

Candidate Statements

Regan Barry

Candidate — President

My name is Regan Barry and I am running for 2020 President of our California Landscape Contractors Association.

I passed my C-27 test in 1981 after a modest beginning in 1971 working in garden centers and doing glorified weed pulling. The adventure of owning and building a landscape company began by the seat of my pants and — fortunately with the support of a wonderful wife who had more evolved business instincts than myself — we grew. Fast forward 20 years, and a big shift happened while our company added pieces and it became more challenging.

I became a CLCA member in 2001, mostly from the support of local landscapers who kept talking about this landscape organization I had never heard of. Although I declared the Central Coast Chapter as my own, I had no idea as to what the big picture looked like and what exactly my new membership offered until my company started participating in chapter events.

In 2009, I attended my first CLCA Legislative Conference with my wife in Sacramento. It was eye opening, in a very positive way, as to what our association was doing to protect us and the industry from bad legislation. I attended because my chapter president at the time asked me to go, and to this day I am grateful that he made the effort to support me.

In 2009, I sat in on my first Central Coast Chapter Board of Directors meeting. In 2010 and 2011, I was our chapter's Membership Director. I attended my first leadership conference in San Jose in 2011. It was an amazing experience, and the first time I became fully aware of CLCA's role and its commitment to offering training and leadership to chapter boards and the greater membership.

In 2012-13, I served as chapter president. I jumped into the deep end, not knowing how deep that was, but I had lots of guides and help. The Chapter Presidents Council was another layer of training, and this blew my mind in a good way because I was fortunate to be with more people like me on the learning curve to broaden my view of the association. I served as our chapter's co-president with Andrew Tuckman for 2014-15. In 2016-17, I co-chaired the Chapter Presidents Council. In 2017, it was an honor to be recognized as our association's Regular Member of the Year. To round out my chapter work, I went back to the Central Coast chapter for a one-year term as president. I finally did my job and found my replacement for 2019.

I am currently our CLCA state President Elect.

Paul Hansen

Candidate — President-Elect

My name is Paul Hansen and I am humbled to be running for the President-Elect position on the 2020 State Board of Directors. I am a husband of 10 years and a father to two beautiful elementary-aged girls. I am also a second-generation green industry professional following in the footsteps of my father. As a young boy, my father demonstrated and taught me about the beauty and artwork of a professionally cared for landscape. I have carried his passion for hard work into my professional career of approximately 15 years now. I have maintained a steadfast interest in learning as much as I can about our industry. I currently hold ISA Certified Arborist and Tree Risk Assessor licenses and QWEL certification and have recently completed the CWM with the CLCA. I serve SouthWest Landscape in Southern California as the Director of Client Services.

I started my tenure as an active CLCA member in the Orange County chapter in 2012. I served as the chair of the Programs Committee for one year and as the Chapter President for two years. In 2017 and 2018 I served as the CPC South Co-Chair on the state Board of Directors. I currently serve as the 2019 Director of Resource Management on the State Board of Directors. Through the years I have had a growing passion for our industry, our industry leaders and giving back to the industry that gives so much to me and my family.

As President-Elect of the CLCA state Board of Directors, I will commit to learning about the current needs of the membership. I would make an effort to go out into the local chapters and listen. I want to carry forth the vision and mission of the CLCA in unity with the grassroots efforts being done with each of our local chapters. I pledge to work with other passionate members of our association to expand efforts to connect with the Hispanic market via the development of Spanish language materials, training events and support. Lastly, I promise to support the association's president in any efforts he might be working on. I ask for your vote and support. It would be my honor to hold this position and I would do so with integrity and passion.

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Lindsay Ono

Candidate — Director of Education

Hello fellow CLCA members, I am Lindsay Ono and Professor of Environmental Horticulture at Bakersfield College. I am again running for the position of state Director of Education.

As your Director of Education these past two years, I have aimed to educate our organization. The Education Committee has had very good success these past two years bringing programs to our members. It's not a solo position but a group of dedicated individuals who make the difference. I have been able to guide the Education Committee with vision, determination and success.

I am continuing my quest to bring more community college involvement with our organization. We have completed two landscape certificates that are now available to more than 45 community colleges across California. I will continue working with the CLT Taskforce to bring additional training to landscape professionals. This taskforce is also working to attract community college students into our industry through these trainings.

There are four components to success — vision, passion, communication and knowledge. Vision is what we need, to see the possibilities. Passion is what drives us to take a chance, to excel. Good communication informs those around us so we don't have to walk alone. And knowledge is the education we receive to improve ourselves, our abilities, and our wisdom. These elements are what make our visions a reality.

I envision a CLCA that will give everyone the knowledge to learn and improve themselves through our educational programs. I envision a CLCA that helps us to communicate our ideas with employees and customers and to attract future employees. I see strong and healthy businesses. Let me fuel your passion for landscaping and make your vision of your future, a growing reality.

Megan Rios

Candidate — Director of Legislation

My husband, Jim Rios, and I own and operate Rios Design Studio, a landscape architecture firm. We are licensed landscape architects and appreciate working with licensed landscape contractors.

As Rios Design Studio, we have been active since 2012 in the Kern County Chapter and its board. I served on our local board as Secretary and Programs & Events Chair position for several years prior to being elected state Director of Legislation. This year, I had the honor of being awarded the Mickey Strauss Grassroots Advocacy Award.

C-27s are very fortunate to have a full licensure that encompasses many facets of outdoor space installation and maintenance. Licensure of our profession is imperative to maintain the highest level of work, including the health, welfare and safety of the public. In California, we need to be vigilant in maintaining our business health by keeping our voices heard, having a finger on the dial of proposed legislation and being proactive in conversing with legislators, their staff, and authors of bills prior to delivery to the Governor's desk. It is important to have face-to-face contact with our representatives and to educate ourselves about how to discuss with them our goals and needs so they can legislate effectively for our licensure and profession.

Candidate Statements

Eric Santos

Candidate — Director of Membership

I graduated from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo with a Bachelor's of Science in Agricultural Engineering and started working in the landscape industry in 1993. I am currently the Vice President of Irrigation Services for BrightView Landscape Services and am based in Pleasanton, California. After having worked in the industry for 20 years, I attended my first CLCA event in 2013 and have been hooked ever since. Shortly after joining CLCA, I obtained my CLT in Irrigation and quickly realized the benefits and value of CLCA. The education, certification and training I have received from CLCA around water conservation and California's MWELC have helped my organization stand out and excel.

After joining CLCA, I decided to become more actively involved with the East Bay Chapter of CLCA. In 2015 and 2016, I became Membership Director for the East Bay Chapter. In 2017, I accepted the nomination of Chapter President-Elect and in 2018 I became Chapter President. This year, I am currently the East Bay Chapter's Director of Membership and plan to continue to support the chapter in that role for one more year in 2020.

Since being on the East Bay Chapter Board, I've had the fortune of attending CLCA's Annual Leadership Conferences, state conventions and Chapter President Council meetings. In addition to serving on the East Bay Chapter's Board, I also served on the Irrigation Foundation Board of Trustees and hold various Irrigation Association certifications.

In order for our association's membership to grow, we must constantly look for ways to provide value to both existing members and potential new members, for small, medium and large contractors. If elected, I look forward to working with our Education, Events, Legislation and CPC Directors to find new and creative ways to attract new CLCA members.