
3rd Quarter 2023 Newsletter & Updates



President's Letter

**Linda Whittlesey, SRA
2023 SCCAI President**

TRAILBLAZERS:

Merriam-Webster's Dictionary defines a trailblazer as: *a pioneer, a pathfinder, one that blazes a trail to guide others*. As novice appraisers, we have all relied heavily on the trailblazers that came before us. Many of those pathfinders trained us; some officially supervised us. It is easy to see the debt that we owe to them; the portion of the road that they paved on our path to obtaining a license and perhaps a designation.

Think about some of the less obvious trailblazers that made it possible for us to succeed. What springs to mind for me are the pioneers that formed our professional associations. They created an important construct of ethics, standards and fellowship upon which we have built our careers. Undoubtedly, they did this for the benefit of the profession, not for self-aggrandizement or personal gain. We need to keep that altruistic spirit in mind in our volunteer efforts today.

But what about the women and men who bravely stepped into the appraisal profession at a time when it was markedly less diverse? Consider the fortitude of the initial wave of women that entered our profession at a time when nearly all of the women in the field were employed in a secretarial capacity. Think about the diverse men and women that not only joined our association, but *excelled* within it. These are individuals who achieved designations, became leaders and proceeded to assist a multitude of neophytes to succeed as appraisers. These individuals deserve our gratitude. For this reason, the 2023 Heritage Night event will honor not one but *three* Appraisal Institute Trailblazers: Beth Finestone, *MAI, AI-GRS, FRICS, CRE*, Paula Konikoff, *JD, MAI, AI-GRS* and Gilberto Valdez, *MAI, SRA, AI-GRS, AI-RRS*. I hope you will join us on October 12th, 2023 for a night of celebration. If Covid-19 taught us anything, it was to not take the *privilege* of gathering together for granted. Join the party: I'll save you a seat!



2023 CLASSES

09/21/2023 - SOUTHERN BRANCH MEETING
Top 10 Takeaways from Your Colleagues' Legal Misfortunes
Virtually -ZOOM

REGISTER HERE

10/20/2023 - Business Practices and Ethics
DoubleTree Hotel
Ontario, CA
REGISTER HERE

10/26/2023 - Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land
Acquisitions: Practical Applications
DoubleTree Hotel
Ontario, CA
REGISTER HERE

10/31/2023 7-Hour National USPAP Update Course
Crowne Plaza Hotel
Ventura, CA
REGISTER HERE

11/15/2023 - 7-Hour National USPAP Update Course
Fullerton Marriott
Fullerton, CA
REGISTER HERE

12/14/2023 - Inconsistency: It's Hiding in Plain Sight in Your
(commercial) Appraisal
DoubleTree Hotel
Ontario, CA
REGISTER HERE

12/15/2023 - Inconsistency: It's Hiding in Plain Sight in Your Residential
Appraisal --- Non-lender examples—Next level analysis
DoubleTree Hotel
Ontario, CA
REGISTER HERE



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

2023 Chair:

Michael Comstock, MAI

Hello SCCAI members. Many of us have gone through the “quiet before the storm” periods in the appraisal industry awaiting our lending clients to figure out their best paths forward during uncertain economies. It just feels to me that the dam is about to break and we’re all going to be swamped! As appraisal professionals, I would suggest taking these final days to get Continuing Education or Candidate Education behind you. As always, the Course Listings are [here](#). While you are on the SCCAI website, find a Job Board and other Chapter information. Several classes are on offer for the remainder of this year, as well as the Heritage Dinner in mid-October.

The Education Committee along with others serving the Chapter are making efforts to understand what classes are best to offer our members. We are coordinating with the San Diego Chapter to best offer the Candidate Education requirements without overlap. Furthermore, we are identifying the best locations to hold classroom education throughout the region.

The SCCAI Chapter in years past had several venues that did not charge a fee, but in the last few years those venues are no longer, and thus, we are paying for venues that charge a relatively significant fee to hold classroom education. If anyone in our Chapter is part of a company or community organization that has space to offer free or at a low fee, we would be grateful if you could reach out to Lianna at the SCCAI office.

Again, SCCAI wants to provide classroom education that fits your needs. There are courses available through National AI via synchronous or online; we are not looking to compete. We need to identify the courses best to offer in a classroom setting. We are also striving to provide webinars and networking opportunities throughout the region. With many working from home, we are striving to find beneficial reasons to attend our events and see others face-to-face. There are strange things that appraisers talk about – so we are trying to give spouses, other family, and friends a break!

Lastly, for the Chapter's Mason-Thornton Scholarship Program, we have made some updates to the application process in parallel with some changes at the National AI office. We have added Practicing Affiliates to the list of eligible appraisers to apply. Please note that we are also enforcing the rule to apply at a minimum 30 days prior to a class start date. The eligible education offerings are listed in the application document, which can be found on the Chapter's website.

We would also encourage those who are passionate about helping our younger generation, You can also reach out to the Chapter office how you can contribute to the scholarship Trust Fund, which is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

I am open to listening to any suggestions relating to AI Education. Thank you for being a member. Mike



OPEN FOR REGISTRATION

***HERITAGE NIGHT DINNER AND PROGRAM
OCTOBER 12, 2023
RIO HONDO COUNTRY CLUB
DOWNEY, CA***

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

***56TH ANNUAL LITIGATION SEMINAR
NOVEMBER 2, 2023
SHERATON
CERRITOS, CA***

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



The 2023 Eastern Branch

Chair: William "Bill" Jones, MAI

Vice Chair: Christie Santolucito, Candidate
1st Advisor: Paul Norlen, MAI
2nd Advisor: Scott Thompson, MAI, AI-GRS
3rd Advisor: Julian Uribe, Candidate

August is normally a slow month, but this August the Eastern Branch was busy planning and hosting a presentation at the historic Wrigley Mansion on Orange Grove Boulevard in Pasadena. The Mansion is an elegant home which serves as the Tournament of Roses headquarters. It was altogether fitting that the focus of this event was appraising historic homes. Charles Baker, SRA, AI-RRS, gave a thoughtful and very well illustrated presentation called "Notable Residential Landmarks." Charles had photographs and floorplans of many historic and architecturally significant homes, including ones designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, Wallace Neff, and Charles & Henry Greene (Greene and Greene).

Charles showed a map of Pasadena showing areas with historic homes. While Pasadena is a relatively small city it is rich in history with many architecturally significant homes. Los Angeles has several areas designated as "Historic Preservation Overlay Zone." Charles presented a map of these areas and then described some of the homes in these zones. People who attended the seminar were impressed by the way Charles combined considerations of aesthetics and design with practical insights on valuing unusual properties.

A special thanks to Chapter President Linda Whittlesey and her husband Gregg who truly went the extra mile to make this event happen. Linda and Gregg cleaned up the place after the event so the Chapter would not have to pay the \$500 cleaning fee the Tournament normally charges when the facility is used for an event. This included getting their hands dirty in the mansion kitchen scrubbing the chaffers and loading the dishwasher. This helped keep the cost down. Thanks, Linda and Gregg! (By the way, a chaffer is a dish used for food service, especially in group settings). Also, thanks to Lianna for putting together all the details to ensure that Chapter members could get CE credit for this wonderful event!

With only one week left in the summer, we are hoping to plan one more event before the end of the year. If you have any suggestions please reach out to one of the people on the Eastern Branch Leadership team.



08/23/2023 EASTERN BRANCH MEETING ATTENDEES



SCCAI Past President Richard Hammel and 2023 SCCAI President Linda Whittlesey



2023 SCCAI President Linda Whittlesey and
SCCAI Past President Charles Baker

The 2023 Northwestern Branch

Chair: Jerardo Arciniega, MAI
Vice Chair: Marcus Espinoza, MAI, SRA
1st Advisor: Norman Chung, MAI, AI-GRS
2nd Advisor: Jose Hernandez, Candidate
3rd Advisor: Daniel Lee, MAI, AI-GRS

The Northwestern Branch had a highly attended seminar on ADU Valuations this last quarter. We'd like to give an additional thank you to the speakers, Charles Baker and Yang Wang. This last quarter we also added Carlos Andrade, MAI to our branch. He is an experienced appraiser with JP Morgan Chase and will begin his service next year.

We are currently in the process of planning our next event for this year. So far this year

we've had seminars on the hotel market and ADU valuations. If you have any thoughts on what you would like to see next, please reach out to us and let us know!

MEET OUR NEWLY DESIGNATED MEMBERS

Sharon A. Steele, SRA, AI-RRS
Edward A. Dunbar, MAI, AI-GRS
Roy Kim, MAI, AI-GRS
Anthony Sungil Shin, SRA
Leo Kao, MAI
Kirsten Huimin Smiley, MAI

Scholarships Available

The Mason – Thornton Scholarship Committee would like to remind our Members that the Chapter offers valuable financial assistance for those pursuing their designations. Namely, the Mason – Thornton Scholarship Fund is available to SCCAI Members who have an active Candidate status and are members in good standing. Scholarships assistance is available for up to 75% of the total course fee. In-person, synchronous, and/or online courses are eligible insofar as the course is required for professional designation. Applications, which are available on the Chapter website, should be submitted to Lianna at least 30 days prior to the class start date. There is no better time to continue and/or resume the quest for your professional designation.

Bradford Thompson, MAI, AI-GRS

Chair, Mason – Thornton Scholarship Fund

Application and Information



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

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