Mark Whitehead** and **David Barisic** direct **Brandywine Homes**.

Some of the Projects that are selling now are in the Cities of San Dimas, Whittier, Anaheim, and Duarte. Coming soon as projects in Norwalk, and Placentia. Call **Brandywine** at 949-296-2400



Candlewood Villas
Whittier, California

A **Brandywine Homes** Development



Brent Whitehead, Mark Whitehead and David Barisic
Brandywine Homes Corporate Office
16580 Aston Street, Irvine, California 92606



<https://www.cacities.org/Education-Events/City-Managers-Conference>

City Managers Annual Department Meeting
February 5-7, 2020

The Meritage Resort,
875 Bordeaux Way
Napa, California 94558

"Proof of Life" Program Gains Interest Throughout the State

On Wednesday, December 4, 2019 the original "Proof of Life" lunch program gathered for a Dutch treat Holiday luncheon at the North Woods Inn Restaurant in the City of La Mirada. This last POL in the year 2019 included:

Linda Benedetti-Leal

Gregory Korduner

Mary Strenn

Bill Crowe

Vern Lawson

Jason Caudle

Jeff Collier

Ron Molendyk

Guy Huffaker

Gary Sloan

Jack Simpson

Glenn Southard

Mike Sedell

John Bramble

Ron Bates

Ray Harris

Tom Robinson

Tony Ybarra

Ken Bayless

Ernie Hernandez

Wayne Wedin

Don Vestal

Pat West

Don Penman

Anne Haraksin

Tim O'Donnell

Heather Mora

Bill Manis

Darrell George

Karen Herrera



"Never permit the pressure to exceed the pleasure." –**Joe Maddon**,
Los Angeles Angel's Manager

“Proof of Life” Program Gains Interest Throughout the State

“Proof of Life” has developed an amazing roster of veteran participants. In fact, if they all showed up at one time, a much larger venue would be necessary. Here is a list of that, hopefully, does not leave anyone out. We are starting first with the group of founders: **Gregory Korduner, Gary Sloan, Bill Crowe, Ray Harris, Doug Dunlap, Ernie Garcia, John Hammargren, Terry Belanger, Anne Haraksin, Paul Phillips, Jim Barisic, Sam Olivito** and the late **Bill Holt**. Other participant veterans include: the late **Darrell Essex, Glenn Southard, Mike Sedell, Lloyd de Llamas, Larry Kosmont, Wayne Wedin, Denise Ovrom, Terry Matz, Ray Silver, Bud Ovrom, Linda Benedetti-Leal, Pat West, Ken Bayless, Tom Robinson, Tony Ybarra, Gary Chicots, Howard Chambers, Tim O'Donnell, the late Robert “Bob” Williams, David Carmany, Mike Egan, John Bolan, Luci Romero Serlet, Jeff Stewart, Dennis Courtemarche, Julio Fuentes, Andy Takata, Fran Delach, Debi Kurita, the late Keene Wilson, Bill Manis, Don Pruyn, Robert “Bob” Dickey, Steve Harding, Roy Pederson, Joe Goeden, Kevin O'Rourke, Wade McKinney, Guy Huffaker, Andy Pasmant, John Moreno, John Bramble, Lauren Wasserman, John DiMario, Doug La Belle, Wes Wolf, Frank G. Tripepi, Don Penman, Don Wagner, Troy Butzlaff, Don Vestal, John W. Jameson, Ken Caresio, Jeff Boynton, Bill Workman, Brett Plumlee, Fred Latham, Ernie Hernandez, Anthony Gonsalves, Don Knabe, Jennifer Vasquez, Darrell George, Karen Herrera, Lou Shepard, Bob Dominguez, Jesse Duff, Jon Shull, Jeff Collier, John Russo, Tom Modica, Dr. Carlos A. Urrutia, John Shirey, Vern Lawson, Jason Caudle, Norm Lefmann, Don White, Jose Ometotl, Chris Meyer, Mike Fleager, Ron Molendyk, Don Powell, Ron Bates and **Claude Klug**. We apologize if we inadvertently omitted someone. Thank you all for the support.**



Bill Crowe, Bill Workman, Glenn Southard and Bob Dickey at a “Proof of Life” lunch.



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



Founded in 1986 by former City Manager **Larry J. Kosmont, Kosmont Companies**, a certified Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and certified Small Business Enterprise (SBE), has earned a national reputation and is recognized as expert in real estate, financial advisory and economic development services. The **Kosmont Companies** are committed to bringing public, private, and non-profit organizations together to help communities flourish.

Call and learn how South Gate earned a \$5.1 million Real Estate Bonus.

Market Analyses

Kosmont Companies thoroughly research the potential for a city's future development to be self-sustaining. **Kosmont Company** experts will determine whether the market holds enough existing or potential demand for development to be viable.

Mailing Address: 1601 N. Sepulveda Blvd., #382,
Manhattan Beach, California 90266
Telephone: 424-297-1070 | Fax: 424-286-4632



Former South El Monte City Manager **Tony Ybarra** and former Artesia City Manager **Jim Barisic**, who is the founder of **Brandywine Homes**. Though they continue to support the program, this picture was taken at Tap's Fish house and Brewery in Brea.



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

Debbie Smith, Executive Director

The **Independent Cities Finance Authority** is an unaffiliated Joint Powers Authority (JPA) with the goal of helping communities fund critical projects.

Independent Cities Finance Authority

Post Office Box No. 6740

Lancaster, California 93539-6740

Telephone No. 877-906-0941

info@ICFAuthority.org

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.

Since its inception in 1988, ICFA has assisted in funding over \$500 million in critical community projects, from hospitals, to charter schools, municipal utilities to housing for low and moderate-income families and seniors.

Northern California "Proof of Life" lunch program: Tuesday, January 14, 2020

It's Happening!

The first Proof-of-Life Lunch in the north is set for **Tuesday, January 14, 2020, from Noon until 2:00 pm.** The organizers include: **Rod Wood, Kevin O'Rourke, Rod Gould** and **Jeff Kolin**. They have set the inaugural lunch in Fairfield to make it as easy as possible for as many folks as possible to attend. Please RSVP your attendance at **Mimi's Restaurant at 1650 Gateway Boulevard, Fairfield.** The exit is Travis Blvd off the I-80 then Gateway Blvd east across from the shopping center and it is on the north side of Gateway. We picked Mimi's because they have a separate room for groups and most importantly everyone orders off the menu and pays their individual check so no "who's on first and what's on second" figuring out the check.

The plan is to have 2nd meeting in April; most likely on Tuesday the 14th in San Jose at Mimi's again because it is centrally located. We will email the verified date and location once we get a venue confirmation. In July it will be in the Sacramento Delta area and in October the Central Valley area on the second Tuesday if possible. Not this year, but an idea of a special Christmas Lunch in December for all "Proof of Life" folks has been suggested at a very central location such as Tracy. We can discuss that idea.

For Information contact Rod, Kevin, Rod or Jeff:

Rod Wood: rodjwood@gmail.com

Kevin O'Rourke: kevin@klogs.com

Rod Gould: rodgould17@gmail.com

Jeff Kolin: Forkolin@aol.com

**"Proof of Life" lunch program is coming north.
Many THANKS to Rod, Kevin, Rod & Jeff**

“Proof of Life” Program Gains Interest Throughout the State

Those of the original “Proof of Life” lunch program extend best wishes for success of the Northern California “Proof of Life” effort. Many THANKS go to **Rod Wood, Kevin O’Rourke, Rod Gould** and **Jeff Kolin** for pursuing the development of this new chapter. All four of the north organizers are past Presidents of the City Managers Department of the League of California Cities. Special THANKS to retired Fairfield City Manager **Kevin O’Rourke**. Since retirement Kevin has served as Interim City Manager in Stockton, Santa Ana and Woodland. Kevin has travelled from the north to attend original “Proof of Life” lunches. We are grateful for Kevin’s participation. Also, THANKS to **Lloyd de Llamas** and **Larry Kosmont** for their early and continued support. The original “Proof of Life” is a haven for friends and colleagues to meet and enjoy each other’s company. There is no program or speeches. We have all sat through too many of those already. The only extemporaneous talk was delivered by the late **Bob Williams**, and he was amazingly glib and funny. Unfortunately, Bob passed away at the age of 98-years on January 5, 2019. At any rate, the idea is to provide a place for everyone to come and intermingle without any structure. We try to minimize stress and maximize the pleasantness of the experience. Please join us at a future lunch. The next original “Proof of Life” lunch is planned for Wednesday, March 25, 2020. If you are interested in attending and you have not been to a previous lunch, please let us know. You can email a note to:

jack@trackdownmanagement.net

“Proof of Life” Lunch

Wednesday, March 25, 2020, at Noon

North Woods Inn Restaurant

La Mirada, California



[I-5 Freeway and Firestone]

<https://www.tripepismith.com/>

Tripepi Smith & Associates fields a professional team that brings a strong background in pursuit of new and innovative approaches and skills in marketing, and workshops in communications training. Contact **Ryder Smith** or one of his colleagues at **626-536-2173**
info@tripepismith.com



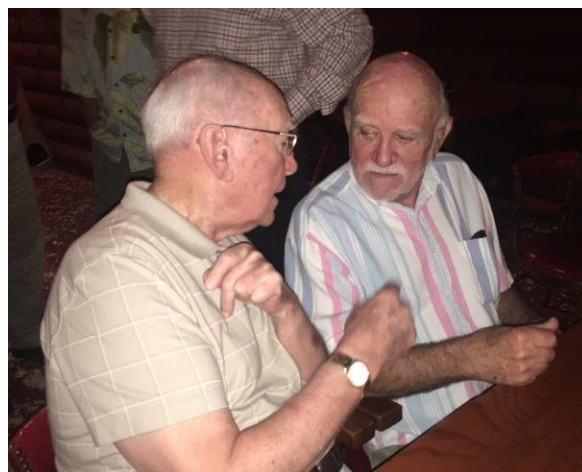
Ryder Todd Smith, Founder and President of **Tripepi Smith & Associates**

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

Tripepi Smith is a provider of marketing, technology and public affairs consulting services.
Marketing – Technology – Public Affairs



Tripepi Smith & Associates
Post Office Box No. 52152
Irvine, California 92619



The late **Bob Williams** and **John Hammargren** at a “Proof of Life” lunch in La Mirada.



One of the last "Proof of Life" lunches held at Tap's Fish House & Brewery in the City of Brea. This group includes: **Terry Belanger, Bill Workman, Ray Harris, Fran Delach, John Bolan, Doug Dunlap, Terry Matz, Greg Korduner, Bill Crowe, Lloyd de Llamas, Don Wagner, Don Vestal, Sam Olivito, Gary Chicots, Ken Bayless, Tony Ybarra, Robert "Bob" Dickey** and **Gary Sloan**.



www.chwlaw.us

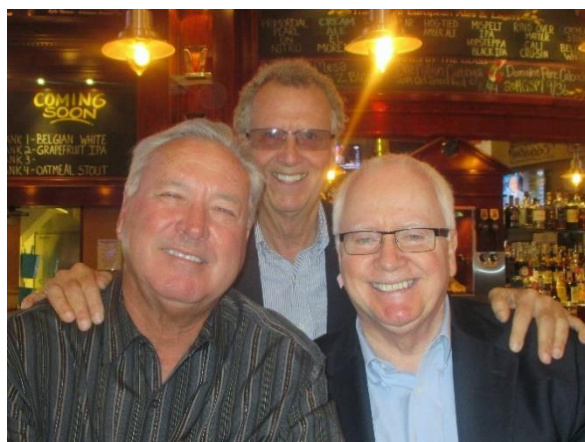
Michael Colantuono is the Managing Shareholder.

Expert Public Agency Legal Services. Committed to counsel that is helpful, understandable, and fairly priced. **CH&W** has offices in Pasadena and Grass Valley in the Sierra Foothills,

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 Alderdice** and **Scott Howard** have each achieved the highest AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell.

Call telephone No. 530-432-7357 or 213-542-5700.



Glenn Southard, Howard Chambers and **Kevin O'Rourke**



Gary Sloan, Greg Korduner, Jack Simpson and **Tim O'Donnell** (Dec., 2019)



Retired Long Beach City Manager **Patrick H. West**.

Pat was appointed to the Long Beach City Manager position in 2007 after joining the Long Beach city staff in 2005 as the Director of Community Development. Prior to Long Beach, Pat served as the longtime City Manager in the City of Paramount. Pat is a supporter of "Proof of Life."



<https://www.munienvironmental.com/about-us/>

MuniEnvironmental, LLC (Muni Environmental) is an expert team of educated and experienced professionals providing consulting expertise in the Solid Waste, Recycling and Storm water Industries.

Jeff Duhamel,
CEO/Principal Consultant



The firm provides consulting services to cities and other government agencies attempting to implement mandated regulatory requirements, as California strives to reach the recycling goal of 75%.

Telephone: 562-432-3700
3730 East Broadway, Suite EF
Long Beach, CA 90803



Picking Up the Pieces: Huntington Beach Public Works Director **Travis Hopkins** is the new Huntington Beach Assistant City Manager, working with City Manager **Oliver Chi**. Travis joined the city staff in 2006 as an engineer in the Public Works Department, and was promoted to Public Works Director in 2007. Pomona City Manager **Linda Lowry** will retire at the end of the year. San Clemente City Manager, a former Azusa City Manager (2012-2014), **James Makshanoff** has been hired to replace her. Linda's last day will be December 31. Deputy City Manager **Mark Gluba** will serve as Interim City Manager until James arrives on January 21, 2020. Seal Beach City Manager **Jill Ingram** has earned an employment agreement amendment that will increase her compensation over a two-year period. Jill's last compensation adjustment was January 1, 2017. Jill joined the Seal Beach city staff in 2008 as the Assistant to the City Manager. She became Assistant City Manager in 2011, and she was appointed City Manager in 2011. Jill served as Cypress City Clerk in 2000-2006. City Manager **Rod Butler** has left his position in Port Hueneme to accept an appointment to the Jurupa Valley City Manager position. Port Hueneme Chief of Police **Andrew Salinas** will serve as the Interim City Manager. Rod joined the Port Hueneme city staff as City Manager in November, 2016. He previously served as City Manager in Crescent City (2009-2011), Patterson (2011-2014), and Upland (2014-2016). Rod earned an MPA from California State University, Long Beach. He received a 20-year ICMA Service Award in 2018. According to the East Bay Times, at least four Richmond City Managers have come and gone in the last year. City Manager **Carlos Martinez** was terminated after less than a year, and he was replaced with veteran City Manager **Henry Gardner** in an "Acting" capacity, after **Rochelle Polk**, turned down the position. Former Lafayette City Manager **Steven Falk** replaced Henry as Interim City Manager, after Henry was only weeks in the post. The City of Richmond is in the process of recruiting for a new City Manager. Fairfield Assistant City Manager **Laura Snideman** is the new Richmond City Manager succeeding the Interim City Manager. She has served as ACM in Fairfield since 2014. Before that she was the Executive Officer of the Napa County LAFCO. Before that she served on the Half Moon Bay city staff starting in 2009. She was the Half Moon Bay City Manager for three years. City of Imperial City Manager **Stefan Chatwin** is the new City Manager in the City of Fairfield. Stefan went to Imperial in October, 2016. His last day in Imperial is December 27, 2019.



More Pieces Picked Up: Moreno Valley City Manager **Tom DeSantis** has retired after two-years on the job. Economic Development Director **Mike Lee** has been appointed Interim City Manager. Tom was appointed City Manager in December, 2017

after City Manager **Michelle Dawson** left the position. Tom previously served as the Assistant City Manager in Riverside. Fontana City Manager **Ken Hunt** joined the city staff in 1990 as an auditor and he was promoted to City Manager in 1999. He logged 20-years as City Manager and is retiring with two-years remaining on his employment agreement. Veteran retired City Manager **Mike Milhiser** has been appointed Interim City Manager. Mike has served as City Manager in Montclair, Ontario and Upland. Since retiring he has served in several "Interim" capacities. Mike estimates that he will be in Fontana into February. It's official. Santa Paula approved an employment agreement with their new City Manager **Dan Singer**. Dan started with Santa Paula as Interim City Manager. He began his career as an Administrative Intern in Lafayette in 1991 before joining the Ojai city staff as Assistant to the City Manager in 1992. He was promoted to Director of General Services in 1998 and became Ojai City Manager in 2001. Dan left Ojai when he was appointed City Manager in Goleta in 2005. He served as Poway City Manager starting in 2014. Dan received a 20-year ICMA Service Award in 2011. Former Milpitas City Manager **Julie Edmonds-Mares** is now the Chief Operating Officer for a Cincinnati-based consulting firm with offices in San Jose and Orange County. The City continues to retain the firm for consulting services. Julie is a former Deputy City Manager in San Jose. She was hired by Milpitas in early 2018 to replace City Manager **Tom Williams**, who resigned in September, 2017. Palmdale Assistant City Manager **J. J. Murphy** is the new Palmdale City Manager with the retirement of City Manager **James Purtee**. Jim served as City Manager in Palmdale starting in August, 2015. J. J. joined the Palmdale city staff in April, 2018 after 20-years in public service. He was named New Mexico City Manager of the Year in 2016 when he was City Manager in Hobbs, New Mexico. He is a 20-year U. S. Air Force veteran. J. J. earned a BA from King's College and an MPA from Marywood University. Calistoga City Manager **Mike Kirn**, the City's former Director of Public Works, recently received a satisfactory performance evaluation and compensation increase. According to Administrative Services Director **Gloria Leon**, the new salary level compares to City Managers in other



cities. Mike was appointed City Manager last June after City Manager **Dylan Feik** left the position in April, when Mike stepped up from his Public Works Director post to serve as Interim City Manager. **Derek Rayner** has replaced Mike as the Calistoga Public Works Director.

SHORTS: *Los Altos City Manager **Chris Jordan**, who previously served as the City Manager in West Linn, Oregon, earned a 7.3 percent cost of living salary increase. ***Shelly Wishner** is the 2019 Administrative Services Department Part-Time Employee of the Year in the City of Claremont. *Former Novato Assistant City Manager **Cathy Capriola** became Sonoma City Manager in January, 2017. *Santa Paula City Manager **Dan Singer** earned a MA and MPA from Syracuse University. ***Reva Feldman**, City Manager of the City of Malibu was the recipient of the 2019 CCMF City Manager Award, and **Jon Shull**, Chief Executive Officer of the California Joint Powers Insurance Authority, received the Corporate Sponsor Award. *Former Associate Dean and Associate Professor at the University of California, Davis, **Dr. Jeff Loux**, Ph.D., is the Town Manager for the Town of Truckee. *Former Bellflower Mayor **Maurice G. "Mike" Brassard** passed away on December 1, 2019 (1937-2019). ***Joe Irvin** is the City of Healdsburg Assistant City Manager following his service in Sequim, Washington and Marco Island, Florida. ***Judy Belk** of the City of Sunnyvale was named the 1982 John H. Nail Memorial Award presented by the City Managers Department of the League of California Cities. *Former candidate for the position of Los Angeles County Sheriff, and former department member **Robert "Bob" Lindsey**, is the City Manager in the City of La Puente. *Simi Valley has been without a permanent City Manager for more than eight months, while Economic Development Director **Brian Gabler** is the Interim City Manager. *Former MMASC President (2017-2018) **Ashley Garcia**, a USC MPA graduate, is currently the Human Resources Project Administrator in the City of Santa Maria. *Santa Clarita City Manager **Ken Striplin** is the new President of the California City Management Foundation (CCMF).