



## Southern California Chapter

---

# 2nd Quarter 2025 Newsletter & Updates

---

## ***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***

---



***Ernesto Lopez, MAI, AI-GRS  
2025 SCCAI President***

Dear Southern California Chapter Members,

As we reach the halfway mark of 2025, I want to take a moment to reflect on our chapter achievements and look ahead with excitement to the rest of the year. Our chapter continues to thrive thanks to the dedication and enthusiasm of each of the committee and branch members.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to our generous sponsors— our silver sponsors, CBRE, Cushman & Wakefield, ValCre, and our Bronze sponsors, Colliers, Costar, Walker & Dunlap - your support is the backbone of our chapter's success. We truly appreciate your commitment to the advancement of our profession and community.

I'd also like to recognize the outstanding efforts of our Social Media Team (Evan Sanchez, Liani Moore, Joseph Manssourian), WINs Committee (Ariana Arredondo, Jennifer Hsu and Linda Whittlesey), Inland Empire market trend seminar team and LDAC Team. Your hard work behind the scenes keeps our members informed, engaged, and connected.

If you're looking for a way to get more involved, we welcome new member and/or new ideas, don't hesitate to reach out!

Remember, there's still so much more to come in 2025. Please go to our website and you'll find an upcoming course in June such as a USPAP course, artificial intelligence and real estate appraisal webinar and a joint event with the San Diego chapter for a wine tasting tour and ag appraisal conversation in Temecula.

Stay tuned for more upcoming events, educational opportunities, and ways to connect with your peers. Let's keep the momentum going and finish the year strong—together.

Thank you for being an essential part of our chapter. Here's to a successful and inspiring second half of the year!

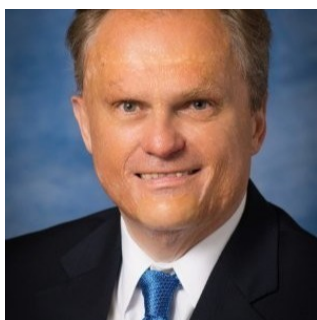


***INLAND EMPIRE MARKET TRENDS SEMINAR TEAM:***

Julian Uribe, Alex Liu, Steven Botts, Bob King, Christie Santolucito, William (Bill) Jones

---

***EASTERN BRANCH***



***William Jones, MAI, AI-GRS  
Eastern Branch 2nd Advisor***

The summer is getting off to a roaring start for the Eastern Branch. Ontario was the site for the 27th Annual Inland Empire Market Trends Event (IEMTS). Up-to-the-moment coverage of commercial and residential real estate was provided by experts in each of the respective property types. The Chapter and Branch appreciate the following for bringing this annual event together; Bob King, SRA; Christie Santolucito, Steve Botts, MAI, AI-GRS; Julian Uribe, Bill Jones, MAI, AI-GRS, and Alex Liu, MAI. The founder of the IEMTS and Past President of the Southern California Chapter, Steve Fontes, MAI will be honored later this year at the Chapter's annual Heritage Night October 9th at the Rio Hondo Country Club, Downey, CA

The first event is a two-hour webinar hosted by William (Bill) Jones, MAI dealing with the practical applications of AI (Artificial Intelligence) for appraisers His two guests have a wealth of information and practical insights to share. Justin Gohn, MAI, SRA is an independent appraiser in the Philadelphia area who has been using AI in his practice. Justin is President of the Philadelphia Metro Chapter of the AI (Appraisal Institute). Chandra Mast is a Pennsylvania State Certified General Appraiser and a Candidate for the MAI Designation. She owns her own appraisal company and has taught classes in residential valuation to realtors. This event will be on June 26th at 11AM. Since it is a webinar you don't need to worry about traffic or parking...just watch, listen, and learn!

The webinar will offer a short introduction to AI and then give practical ideas as to how AI can streamline the appraisal process. The speakers will also discuss the dangers of AI.

There will be time at the end for discussion and questions. This event offers two hours of CE credit.

If you are new to AI (as I am) you might want to read up on the subject. I (Bill) am currently reading a book called *The Coming Wave: AI, Power, and Our Future*, written by Mustafa Suleyman (CEO of Microsoft AI) and Michael Bhaskar (a writer with expertise in technology).

Just two days later (June 28 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.) Alex Liu, MAI will host a guided bus tour of the Temecula Valley Wine Country. The speaker/presenter is Brad L. Brassi, SRA. The tour will include historical information about the Temecula Valley and trends in residential development in the area, as well as a look at future challenges in the Valley, including wildfire risk, drought, and water availability. Brad will also give us information on the development of the wine industry in the Valley and historical data on land prices for a wide range of properties, including residential/subdivision land, avocado growing acreage, and vineyard pricing and production data. As of the date this is written approval for 3 hours of BREA CE credit is pending.

Note that the Eastern Branch Committee will be changing next year, as some members rotate off. We are always looking for ideas/suggestions for events, as well as bright, energetic individuals with great ideas! Please reach out to us if you can help with either need!

#### **Eastern Branch Members:**

**Chair** Alex Liu, MAI (714 )307-6249 alexliu714@yahoo.com

**Vice Chair** Julian Uribe, Candidate (909) 509-2898 julian.uribe@cbre.com

**1st Advisor** Carson M. Leonard, MBA, Candidate (818) 281-5370

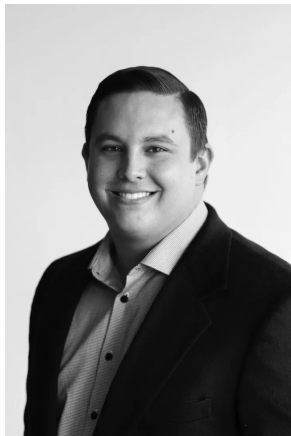
cmleonard09@gmail.com

**2nd Advisor** William Jones, MAI, AI-GRS (909) 240-3700 wejpasadena@hotmail.com

**3rd Advisor** Damian Albrycht, MAI (213) 977-8750 damian.albrycht@ey.com

---

## ***SOUTHERN BRANCH***



***Jason Borrás***  
***Southern Branch Chair***

Thank You for a Successful Webinar on May 20th: "Beyond the Flames: Appraising in Post-Fire Markets"

A heartfelt thank you to Lisa Estes and John Hillas of the Northern California Chapter of the Appraisal Institute for their help in organizing and hosting the recent webinar, "Beyond the Flames: Appraising in Post-Fire Markets," presented in collaboration with the Southern California Chapter.

This timely and well-attended event addressed the pressing challenges faced by appraisers working in regions impacted by catastrophic wildfires, including the Palisades, Eaton, Lahaina, and Camp Fires. Key topics included shifting market dynamics, post-disaster valuation methodologies, ethical considerations, and real-world lessons drawn from recent large-scale fire events.

### **Upcoming Events**

- Intuit Dome Tour – July 16<sup>th</sup> (more information to follow)
- Webinar: URAR and a la mode update with Joel Baker – Hosted by Cotality, August 21<sup>st</sup>
- Holiday Breakfast – Tentatively scheduled for December

Stay tuned for more details on these and other events. We look forward to your continued participation!

### **Southern Branch Members:**

**Chair:** Jason Borrás, Affiliate

**Vice Chair:** Stephen Lee, Candidate

**1st Advisor:** Maria Luisa M. Storti, SRA

**2nd Advisor:** Michael Tachovsky, Candidate

**3rd Advisor:** Ryan Neal Young, SRA

---

## ***NORTHWESTERN BRANCH***



***Norman Chung, MAI, AI-GRS  
Northwestern Branch Chair***

Northwestern Branch did a zoom call on 1/24/2025.

Attendees: Jose Hernandez (Vice Chair), Carlos

Andrade (1<sup>st</sup> Advisor), Daniel Lee (2<sup>nd</sup> Advisor), and

Norman Chung (Chair). Topic: discussed the upcoming joint seminar with Eastern Branch and RICS California Chapter in April 2025.

### ***Potential 2025 speakers:***

- 2 speakers from Partner ESI
- Gary Martinez, CCIM from Ashwill Associates
- Juan Huizar, CCIM from Sage Real Estate Group
- Lawrence Yun from NAR

### **Northwestern Branch Members:**

**Chair:** Norman Chung, MAI, AI-GRS

**Vice Chair:** Jose Hernandez, Candidate

**1<sup>st</sup> Advisor:** Daniel Lee, MAI, AI-GRS

**2<sup>nd</sup> Advisor:** Carlos Andrade, MAI

**3<sup>rd</sup> Advisor:** Kevin E. Apor, MAI

---

## ***SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2025/2026 SPONSORS:***

---

### ***SILVER SPONSORS:***

---

# CBRE

---



CUSHMAN &  
WAKEFIELD

---



VALCRE

---

***BRONZE SPONSORS:***

---





---

# WALKER & DUNLOP

---

## ***2025 CLASSES / EVENTS***

06/24/2025

7-Hour National USPAP Update Course  
Ventura, CA

[REGISTER HERE](#)

06/26/2025

EASTERN BRANCH MEETING Artificial Intelligence for Real Estate  
Appraisers

Virtually - Via Zoom

[REGISTER HERE](#)

06/28/2025

The SCCAI and San Diego Chapter of Appraisal Institute Joint Event  
Temecula Valley History and Wine Country Tour  
Santa Ana, CA

[REGISTER HERE](#)



## ***EDUCATION COMMITTEE***

***2025 Chair:***

***Alden M. Katagihara, MAI, MRICS***



DJ Jazzy Jeff and the Fresh Prince said it best in their iconic 90's summer anthem: "Summer, summer, summertime - time to sit back and unwind." If your definition of "unwinding" includes taking continuing education, look no further, because we have your Summer 2025 covered! Here's the playlist:

- June 24<sup>th</sup> - 2024-2025 7-Hour National USPAP Update Course (Crowne Plaza Hotel in Ventura)
- Week of July 14<sup>th</sup> - Review Theory – General (CoStar Offices in Irvine)
- August 22<sup>nd</sup> - Upzoning Appraising – Using Highest & Best Use Analysis (Veros Real Estate Solutions in Santa Ana)
- August 28<sup>th</sup> - Impact of Short-term Rentals on Real Property Valuation (virtual class)
- Week of September 8<sup>th</sup> - Advanced Concepts & Case Studies (Ayres Hotel and Suites in Costa Mesa)
- September 24<sup>th</sup> - Critical Thinking and Junk Science (Ontario, CBRE)
- September 30<sup>th</sup> - 2024-2025 7-Hour National USPAP Update Course (Cal State Fullerton Marriott)

For more information about these offerings and other chapter courses, please visit <https://www.sccai.org/education/course-listings/>

While you're on the SCCAI website, check out the speaker presentations from the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Inland Empire Market Trends Seminar. The website also has a link explaining how to apply for the Chapter's Mason-Thornton Scholarship Program. And if you're looking for a change of pace this summer, you can peruse the Jobs Board.

Finally, if you have any questions, comments, feedback, etc., as to what classes you would like to see or locations that you think would be beneficial to our membership, please don't hesitate to reach out to me, Matthew VanEck, or Carlos Andrade.

Thank you for your continued support.

---

***2025 WIN COMMITTEE***

***Ariana Arredondo, MAI  
WIN Committee Chair (Women's Initiative Committee)***





Dear SCCAI:

Your local WIN chapter is picking up momentum moving into 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2025, and we have updates on several fronts.

For members considering staff additions, SCCAI WIN is here to facilitate good introductions and to be of general assistance. We are here to facilitate good introductions. Our cohort includes students (some taught by designated members in college settings), folks looking for a productive shift in practice area or geography, and also seasoned, licensed appraisers. We are challenging our regional firms and membership to look inward to find good folks and prioritize local recruitment.

We continue our advocacy for the advancement women in the profession. It behooves all of us to follow the numbers and track progress. You are warmly invited to join us at our regularly scheduled meetings, and also to share you about how our industry is trending. Committee members Jennifer Hsu, MAI, SRA, Linda Whittlesey, SRA, and I (Ariana Arredondo, MAI) want to hear your unique ad constructive feedback.

You can look out for ongoing topical program offerings. Our meetings are a place where appraisers and our peers can join together and deeply consider professional development. Stacey Thoyre, MAI, WELLAP, LEED Green Associate, will be joining us on August 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss her leadership with the Appraisal Institute's National Education Committee. Tune in for other powerhouse presenters that are scheduled for 2025. This includes Scott Delahooke, MAI, SRA, who will present about the litigation practice area. In fall, we will be joined by Chief Appraisers of banks to hear about the lending world.



### ***Invest in Your Future – Apply for a Mason – Thornton Scholarship Today!***

The **Mason – Thornton Scholarship Committee** would like to remind all **Southern California Chapter Appraisal Institute (SCCAI) Members** that valuable financial assistance is available to those pursuing their professional designations.

Through the **Mason – Thornton Scholarship Fund**, **active Candidates** in good standing can receive up to **75% of the total course fee** (Yes, you read this right, 75%!!!! 😊) for required courses leading to their designation. Whether you are taking **in-person, synchronous, or online** courses, this scholarship is designed to help ease the financial burden and keep you on track toward achieving your professional goals. This includes in-person classes anywhere in the country!

#### **How to Apply:**

- ☐ **Eligibility:** SCCAI Members with active Candidate status in good standing
- ☐ **Coverage:** Up to 75% of course fees for required designation courses
- ☐ **Application Deadline:** Submit your application at least **30 days prior** to the course start date
- ☐ **Where to Apply:** Applications are available on the **Chapter website**
- ☐ **Contact:** Send completed applications to **Lianna**
- ☐ **Pre-requisites:** None—just be an awesome person seeking to achieve **one of the four most epic designations in the world!**

Now is the perfect time to invest in yourself by investing in your career and continue working toward your designation! Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity for financial support. For more details and to access the application, **visit our website today!**



Search Online Education from  
the Appraisal Institute

SEARCH TODAY



Online Education: Learn at your own pace anytime, anywhere. 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.

Check out the current course listing now! Online Education click-through

URL: <https://appraisalinstitute.org/education>

Check out the current course listing now! Click-through

URL: <https://appraisalinstitute.org/education/search>

SCCAI | 2440 S. Hacienda Blvd., STE 104 104 | Hacienda Heights, CA 91745 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!