



Southern California Chapter

2nd Quarter 2026 Newsletter & Updates

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



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

Greetings, fellow SCCAI members!

It has been a packed and productive spring for our chapter, and I'm excited to share some highlights from the last few months.

In late April, our Women's Initiative (WIN) Committee hosted a mentorship networking event at the Tea Rose Garden in Pasadena, bringing together about 40 students, early-career professionals, and experienced appraisers for honest, one-on-one conversations about what a career in valuation looks like. It was a fantastic turnout and a great example of what our chapter can offer beyond traditional education. Thank you to the WIN Committee for putting together such a meaningful event.

In May, I had the privilege of representing SCCAI at the Joint Region Meeting and Q2 Region VII Committee Meeting in Nashville. We had a strong showing of SCCAI members, and the chapter president roundtable gave us a valuable opportunity to share wins, compare notes on challenges, and align on priorities with our fellow Region VII chapters. I'd also like to note that Region VII's next in-person meeting will be held in Honolulu on October 6 at the Prince Waikiki Hotel. The Hawaii Chapter is offering USPAP and Condemnation Appraising courses around the meeting, so if you're looking to combine CE with a trip to Oahu, visit the Hawaii Chapter's website for registration details.

Also in May, SCCAI was well represented at the 2026 Leadership Development and Advisory Council (LDAC) conference in Washington, D.C. A special congratulations to George Koiso, MAI, who served as a Discussion Leader, and Michael Tidwell II, who served as Vice Chair this year and will move into the Chair role in 2027. We also had six additional SCCAI members participate: Christine Santolucito, R/W-AC; Adam Bogorad, MAI; Michael Comstock, MAI; Carlos Andrade, MAI; Charles Wilson, MAI, CCIM, MRICS; and Robert Dunatov, MAI. LDAC remains one of the most impactful experiences the Appraisal Institute offers, combining roundtable discussions on issues facing the profession with direct engagement on Capitol Hill. Thank you to all of our representatives for their time and commitment.

On June 4, we held our 28th Annual Inland Empire Market Trends Seminar. Thank you to the committee who organized this year's seminar: William Jones, MAI, AI-GRS; Alex Liu, MAI; Christine Santolucito, R/W-AC; Steven Botts, MAI, AI-GRS; and Julian Uribe. I also want to give a special acknowledgment to Bob King, SRA who is retiring from the committee after an extraordinary 18 years of dedicated service. Bob's leadership and legacy have shaped this seminar into what it is today. Congratulations as well to Eriberto "Eddie" Hernandez, MAI, and Aaron Herrmann, MAI on receiving their designation certificates during the seminar.

On the organizational front, SCCAI and the San Diego Chapter of the Appraisal Institute have been in discussions regarding a potential merger, with a proposed effective date of January 1, 2027. More information will be shared with membership as this process moves forward.

Finally, I want to remind everyone that chapter elections will be held on June 25 via Zoom. The Nominating Committee, chaired by Ernesto Lopez, MAI, AI-GRS, has put forward the following slate for 2027: William Jones, MAI, for Chapter President; Jeffrey Hogan, SRA, AI-RRS, for Vice President; Alex Liu, MAI, for Treasurer; and Matthew Moore, MAI, for Secretary. I encourage everyone to join us and make your voice heard. [REGISTER HERE](#)

Thank you for your continued involvement in the Southern California Chapter. It has been a rewarding first half of the year, and I look forward to what we'll accomplish together in the months ahead.

Warm regards,

Ryan T. Hargrove, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS, R/W-AC
2026 Chapter President, SCCAI



SCCAI General Member Meeting

SCCAI and SD Chapter Merger

**July 9, 2026
12:00 PM**

Dear SCCAI Members,

This message is to inform you of an upcoming membership vote on a proposed merger between the Southern California Chapter and the San Diego Chapter of the Appraisal Institute.

Leadership from both chapters has been in active discussions over the past several months. A preliminary merger agreement has been drafted and executed by San Diego chapter leadership, and SoCal leadership is currently reviewing it. The merger remains subject to approval by both memberships, as well as by the national board.

A special virtual membership meeting will be held on July 9th at 12:00 PM to answer questions and conduct our chapter's vote. A meeting link will be sent separately.

A summary of the proposed merger terms will be distributed to all members next week, along with information on how to participate in the vote. If you have questions in the meantime, please feel free to reach out to Executive Director Lianna Ayala at lianna@sccai.org

Register [HERE](#)

FOLLOW US:



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

2026 Chair:

Matthew VanEck, MAI

Hello SCCAI members,

As we approach the midpoint of 2026, I'm pleased to report that our education programs have been well attended and continue to generate meaningful revenue for the chapter. Thank you to all members who attended and contributed to the success of these events.

The Education Committee has also begun scheduling our 2027 course lineup. Our focus is on maintaining the quality our members expect while adding new offerings on topics directly relevant to today's practice, including the evolving URAR requirements and the

growing role of artificial intelligence in appraisal. Keep an eye out for the upcoming course list.

As a reminder, the Mason-Thornton Scholarship is available to members pursuing advanced education. I encourage eligible members to take advantage of it.

Have a great summer.

Education Committee Chair
Matthew VanEck, MAI

SOUTHERN BRANCH



Stephen Lee
Southern Branch Chair

The Southern Branch is currently working to coordinate an upcoming 2-hour Continuing Education program for Appraisal Institute members. The proposed presentation will focus on current and upcoming economic trends and their impact on the real estate appraisal industry, with an emphasis on California market conditions.

Potential discussion topics include key macroeconomic indicators such as inflation, unemployment, and mortgage rates, as well as housing market indicators including inventory levels, months of supply, listings, days on market, and pending sales activity. The program may also include discussion of broader market trends affecting real estate purchasers, investors, lenders, and appraisers.

The anticipated format is a presentation followed by a Q&A session. Additional details, including the final date, title, and program description, will be provided once the speaker and CE approval process are finalized.

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 continues to meet monthly via Zoom to share updates, coordinate activities, and exchange ideas between meetings. These touchpoints have helped keep our momentum strong and our communication consistent.

Planning is underway for our upcoming branch events. We experienced a brief setback with Gary Martinez's availability, and we expect to have a final update from him by the end

of the week. In the meantime, we have developed several alternative program topics and are actively moving those forward.

We also anticipate inviting Juan Huizar to present an update on the multifamily property sector, an area of growing interest for many of our members. Looking ahead, we are preparing to host an event at Tamayo Restaurant in August 2026 and are organizing an additional social gathering at a location to be announced soon.

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

EASTERN BRANCH



***Julian Uribe, Candidate
Eastern Branch Chair***

As we move through the second quarter of 2026, the Eastern Branch remains focused on fostering meaningful connections and delivering valuable, locally relevant programming for our members.

We look forward to continuing to meet members where they are located. If you work or reside in the further reaches of the Inland Empire and have an idea for an event, we encourage you to reach out to one of the Branch members listed below. We are looking forward to organizing a “Simply Social” gathering as well as more educational opportunities for the 2nd half of 2026. Your input is essential to shaping meaningful programming. We welcome your ideas for additional topics, speakers, or event formats. If there is a subject you would like to learn more about, or if you are interested in contributing as a speaker or organizer, we would love to hear from you.

We look forward to continuing to connect, collaborate, and grow together as we embrace the opportunities that 2026 has to offer.

**Sincerely,
Your 2026 Eastern Branch Team**

Eastern Branch Leadership

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



BRONZE SPONSORS:



2026 CLASSES / EVENTS

08/20/2026
7-Hour National USPAP Update Course
Fullerton, CA
[REGISTER HERE](#)

08/27/2026
Impact of Short-term Rentals (on Real Property Valuation)
Virtually
[REGISTER HERE](#)

09/10/2026

Aerial Inspections for Real Estate Appraisers
Virtually
REGISTER HERE

09/14/2026
General Appraiser Income Approach/Part 1
Santa Ana, CA
REGISTER HERE

09/24/2026
Federal and California Statutory and Regulatory Law
Virtually
REGISTER HERE

09/29/2026
Fundamentals of Separating Real Property, Personal Property, and Intangible
Business Assets
Santa Ana, CA
REGISTER HERE

MEET OUR NEWLY DESIGNATED MEMBERS

Sevak Tsaturyan, MAI, AI-GRS

Eriberto Hernandez, MAI

Michael Wada, MAI, AI-GRS

Xiaoyi Zhang, MAI

Noble William Tucker, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS

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.

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

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