

# THE NEWS

Chicago Chapter Newsletter



Chicago  
Chapter



## President's Message Cameron Rex, MAI



Dear Members of the Chicago Chapter of the Appraisal Institute,

As we transition into the latter part of October, it is a fitting time to reflect on our collective journey over the past seven months – a period marked by growth, learning, and collaboration. Our chapter's unwavering commitment to fostering a culture of continuous learning and professional enrichment has manifested through a variety of educational offerings, which have garnered enthusiastic participation

A cornerstone of our success has been the eight continuing education offerings, which have significantly enriched our professional discourse and understanding. Noteworthy among these were the Luncheon with the Cook County Assessor in April, which saw a turnout of 62 members; the insightful discourse on the "Conditions of the Chicago Real Estate Market" in June with 88 attendees; and the "Nuts & Bolts of a Real Property Tax Appeal" in August, attended by 50 members where we were honored to have the 2023 Appraisal Institute, President Craig Steinley, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS, AI-RRS,

## NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

**President's Message**

**2024 Education Calendar**

**AI News**

**CCAI Scholarships**

**2023 Board of Directors &  
Region Reps**

## **President's message (cont)**

join us to provide an update on the Appraisal Institute. A special word of appreciation is due for Sue Ulman, MAI and the dedicated team whose efforts made the latter two seminars a resounding success.

Our thrust towards comprehensive education saw the successful conduct of four Designated Education courses, four Basic Qualifying Education Courses, and four General Qualifying Education courses over the past seven months. The cumulative attendance of 170 for these courses is a testament to our members' unyielding quest for knowledge.

Further, to comply with the State of Illinois's requisites for appraisal license renewal, we organized 13 Sexual Harassment Seminars, of which all but one were conducted virtually, witnessing a robust attendance of 496. The seamless orchestration of these seminars demonstrates the concerted effort of our chapter in adhering to essential regulatory requirements.

The Chicago Chapter's Annual Golf Outing at the Silver Lakes Country Club in June was a delightful rendezvous of golf and camaraderie with 84 members in attendance. The event was flawlessly orchestrated by Dan Berenschot, MAI, AI-GRS and Sam Louise, MAI, ASA, whose endeavors added a memorable chapter to our annual tradition.

A pivotal development on the horizon is the impending merger with the Northern Illinois Chapter, set to become a branch chapter of the Chicago Chapter as of January 1, 2024. The collaborative efforts involved in this merger herald a new chapter of enhanced educational and social engagements. We eagerly await the fusion of insights and experiences that this amalgamation will usher in. I would like to thank the efforts of CCAI's Dave Binz, SRA and Peter Helland, MAI, AI-GRS and Northern Illinois' Brad Hartog, SRA, AI-RRS, Courtney Prentice, MAI, SRA, and Ken Mrozek, MAI, SRA, ASA for carrying this across the finish line.

On a national front, we extend a warm welcome to Cindy Chance, the newly appointed CEO of the Appraisal Institute. Our interaction with Cindy during the Joint Region meeting in Louisville, earlier this month, was a constructive dialogue on the envisioned trajectory of the Appraisal Institute. We remain excited about partnering with the National organization and Cindy to broaden our horizons and fortify the impact of the Appraisal Institute.

## **President's message (cont)**

Lastly, profound gratitude is extended to Sarah Walsh, CCAI's Executive Director, for her unwavering dedication and significant contributions to our chapter. Her tireless efforts in managing the day-to-day operations have been instrumental in our chapter's achievements.

In closing, the strides we have made thus far are a reflection of the collective passion, expertise, and dedication of our members. As we look towards the remaining part of the year and beyond, let's carry forward this spirit of collaboration and learning to scale new heights of professional excellence. I invite each member to continue their active participation and to share any ideas or concerns as we forge ahead.

Thank you for your continued engagement and contribution to the Chicago Chapter of the Appraisal Institute.

Warm regards,

Cameron Rex, MAI, R/W-AC, GISP  
2023 President, Chicago Chapter of the Appraisal Institute





## **Congratulations to these newly designated members**



Dominic John DeLeo, MAI  
Colin M. Knust, MAI  
Eric G. Monte, MAI  
Arthur J. Murphy, III, MAI  
Morgan Wiseman, MAI

## **Welcome to new Candidate for Designation**

Phillip D. Forbes

## **Welcome to these new Student Affiliates**

Olukunle Akanbi  
Sean Alan Andrews  
Paul Garcia  
John Houlihan

## **Welcome to these new Practicing Affiliates**

Osman Aqdas Ali  
Aimee B Baumgartner  
Jordan R. Briceland  
Alejandra Curry  
Shaquira Deal  
Emily K Deisler  
Nicolas Edward Fell  
Yulia Gomonova  
Ashlyn Gummersheimer  
Tyler R Hanson  
Kameelah A Hogan  
Luke Hunneke  
Daryl Caleb Hunt  
Elsa G Jaramillo  
Seamus P. King

Andrew Li  
Scott Lilja  
Thania Mendoza  
Alison Marie Murawskil  
Tarrena Marie Parks  
Michael Piper  
Thomas M. Quagliata  
Jonathan B. Rivera  
Noah C. Robinson  
Jacob Ruby  
Logan Christopher Scaro  
Robert L Wingader  
Tiffany N Yates  
Aaron Michael Zabel  
Natalie D. Zimmer

## **Congratulations Volunteers of Distinction**

Brad Hartog, SRA  
Courtney Prentice, MAI, SRA

# AI News



The Appraisal Institute, the nation's largest professional association of real estate appraisers, today announced that Cindy Chance has been named Chief Executive Officer. Cindy joins the Appraisal Institute after successfully creating and growing the Urban Land Institute's online education efforts, expanding its Product Councils' depth and breadth and serving as a key member of its leadership team through the pandemic and turbulence in the commercial real estate industry.



On October 25, the Appraisal Institute launched a new AI logo and website. The new logo and website were premiered to give AI a whole new look and feel. New designated logos are available on the AI website.

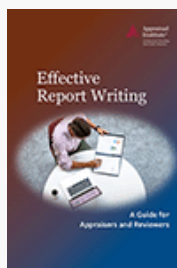
## Featured AI Benefit



Valcre is a valuation software for the commercial real estate industry. It is trusted by more than 250 leading organizations to simplify and streamline their workflow, saving hours a day and accelerating time to revenue. Valcre's web, mobile app, and valuation models provide an end-to-end solution for appraisal workflow, including job and client management, property research, inspections, analysis, and report writing. All Appraisal Institute professionals receive a discount of 10% off pre-paid annual subscriptions.

[Learn More](#)

## New Books from AI



[Effective Report Writing](#)



[The Valuation of Apartment Properties](#)





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# SPECIAL EVENTS

The poster features a dark background with a night scene of a building at the bottom. The building has a sign that reads 'RIVERSIDE RECEPTIONS'. The text on the poster is in a serif font, with the title 'INSTALLATION DINNER' in large, bold letters. The text is in a light color, possibly gold or white, and is centered. The background has a subtle pattern of small, glowing circles.

Appraisal Institute | Chicago Chapter

## INSTALLATION DINNER

Join the Chicago Chapter as we celebrate the incoming 2024 Board of Directors, Region Reps and Alternate Region reps. We will also celebrate the merger of the Chicago Chapter and Northern IL Chapter

Featured Presenter:  
2024 AI President  
Sandra K. Adomatis, SRA

Appraisal Institute CEO  
Cindy Chance

Riverside Receptions Geneva, IL  
January 26, 2024  
6 pm

If you are interested in sponsoring this event, please  
contact Sarah Walsh



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# SPECIAL EVENTS

Golf Save the Date

June 25, 2024



CCAI would like to thank the sponsors of the 2023 Golf Outing.  
To join this list, please contact [Sarah Walsh](#)



JLL



VALCRE



CUSHMAN &  
WAKEFIELD



LIA Administrators & Insurance Services

Earlier this year CCAI established a new scholarship for people wanting to be an appraiser.

In the its first year, the Scholarship Committee awarded 3 scholarships  
Here is what they had to say:



The staff was incredible and it was a pleasure to be a part of the classroom experience. I was excited about the opportunity to meet and network with people in the industry who are in similar positions. After spending weeks with the same group, I am very happy to have met some good friends and will definitely be staying in contact with them. Additionally, the instructors for the classes were fantastic. All of them brought their own unique experience and stories to the class. It was fantastic to learn from multiple different experienced instructors. Being fresh into the industry, the scholarship was very beneficial. The lessons I learned and the friends I made will follow me through my whole career, so thank you again.

Max Pomerantz  
Chicago



This scholarship absolutely made the difference between me pursuing valuation over other career options. I had been researching appraisal as a possible next step in my professional journey for several months. Without all the help I received from the Appraisal Institute and the scholarship team, I would have continued to struggle to justify the cost of classes and take the leap into a new pursuit.

The instructors really affirmed this with their professionalism, willingness to help, and commitment to creating the best appraisers possible. Their mastery over the material was evident, and it gave me the confidence to fully commit myself to the career.

Programs like this are not only an incredible support to the industry. They are a lifeline for folks like me who are confident about their potential in valuation and can benefit from the extra push over the barriers to entry.

Keenan Odenkirk  
Chicago



Earlier this year CCAI established a new scholarship for people wanting to be an appraiser.  
(CONT)



A career in the real industry has always been one that was just out of reach. There were always pathways I wanted to explore first. Not until later in my career, attending law school and practicing law for a few years was afforded the time and opportunity to recapture that dream deferred. A few short years ago, I started representing clients in my real estate closings, then I obtained my real estate brokers license. But this alone was not enough to achieve the earning potential and work/life balance I was still seeking.

Prior experiences, I knew it was the career in real estate appraisal that was missing from my portfolio. But where to begin? I attended an informational workshop for those interested in becoming an appraiser and that's where I was introduced to the Appraisal Institute. Impressed by AI's desire to address disparities in the field, I applied for a scholarship to cover the cost of the initial classes required to take the first step. But for the scholarship from CCAI I would not have been able to afford the classes. As a seasoned professional, trying to prepare for a lucrative career pivot in my sunset years, I am confident that this path is a perfect integration of my skills and talents, work experiences and professional passion. I look forward to learning, growing, and perhaps one day teaching in this field.

Thanks to CCAI career options that may have only been available for a select few are now accessible to more. And with greater inclusion the industry grows and ultimately the general public benefits.

Tanya D. Woods  
Chicago



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Chapter

# SCHOLARSHIPS

## **The Chicago Chapter of the Appraisal Institute entry level course Scholarship**

This scholarship covers the three entry level courses required of appraisers and winners are matched with advisers who help them through the education and credentialing process. The program was developed to attract new entrants to the real estate appraisal field while fostering diversity in the profession.

[Application](#)

## **\$500 Diversity Scholarship**

This scholarship program was developed to encourage and assist Minorities and Women who have shown intent to become a Candidate for Designation of the appraisal Institute or pursue the Appraisal Institutes SRA or MAI, AI-GRS or AI-RRS designations. Application due dates are March 1st or September 1st.

[Application](#)

## **\$500 Real Estate Trainee Appraiser Scholarship**

This scholarship program was developed to encourage and assist licensed Real Estate Trainee Appraisers who have shown intent to become a Candidate for Designation of the Appraisal Institute. Application due dates are March 1st or September 1st.

[Application](#)

## **\$500 Crommelin Scholarship**

The Crommelin Scholarship is available to Candidates for Designation who belong to the Chicago Chapter of the Appraisal Institute that are pursuing either the MAI or SRA designation. Jacques B. Crommelin was a Member of the Appraisal Institute, holding both the MAI and SRA designations. Mr. Crommelin believed in the value of education and had great respect for the education programs provided by the Chicago Chapter after completing his appraisal education in Chicago. The Crommelin Scholarship, funded posthumously, was established to assist in the efforts of the Chicago Chapter in continuing to provide quality education to appraisers and help associates along their designation paths. Application due dates are March 1st or September 1st.

[Application](#)

## **\$500 Schroeder Scholarship**

The Schroeder scholarship program was developed to encourage and assist members of the Chicago Chapter of the Appraisal Institute who are Candidates for the MAI Designation. James J. Schroeder, MAI was a member of the Chicago Chapter who devoted many of his years teaching appraisers. During his tenure, he held numerous committee chair and officer positions including President of the Chicago Chapter in 1979. He also received awards for his excellence such as, the Heritage Award (1997), the Skip Del Campo Award (2000) and the Gregory Opelka Award (2003). The Schroeder Scholarship was developed to honor Mr. Schroeder in continuum. Application due date is March 1st.

[Application](#)



Chicago Chapter

# 2024 Education Schedule

## January 2027

7-hour USPAP  
January 17, 2024  
Synchronous

Installation Dinner  
January 26, 2024  
Riverside Receptions Geneva, IL

## February 2024

Advanced Income Capitalization  
February 5-9, 2024  
Association Forum Chicago, IL

7-hour USPAP  
February 6, 2024  
DePaul University - Loop Campus

General Appraiser Income Approach/Part 1  
February 12-15, 2024  
DePaul University - Loop Campus

Basic Appraisal Principles  
February 12-15, 2024  
DePaul University - Loop Campus

7-hour USPAP  
February 22, 2024  
Northwest Alliance of Realtors - Rockford, IL

Quantitative Analysis  
February 26-March 1, 2024  
DePaul University - Loop Campus

## March 2024

General Appraiser Site Valuation and Cost  
Approach  
March 4-7, 2024  
DePaul University - Loop Campus

15-hour USPAP  
March 4-5, 2024  
DePaul University - Loop Campus

7-hour USPAP  
March 6, 2024  
I Hotel Springfield, IL



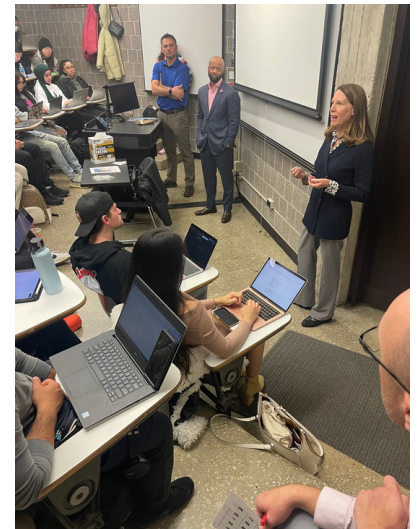
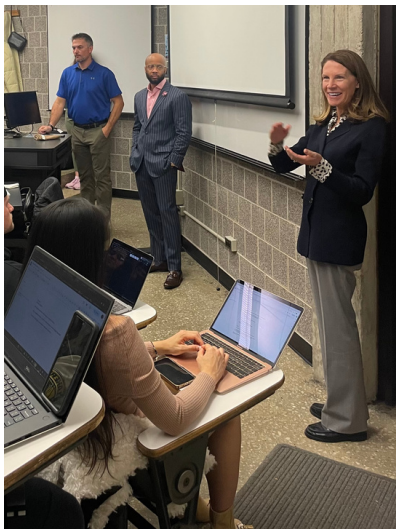


Chicago Chapter

## University Relations

On November 2, 2023, David Binz, SRA, Mary Wagner, MAI and Christopher Posey went to visit students at the University of Illinois @ Chicago.

The chapter is looking forward to speaking at other colleges. Here are some pictures from the day.







Chicago Chapter

# 2023 Board of Directors and Regional Reps

## **President**

Cameron Rex, MAI

## **Vice President**

Peter Helland, MAI, AI-GRS

## **Treasurer**

James Erik Smith, SRA

## **Secretary**

Sam Louise, MAI

## **Immediate Past President**

Bruce Darata, MAI

## **2023 REGION REPS**

Charles Crawmer, MAI

Mary Wagner, MAI

Jonathan Michie, SRA

Peter Helland, MAI, AI-GRS

Richard deVerdier, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS

Leon Sweet, MAI

Geri Bresnahan

Gina Reynolds

Shaunta Gray

Joseph Calvanico, MAI, AI-GRS

Cameron Rex, MAI

## **ALTERNATE REGION REPS**

Christopher Posey

Anthony Uzemack

Thomas McDonnell, MAI

## **Board of Directors**

Robert D. Becker, MAI, SRA, AI-GRS

Smedmore Montgomery Bernard, Jr., MAI

Alexandra Meade, MAI

Joseph Miller, MAI

Andrew Jeremy Richter, MAI

Susan Ulman, MAI

Anthony J. Uzemack, Jr.

Patrick A. Kleszynski, MAI

