



Southern California Chapter

4th Quarter 2023 Newsletter & Updates



President's Letter

**Linda Whittlesey, SRA
2023 SCCAI President**

Greetings to our So Cal Chapter members! Thank you for supporting our Chapter by attending our events and enrolling in our educational offerings. As much as I appreciate the convenience of online education, I have found that there is no substitute for the networking and exchange of information that I receive in-person at an AI class or seminar.

Looking into 2024, I hope many of you will join us on Saturday, January 13th in Long Beach to celebrate the installation of our new Chapter officers and region representatives. Our Appraisal Institute President-Elect Paula Konikoff, JD, MAI, AI-GRS will perform the installation. Our new CEO, Dr. Cindy Chance will be on hand to address our members.

Also, in January of 2024, I am pleased to announce that we are launching a *Women's Initiative* group within our Chapter. The goal of the group will be to support female appraisers and help them to advance in our profession. Our first meeting will be held via Zoom on Friday, February 2nd from noon to 1pm. All are welcome.

One more *Save the Date* item for early 2024: Our 2024 National President Sandra Adomatis, SRA, has agreed to travel to Southern California to teach the *Valuation Overview of Accessory Dwelling Units* course in Costa Mesa on February 29th, 2024. Sandy is an excellent instructor and I encourage you all to register for this course. ADUs will continue to be a very important valuation issue.

Thank you for the privilege of allowing me to serve as your 2023 Chapter President. I have enjoyed getting to know so many of you this year. As you celebrate the new year on January 1st, I hope you will take a little time to enjoy our beautiful Rose Parade live from Pasadena. Happy New Year!



***Heritage Night Dinner and Program
October 12, 2023***



***SPECIAL THANKS TO THE CHAIRS OF THE EVENT:
SCCAI President Linda Whittlesey, SRA; Ariana Arredondo, MAI and
Michelle Rogers, SRA***



SCCAI President Linda Whittlesey with the Honorees of Heritage Night.
Beth Finestone, MAI, AI-GRS, FRICS, CRE; Paula Konikoff, JD, MAI, AI-GRS and
Gilbert Valdez, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS, AI-RRS



SCCAI PAST PRESIDENTS

2024 CLASSES

01/25/2024

31st Annual LA/OC Market Trends

Sheraton Cerritos

Cerritos, CA

[REGISTER HERE](#)

1/26/2024

2024-2025 7-Hour National USPAP Course

Ayres Hotel

Costa Mesa, CA

[REGISTER HERE](#)

02/15/2024

Federal and California Statutory and Regulatory Law Course

Crowne Plaza Hotel

Ventura, CA

[REGISTER HERE](#)

02/29/2024

Valuation Overview of Accessory Dwelling Units

Ayres Hotel

Costa Mesa, CA

[REGISTER HERE](#)

03/15/2024

Introduction to Green Buildings: Principles & Concepts

Ayres Hotel

Costa Mesa, CA

[REGISTER HERE](#)

03/21/2024

7-Hour National USPAP Update Course

Crowne Plaza

Ventura, CA

[REGISTER HERE](#)



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

2023 Chair:

Michael Comstock, MAI



Hello SCCAI members. It is incredible to think that 2023 is at its close and 2024 is here! For many, it's a welcome sight as the appraisal industry has met one of its slowest lending years. As appraisal professionals, we face challenges including a tricky economy, new technologies, and most importantly, an updated 2024 USPAP class to conquer! I would highly recommend attending in person versus sitting through a seemingly easy online version. If you were to poll those that have done both, I think there would be consensus the in-person course is not only easier to digest but a refreshing way to get away from your desk all day long. Not only is it good for the soul to get out of the house every once and a while, but it also is a great way to support your local Southern California Chapter of the Appraisal Institute! As always, our Course Listings are [here](#).

The Education Committee along with others serving the Chapter will continue to make 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. If you believe you know of a great venue, please feel free to reach out to Lianna at the SCCAI office. If you have any other suggestions relating to AI Education, I'm all ears. Now for a ChatGPT Holiday Greeting:

Greetings, festive friends! 'Tis the season to be jolly, merry, and slightly overwhelmed by the sheer number of holidays crammed into December. It's like a holiday buffet, and we're all trying to pile our plates high without dropping the cranberry sauce. First, there's Hanukkah, the festival of lights. If your menorah isn't visible from space, you might need a few more candles. And don't forget Kwanzaa, a celebration of unity and culture. It's the one time of year when saying "Habari gani?" won't get you weird looks. Of course, there's the big kahuna – Christmas! The only time of year when socks are an acceptable gift. If you haven't had a heated debate over the proper way to hang stockings, are you even doing it right?

And let's not overlook Festivus – the holiday for the rest of us. It's like the rebellious teenager of holidays, complete with the "Airing of Grievances" and feats of strength. Because nothing says "happy holidays" like arm wrestling your uncle. Now, for a few clean jokes to sprinkle on your holiday cheer:

What do you call an elf who sings? A wrapper!
 What do you get if you cross a snowman and a vampire? Frostbite!
 How do snowmen get around? By riding an "icicle"!

Anyway, may your December be as delightful as a perfectly wrapped present and as laughter-filled as a room full of kids on a sugar high. Cheers to a holiday season so bright, even your neighbor's tacky decorations can't compete!

Thank you for being a member. Mike



Ernesto Lopez, MAI, AI-GRS
 2023 SCCAI Treasurer



Dear SCCAI Members,

Happy Holiday!. We are excited to share the success of our recent university outreach where we had the opportunity and privilege of presenting on various real estate appraisal topics at a class taught by a fellow member, Norman Chung teaching RE 416 at Cal State University, Northridge.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to the following industry experts who generously shared their insights and expertise on various dates to Norman's CSUN's students:

Terence J. Farr, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS
Ernie Lopez, MAI, AI-GRS
Jerardo Arciniega, MAI
Carlos Andrade, MAI

Each of these professionals brought a wealth of knowledge and practical experience to the class, enhancing the educational value CSUN students. Their presentations covered a range of topics, from market trends to advanced appraisal methodologies, providing valuable perspectives that will undoubtedly contribute to the professional growth of the students.

Their dedication to sharing their expertise is a testament to the collaborative spirit that defines our organization.

As we continue our mission to foster community outreach, we look forward to future opportunities to engage with colleges and provide students with a background of our appraisal industry.

We'd also like to share that Norman has informed us that CSUN has a real estate certificate program as shown below. Please feel free to also contact him directly if needed.

Norman Chung, MAI, ASA, AI-GRS, MRICS, R/W-AC, CCIM
Adjunct Professor | Department of Business Law
David Nazarian College of Business and Economics
California State University, Northridge
Northridge, CA 91330-8245
norman.chung@csun.edu

Program Requirements

A. Admission Requirements

1. Bachelor's degree in any field from an accredited college or university.
2. Minimum of 2 years of work experience.
3. Resume or curriculum vitae.

B. Program Requirements

- Course credit must be earned through regular or extended learning enrollment at California State University, Northridge.
- No more than 25 percent of the units required for the program shall be transfer units. The program coordinator will evaluate all transfer units.
- An application for the award of a University certificate must be filed no later than the first two weeks of the semester in which the program is to be completed.
- Candidates are eligible for the certificate when recommended by the faculty certificate coordinator and upon completion of the program within a 5-year period with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (a "B" average) in the program coursework. Grades below a "C" and grades of "I," "RP/SP" or "RD" are not permitted toward the certificate.

1. Required Courses (6 units)

[RE 412 Real Estate Practice \(3\)](#)

[RE 414 Real Estate Principles \(3\)](#)

2. Elective Courses (9 units)

Select 9 units from the following:

[BLAW 453 Negotiation \(3\)](#)

[BLAW 481 Real Estate Law \(3\)](#)

[RE 416 Real Estate Appraisal \(3\)](#)

[RE 418 Real Estate Market and Development Analysis \(3\)](#)

[RE 420 Real Estate Finance \(3\)](#)

Total Units Required for the Certificate: 15

NOW OPEN FOR REGISTRATION

92nd Annual Installation Dinner and Program

January 13, 2024

Westin Hotel

Long Beach, CA

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

31st Annual LA/OC Market Trends Seminar

January 25, 2024

SHERATON

CERRITOS, CA

Pending Approval: 8 Hours of BRE A CE

[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

In 2023 the Eastern Branch sponsored two events for the So Cal Chapter that were well-received and contributed to a deeper understanding of trends in the real estate market in Southern California.

In May we presented a webinar on the So Cal Apartment Market where the two principals of Worth Valuation, George Koiso and Pedro Chin, gave us their insights on the market. Shahin Adeli of CBRE Capital Markets provided a useful perspective on how interest rates were affecting apartment lending. About 50 people attended the webinar.

In August Chapter President Linda Whittlesey planned and hosted an event at the historic Wrigley Mansion on Orange Grove Boulevard in Pasadena. The seminar gave attendees an overview of the residential market in Southern California, with a focus on distinctive homes. Charles Baker gave a presentation on "Historic Preservation Overlay Zones" in Pasadena, as well as similar zones in other parts of Los Angeles County. The event was well attended. Linda and Gregg Whittlesey also did the hard work of helping to clean up the facility after the event! resented. Because of this we were able to charge a lower price for the seminar.

Going forward we are considering a range of options for events in 2024. The leadership line-up is changing in the coming year. I (Bill Jones) am moving down to the 3rd Advisor position, while Paul Norlen, MAI will take the reins as Chair. Scott Thompson, Julian Uribe, and Alex Liu will round out the leadership team. **Also, please note that the 26th Annual Inland Empire Market Trends Seminar (IEMTS) will be on June 6, 2024.** Put the date on your calendar now so you don't miss this fantastic learning opportunity!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Eastern Branch Leadership Team!

MEET OUR NEWLY DESIGNATED MEMBERS

Jay A. Monroe, MAI
Robert A. Ohana, Jr., MAI, AI-GRS
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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