

Response to Phil Messina

Below are the emails I received from Phil Messina. He is the president of the OCCMA. I contacted the OCCMA Manager, Joann Gelfi, when I could no longer log in to the list serv (within 16 hours of the files being posted – no comment to me. I had to ask why I was blocked). My response came directly from Phil. I would ask him questions, but he has asked that I no longer contact him. So, unless he is willing to lift that, and let me ask questions directly, I will have to post them here. Maybe someone can get him a message.

ESPN.com - [Cowboys: No developments in pursuit of Pacman](#) - 6 hours ago

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suspension of list serv privledge Inbox | X

★ **Phil Messina** to me [show details](#) Apr 18 (5 days ago) [Reply](#) ▼

You are now blocked from accessing the OCCMA list serv.
If you would like to resign your "membership" in OCCMA I am sure we can provide you with a full refund of your dues.

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★ **Angela Flood** to Phil [show details](#) Apr 18 (4 days ago) [Reply](#) ▼

May I ask why I am being asked to resign and why my access was blocked?

Thank you,

Angela
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★ **Phil Messina** to me [show details](#) Apr 18 (4 days ago) [Reply](#) ▼

For downloading the list serv archives onto your web site and for your nasty comments about the men and women in my profession. Don't bother me again.
[- Show quoted text -](#)

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My questions are as follows:

You set the tone of my becoming a member with the following post. Are you aware of the statements you perpetuated that are entirely unsubstantiated? The posts that came in afterwards from OCCMA members only encouraged my reading, with many posters making comments that my joining would be the end to the OCCMA list serv. If that means with the purpose that it currently has, I can't see how that would be negative. Instead, they could have used the opportunity to begin to use it as a tool, a resource, not a source of their own entertainment, at the expense of tax dollars.

Text and copy of email:

I had good intentions of putting together a "Hi I'm this years President of OCCMA and I just wanted to introduce myself and say that I'm going to work hard for all of you this year, so check my website for details of my many policy positions" but I didn't get around to it in January, so here it is almost March and here goes...

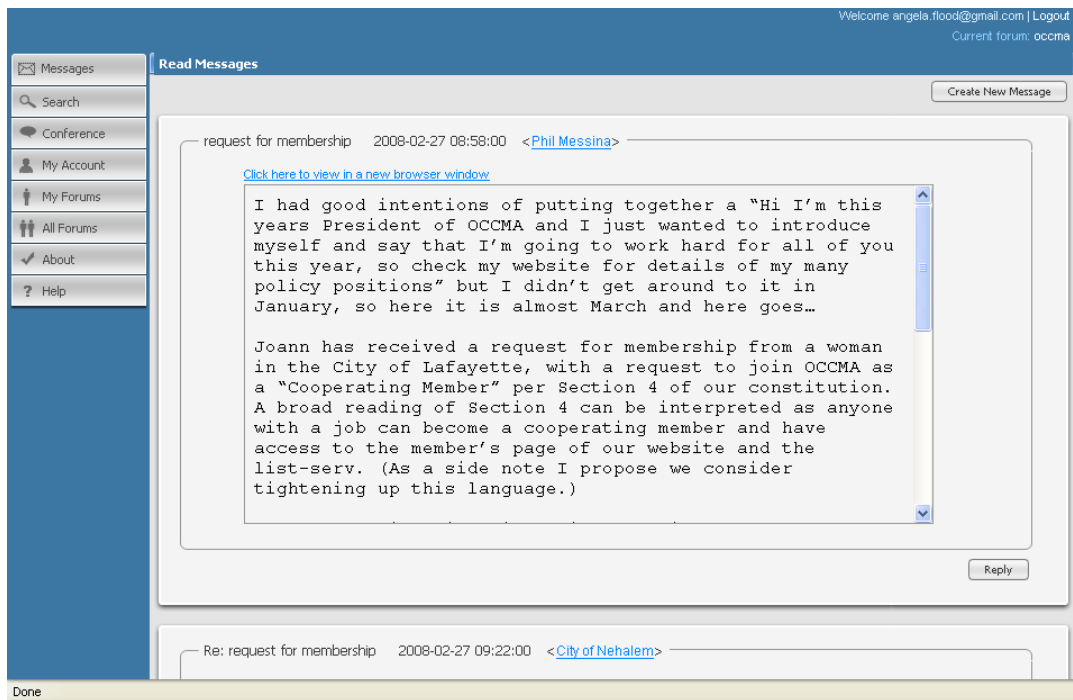
Joann has received a request for membership from a woman in the City of Lafayette, with a request to join OCCMA as a "Cooperating Member" per Section 4 of our constitution. A broad reading of Section 4 can be interpreted as anyone with a job can become a cooperating member and have access to the member's page of our website and the list-serv. (As a side note I propose we consider tightening up this language.)

After checking with Diane Rinks, CA in Lafayette I found out that the woman requesting membership has been a outspoken critic of the city in general and specifically Diane, including accusations (unfounded) of embezzlement and other high crimes and misdemeanors. The Board will be discussing this request for membership at the Board meeting next month.

Membership in OCCMA requires support for professional management and personal support for managers. This includes adherence to the ICMA Code of Ethics. I thought the Code had something in it about not speaking ill of fellow managers but it didn't jump out at me. Anyone care to weigh in?

Phil Messina

Central Point



The City of Corvallis posts list serv messages on their website. Are the suspended as well?

Are the messages not public documents, available for anyone to view? There have been several postings advising members they are. And, several members even have a signature line advising their emails are subject to public disclosure law.

My nasty comments? My only comment being the observation that the city administrators are embarrassing the citizens of the towns they represent with their constant comments of getting drunk, demeaning citizens, calling members of their communities' kooks, posting wholly inappropriate comments, photos and cartoons. (Here is one of my favorites). Explain to me the value this has.

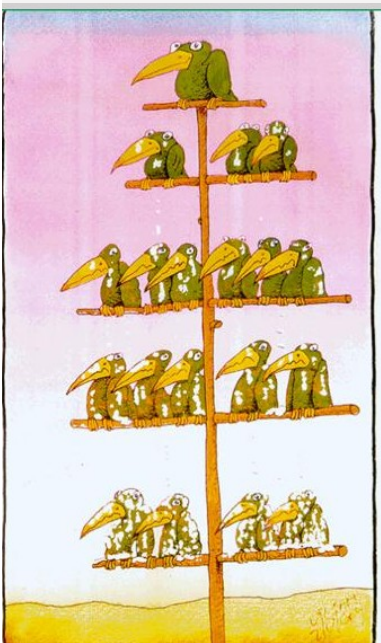
Sometimes it's good to be boss 2004-07-12 10:45:00 <Rodger Bennett>

[Click here to view in a new browser window](#)

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Attachments:

- [WhvifsGoodtobeBoss11.jpg](#) (image/jpeg)



Am I to assume the bird that gets to waste on everyone else is the city administrator? That would make the four on the bottom the citizens? Where do the other employees sit? Where are the councilors? Does that make the councilors below the administrator? It seems to be in the brand of methodology shared on the list serv. Sadly, there are many more postings of this type at the list serv.

When the discussion recently turned to the Ethics Statement filings, you posted and said that anyone promoting unlawfulness (by having councilors quit and then be reappointed) or perpetuating false information (I am summarizing, not quoting), they would have their privileges suspended. The same discussions continued and that never happened. Yet, I post public documents and make an observation about an obvious questionable use of work time and city resources, and I am kicked off. Where is the value you are providing to the public dollar?

I am not resigning. There are avenues of appeal that are open to me and I intend to pursue them. As far as my statements about the city administrators embarrassing their citizens with the kind of comments they make and

how they spend their day? I stand by them. As far as changing your charter to prevent people like me joining, that would just be sad, for the membership. For some people, without scrutiny, there is no moral code.

I did not apply under any false pretenses. I was completely forthright with Joann Gelfi regarding our website. The mission being to post public documents. That is what has been done. If I have to find another source to keep the information open and in the public eye, then I will have to do that. Apparently, the list serv is a forum that needs to be watch dogged. Unfortunately, these documents need to be posted to remind the city administrators that the work they perform under the umbrella of their city governments is accessible by the people paying them. This, ideally, would cause them to be more professional, thus contributing to their support. Which is the premise of the OCCMA, is it not?

Mr. Messina, as President of the OCCMA, you have a responsibility to stand and be a leader to the organization to promote the ICMA Code of Ethics, instead of contributing to the anti-community dialogue. It is time to be transparent, instead of encouraging a venue of advice on how to block efforts at an open, publicly involved government.

You can help make that happen by lifting the suspension of privileges.