

News Release



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For Immediate Release

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Valley Vision Announces the Region's Economic, Social Equity and Environmental Sustainability Leaders for 2011

Sacramento, February 17, 2011 – Valley Vision announced today the three winners of its annual “Legacy of Leadership” awards in the fields of environmental sustainability, social equity, and the economy – the work areas of Valley Vision in the Capitol Region.

The winner of the Regional Social Equity Leader of the Year award is **Scott Hanson** of Hanson McClain Financial Advisors. The winner of the Regional Economic Leader of the Year is **Meg Arnold**, the CEO of the Sacramento Area Regional Technology Alliance (SARTA). And the winner of the Regional Environmental Sustainability Leader of the Year award is **Larry Greene**, the Executive Director of the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District. A bio on each leader can be found below.

Award nominations were solicited late last year and in early 2011 from businesses, governments, community and nonprofit organizations from across the six-county Capitol Region. Valley Vision’s 29-member Board of Directors served as the judging panel, reviewing the list of nominees in each of the three categories and casting ballots that led to the final selections.

“This is a big deal,” said James Beckwith, CEO of Five Star Bank and Valley Vision’s 2011 volunteer chairman. “We started with more than a dozen leaders in each category, then rated them in five areas. We asked to what degree the nominees were visionary, collaborative, boundary crossing, resourceful and passionate. We care a lot about these values at Valley Vision. It was a really difficult decision given the stellar candidates we had to pick from. In the end, Meg, Larry and Scott really stood out. They role model these traits in everything they do.”

In addition to receiving a special award at a ceremony during Valley Vision’s “Legacy Feast” event May 19th at the California History Museum, each winner receives a \$3,000 cash grant to bestow to a nonprofit that is providing the next generation of leadership.

Scott Hanson, Hanson McClain Financial Advisors 2011 Regional Social Equity Leader

Scott is a senior partner and founding principal of Hanson McClain. He is a nationally renowned financial advisor, identified in 2005 by *Investment Advisor* magazine as one of the 25 most influential people in the financial services industry nationwide. He is a Certified Financial Planner, a Certified Fund Specialist, and a Chartered Financial Consultant. In addition to serving clients, he has taught numerous financial planning courses for both financial advisors and Fortune 500 companies and has been a guest on Fox News and has appeared in the Wall Street Journal and other industry publications.

Scott is the author of *Money Matters: Essential Tips & Tools for Building Financial Peace of Mind*, a practical guide with imaginative ideas for investing, spending, and saving. He and his business partner also host a weekly talk radio show on NewsTalk 1530 KFBK, Sacramento’s largest AM station.

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Scott currently serves on the Board of the PRIDE Industries Foundation and the Salvation Army Advisory Council. He is widely known for leading a number of successful capital campaigns in the region for deserving causes that alleviate suffering, hunger, and to provide opportunities to those most in need. Scott currently chairs the Greater Sacramento Generosity Project, an effort by the Sacramento Region Community Foundation, the Nonprofit Resource Center and area philanthropists to research philanthropy by people and organizations in the region in order to advance strategies that create a culture of giving and increase philanthropic impact. He lives in El Dorado Hills with wife Valerie and their two children.

Meg Arnold, CEO of SARTA ***2011 Regional Economic Leader***

Meg became CEO of SARTA in November 2009, after being closely involved as a SARTA Board member since late 2005. Prior to joining SARTA, Meg was with UC Davis for six years, supporting technology commercialization and entrepreneurship on the campus, with both UC Davis InnovationAccess and UC Davis CONNECT, where she developed programs to support campus-originated start-up companies, and participated in technology transfer licensing to new start-ups.

After leaving UC Davis in 2008, Meg consulted to Drexel University as Director, Community Partnerships, and to Valley Vision, as Senior Project Manager for the Green Capital Alliance. In addition to SARTA, Meg has served on the Board of the Sacramento Entrepreneurship Academy (SEA), the Steering Committee of the Green Capital Alliance, and the High Tech Direct advisory committee. Before coming to the Sacramento area, Meg spent ten years in the telecommunications industry, working primarily in strategic planning and business development for AT&T Canada, in Toronto, and British Telecom (BT), in London, focused on mergers and acquisitions, strategic and joint ventures, as well as developing and expanding new business units.

Meg has an MBA in Finance from the University of San Francisco, and a BA in English from Cornell University. She lives in Davis with her son and daughter.

Larry Greene, Executive Director, Sacramento Metropolitan AQMD ***2011 Regional Environmental Sustainability Leader***

Larry is the Executive Director of the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District which covers the County of Sacramento. The Air District is governed by an elected board of 14 officials representing the County and City of Sacramento, as well as City Council members from the five incorporated cities within Sacramento County. Larry and the District's more than 90 employees operate programs daily that reduce air pollution that impact public health, from monitoring, planning, permitting, and compliance with air quality rules and regulations, to reviewing land use projects and public education.

Larry has twice served as President of the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA), which represents air quality issues for 35 California Air Districts. He has served as the Co-President for the National Association of Clean Air Agencies (NACAA), a national organization which represents air quality issues for 51 states and territories and over 165 major metropolitan areas across the country and is currently Co-Chair for the NACAA Global Warming Committee.

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Larry retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1995 from a 23 year career in the US Army where he served in the Quartermaster Corps. His numerous assignments included missions in the Middle East, Korea, Europe and Haiti. Larry has a Bachelors Degree in Science Education from North Carolina State University and Masters' Degrees in Logistics Management from Florida Institute of Technology and Education from Boston University.

Larry and his wife Beverly live in Davis, CA. They have five grown daughters and lots of grandchildren. Valley Vision provides analysis and action that improves the region's economic prosperity, social equity, and environmental sustainability. The independent nonprofit was formed in 1994 as a means for the region's leaders from business, government, and the community to come together to strategize and take joint action on critical and complex regional issues. To learn more, visit www.valleyvision.org.

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