



**Southern California  
Chapter**

## Your 3rd Quarter 2018 News & Updates

---

### President's Letter

Charles Baker, SRA, AI-RRS

SCCAI 2018 President



#### Greetings friends and colleagues!

As summer gives way to fall and we approach the autumnal equinox, the pace of change predictably accelerates. I'm reminded of that every Tuesday after the long Labor Day weekend! Your Southern California Appraisal Institute Board of Directors, Committee Chairs and Executive Team have been busy laying the groundwork for our final offerings and a smooth transition to 2019.

This year I found the selection of our Heritage Night honoree to be an easy one. In my ten years of board service, attending virtually every Installation, Market Trends Seminar and Heritage Night, John Ellis has been a steadfast presence bringing his gracious smile and calm authoritative voice to every proceeding. Mind you, his continued service to our chapter came long after his official tour of duty with YAC, Regional Representative, numerous committee appointments, Board service and capping it with his Presidency in 2000. While our paths didn't cross until 2009 I am exceedingly grateful to John for his continued stewardship and dedication these past ten years. Please join me, Beth Finestone and your colleagues in honoring John at this year's Heritage Night, Thursday, October 18th, at the Altadena Country Club.

Another honor as President is selecting Chairs for our Chapter-developed seminars. Adam Dembowitz answered the call to Chair our annual Litigation Seminar, to be held November 1st. Among our featured speakers will be none other than John Ellis. Stay tuned for more information.

The 2018 Appraisal Institute Annual Conference was held in Nashville, Tn. July 29-Aug 1st. It was one of the best attended conferences in recent memory. The offerings were timely, and the subject-matter experts were the best of the best. Paula Konikoff, JD, MAI, AI-GRS was honored as the recipient of the Y.T. and Louise Lum Award. Congratulations Paula! We are truly fortunate to have within our organization at all levels the brightest minds in the valuation profession and proud to have Paula a member of our chapter.

My work at the Region level continues as Treasurer and Government Relations Representative for Region VII. Most of the activity of the California Government Relations Committee has focused on proposals by the GSE's to streamline the appraisal process through waivers and bifurcated appraisals. I am also leading the National Residential Appraisal Project Team committee with members from across the country.

I will be attending Valuation Expo in Las Vegas in an unofficial capacity as SCCAI and AI representative. The member lapel pins will be on proud display!

Our SoCal Education Committee voted to approve the 2nd installment of the Residential Symposium, to take place late summer of 2019. With your support, it's my hope this will become an annual event in our effort to reach and serve the residential membership.

In closing, I'm always interested in hearing from you - what's taking place in your market; how can the Chapter serve you better; how can we broaden our appeal; and how can we expand and diversify our membership base.

Thank you for reading and may you go out and serve with distinction.

Charles Baker, SRA, AI-RRS  
2018 SCCAI Chapter President  
(310) 592-0942  
cbaker@appraisalpros.com



**John G. Ellis, MAI, FRICS, CRE  
to be honored at the  
October 18th Heritage Night Dinner**

John grew up in Taft, California and is the youngest of six siblings. His father was one of the Town's primary physicians and as a result, the family was well known and respected by all. For those of you that know John, you know that amongst his many positive attributes, he is well respected by his friends, peers and clients. He has a strong moral compass and the highest of ethics. His character was in large part shaped by his parents who were remarkable people. In the early years of John's upbringing in Taft, the area was somewhat affected by racial prejudice. A Hispanic family moved to the area and opened a Mexican Restaurant, and many residents refused to frequent the establishment. John's father decided that this was unacceptable and moved forward to hold all Rotary Club meetings at the restaurant. This helped the restaurant establish roots and become successful. The restaurant is still in existence today. John lives his life and operates his business with the same values of fairness for all.

While in high school in Taft, John was on the cross country and golf teams. To this day, John regularly runs and not so regularly plays golf. He either swims or jogs, at least five mornings a week before coming into the office. In 2011 John participated in a Triathlon and successfully completed the course and in 2017 he successfully completed a marathon.

After high school, John attended UCLA (Go Bruins!), and graduated with a B.A. in Business/Economics in 1981. John had always been interested in financial analysis and considered becoming a stockbroker. In John's senior year at UCLA, Roger Lindley, who was a friend and advisor to John, recommended that John consider appraisal as a profession and introduced John to Bob Lea. John began working with Bob on a part time basis prior to graduating from UCLA. The rest is history! John worked with Bob at Lea Associates for 16 years.

In 1986, John met his beautiful wife Patty and they married in 1988. They have two fantastic adult children, Andrew and Carolyn. As many of you know, Patty is an accomplished artist and creates beautiful paintings and sculptures. On the surface, both Andrew and Carolyn appear to have followed in their mother's footsteps in terms of their artistic leanings. Andrew is a filmmaker specializing in documentaries focused on social justice, and Carolyn is involved in dance, drama and teaching of the arts. However, if you have ever met Andrew or Carolyn, you know they have a strong sense of business and fair play, which they come by naturally from John.

1986 was a big year for John, not only did he meet Patty, he received his MAI designation and was the youngest member to hold the MAI designation at the time. In 1996, John opened his own firm, Ellis Group, Inc. In 1999, he brought his firm into Integra Realty Resources - Los Angeles, where he is the majority shareholder and Senior Managing Director. John has always maintained past relationships, while pursuing new relationships. In early 2018, Bob Lea merged his firm with Integra Realty Resources - Los Angeles, and now the circle is complete.

John began his history of service to the appraisal profession, the Appraisal Institute, and our Chapter early in his career. In 1994 he was a member of the Young Advisory Council and went on in leadership from there. John was a Regional Representative in 1995, 1996 and 1998, was also the SCCAI Finance Chair and Treasurer in 1998. He served as Secretary of the Chapter in 1997, Vice President in 1999 and was President in 2000. John's contributions to our Chapter are many including being the Host of a Japanese Appraiser Contingent, a member of the Symposium Committee, Chair of Research Committee, Chair of Educational Workshops, Chair of Seminars, Chair of Courses, Educational Chair, Admissions Committee (3 years), Nominating Committee (2 years), Inducting Officer (2 years), and Board Member at Large. In addition, John has been a frequent speaker at seminars and other chapter events. He continues to Chair seminars and events when requested, most recently having Chaired and Co-Chaired the Litigation Seminar several times.

On a National level, John was a member of the Ethics and Counseling committee, and the Demonstration and Counseling Committee. He represented the Chapter at LDAC, and taught courses for the Institute, with a focus on Income Capitalization. John was honored regionally by the Appraisal Institute as a Volunteer of Distinction in 2013.

John's service to the profession does not stop with his service to our Chapter and to the Appraisal Institute. He has published five articles related to appraisal, in different publications and as indicated above is a frequent speaker, having spoken at more than 25 seminars. John has also been an instructor at the CSUN Center for Real Estate and at UCLA, on the appraiser's role in litigation. John has helped to mentor a number of appraisers that have become MAI's including Richard Hammel, Jason Lund, Sydney Hawran, Donna Bradley, Linas Venckus and Scott Gohl. He continues to mentor a number of well-respected state licensed appraisers.

John is one of the most well respected and sought-after litigation specialists in Southern California, and beyond. John's name is synonymous with integrity, quality, and professionalism. He is a Certified General Appraiser and holds not only the MAI designation, but is also a Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (FRICS), and a member of the prestigious Counselors of Real Estate (CRE).

John represents the best our profession has to offer, not only in terms of the quality of his work, but also as a leader, mentor, and one of the finest people I have ever met.

You are personally invited to join in this very special evening as we honor John G. Ellis, MAI, CRE, FRICS at Heritage Night on Thursday, October 18, 2018. The event is being held at the Altadena Country Club and begins at 5:30 PM.

This is an opportunity for the membership to express our appreciation to John for the significant contributions he has made to our Chapter, the Appraisal Institute and the appraisal profession. We hope to see you there.

Sincerely,  
Beth B. Finestone, MAI, AI-GRS, FRICS, CRE  
Sydney Hawran, MAI, AI-GRS  
Robert Lea, MAI  
2018 Heritage Night Committee

**Seating will be limited. Registration Closes October 10th**  
**[CLICK HERE](#) for Registration Form**

## **2018 Northwestern Branch**

Chair, J. P. LoMonaco, MAI  
Vice Chair, Adam Dembowitz, MAI  
1st Advisor, Bradley Stern, Candidate  
2nd Advisor, Jan Kelly, Candidate  
3rd Advisor, Tupper W. Lienke, MAI

### **NORTHWESTERN BRANCH BREAKFAST MEETING City of Inglewood Development Update**

**Date: September 20, 2018 Location: Santa Monica, CA**

**[REGISTER HERE](#)**

The Northwestern Branch represents and serves appraisers from West and North Los Angeles County and Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties.

---

## **The 2018 Southern Branch Team**

Chair, Michael Tidwell, II, SRA  
Vice Chair: Robert M. Contant, Jr., MAI  
1st Advisor: Matt T. VanEck, MAI  
2nd Advisor: Winnie Houston, MAI  
3rd Advisor: George Paquette, SRA

### **SOUTHERN BRANCH DINNER MEETING Fallacies, Future, and Fun of Appraisal**

**Date: October 9, 2018 Location: Irvine, CA**

**[REGISTER HERE](#)**

The Southern Branch represents and serves appraisers from Orange County and Long Beach.

---

## **The 2018 Eastern Branch Team**

Chair: Alex Liu, Candidate  
Vice Chair: William E. Jones, MAI, AI-GRS  
1st Advisor: Charles Thomas, Candidate  
2nd Advisor: Jennifer Hsu, MAI  
3rd Advisor: Scott Thompson, MAI

If you have suggestions for an event in the Eastern Branch please reach out to the leadership team - Alex Liu, Bill Jones, Jennifer Hsu, Charles Thomas, or Scott Thompson.

Alex Liu - alexliu714@gmail.com (714-307-6249)  
William (Bill) Jones - wejones@cbbank.com (909-240-3700)  
Jennifer Hsu - Jennifer.Hsu@cbre.com (213-613-3264)  
Charles Thomas - cthomas@innovisrealty.com (949-446-1433)  
Scott Thompson - sthompson@mason2.com (818) 957-1891

---

# 2018 Education Committee Newsletter

## Adam M. Bogorad, MAI

As we come out of the summer months and into the fall, the Southern California Chapter continues to offer our members some of the most diverse courses and chapter-developed events in the nation, such as the Inland Empire Market Trends Seminar which took place earlier this summer and the upcoming Litigation Seminar (which is scheduled for November).

Unlike educational offerings in the past, many online courses are now being offered through the national level of the Appraisal Institute. This has had an impact on the number of in-person courses that can be offered at the local level. Throughout this year, several of the smaller classroom seminars have been cancelled due to low attendance. Therefore, it is extremely important for members to sign up for classes as soon as they become available so that they are not cancelled.

There are several in-person educational offerings still scheduled for later this year. In the coming months, we are offering the following courses in Southern California:

- 9/10/2018 - Review Theory - General
- 9/20/2018 - 7-Hour USPAP
- 9/27/2018 - Federal and California Statutory and Regulatory Law
- 10/04/2018 - Litigation Appraising: Specialized Topics and Applications
- 10/24/2018 - Business Practices and Ethics

Please check your emails or the chapter website for a complete listing and register early if these courses are of interest to you.

The 51st Annual Litigation Seminar is also scheduled for November 1, 2018 in Downtown Los Angeles. This will be the final chapter-developed event in 2018.

Members of the Southern California Chapter are also extremely fortunate to be eligible for the Mason-Thornton Scholarship Program. This scholarship fund was established to help members pay for their designation classes. Please take advantage of this program if you are working toward the completion of your designation requirements. You can learn more about this scholarship, and all of our educational offerings, on the chapter website at [www.sccai.org](http://www.sccai.org). Lastly, it is noted that John G. Ellis, MAI, CRE, FRICS is being honored at this year's Heritage Night, on October 18, 2018 at the Altadena Town & Country Club. John has been heavily involved in the educational aspect of the Southern California Chapter over the past several decades, including time as a board member, committee member, Chapter President, and a course instructor. The honor is well deserved and the Education Committee wishes to congratulate him.

---

## Congratulations to our Newly Designated Members

[Ben Selcho, AI-GRS](#)

[Drew Hoskins, MAI](#)

[John Mackel, MAI](#)

[Molly W. Alford, MAI](#)

[Derek G. Clark, MAI](#)

[John Lepard, SRA, AI-GRS](#)

[Jeanelyn Kwong, MAI](#)

[Christopher B. Pierce, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS](#)

[Mark J. Gautreau, MAI](#)

[Alexander M. Jaffe, MAI](#)

---

# Next Generation

## A PROGRAM TO BUILD THE FUTURE LEADERS IN THE APPRAISAL PROFESSION

**Next Gen is a new effort by the Chapter to promote a social environment where young professionals in real estate appraisal can meet one another and network with many of the experienced appraisers in our chapter. Our goal is to connect a new generation of appraisers to network with both new and seasoned appraisers in the industry.**

### **Program Features:**

**Next Generation Mixers: Networking opportunities to create relationships with other new appraisers in the industry.**

**Mentorship Program: Be paired with a mentor in the industry to receive advice regarding training, education and industry knowledge from a seasoned professional.**

**If you are interested in joining the Next Generation group, please respond to this email address and we will add you to our contact list.  
Any questions? Please feel free to respond to [NextGen@sccai.org](mailto:NextGen@sccai.org)**

---

### **SCCAI'S JOBS BOARD ON THE CHAPTER WEBSITE**

When is the last time you looked at the JOBS BOARD on the Chapter Website??  
There are many job opportunities just waiting for you!

And, as a member of SCCAI YOU can post a ad on the Jobs Board FREE! That's right.....if YOU are looking for an opportunity your ad is free.

Check out the [JOBS BOARD](#) TODAY !!!

---

### **Scholarships Available .....**

#### **The Southern California Chapter's Mason - Thornton Scholarship Program**

The Mason - Thornton Scholarship Fund is a Trust Fund sponsored and managed by the Southern California Chapter of the Appraisal Institute. The sole purpose of the Fund is the awarding of financial scholarships to Designated Members and Candidates in good standing for courses presented by the Appraisal Institute leading to a professional designation in the Appraisal Institute.

[Application and Information](#)

---

### **Comprehensive Exam Prep**

Gary DeWeese, MAI, and an instructor for the Appraisal Institute for more than 20 years, is offering his Comp Exam prep material for sale. The cost is \$300 for the Income, \$150 for the Sales, \$150 for the Cost/HBU and \$150 for the General module material. If you purchase the first 3 modules, the General module material is free. The material is based on multiple choice

type problems with detailed solutions illustrated. The material is electronically delivered the same day as ordered.

For more information about the material, to read student reviews, and learn how to order go to [www.garydeweese.com](http://www.garydeweese.com) or contact Gary directly at [garydeweese@comcast.net](mailto:garydeweese@comcast.net) or 925-216-8751.

The materials were developed by Gary DeWeese and are not sponsored or endorsed by the Appraisal Institute



**In light of the fires and mud slides in the Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties the Southern California Chapter has donated \$25,000 to AIRF. This was the largest single donation that the foundation has ever received.**

**Southern California Chapter MEMBERS.....**

## **Emergency Financial Assistance - Appraisal Institute Relief Foundation**

**The Appraisal Institute Relief Foundation is available to provide emergency financial assistance to those who may need it. If you need assistance, or are aware of any eligible recipients who may, please contact the Appraisal Institute Relief Foundation at [relieffoundation@appraisalinstitute.org](mailto:relieffoundation@appraisalinstitute.org)**

**For more information or complete the application below:**

**[Download Appraisal Institute Relief Foundation Application for Assistance](#)**

## **Online Education**

Learn at your own pace anytime, anywhere.

**Search Classes**



**Appraisal Institute®**

### **[SEARCH CLASSES](#)**

Top-notch Appraisal Institute courses and seminars come straight to your desktop with online education! Learn from any computer anywhere, whenever you have time. It's easy, convenient, and a great way to get the education you want

STAY CONNECTED:

