



ACC Association of Corporate Counsel

SAN DIEGO

NEWSLETTER

December 2019



A Letter from the 2019 Chapter President

It is my privilege and honor to have served as the 2019 President of the San Diego ACC Chapter. It has been a remarkable year—big changes and rewards. Our journey began in January, when our energized Board of Directors developed a new vision statement and long-term strategic plan to provide a clear road map for our future success. So, you may ask, how did we do in 2019? We knocked it out of the ballpark! Here are the highlights:

- **Increased Membership** Our Membership Committee, led by Rebecca Hanovice and Tamara Swenson, helped us grow our Chapter from 560 members in 2018 to a whopping 631 members in 2019—a 13% increase.
- **Attendance Doubled** We grew our program/event attendance from approximately 1,241 attendees in 2018 to 2,424 attendees in 2019! This remarkable increase was driven by new programs focused on personal and professional development, practical skills and diversity, as well as new social events, such as the Padres family day and our inaugural golf tournament.
- **Grew Sponsor Revenues** Under the oversight of our Treasurer, Sven Zabka, we increased our sponsor income from \$282,000 in 2018 to \$359,000 in 2019, a 29% increase.
- **New Sponsor Package** We redesigned our 2020 sponsor program to better align our member interests and sponsors' goals. Special thanks to Denise Hickey and Stephanie Kroon for their imagination and hard work in creating this new sponsor structure, which will be the economic engine to drive our future programs and events.
- **Record Charitable Fundraising** In February, we raised more than \$70,000 for South Bay Community Services to fund a therapeutic preschool for children who have been exposed to family violence. At our upcoming holiday party on December 12th, we will be raising money to support the work of the Casa Cornelia Law Center, which provides victims of violence and persecution a voice in the justice system.
- **ACC Global Award Winner** To top off the year, in October, we were awarded the 2019 Gold Chapter of Distinction by ACC Global. This marks the 10th time that the SD chapter has won ACC's highest award.

***We Had More Fun!** Whether it was enjoying our inaugural golf “scramble,” a sommelier-guided wine tasting, or “Get to the Pint” brewery socials, we had more events allowing us to **build relationships** with old and new friends among the in-house community.*

SD-ACC is well positioned for success with President-Elect Jennifer MacDougall taking the helm in 2020. I have been fortunate to work closely with Jennifer over the last few years and I can assure you that her energy and passion for our organization will lead us to new heights. Lastly, and most importantly, I'd like to acknowledge and personally thank our directors, committees, members and sponsors who have worked hard to get our chapter to the state it is in today. I would also like to recognize our Marketing and Events Director, Audrey Marlow, whose talents and hard work have helped create a new paradigm of member communication and engagement.

As we ease into the holidays, I hope you get some time to recharge your batteries and gear up for an exciting new year in our chapter. Our Board welcomes your thoughts and ideas on how we can continue to improve our chapter and what you find personally and professionally beneficial as a member.

On behalf of the chapter's Board of Directors, thank you for your valued membership.

Paul Najar
2019 Chapter President

2019 San Diego Member Survey

Membership Committee Co-Chairs



Rebecca Hanovice
Senior Corporate Counsel for Callaway Golf Company



Tamara Swenson
Senior Corporate Counsel for AMN Healthcare, Inc.

Special thanks to the members who participated in the 2019 ACC-San Diego Member Survey. We received a significant response and the Board has already started incorporating your input into our 2020 planning. Here is what we heard you say:

- Legal education and professional development are paramount
- Location matters – you asked for more North County events and told us that location most often dictates whether you attend an event!
- Diverse CLE topics are important
- More programs about leadership skills and career management
- Happy hour and community service/pro bono events are preferred
- You like the new email format

ACC San Diego Vision

*Building connections among in-house counsel and their community to **foster engagement, education, and excellence** in a dynamic and inclusive environment.*



ACC San Diego will accomplish its vision by:

- Creating professional and social opportunities to build meaningful relationships
- Empowering in-house counsel in their professional development through education and peer-to-peer mentorship
- Seeking to improve our community through charity, outreach, and inclusion
- Using innovative strategies to increase brand visibility in a dynamic market

2019 Gold Chapter of Distinction Award

On October 27, 2019 Jennifer MacDougall, 2020 President Elect, and Sven Zabka, Treasurer, accepted the 2019 Gold Chapter of Distinction at the ACC Annual meeting in Phoenix, AZ.



2019 San Diego Chapter Sponsors

ACC San Diego thanks our sponsors whose generous support helps us to provide the best quality educational programs and networking events for all in-house counsel in San Diego. Without the support of these exceptional law firms and service providers, ACC San Diego could not serve its members at such a high level.

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2019 Board Members

President - *Paul Najjar*

President Elect - *Jennifer MacDougall*

Secretary - *Rebeca Perez-Serrano*

Treasurer - *Sven Zabka*

Vice President - *D. Bradley Young*

Vice President - *Denise Hickey*

Vice President - *Rebecca Hanovice*

Vice President - *Tamara Swenson*

Immediate Past President - *Steven Mashal*

Board Member - *Adam Chinnock*

Board Member - *Caroline Perry*

Board Member - *Darin Lippoldt*

Board Member - *Deanna Brown*

Board Member - *Hannah Cole*

Board Member - *Jennifer Bush*

Board Member - *Scott Laughlin*

Board Member - *Lori Loiselle*

Board Member - *Michael Mueller*

Board Member - *Nathaniel Sisitsky*

Board Member - *Oksana Davis*

Board Member - *Patrick Murphy*

Board Member - *Ryan Evans*

Board Member - *Sondra Boddy*

Board Member - *Stephanie Kroon*

Chapter Administrator - *Audrey Marlow*

ACC Holiday Season Mixer - December 12



Please join us at our annual holiday mixer on December 12, 2019. ACC San Diego has partnered this year with the Casa Cornelia Law Center to “give the gift of hope”.

This holiday season, not everyone will get the chance to see their families, eat a meal, or sleep at night without fearing for their lives. Victims of violence and persecution risk everything by leaving their countries of origin in hopes of a better future.

Your donation to Casa Cornelia Law Center gives children, women, and men a voice in the justice system.

- \$30** funds legal screening for one child
- \$100** funds one Know Your Rights presentation
- \$250** covers three detained asylum screenings
- \$500** funds a domestic violence survivor’s application
- \$1,000** funds a child’s humanitarian visa

Please consider giving the “gift of hope” this holiday season by making a donation. Every gift helps. Donations will be accepted online and at the holiday mixer.



ACC HOLIDAY SEASON MIXER

Sponsored by Fish & Richardson, Benefiting Casa Cornelia Law Center

December 12 | 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Malahat Spirits Co.

8706 Production Avenue

San Diego, CA 92121

SD-ACC Makes a Difference

With your help, the ACC San Diego Community Service Committee led by Scott Laughlin, made a significant impact in 2019 supporting local charities. On July 20, 2019, ACC- SD members and their families participated at Feeding San Diego. We rolled up our sleeves to help combat hunger by sorting and packing nearly 2000 lbs of fruit. On September 14th, we participated in a family event walking rescue dogs for The Barking Lot—a local pet adoption center.



Our next community service event is scheduled for December 17 where we will help the San Diego Coalition for the Homeless get ready for the Holiday Magic for Kids Christmas Party. Volunteers are needed for gift wrapping donated toys. Bring your family and friends! To volunteer, email Erica Peterson, 2020 Chair of our Community Service Committee at EPeterson@GlobalAdGroup.us

COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENT - GIFT WRAPPING

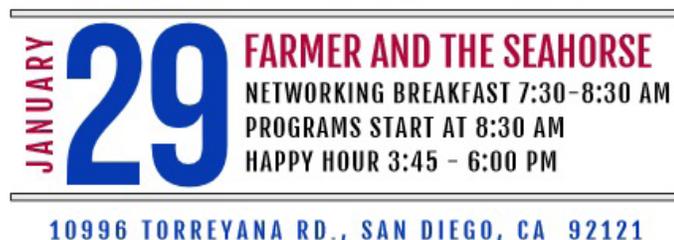
December 17 | 5:00pm - 8:00pm

VFW Hall

136 Chambers Street

El Cajon CA 92020

ALL DAY LA-LAW-PALOOZA



Register now for All Day MCLE event on Wednesday, January 29, 2020. We are hosting this event at the Farmer and the Seahorse with a hosted breakfast, lunch and happy hour with live music! Don't miss it!

For More Information on Chapter Activities

Please contact our Marketing and Events Director, Audrey Marlow, at accsandiego@accglobal.com