Welcome to the San Diego Business Journal’s ninth annual Most Admired CEO publication. This year’s CEO finalists and winners represent a universe of divergent talents that have helped shape our commerce, our community and our civic oversight.

In this supplement we present the foremost representatives of our region’s top managers. These individuals have made their marks in industries that stretch from global biotechs to social service agencies dedicated to the less fortunate. This impressive assembly includes a remarkable number of individuals who have built their organizations from the ground up and have sustained a longevity that is rare in the contemporary world of frequent job transitions. These executives also commit themselves and their companies to a culture of enrichment for their employees and support of local, national and international causes.

We set yet another record with this year’s field of 149 winners and finalists. We honored these C-level executives in a special awards event on Thursday, Feb. 18, at the Town and Country Resort & Convention Center. Special awards of distinction were given to four outstanding San Diegans for their vision and leadership. Former San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders, now president and chief executive officer for the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, was given the Lifetime Achievement Award; Manpower West Founders Phil Blair and Mel Ratz shared the Exemplary Service Award; and Joanne Pastula, president emeritus for Junior Achievement of San Diego and Imperial Counties received the Community Service Award.

Our sincere thanks go to our panel of judges — Robert Copeland, Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP; Joe Craver, American Red Cross of San Diego/Imperial Counties (Retired); Charles Dunning, XETV-Bay City Television; Sheila Fox, Fox Marketing Network; Sheryl Reichert, Better Business Bureau San Diego, Orange and Imperial Counties; and Paul Thiel, BNY Mellon — for their time and exacting evaluations.

We would like to make special note of our sponsors who have partnered with us for this prestigious program. Our thanks go to our title sponsors Bank of America, Cox Business and SDG&E; our gold sponsors Abacus Data Systems, Inc. and Moss Adams LLP, and in association with GreenRope and LEAD San Diego.

Congratulations to our distinguished award recipients along with our winners and finalists.
Thousands of customers recommend us for a thousand different reasons.

If you’re ready for something different, make the switch.

**FEATU Red Package**

**COX BUSINESS INTERNET℠ 25 AND VOICEMANAGER℠ ESSENTIAL**

$125/mo*  
with a 3-year agreement

Reliable Internet speeds up to 25 Mbps
20+ professional calling features
Unlimited nationwide long distance

**CALL 844-203-0027 OR VISIT COXBUSINESS.COM TO SWITCH TODAY**

*Offer ends 5/1/2016. Available to new commercial subscribers (excluding government agencies and schools) to Cox Business Internet℠ (25 Mbps and VoiceManager℠ Essential) with unlimited local and nationwide long distance calling in San Diego serviceable locations. Prices based on 3-year service term. Early termination fees may apply. One additional VoiceManager℠ Essential phone line with unlimited local and nationwide long distance calling may be added, for a total maximum of three (3) lines, at rate of $25 per month, per line. Unlimited plan is intended for direct-dialed domestic calling and is not available for use with non-switched circuit calling, auto-dialers, call center applications and certain telephony applications. Fee installation requires a minimum 3-year service contract and includes standard installation of primary line on one prewired outlet; installation of additional line is not included. Additional costs for nonstandard installation, construction, inside wiring and equipment may apply. Prices are for equipment; installation, taxes, and fees, unless indicated. Discounts are not valid in combination with or in addition to other promotions, and cannot be applied to any other Cox account. Prices may not include equipment provided by Cox, require electricity, and have battery backup. Access to E911 may not be available depending on your location. Initial installation is required. Installation of additional line is not included. Prices, speeds and services not available in all areas. Terms and pricing subject to change. Not available in Puerto Rico. Other restrictions apply. ©2016 Cox Communications, Inc. All rights reserved.
Robert Copeland
Partner
Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP

Robert Copeland is a partner in the Corporate Practice Group in Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton’s Del Mar office. He has been called a lawyer’s lawyer and is highly respected in a wide range of legal disciplines. Copeland practices in the area of corporate law with an emphasis on corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, securities, and real estate. He has served as an expert witness in several litigations involving complex business, partnership and tax disputes and also holds a certificate from the National Conflict Resolution Center in advanced mediation.

Copeland has been acknowledged for his legal expertise including as a finalist for the San Diego Advisor of the Year Award in 2015, listed in the national legal directory, The Best Lawyers in America, every year since 1987, and in the Best Lawyers in San Diego (San Diego Magazine, April 2001-2014 editions). He was named a Super Lawyer for San Diego (2007-2015). Copeland’s community involvement is extensive. He is the founder, president and a board member of the Thomas C. Ackerman Foundation which focuses on supporting K-12 education, arts and music, and fostering the continuing economic development of San Diego. He has also served on the boards of the San Diego Yacht Club Sailing Foundation and the advisory board for Scripps Clinic – Scripps Green Hospital.

Joe Craver
CEO (Retired)
American Red Cross of San Diego/Imperial Counties

In 2012 the Rotary Club aptly named him “Mr. San Diego.” Joe Craver has dedicated 25 years to community service which includes San Diego’s most influential cultural and civic organizations. Among his many commitments, he has served as chairman of the San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau, Work Force Partnership, and the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, in addition to chairman of the board of the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority and president of the board of the Holiday Bowl. Craver’s other board positions have included the USS Midway Museum, San Diego Fleet Week, San Diego Symphony and United Way to name a few.

From May of 2007 until January of 2013, Craver guided the American Red Cross of San Diego/Imperial Counties as their CEO. Under his leadership, the Red Cross expanded its services and opened a state-of-the-art Chapter Disaster Operations Center. Craver is a retired Colonel in the U.S. Air Force. He served in the Pentagon where he procured Air Force aircraft, missiles and spare parts with an annual check-writing authority of $15 billion a year. Craver is a combat veteran, having earned a Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross for Gallantry, Distinguished Flying Cross for Aerial Achievement, four Air Medals, Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

Charles Dunning
Vice President and General Manager
XETV-Bay City Television

As the head of XETV, Charles Dunning has led the station in growing its reach and reputation in the San Diego community. The television station is one of only a few CW affiliates in the country that still maintains its own news department, producing 36 half-hour segments per week of local news and information. Dunning also has guided sales efforts in a very competitive market, overseeing in 2009 a unique way for cash-strapped auto dealers to pay for their advertising with the incremental sales it generated. Dunning leads the organization in ongoing community involvement. In May the stations raised more than $1.1 million for the San Diego Foundation with a one day “Give-a-thon.”

In addition to his oversight of the station, Dunning is currently the chairman of the BBB of San Diego, Orange and Imperial Counties, having served previously as vice chairman and member of the board of directors. He also carves out time as an instructor at SDSU’s College of Extended Studies, teaching classes in “Media in the 21st Century” and “Sales and Sales Promotion.”

Sheila Fox
President
Fox Marketing Network

Sheila Fox is the president and owner of Fox Marketing Network. She has made a name for herself as a marketing professional with achievements in brand development, strategic planning, account management, media buying, sales promotion, public relations, and cooperative advertising. She is an avid student of consumer trends, lifestyles and life stages and specializes in marketing products and services that affect how people live, work and play. Fox headed the prestigious Chapman Warwick Advertising & Public Relations firm, first as media director, then account supervisor and ultimately as president, during which time billings rose from $2 million to nearly $15 million. The agency gained a prestigious roster of clients throughout the U.S. and Baja California with programs directed toward international, national, regional and local markets.

Fox has been honored for her dedication to marketing with numerous awards including Ad Club of San Diego Volunteer of the Year (twice); San Diego St. Patrick’s Day Parade - Irish Woman of the Year; Who’s Who in Advertising; American Advertising Federation Silver Medal Award; and a National Association of Television Arts & Sciences, San Diego Emmy.

Sheryl Reichert
President and CEO
Better Business Bureau (BBB)
San Diego, Orange and Imperial Counties

Sheryl Reichert joined the BBB in July 2004 after a successful career in charge of advertising sales at the two largest cable TV systems in San Diego County, serving as vice president and general manager of CableRep San Diego, now called Cox Media, from January 1997 to August 2001. From June 2002 to June 2004, she served as general manager of advertising sales at Time Warner Cable San Diego. As president/CEO of BBB San Diego, Orange and Imperial Counties, Reichert has guided the association’s growth in members and programs including its popular annual Torch Awards. In her tenure as CEO, Reichert has always encouraged a family-friendly, flexible workplace and has built a culture of trust, teamwork and strong professional bonds.

Reichert has been honored as one of San Diego Magazine’s Top 50 people to watch. She is a member of the Executive Association of San Diego as well as Rotary Club 33. She represents the western region on the board of directors of the Council of Better Business Bureaus in Arlington, VA. On behalf of the Council, she is currently chairing the Bureau Operations Committee, responsible for oversight of all policies, procedures and integrity of all BBB’s in the U.S., as well as serving on the executive committee.

Paul Thiel
Regional Managing Director
BNY Mellon

Paul Thiel is the regional managing director - San Diego for BNY Mellon Wealth Management, leading a staff of 10 professionals who serve high-net-asset clients with financial services, asset management and lending solutions. Prior to joining the investment management profession in 2007, Thiel was an operating company leader who managed as many as 1,200 people and led business units with more than $100 million in revenue. A leader in applied technology, Thiel advanced marketing solutions and pioneered business models that later became industry standards. Thiel’s early career included work as a financial journalist writing for publications such as The Washington Post, The New York Times, Florida Trend and Georgia Trend.

Thiel has used his knowledge to support industry and community organizations. He is chairman of the Chairmen’s Roundtable, a group of 35 former CEOs of private and public companies who provide pro bono strategic consulting for for-profit companies in Southern California. He is a member of the boards of directors for the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation and the Association for Corporate Growth. He also has supported the Challenged Athletes Foundation as their major and planned gifts chair.

2016 Most Admired CEO of the Year Awards

Judges

www.sdbj.com
AN ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT TO THE SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL
February 28, 2016
We're on the road to cleaner energy with a new program for electric vehicles called Power Your Drive℠. Over the next three years, 3,500 electric vehicle charging stations will be installed in San Diego apartments, condos and businesses. To learn if this program is right for your business, visit sdge.com/PowerYourDrive.

Congratulations to all of the finalists of the Most Admired CEO Awards who are helping lead the way to a brighter future.
2016 Most Admired CEO of the Year Awards

2016 CEO Awards of Distinction

Lifetime Achievement Award
Jerry Sanders, President and Chief Executive Officer, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce

He has been referred to as a turn-around wizard, a coalition builder, and a tireless advocate for responsible management. Jerry Sanders has been one of San Diego’s most visible public servants for three decades.

Sanders began his lifelong career in public service when he joined the San Diego Police Department in his last semester at SDSU at the age of 22. He ascended the police department ranks, serving as the SWAT Team commander before becoming one of the youngest police chiefs in the city’s history. During that time he helped transform the culture of the department to reflect a neighborhood engagement approach. By the end of his term as chief and his retirement from the force in 1999, crime had declined by 49 percent and the department had an unprecedented 90 percent approval rating.

Sanders then brought his management and financial expertise to the United Way of San Diego. As CEO he reduced the organization’s costs and increased fund-raising by 20 percent. Three years later, he was tapped to chair the board of the local chapter of the American Red Cross after a scandal over the use of fire-relief funds led to the removal of the local chapter’s CEO and several board members. In a volunteer capacity, he worked to help rebuild the board and hire a new CEO, increasing financial transparency at the chapter and restoring the nonprofit’s credibility.

In 2005, with his reputation as a successful turn-around executive, civic leaders urged Sanders to run for mayor. After winning in a special election, Sanders became San Diego’s 34th mayor and immediately launched a top-to-bottom review and streamlining of city operations, which eliminated more than 1,800 positions from the city budget. Under Mayor Sanders, city audit staff completed six years’ worth of backlogged audits, returning the city to return to the public bond markets in January 2009 — helping to fund the mayor’s commitment to repair San Diego’s long-neglected water, sewer and transportation infrastructure.

In addition to his broad reform agenda, he placed a high priority on economic growth and job creation during his time in office and became a champion of the region’s clean technology industry – including solar energy, biofuels and other environmentally-friendly products. Sanders is continuing his high profile role today as the president and CEO for the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, a position he began in 2013 after leaving office. He spearheads the largest chamber on the West Coast with approximately 3,000 members who employ a total estimate of 400,000 people. Under his guidance the association has shifted its priorities to public policy along with advocating for tourism, the border and the military with a dedicated mission to make San Diego the most business-friendly region in the state.

Currently, Sanders is chair of the Business Leadership Alliance, and serves on the boards of CONNECT, the San Diego Regional Economic Development Corp., SDSU’s Campanile Foundation and is an ex officio board member of Biocom.

Exemplary Service Award
Phil Blair/Mel Katz, Executive Officers/Co-founders, Manpower West

Phil Blair and Mel Katz met as buyers for a major retail chain in Phoenix and came to San Diego as a lark in 1977, persuading the owner of a tiny staffing company that selling to them was his best option in a Navy town where almost everyone was employed and there was little demand for job securing services.

Together this tag team of business partners and life long friends grew Manpower of San Diego into the largest manpower franchise in the U.S. with annual revenues exceeding $125 million and San Diego’s fourth largest for-profit employer, providing approximately 3,500 jobs daily. They have grown the organization outside of San Diego’s borders as well into Spokane, Albuquerque, and Las Vegas, with imminent plans for expansion into Yuma and El Centro then beyond to Hawaii, Montana, Idaho, and Washington state.

Both Blair and Katz are known for commitments that reach far beyond their business successes. These two have devoted decades to community service that could fill an entire set of encyclopedias. Blair currently serves on the board of directors of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce; the San Diego Convention Center; Downtown San Diego Partnership; LEAD San Diego; CONNECT; the Economic Development Corp.; and the San Diego Downtown Rotary Club and has contributed his expertise to numerous nonprofits including the American Red Cross and the United Way and was commissioner for four years to the Fair Political Practices Commission in Sacramento. In his spare time, Blair has become a best-selling author, publishing “Job Won! 500,000 Hires and Counting” in 2016. The book now ranks at the top in Amazon’s job hunting and vocational guidance categories.

Katz has become a champion of education and an outspoken advocate of child literacy. K-12 and higher education, and he has spearheaded social initiatives for these issues. He is past chair and currently serves on the board of The Library Foundation and was a tireless crusader in garnering political support and the massive funds needed to bring the vision of the Central Library in downtown San Diego to life. He now chairs the new chapter high school in the library, e3 Civic High. Katz also is on the board of inewsource and the UC San Diego Foundation. He has served as chairman for the San Diego Workforce Partnership, the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce and the San Diego Convention Center.

Throughout the years of hard work and dedication, Phil Blair and Mel Katz have remained what they started out as – great friends with a great work ethic and a great commitment to help enrich their community with their time, talent and treasure.

Community Service Award
Joanne Pastula, President Emeritus, Junior Achievement of San Diego and Imperial Counties

More than 20 years ago Joanne Pastula made the journey from the corporate C-suite to the nonprofit world, but her passion for service has always been her driving force. During her business career at Psychology Today and John Burnham & Co., she served as a board member for various organizations, including the United Way, United Cerebral Palsy Association, and the downtown YMCA.

Pastula’s special expertise involves the weaving together of corporate objectives with community enhancements. She developed the Burnham Co.’s “Year of Giving Back” which celebrated the organization’s 100-year anniversary. Pastula conceived the idea of having the then 300 employees adopt a number of nonprofits. The staff donated more than 7,500 hours during that centennial year.

Pastula’s special expertise involves the weaving together of corporate objectives with community enhancements. She developed the Burnham Co.’s “Year of Giving Back” which celebrated the organization’s 100-year anniversary. Pastula conceived the idea of having the then 300 employees adopt a number of nonprofits. The staff donated more than 7,500 hours during that centennial year.

When Pastula sold her interest in the Burnham Co. in 1999, she decided to leverage her business expertise and community contacts to make a difference in as many lives as possible. After working as the director of volunteers for the local Girl Scouts, Pastula became the president of Junior Achievement of San Diego and Imperial Counties in 1999.

When Pastula assumed the leadership of the organization it was bankrupt, owing $120,000 in past debt. She effectively turned the organization around, recruited and trained a dynamic nonprofit leadership team, including dedicated staff and board members. She increased annual revenues to $2 million and, at the same time, significantly increased student participation.

While guiding Junior Achievement Pastula continued her many community involvements including LEAD San Diego, San Diego Rotary, Mayor’s Commission on the Status of Women, Partnerships in Education and the Committee of 2000. She was a founding trustee of the Thomas Ackerman Foundation and also has served on the boards of the San Diego Regional Economic Development Corp. and San Diego Grantmakers.

Pastula recently retired from her position at Junior Achievement but continues to be a constant supporter of the organization’s goal of making sure that students learn the essential basics of business.
At Bank of America, we’re connecting our resources and people to the things that make life better in communities across the U.S. From working with local businesses that create jobs and supporting nonprofits that address critical needs to revitalizing neighborhoods and funding safe and affordable housing, our mission is simple: to help communities thrive.

Learn more about how we’re helping at bankofamerica.com/local
SDSU’s prestigious Monty Award for Of The Year Finalist and recently Award — Female Entrepreneur of the future lecturing committee for the Homeless.

Ronald McDonald’s, Interfaith Community Services and COTS Community Projects, including feeding homeless shelters, youth at risk and property financing.

Westcore’s success is due largely to Ankeny’s ability to identify opportunities others may not see in a property and bring those opportunities to fruition to significantly increase the value. He also is adept at navigating the complex world of capital markets and property financing.

Ankeny likes to infuse some fun into the workplace as well and one way he’s done that is through the annual Westcore Properties golf tournament. This team building event is in mini-golf fashion with each hole a tournament of sorts.

Under Ankeny’s leadership, Westcore participates in numerous community projects, including feeding the homeless and supporting families at Camp Pendleton. He personally is a dedicated community supporter and chair of the Investment Committee at The Bishop’s School and chair of the school’s $25 million capital campaign. He is an active participant and donor with the Challenged Athletes Foundation. For three years, he has taken a week to do the Mill Creek Dollar Ride, a seven-day, 620 mile bike ride campaign with a goal of raising $1 million.

DON ANKENY President and CEO
Westcore Properties LLC

At the young age of 27, Goss has taken two small social media companies and transformed it. In just five years Goss has grown Zeeto from doubling every year and projected to reach $65 million for 2015. And due to his decision to lease out Zeeto’s proprietary technology, the company is on track to report revenues in excess of $100 million in 2016. Goss has guided Zeeto from a social media company, to a lead generating company, and now to a game changing ad tech company, pioneering “registration marketing” that until today did not exist.

Goss is not your typical CEO. He does not have an office or any special perks. He’s broken many traditional barriers by doing away with hierarchical structures.

In 2015 he implemented an equity sharing program that has contributed immensely to employee satisfaction. The perks he has instituted are amazing: two full time chefs that provide daily breakfast and lunch, unlimited vacation, two office masseuses, dog-friendly office, full in-office bar and monthly happy hours; in-office stylist and yoga; free taxi service, free dry cleaning; stress-relieving games, and lots of parties.

Recognition for Goss and Zeeto’s success includes his acceptance into the prestigious Young Presidents Organization, the world’s premier peer network of chief executives and business leaders. Zeeto has been named as one of the Top 75 Best Places to Work in the U.S. for Millennials, Inc. 5000 Fastest Growing Private Companies in the U.S. (Inc. Magazine), and the #3 Best Company Culture in the U.S. (Entrepreneur.com).

Goss also gives back to the San Diego community. He is a supporter of Family Health Centers of San Diego and a sponsor for their quarterly Spirit of the Barrio luncheon. He also is a supporter of the Monarch School of Family Health Centers of San Diego, the local USO, and Surfrider Foundation. Additionally, he volunteers his time to mentor other startup founders in San Diego where he offers advice and expertise with their business model and strategy.

STEPHAN GOSS CEO
Zeeto

For three decades Mary Ann McGarry has worked to develop, characterize and inspire leaders within Guild Mortgage Co., throughout the mortgage banking industry, and in the San Diego community. The company, founded by an entrepreneurial San Diego hometown hero, in 1969 to provide a source of funds for buyers of his homes, has grown from a single office to become one of the largest independent mortgage banking firms in the country. McGarry has been an essential leader in this success. She has been a member of Guild’s board of directors since 1988, was named president in 2005 and CEO in 2007.

McGarry leads the development and execution of the company’s strategic plans and objectives, and has been one of the driving forces in formulating and executing Guild’s financial, operational and technology strategies. Guild had its best nine months in history for the period ending September 30, 2015, with loan volume up 104 percent from the 2014 period. Guild now has correspondent banking relationships with credit unions and community banks in 47 states.

Under McGarry’s guidance Guild became a technology innovator within the mortgage industry. Rather than relying on off-the-shelf software, she pushed for Guild to design its own systems, from computerized underwriting programs to today’s real-time network that allows users from all departments to access information as soon as it is entered into the system. Guild has established a team-oriented corporate environment, characterized by deep employee loyalty, innovation, collaboration, empowerment and a commitment to Guild’s continued success. McGarry drove the creation of Guild University, a multifaceted program with content designed to encourage growth and learning for all employees.

This year, Guild was recognized by Mortgage Executive Magazine as one of the Top 100 Mortgage Companies in the U.S. with purchase loan loan percentages among the highest in the industry. McGarry received Ernst & Young’s Entrepreneur Of The Year 2015 Award for continued on page A38
As an accounting firm, we love numbers.

Here are a few of our favorites.

103 Years in business
102 Countries served*
33 Industries served

52 Years in San Diego
5.2:1 Staff-to-partner ratio
1 Goal: to help you succeed

4747 Executive Drive, Suite 1300 | San Diego, CA 92121
(858) 627-1400  WWW.MOSSADAMS.COM

Data as of January 2016 | *Through Praxity, inc.
Diego and Imperial Counties in the financial services category. Mortgage Professional America included her as one of the elite women in the mortgage banking industry in 2015. Community service is one of McGarry’s strong tenants. In 2010, she led the Guild team to create the Guild Giving Program, which encourages employees to donate time and money to worthy causes. Beneficiaries include Habitat for Humanity, Big Sky Senior Services, Center for Children and Families, The Salvation Army, Windward Domestic Violence Shelter, Hawaii Foodbank, the Green Beret Foundation, the Navy SEAL Foundation and the Children’s Cancer Association.

LARGE

ROBERT SVE T
Founder and CEO
Eastridge Workforce Solutions

Robert Svet started Eastridge Workforce Solutions in 1972. Now a 43-year-old company founded and headquartered in San Diego, Eastridge is a professional achievement in itself. Svet grew the organization from three full-time employees to approximately 500. Even in the depths of the recession, when the staffing industry was contracting, he guided Eastridge into new markets with acquisitions of companies that, today, are some of the company’s strongest business units. Eastridge now ranks in the top 1 percent of firms nationwide by Staffing Industry Analysts and has been named the top staffing firm in San Diego for nearly 10 years by the San Diego Business Journal.

With a successful rebrand in January 2015, Eastridge’s 20 specialty staffing divisions are positioned to provide clients with a unique portfolio of workforce products and services, adding a new scientific division to meet the demands of San Diego’s life sciences industry and launching a workforce technology platform to match workforce needs with innovative technology. As a result, the company realized a $50 million surge in revenue with 150 new clients and added more than 100 full-time positions, adding diversity to the workplace with nearly 75 percent of positions filled by women. Most recently, to invest in increasing employee engagement at Eastridge, Svet supported a companywide incentive program to honor those who collaborate internally.

Svet has a long tradition of serving in the community and on industry associations. He served as a past chair member of the California Staffing Professionals, where he additionally served as a past president for the San Diego chapter. He also served on the board of SDSU’s College of Business Administration. His far-reaching charitable efforts include creating the Forget Me Not Foundation in 2010 to enrich the lives of seniors in long-term care facilities. In the past two years he has chosen nearly 30 organizations, from the national American Heart Association to the local Junior Achievement, to receive donations amounting to more than $100,000. Most recently, Svet and Eastridge chose the Challenged Athletes Foundation as its charitable partner for 2016, donating $25,000 to help the organization.

MEGA

JP MCNEILL
CEO
Renovate America Inc.

Renovate America is responsible for about 90 percent of all residential Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing in the residential sector in the United States. As Founder and CEO, JP McNeill has been one of the most instrumental drivers in making the residential PACE idea come to life. Adopted by the California State Assembly in 2008, PACE financing struggled to get off the ground without a strong private sector innovator; but McNeill early on embraced the power of the public/private partnership model.

Since facilitating its first residential PACE assessment via its flagship HERO program in late 2011, Renovate America has assisted more than 45,000 homeowners finance more than $1 billion in energy and water-efficient home improvements and, in the meantime, created and delivered an entirely new asset class - PACE.
2016 Most Admired CEO of the Year Awards Winners

MEGA

ANDRE ZOTOFF
Vice President and General Manager
Hotel del Coronado

The process of carefully keeping a historic property relevant to today’s discerning traveler, as well as keeping alive traditions that San Diego locals love, is no easy task.

As vice president and general manager of the iconic Hotel del Coronado, Andre Zotoff has contributed tremendously to the hotel’s image and financial growth in just under three years.

Under his direction, The Hotel Del has obtained coveted 2015 industry awards from Travel+Leisure and Conde Nast Traveler magazines. Zotoff has re-purposed lawn space on property to accommodate social gatherings and group functions, along with adding new services directly contributing to topline revenue by expanding satellite food and beverage offerings and launching a unique beachfront product “Del Beach,” open to guests and San Diego locals, and Beach Spin - a fitness class led beachside through Beats by Dre headphones with some of the city’s best instructors.

Zotoff spearheads associate-driven task forces like the green initiatives team which has led The Hotel Del to a bronze LEED certification — the oldest resort to obtain this designation in the U.S. The team is now close to a silver certification. He also has led the implementation of some of today’s best hotel technology, such as a new and innovative parking system.

Zotoff is a tireless advocate of San Diego’s tourism as an active member of the San Diego Tourism Authority, the Coronado Tourism Authority, the Coronado Chamber of Commerce, the American Hotel & Lodging Association and Associated Luxury Hotels International.

He also supports many community efforts including the Coronado Schools Foundation and the Coronado Historical Association. The property has been actively involved with Make-a-Wish San Diego, United through Reading and Rady Children’s Hospital, as well as the Gary Sinise Foundation (raising $50,000 to contribute to a smart home for a local veteran.) In 2015 he was a founding member of the inaugural Coronado Island Film Festival. In addition he spent hours of donated time as “Mr. Sugarman,” an eccentric hotel owner in the Coronado School of the Arts’ produced movie “Day Dream Hotel.”

Zotoff has been recognized by Associated Luxury Hotels International for Outstanding Leadership at its annual national summit.

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION CATEGORY

SMALL

JAMES FLOROS
CEO and President
Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank

Jim Floros has been a nonprofit CEO for more than 30 years and has used his experience to guide the Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank from one of hunger relief to becoming a “nutrition bank” to fight nutrition-related disease — especially among impoverished children and seniors. Under his leadership the Food Bank distributed more than seven million meals in 2015.

ABACUS LOVES OUR HOMETOWN AND CONGRATULATES THE FINALISTS AND WINNERS OF THE 2016 MOST ADMIRE CEO AWARDS

ABACUS DATA SYSTEMS
The #1 Private Cloud Solution

abacuslaw.com
Since 1983
lion pounds of fresh produce to families in need this past fiscal year.

Floros’ prudent fiscal oversight includes the responsibility of raising $8 million annually to meet the Food Bank’s annual operating budget. He has led major fundraising events that have helped the organization raise $350,000 for its annual gala and $461,000 for the annual blues festival.

He has created the Food Bank’s new Leadership Council, a grassroots membership body that helps the Food Bank with fundraising, external promotion, and events. And he has seen the growth in the number of people served to 400,000 every month in communities throughout San Diego County by brokering the acquisition of the North County Food Bank. He also is overseeing the next phase of the Food Bank’s growth with the establishment of a 9,000-square-foot volunteer center and the installation of a solar energy program this year that will reduce the Food Bank’s energy bill—saving the equivalent of $120,000 annually.

Floros also shares his expertise with other nonprofits and has served as board chair for the International Federation of Burn Foundations and as chair of the Chula Vista Civil Service Commission. He also served as president of the board of the Kiwanis Club of San Diego Foundation, chair of the Agency Executive Committee for Combined Health Agencies, and currently serves on the County of San Diego Social Services Advisory Board.

SMALL

Jim Kidrick
President and CEO
San Diego Air & Space Museum

Jim Kidrick has guided the San Diego Air & Space Museum on an unprecedented run of success. Since joining the institution nine years ago, he has systematically created a culture of education and dedication and grown the organization to be the fifth largest aviation museum in the nation. In his role as president and CEO, Kidrick is responsible for fundraising and management of one of the nation’s most significant aero-themed institutions. During his tenure the museum’s library & archives has grown to become the most comprehensive collection of aviation-related material in the western United States and is now the second-largest collection of its type in the country.

Kidrick has been a driver of innovation. The museum was one of the first in Balboa Park to have a responsive website. He currently is driving an initiative to introduce way finding throughout the museum. Kidrick is the primary force behind the museum’s celebrations, including the annual International Air & Space Hall of Fame Gala that has inducted more than 200 luminaries from the fields of aviation and space exploration.

The museum has expanded its reach under his direction and was one of three of the top 12 local cultural institutions where attendance increased over the previous year in 2014. Educational outreach has grown as well with 253 scholarships (a total value of $710,000) awarded to local students for careers in STEM. In 2015 the museum’s education department positively impacted the lives of 18,250 participants through its programs. The San Diego Air & Space Museum has become the first aero-themed museum to be accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and has been designated by the State Legislature as California’s Official Air & Space Museum and Education Center. It is only the 12th institution in California to be awarded a prestigious Smithsonian Affiliate status. And in 2015, the popular museum was voted “San Diego’s Best Museum” by Ranch & Coast Magazine.

San Diego has the dubious distinction of having the fourth largest homeless population in the country – just under 9,000. Corporate executive Herb Johnson saw the need to help this critical group and decided to leave a long-term career in the business world to pursue his passion to make the difference between life and death for many in our city. Nine years ago, after serving on the San Diego Rescue Mission’s board, Johnson became the organization’s top official. As CEO, he is responsible for overseeing all operations of the nonprofit from emergency shelters and transitional housing to recuperative centers and thrift stores along with the various programs that help provide meals, lodging, counseling and support to homeless individuals.
CEOs’s Daily To-Do List:

- Develop corporate strategy
- Be a good corporate citizen
- Build shareholder value
- Inspire and motivate
- Take calculated risks
- Plan for the future
- Further the social good
- Delegate
- Make countless decisions
- Define corporate culture
- Live, breathe and embody the mission of the organization

Repeat daily...

Barney & Barney knows CEOs.

And we know the job isn’t easy. But managing risk and providing for employees can be a simple task with the right partner.

Let Barney & Barney help your organization achieve its mission and get more done.
continued from page A40

Johnson holds an MBA from Harvard Business School and had a dynamic career in the business world, including leading Summit Concept, a unique supply chain and executive partnership firm based in San Diego. With his business mindset and strong passion for making a difference, he has brought a new way of thinking to the organization. He has encouraged community members to get involved. With his vision and business planning he has opened the door to new corporate partnerships, grant opportunities and program collaborations. He has brought increased awareness to the community on the issue of homelessness by developing the popular annual Sleepless San Diego.

Johnson recently led the San Diego Rescue Mission’s year-long 60th anniversary celebration in 2015 that included a number of events including a grand jubilee.

---

LARGE

MITCHELL KRONENBERG, PH.D.
President and Chief Scientific Officer
La Jolla Institute for Allergy and Immunology

Over the last decade, the marriage of high-speed genome sequencing and powerful computational analysis of massive data sets has radically changed the face of biomedical research. A new breed of biologist has emerged, “computational biologists” who deftly wield the tools and technologies that integrate new experiments and existing data to reveal answers previously unattainable. At the forefront of this new approach is Dr. Mitchell Kronenberg, an internationally recognized scientist and one of the most highly cited immunologists in the world. This distinction is held by less than one half of one percent of all publishing scientific authors.

But probably his biggest impact on generations of young scientists has been as a mentor. Under Kronenberg’s leadership the La Jolla Institute for Allergy and Immunology is now widely regarded as one of the best places to work in academia and research papers in the field of immunology. In 2015, the Institute was ranked number one in the “Best Places to Work in Academia.” Kronenberg has also been a Burroughs Wellcome Fund Visiting Professor at Harvard University.

---

2016 Most Admired CEO of the Year Awards Winners

Congratulations to Reginald Jones

2016 San Diego Business Journal “Most Admired CEO” finalist!

Your leadership is helping to transform Southeastern San Diego and make our city a better place.

Reginald Jones
President & CEO
Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation

---

The SAN DIEGO AIR & SPACE MUSEUM congratulates James G. Kidrick for winning the San Diego Business Journal’s “Most Admired CEO” (Small Business Nonprofit category)

sandiegoairandspace.org
regional and state level. Throughout her 31 years as president and CEO, Robin Layton has grown Educational Enrichment Systems (EES) into one of San Diego County’s most respected providers of quality early care and education services. Now in its 35th year, EES remains focused on ensuring that children ages 18 months thru five from low-income working families are prepared to succeed in kindergarten and beyond.

Layton has been a tireless leader for EES, expanding operations from just three schools in 1984 to 22 child development centers and preschools throughout San Diego County.

Layton initiated the extremely successful EES Family Literacy Program in the fall of 2002. The program addresses literacy within the family, extending services tailored to each and every member. Additionally, she has cultivated successful partnerships with the San Marcos and Vista Unified School Districts, and enhanced existing services for the 1,100 students EES now serves annually.

Layton’s skills as a leader and educator are widely recognized, and she actively participates in numerous local and statewide early education initiatives and collaborations. She is currently on the California Child Development Administrators Association Policy Advisors committee and the Jewish Family Service Public Affairs Committee. Layton was the recipient of the 2015 Barbara Chernofsky Lifetime Achievement Award.

BUSINESS NONPROFIT CATEGORY

MEDIUM

DEBRA SCHWARTZ
President and CEO
Mission Federal Credit Union

The first in her family to get a college degree, Debra Schwartz began her financial career as a teller. Today, as the president and CEO of Mission Federal Credit Union, she has taken her years of financial training and advancement through the ranks to help grow the credit union into one of the most visible financial institutions in the region.

With her management, support of Mission Fed’s volunteer board of directors and efforts from employees, the credit union has grown to 28 local branches, 188,790 members and to $2.86 billion in assets as of the end of 2015.

Schwartz has fostered a culture within the organization where employees feel valued and empowered. Believing that leaders come from all areas of the credit union, she initiated the Leadership Development Program for all employees.

Passionate about bringing the issues of credit unions to the national stage, she ran for and won re-election as a member of the board of directors for the National Association of Federal Credit Unions. Serving as the secretary on the executive board, Schwartz has the opportunity to meet with legislators to communicate the unique benefits of credit unions for American consumers and to represent credit union interests to national policymakers.

She leads Mission Fed’s efforts to give back to the community, donating and supporting hundreds of local educational and other nonprofit organizations. One of the most recent community partnerships was Mission Fed’s donation of $1 million in support of Junior Achievement of San Diego County’s Mission Fed JA Finance Park program launched in October 2015 and focusing on increasing the financial literacy of San Diego high school students. Under her leadership, Mission Fed was awarded the 2015 BBB Award for Marketplace Ethics, category 250-499 employees. The award recognizes Mission Fed for its strong commitment to integrity, customer service and community involvement.

Congratulations to the Vistage members recognized among the Most Admired CEOs:

Scot Dietz
3 Blind Mice Window Coverings, Inc.

Sean Ferrel
Managed Solution

Tom Gildred
FMT Consultants

Niko Gubernator
Managed Solution

Harle Kent
Managed Solution

Jaime Hernandez
Strategic Business Communications, Inc.

Tim Josse
KRC Rock

Bill Keith
Perfect Bar, LLC

John Klinedinst
Klinedinst PC

MaryAnn McGarry
Guild Mortgage Company

Mark Wallace
Warehouse Solutions, Inc.

Are you ready to play at their level? Call 858.509.5810 or visit vistage.com/sdbj.
Schwartz herself currently serves on the board of directors of the Mission Federal Community Foundation and on the governing board of Junior Achievement San Diego and Imperial Counties.

**MEGA**

TIM MORAN
CEO
Tri-City Medical Center

In just over a year in his role as the CEO of Tri-City Medical Center, Tim Moran achieved groundbreaking advances. Moran has focused on building a cooperative, patient-focused culture that empowers employees to consistently deliver the highest quality care. Quarterly employee forums ensure communications are flowing across all employee ranks in the hospital.

Moran’s hallmark achievement for the year was also his most recent—spearheading Tri-City Medical Center’s exclusive, long-term affiliation with UC San Diego Health. This partnership allows Tri-City to greatly expand the depth and breadth of specialized services offered to patients, in turn creating a positive impact on health in North County and beyond.

Moran has focused on operational discipline throughout Tri-City Medical Center. As a result, the hospital increased its profit over the previous year in his first full financial year as CEO. He maintained a consistent focus on containing costs while meeting the highest standards of care. Tri-City Medical Center is one of the lowest-cost health care providers in San Diego County. Other strategic initiatives include a plan to ensure the medical center will meet California’s seismic requirements in 2030; an in-progress redevelopment plan to upgrade, expand, or build a new hospital as well as expand Tri-City’s busy emergency department (the 3rd busiest in San Diego County with over 70,000 people visiting it last year), neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) and obstetrics (OB) area; as well as build a new parking structure.

Moran has helped advance Tri-City Medical Center’s long tradition of giving back to the community through its annual community health grants. This year, a record 22 nonprofits received $475,000 in Community Health Alliance Committee grants. The money funds local health care projects that improve access to health care, health conditions related to lifestyle and mental health.

In the fall of 2015, the hospital received its fifth consecutive A rating for patient safety from the Leapfrog Group and was the only North County hospital to achieve and sustain this rating. In 2015, it has received Gold Plus certifications from the American Stroke and Heart Associations for stroke care, heart failure and as a receiving center for out-of-hospital cardiac arrest.

**FAMILY-OWNED BUSINESS CATEGORY**

BILL KEITH
CEO
Perfect Bar

Since launching his bootstrapped business Perfect Bar in 2005, Bill Keith has remained focused on leveraging industry partnerships that further position the company for long-term sustainable growth. The company’s San Diego-based team of more than 120 employees is led by Keith, along with his brothers and sisters — 13 total with eight of them working for the company.

The family-owned and operated company has more than doubled in growth for five consecutive years as the demand for fresh, all-natural options continues to grow among health conscious millennials and performance athletes alike. The refrigerated Perfect Bar is based on a recipe developed by Keith’s father – a noted nutritionist and early fitness advocate. Keith and his siblings grew up eating the healthy snack and refined the recipe until they had a quality product that could be produced in quantities for sale and distribution.

Perfect Bar’s explosive success has played a key role in driving the entire category growth by 10.4 percent in 2015 and, according to the most recent SPINS data, the company’s sales are currently performing in the top 2 to 3 percent within natural and specialty grocery’s highly competitive nutrition bar category. The company has increased distribution at conventional grocers, such as Safeway and Kroger, and is now in more than 4,000 grocery retail chains nationwide.

Keith has spearheaded various initiatives within the company and the
community to encourage employees to live out the company’s mission of promoting whole food nutrition, health and wellness. Perfect Bar is a regular donor to many local, national and international nonprofit organizations. In tribute to his late father, Keith and Perfect Bar teamed up with the Skin Cancer Foundation as corporate partner to help raise awareness. Perfect Bar also has donated company resources to support the Whole Planet Foundation in their mission to alleviate global poverty, Whole Kids Foundation’s School Garden Grants Program; Susan G. Komen’s Race for the Cure; Burn Institute’s San Diego Chapter; the local Make-A-Wish Foundation; Conner’s Cause for Children, and Pickup Soccer Youth Outreach.

In 2015, for the second year in a row, Keith was recognized for his entrepreneurial excellence in the small business category from Ernst & Young’s Entrepreneur of the Year.

LARGE

BOB GRANDE
CEO / President / Founder
Quality Controlled Manufacturing Inc.

Bob Grande
founded his machining company in 1978 in his garage. Quality Controlled Manufacturing Inc. (QCMI) has grown from that small shop to provide services to aerospace, power generation; Department of Defense; oil and gas; marine; and heavy equipment industries. With almost 40 years in the business, Grande has seen the ups and downs of manufacturing. Between 2005 and early 2008 business was booming for QCMI. The company’s reputation for being one of the nation’s leading quality precision manufacturers kept company machinists working round the clock.

Grande moved the company into a fully renovated new facility in 2008-2009; unfortunately just as the economy was experiencing the worst downturn in generations. With more than $2 million invested at the time, he waited out the recession and slowly built back his client list.

Grande is known for taking care of his people. His first employee in his garage is still with the company today. A generous benefits program and the corporate culture supports employees with training in Six Sigma and Lean Manufacturing principles, along with in-house academy training where employees build and develop their talents and skills. In 2015 Grande led the creation of the QCMI Machinist Training Program. 12 individuals have successfully completed the program and have been placed in jobs.

Grande has headed a number of innovations that have spotlighted QCMI. The company is recognized as one of only a few complex machining companies in the U.S. to achieve UTC Supplier Gold over three consecutive years. Grande also has prioritized community commitment and spent more than two years establishing a non-profit organization called the Grande Foundation. The Foundation will provide philanthropic contributions to the education system. He regularly provides back to school backpacks to students in the East County each year. Major support for veterans has included a $10,000 contribution to the National Veterans Transition Services Inc. REBOOT Workshops, the Wounded Warrior Project and Segs4Vets.

GOVERNMENT AGENCY CATEGORY

THELLA BOWENS
President and CEO
San Diego County Regional Airport Authority

There is no more significant barometer of our transition from a sleepy Navy town to a major metropolitan center than the evolution of our airport. The San Diego International Airport has been guided for more than a decade by a leader who has shepherded its growth through recessions, regulations and remodelings.

Thella Bowens, president and CEO of the San Diego County Airport Authority, has successfully managed assets that have grown 541 percent and annual operating revenue that has grown 118 percent, while annual operating expenses (before depreciation) have grown only 72 percent. Her vision and leadership have resulted in a number of much needed capital improvements such as the recent much-acclaimed expansion of Terminal 2.

continued on page A46

CONGRATULATIONS!

We salute Joanne Pastula for winning SDBJ’s Community Service Award for her 16 years of leadership at Junior Achievement.

WWW.JASANDIEGO.ORG
619.682.5155 • Fax ID 95-1727087
Empowering young people to own their economic success.


The Chamber is proud to congratulate our chief, Jerry Sanders, on his Most Admired CEO Lifetime Achievement award.
In 2015 Bowens led the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority and San Diego International Airport through a number of successful initiatives that further enhanced the airport’s significant contributions to the region’s economy. Among the most prominent accomplishment was the completion of improvements on the north side of the airport with the marquee project, the Rental Car Center, opened to the traveling public in January. The Airport Authority made a strong commitment to supporting small and local businesses during the construction. More than $186 million in construction contracts were awarded to local businesses, amounting to nearly 60 percent of the total project cost.

There are two areas where Bowens has demonstrated tremendous innovation that has made the airport a model for other airports to follow. The first — sustainability: San Diego International Airport (Terminal 2) is the first LEED Platinum certified commercial airport terminal in the world and was one of the first major U.S. airports to adopt a formal sustainability policy. Within the aviation industry, the airport is a recognized leader. In 2015 it garnered the Governor’s Environmental and Economic Leadership Award in the Waste Reduction category and the City of San Diego’s Recycler of the Year for the ninth consecutive year. The second — workforce succession planning: With baby boomers representing approximately 50 percent of its workforce and nearly 40 percent eligible to retire over the next several years, Bowens has worked progressively to attract the next generation of top-tier talent which has included the development of the ACE Summer Internship Program.

Bowens is a highly visible spokesperson for the authority and serves on the boards of the San Diego Regional Economic Development Corp., San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, San Diego Tourism Authority and the National Conflict Resolution Center. She also served in volunteer leadership roles within the aviation industry including chair of Airports Council International - North America.

At 34, Punit Dhillon is an unstoppable force in his pursuit to develop innovative cancer treatments. Born in Vancouver, then transplanted to San Diego, Dhillon founded OncoSec Medical Inc. in 2011. One of the key motivating factors behind OncoSec was the opportunity to develop a less invasive and non-debilitating alternative to traditional treatments that enables cancer patients to maintain their quality of life. This approach — called immunotherapy — is a new and emerging field. More than 100 patients have been treated in ongoing clinical trials without a single severe adverse event or systemic toxicity to the therapy — a track record that is unprecedented among the company’s peers.

Beginning with only five employees and minimal funding, Dhillon encountered several roadblocks along the way, including almost running out of capital in the first 12 months. To date, he has raised $90 million, doubled the company’s market cap, and increased staff to 50. Last May, he celebrated OncoSec’s move to The Nasdaq Stock Market.

OncoSec is now established as one of the country’s leading cancer immunotherapy companies. In 2015 Dhillon drove the initiation of three new Phase II clinical trials in melanoma, head and neck cancer, and triple negative breast cancer. These studies are being conducted in collaboration with several prominent academic and industry institutions including Stanford University, Merck, Chicago University, and University of California, San Francisco.

As an avid triathlete and two-time Ironman, Dhillon is a strong believer in “healthy body, healthy mind.” Dhillon and his team participated in the Ride to Conquer Cancer, a two-day cycling journey that covers close to 200 miles. He developed Cancer Positive (BeCancerPositive.org), an online community for those affected by cancer. For two years, he has participated and sponsored the American Cancer Society’s annual Blossom Ball.
The NEW Investor

NAVID ALIPOUR ’03 MBA/JD
Co-founder and managing partner of Analytics Ventures

ARE YOU READY?

THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO SCHOOL OF BUSINESS OFFERS:

• Full-time and Part-time MBA *
• Master’s in Accounting
• Master’s in Executive Leadership
• Master’s in Finance
• Master’s in Global Leadership
• Master’s in Real Estate
• Master’s in Supply Chain Management **
• Master’s in Taxation

** Ranked as a top online graduate business degree program by U.S. News & World Report

Sandiego.edu/business
In addition, he has helped support the Challenged Athletes Foundation, the British Columbia Cancer Foundation, the Richmond Hospital and the British Columbia Children’s Hospital. Dhillon places great value on supporting and helping future leaders which prompted him to co-found the nonprofit organization, Young Entrepreneur Leadership Launchpad (WeYELL.org). YELL offers a credited curriculum on entrepreneurship which prompted him to co-found the British Columbia Children’s Hospital.

Additionally, he has expanded the company’s vision for MRC's Smart Technology Solutions. Leone has been an ardent advocate of the company to see an 8 percent growth in revenue, 22 percent growth in profit, and 10 percent growth in employees in 2015. MRC also has expanded its presence in the Bay Area, and is opening its newest office in Palm Desert. Additionally, he has expanded the health care team to a $3 million business in just five years. With this success, he created a new sales department specifically dedicated to the public sector. This year, he also had the entire database for sales overhauled and restructured to make the sales process more effective.

Since the company was founded in 1994, Leone has created company traditions that employees look forward to every year. Annual traditions include anniversary luncheons, company picnics, Easter baskets for employees' children, Ladies Night, Poker Night, and an annual Vegas trip for the top employees. His "Quantum Leap" training program is considered one the most progressive in the industry. Through programs such as the "Leadership Development Program," top level employees are identified and invited to participate in a year-long curriculum that helps those enrolled not only further their own potential, but learn how to recognize and cultivate it in others.

Leone is an ardent advocate of the San Diego homeless and is active with Father Joe’s Villages and the Alpha Project. Yearly, MRC partners with ARC 10 News in a contest that provides $25,000 to three local nonprofits for a technology makeover.

Health care has been slow to embrace new business, management, administrative and operations techniques. Under Salka’s leadership, AMN Healthcare has helped introduce the utilization of advanced processes, systems and automation into the business of health care. These processes have been shown to dramatically improve efficiency and quality.

Salka has been featured in interviews with The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times and CNBC’s "Mad Money." She also has been a major contributor of time and resources to causes that aid and mentor women, children and families. In particular, she enjoys hands-on work throughout the year for Make-a-Wish Foundation, Girls on the Run, Father Joe’s Villages, and Ronald McDonald House. She also is on the board of SDSU’s Campanile Foundation as well as the editorial advisory board of Directors & Boards magazine. In 2015 Salka led an annual trip to the highlands of Guatemala with a team of AMN Healthcare volunteers, part of Team Esperanza. She and the team created a temporary acute care hospital, took part in 112 surgeries and 1,178 patient visits, and installed 76 stoves for impoverished families.
The Board of Directors, Staff and all those served by San Diego Rescue Mission thank you for your commitment to excellence.

Congratulations Herb Johnson for being named Most Admired CEO in the nonprofit sector.
Stephan…
Thank you for making ZEETO such a great place to work! Your team loves you!

Congrats on winning Most Admired CEO!

REN ovATE AMERICA®

Congratulations to JP McNeill
2016 SDBJ MOST ADMIRE D CEO MEGA PRIVATE COMPANY

At Renovate America, we strive to build better communities by helping more homeowners make energy-efficient and water-saving upgrades to their homes through the HERO Program. JP has also built a great place to work in San Diego, and we’re thrilled to see his leadership recognized.
2016 Most Admired CEO of the Year Awards

Finalists

Stephan Aarstol
Tower Paddle Boards
Steve Avoyer
Flocke & Avoyer Commercial Real Estate
Jim Backman
Ardot Energy, Inc.
Maria Bagby
Therapeutic Literacy Center
Brian Benson
ClosingCorp, Inc.
James Berg
Advanced Test Equipment Corporation
Mark Berger
Partnerships With Industry
Miles Bodzin
Cash Practice Inc.
Christian Braemer
Benefuender
Michael Brainard
Brainard Strategy
Shari Brasher
Fresh Start Surgical Gifts
Ernie Bray
AutoClaims Direct Inc.
Gabriel Bristol
Intelicare Direct
Chad Buckmaster
Processing Point, Inc.
Jack Burger
Burger Construction
Peter Callstrom
San Diego Workforce Partnership, Inc.
Eric Casazza
FMT Consultants
Steve Castiglione
WestAir Gases & Equipment Inc.
Gina Champion-Cain
American National Investments
Michael Dallo
Dallo Law Group, APC
Alicia Dearn
Bellatrix PC
Matt DeLoach
Abnormal Company
Antoine Didienne
Vavavida
Scot Dietz
3 Blind Mice Window Coverings, Incorporated
Darragh DiGiorgio Johnson
Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest
Kevin Dinino
KCD PR Inc.
Didi Discar
Carling Communications, Inc.
Dave Dutch
PayLease
Bill Earley
American Red Cross of San Diego/Imperial Counties
Debra Emerson
St. Madeleine Sophie’s Center
Eric Ervin
Reality Shares, Inc.
Michael Esposito
Snake Oil Cocktail Company
Keith Esshaki
GTC Systems, Inc.
Sean Ferrel
Managed Solution
Mary Fisher
Colorescence, Inc.
Jay Fishman
Ground 2 Table
DeLinda Fosythe
ICE
Mara Fortin
Nothing Bundt Cakes San Diego
Kimberly Gallo
First 5 San Diego
Ahmed Ghouri
Interpreta, Inc.
David Gilbert
National Funding
Sean Gildea
Oceanside Glaistile
Tom Gildred
Emerald Textiles, LLC
Mireille Gillings
HUYA Bioscience International
Moty Ginsburg
Treeium, Inc.
Mike Glanz
HireAHelper, LLC
Tony Glockler
SolidProfessor
Jeff Goldberg
Cali Bamboo, LLC
John Gomez
Gomez Trial Attorneys
Ozgur Gorur
UltimoValue, Inc.
Stuart Green
Tagrem Corp.
Neil Gross
Chef Works, Inc.
Niko Gubernator
eMolecules, Inc.
Thomas Guernsey
Thomas Jefferson School of Law
Kent Harle
Stellar Solar
Trevor Hansen
Motivate
Dan Hasbrouck
Freedom Boat Club of San Diego
Thomas Heaviland
Heaviland Enterprises, Inc.
Lars Helgeson
GreenRope
Jim Hernandez
Strategic Business Communications, Inc.
Celeste Hilling
Skin Authority
Daniel Hoang
Team Focus For Freedom
Jason Hughes
Hughes Marino, Inc.
Mohsen Jabbari
Trans-Continental Manufacturing, Inc.
Todd Jackson
Jackson Design & Remodeling
Reginald Jones
Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation
Tim Josse
KRC Rock Inc.
Ross Jurewitz
Jurewitz Law Group
Thad Kahlow
BusinessOnline
John Kellogg
Square Peg Packaging and Printing
Kris Kibak
The Control Group
Kalafia King
Harmonious Solutions
John Klinedinst
Klinedinst PC
Danna Korn
Sonic Boom Wellness
Jess Kraus
Source Intelligence
Brad Lee
Breg, Inc.
Wei-Yung Lee
Carlsbad Technology, Inc.
Alessandra Lezama
Absacus Data Systems, Inc.
James Mackay
Ardea Inc.
Kevin Marshall
Copy Link Inc.
Michael McCaffery
M5 Hosting, Inc.
Gerald McFadden
Volunteers of America Southwest
Greg McKee
CONNECT
Damian Mckinney
McKinney Advisory Group, Inc.
John Mendlein
aTyr Pharma, Inc.
Candace Moon
The Craft Beer Attorney, APC
Dina Moskowitz
SaaSMAX, Corp.
Penny Nathan
Ascent Real Estate
Dylan Natter
centrexIT
Dan Negroni
launchbox, LLC
Bev Oster
Oster and Associates
Jason Paguio
Parade Band Foundation, Inc
Gregg Parise
events.com
Gary Peterson
gap intelligence
Cheryl Pia
PIA Agency
Kevin Popovic
Ideaehaus
Sanjiv Prabahakaran
Bytes, Inc.
Dominic Ramirez
Lux Landscape Design
BJ Retuya
Baleh Medical Devices, Inc.
Chad Robley
Mindgruve
Jeff Rodiger
Fed Resource
Walid Romaya
Realstory
Reuben H. Fleet
Reuben H. Fleet
Dina Moskowitz
Positive Adventures
Steven Snyder
Reuben H. Fleet Science Center
Darren Solomon
Kid Ventures
Brandon Stapper
585 Graphics Inc.
Adam Stettner
Reliant Funding
Brian Stone
Multifamily Utility Company Inc.
Daniel Sullivan
Sullivan Solar Power
David Tal
Agiliti
Joyce Tang
Stuart Tanz
ROIC
Darrin Thompson
SweetLabs, Inc.
Tonya Torosian
Promises2Kids
Monika Tuncbilek
DrainHelp.com
Tom Turner
Procopio, Cory, Hargroves & Savitch LLP
Renee VanHeel
Pay It Forward Processing
Natalie Viani
Natalie Viani
Mark Wallace
Mark Wallace Warehouse Solutions, Inc.
Dylan Whitman
Brand Value Accelerator
Douglas Wilson
Douglas Wilson Companies
Grant Wright
Wright On Communications
Casey Wright
Wright Brothers, Inc.
Outstanding local executives were honored in the San Diego Business Journal’s ninth annual Most Admired CEO Awards event. The program, one of the largest of its kind in San Diego, was held Feb. 18, attracting a record 700 registered attendees who filled the Town and Country Resort & Convention Center’s ballroom and courtyard.

The region’s top directors joined in honoring individuals who have made their mark in industries that stretch from global biotechs to social service agencies dedicated to the less fortunate.

Joining the San Diego Business Journal for this annual event were title sponsors Bank of America, Cox Business and SDG&E; gold sponsors Abacus Data Systems, Inc. and Moss Adams LLP; and in association with GreenRope and LEAD San Diego.
Winner Stephan Goss, Zeeto
Winner Robert Svet, Eastridge Workforce Solutions
Winner Mary Ann McGarry, Guild Mortgage Company
Winner Andre Zotoff, Hotel Del Coronado
Winner Tim Moran, Tri-City Medical Center
Winner Robin Layton, Educational Enrichment Systems Inc.
Winner Thella Bowens, San Diego Regional Airport Authority
Carisa Wisniewski, Gold Sponsor Moss Adams LLP
Winner JP McNeill, Renovate America
Eric Cutler, Gold Sponsor Abacus Data Systems Inc.
Winner Susan Salka, AMN Healthcare
Winner Punit Dhillon, OncoSec Medical Inc.
Winner Don Ankeny, Westcore Properties LLC
Winner Zeynep Ilgaz, Confirm Biosciences Inc.
Winner Susan Salka, AMN Healthcare

Photos by Bob Thompson, Fotowerks. Additional photos from the event are at the following link: http://fotowerkssd.smugmug.com.

Gordon Wiens, Title Sponsor Bank of America; Exemplary Service Award Recipients Phil Blair and Mel Katz, both with Manpower West

2016 CEO Awards Sponsors Vicky Carlson, LEAD San Diego; Wendy Aid, Cox Business; Christy Ihrig, SDG&E; Winner Bill Keith, Perfect Bar; Eric Cutler, Abacus Data Systems Inc.; Carisa Wisniewski, Moss Adams LLP; Gordon Wiens, Title Sponsor Bank of America

Title Sponsor SDG&E charging station with all electric BMW car.