



Southern California Chapter

1st Quarter 2026 Newsletter & Updates

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



***Ryan Hargrove, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS
2026 SCCAI President***

Greetings, fellow SCCAI members!

It's hard to believe we're already well into 2026. Since being installed as your Chapter President at our 94th Annual Installation Dinner at Orange Hill Restaurant in January, it's been a busy and exciting start to the year, and I want to take a moment to catch you up on what's been happening and what's ahead.

First, thank you to everyone who attended the installation dinner. It was a truly special evening. I was honored to have Jacinto (Jay) Munoz, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS, AI-RRS serve as my installing officer, and I'm grateful to our outgoing President, Ernesto Lopez, MAI, for his leadership in 2025. We also had the privilege of recognizing two newly designated members, Carson Leonard, MAI and David Shioji, MAI, as well as Scott Delahooke, MAI, SRA, our 2025 James H. Pritchett Award recipient, for his outstanding contributions to appraisal education. Congratulations to all.

On the education front, our LA/OC Market Trends seminar was a great success. These events are a cornerstone of what we do as a chapter, and I encourage everyone to keep an eye out for upcoming offerings. One of my goals this year is to broaden our educational reach, not just serving our traditional membership, but exploring CE approvals that attract attorneys, realtors, and other real estate professionals to our programs.

I also want to highlight our upcoming joint meetings with the International Right of Way Association (IRWA). We have two coming up, and you can find the details on our website at www.sccai.org. These collaborative events are a great way to expand your professional network and gain exposure to different perspectives within the real estate industry.

Looking ahead, I want to share a few priorities for 2026. We're working on launching the new Chapter Appraiser Guidance Committee, which will have a broader mandate than its predecessor, encompassing membership recruitment and retention, university outreach, and professional development for members at all stages of their careers. We're also

focused on strengthening our digital presence, modernizing chapter operations, and continuing to build a chapter that is welcoming and valuable to everyone involved.

Finally, mark your calendars for the Appraisal Institute's Annual Conference, taking place April 14-15 in Nashville, Tennessee. The theme this year is "Back in Tune: Striking a New Chord in Valuation," and it's a great opportunity for education, networking, and celebrating excellence in the profession. Regular registration is open now through March 20, so don't wait too long. You can [register](#) and find more details at the Appraisal Institute's website.

Thank you for your continued involvement in the Southern California Chapter. I'm honored to serve as your president, and I'm looking forward to what we'll accomplish together this year.



28th Annual Inland Empire Market Trends Seminar

Pending Approval: 8 Hours of BREA CE

**June 4, 2026
DoubleTree Hotel
222 N. Vineyard Ave.
Ontario, CA 91764**

***Fee includes continental breakfast and lunch buffet
Parking: Free***

Register [HERE](#)

FOLLOW US:





EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**2026 Chair:
Matthew VanEck, MAI**

Hello SCCAI members,

I am honored to serve as the Education Chair for the chapter this year. I am joined by Carlos Andrade, MAI and Michael Tidwell, SRA, and our committee is working to provide timely, relevant education for our membership. I'd also like to thank our recent past chairs, Michael Comstock, MAI, and Alden Katagihara, for helping prepare me for this role and for laying the groundwork to ensure the chapter continues to offer meaningful courses this year.

We've had great turnout at the courses and seminars held so far, including the LA/OC Market Trends Seminar that kicked off the year and, most recently, the *Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, and the Metaverse: Implications for Valuation* course taught by Mark R. Linne, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS, CAE, CDEI, FRICS. I've had the opportunity to attend the virtual "AI on AI" Seminar Series that Mark is leading and found the topic both timely and thought-provoking. If you have the opportunity to take one of his courses, I believe you'll find it just as valuable.

We have a number of additional offerings coming up in 2026, so be sure to check the chapter's online calendar for details. As we look ahead, the committee will soon begin planning courses for 2027, and we would truly appreciate hearing from the membership about courses you would like to see offered, particularly any advanced education needed for SRA or MAI designations, as well as hot topics such as Artificial Intelligence and other emerging industry trends. Your feedback plays an important role in shaping a curriculum that reflects the evolving needs of our profession.

Finally, please remember that the Mason-Thornton Scholarship remains active and available to members. This program provides financial assistance for chapter courses that support progress toward professional designations. If you are pursuing advanced education, I encourage you to explore this opportunity through the chapter website.

We look forward to seeing you at an upcoming class!

EASTERN BRANCH



**Julian Uribe, Candidate
Eastern Branch Chair**

As we welcome the start of 2026, we hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and is beginning the year energized and ready for the opportunities ahead.

A new year always brings fresh perspectives, continued collaboration, and exciting opportunities to connect with colleagues and peers throughout the Inland Empire.

To kick off the year, we are pleased to share a couple of upcoming events we hope you will mark on your calendar:

Ontario Airfield Tour

May 12 at 10:00 AM

Join us for a two-hour guided tour of the Ontario Airfield. This unique experience will provide an inside look at airport operations and the facilities that play such an important role in our region's transportation and economic activity. It's a great opportunity to learn more about the airfield while networking with fellow members.

28th Annual Inland Empire Market Trends Seminar

June 4, 2026

DoubleTree Hotel – Ontario

Our annual Market Trends Seminar returns for its 28th year, bringing together industry professionals to discuss the latest developments shaping the Inland Empire real estate market.

As always, we welcome suggestions for future events and programming. If there are topics, tours, or speakers you would like to see featured, please feel free to share your ideas.

Wishing everyone a successful and positive start to the new year, and we look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events in 2026.

Sincerely,

Your Eastern Branch Team

- **Chair: Julian Uribe, Candidate**
 - (909) 509-2898 | julian.uribe@cbre.com
- **Vice Chair: Carson M. Leonard, MBA, Candidate**
 - (818) 281-5370 | cmleonard09@gmail.com
- **1st Advisor: Damian Albrycht, MAI**
 - (213) 977-8750 | damian.albrycht@ey.com
- **2nd Advisor: F. Eric Cross, MAI**
 - (626) 552-2717 | eric@ivc-appraisal.com
- **3rd Advisor: Kevin Lincoln, SRA**
 - (323) 702-4493 | kevin4lincoln@yahoo.com

SOUTHERN BRANCH



Stephen Lee
Southern Branch Chair

The Southern Branch is excited to host our upcoming mixer on March 26 at Holly Molly in Irvine, with a reserved karaoke room for our group. The event will include one drink ticket per attendee and four hors d'oeuvres. To encourage reliable attendance and allow us to plan effectively, we will be charging a \$20 per person registration fee. We hope you can join us for a fun evening of networking and connection with fellow AI professionals.

Southern Branch Leadership

Chair: Stephen Lee, Candidate

Vice Chair: Maria Luisa M. Storti, SRA

1st Advisor: Ryan Neal Young, SRA

2nd Advisor: Michael Tachovsky, Candidate

3rd Advisor: Norman Chung, MAI, AI-GRS

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH

Jose Hernandez, Candidate

Northwestern Branch Chair

Our Branch plans to host monthly Zoom meetings to provide updates and coordinate branch activities. In addition, we will share suggestions and updates via email as schedules permit.

We are also planning upcoming events for the branch. We anticipate inviting Juan Huizar to provide an update on the multifamily property sector and Gary Martinez, CCIM, to speak on the industrial market. We plan to host an event at Tamayo Restaurant in June 2026 and are also organizing a social gathering at a location that is still to be determined.

Chair: Jose Hernandez, Candidate

Vice Chair: Daniel Lee, MAI, AI-GRS

1st Advisor: Carlos Andrade, MAI

2nd Advisor: Charles Wilson, MAI

3rd Advisor: Alden Katagihara, MAI, MRICS

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2025/2026 SPONSORS:

GOLD SPONSOR:



SILVER SPONSORS:



BRONZE SPONSORS:



***Ariana Arredondo, MAI
WIN Committee Chair***

Dear SCCAI:

2026 is the year for opportunity building and your SCCAI Women's Initiative (WIN) Committee is pleased to announce, "Let's Grow Together; Women's Initiative Network Mentorship in Motion". This event, to be held April 29, 2026, will bring mentors and mentees together in a structured "speed networking" style event. Tickets are available for \$25 for Mentees, and \$35 for Mentors. Big thanks to Jennifer Hsu, MAI for her leadership and efforts to bring this event to our chapter.

Mentors Register [HERE](#)

Mentees Register [HERE](#)

We believe that our participants and the whole of the chapter benefits when we put our heads together towards learning and problem solving. In this committee's work, we host regular and topical discussions. These meetings include direct conversations between the audience and appraisal leaders, as well as those in related professions. If you've not yet participated in our monthly "First Friday" zoom meetings at noon, we encourage you to join us – no RSVP is required. Simply search for the zoom link from the chapter events list.

In gratitude,

Ariana Arredondo, MAI

2026 CLASSES / EVENTS

03/26/2026

Southern Branch Social Event
Irvine, CA
[REGISTER HERE](#)

04/03/2026

Women's Initiative Committee (WIN)
Virtually
[ZOOM LINK](#)

04/08/2026

11th Annual Joint Luncheon and Program SCCAI and IRWA Chapter 57 Getting
Your House in Order: Deposition Preparation for the
Appraiser in a Virtual World
Riverside, CA
[REGISTER HERE](#)

04/29/2026

Women's Initiative Committee (WIN)
Let's Connect, Support, and Grow
Pasadena, CA
Mentors - [REGISTER HERE](#)

Mentees - [REGISTER HERE](#)

05/12/2026

Eastern Branch Meeting
ONT Airfield Tour
Ontario, CA
[REGISTER HERE](#)

05/14/2026

7-Hour National USPAP Update Course
Ontario, CA
[REGISTER HERE](#)

MEET OUR NEWLY DESIGNATED MEMBERS

Aaron J. Herrmann, MAI
Dae Yong Kwon, MAI
Jia Hui Michelle Seah, MAI

***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. In 1970 the scholarship fund was established and because of generous giving from the Membership over \$200,000 in scholarships have been awarded to Southern California Chapter candidates and members.

The Scholarship Fund was also established to allow Members to give back to the profession by making tax-free donations to a 501(c)(3) organization that directly contributes to our local Chapter. All donations are tax deductible. In this past year the Fund has received donations from Jacinto Muñoz and Brad Thompson. If you are looking for a tangible way to make a real contribution to the profession, this is it.

Through the Mason – Thornton Scholarship Fund, active Candidates in good standing can receive up to 75% of the total course fee 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@sccai.org

Pre-requisites:

None

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 (www.sccai.org)!

Application and Information

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.

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

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