

Bergmanson For Governor

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Carl Bergmanson Biography

Carl Bergmanson, 48, is a former Councilman and Mayor of the Borough of Glen Ridge, New Jersey.

Carl's career as a political activist began when he co-founded *The Lorraine Street Committee for a Radium-Free Glen Ridge*. This local citizen's group helped pressure the federal government to fulfill its obligation to remediate radium contamination at two Superfund sites in Glen Ridge, Montclair and West Orange.

Carl then ran for Councilman in Glen Ridge, running as an independent against the Civic Conference Committee (CCC), a one-party system that has dominated Glen Ridge politics for nearly 100 years. Carl was elected in 1990 using the slogan "I'm not CCC", and re-elected in 1993 and 1996. In 1999, Carl ran for Mayor, and lost to CCC candidate and Acting-Mayor Steven Plate, but in 2003, Carl won a decisive victory in a rematch against Mayor Plate. This was the first and only time since its founding in 1913 that the CCC lost a Mayoral election.

As mayor, Carl served on the Board of Directors of the New Jersey Conference of Mayors (NJCM), and served on the Legislative Advisory Committee for the NJCM and also for the New Jersey League of Municipalities. He also worked with elected officials from throughout Essex County to try to reform County Government in New Jersey by forming the *Change County Government – New Jersey Committee*.

After serving his four-year term, Mayor Bergmanson did not seek re-election, keeping his campaign promise to serve only one term. In 2008, Mayor Bergmanson served as the Chairman of *The Committee to Recall Jon Corzine from the Office of Governor*.

Carl currently serves as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the *Gas Lamp Players*, a Glen Ridge community theater group, and as the Treasurer of the *Glen Ridge Kiwanis Club*.

Carl is a graduate of California State University, Los Angeles. He lives in Glen Ridge with his wife Ruby and their cat Cubes. Their son Andrew is a sophomore at Brown University.

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