

## August Spotlight Member - Susan Husher

I am proud to announce that our Spotlight Member this month is Susan Husher. Let me tell you a little about her and how she ended up in California at the age of 12 (5<sup>th</sup> grade). She was born in Boston, moved to Michigan and then to Texas before settling in California. Susan said her best friends to this day are the ones she met in the 5th grade and that they still see each other regularly. After graduating from Palo Alto High School, Susan attended UC San Diego where she received her BA in Political Science, specializing in Latin American studies and received her minors in economics and visual arts. She focused on photography, which was her true passion at the time, as it was always Susan's dream to have her own dark room.

When she started high school, her mother worked as a Legal Secretary in Palo Alto. After college, she went to work for her uncle who was an attorney in San Francisco. Susan was considering going to law school so she wanted to see what the legal field was like. She commuted San Jose to San Francisco for 2 ½ hours a day and when the "big" quake hit in 1989, Susan was working on the top floor of an old building at the corner of Bush and Sansome and was so traumatized that she could no longer work in San Francisco. Even though her office building had survived the 1906 quake, she just did not feel safe, so Susan went to work for Hoge, Fenton in San Jose. After the birth of her second child, she took a hiatus from the legal field and had an in-home day care for 12 years. When her youngest two (twins) started Jr. High School, she returned to the legal field on a part time basis and tried out a few different types of law in several small law firms. She tried out family law, estate planning, probate, personal injury, corporate law, false claims act/whistle blower cases, and tax law. Ultimately, Susan found litigation to be exciting, challenging, and stimulating, and she claims she was fortunate enough that Hoge, Fenton welcomed her back after an almost 20-year leave, and offered her a position as a legal assistant in our firm's civil litigation team!

Motivation? For Susan, it is dark chocolate, first and foremost! Next, is her four (4) wonderful children (now, all in their early 20s, and a 7-year-old spitfire granddaughter who has lived with Susan since she turned 4) where she continues to be a positive influence and support person in all of their lives. She says she is honored that they still seek her advice and approval, and fortunate that they all come over for dinner once a week for a home cooked meal and conversation. Chocolate and family, what great motivators!

When asked to describe a day in the life of her job, she said it is like a day of River Rafting. Each day brings a combination of calm waters, ebbs, flows, roaring rapids, and eddies. Occasionally the raft flips over, and she climbs back in and keeps on paddling.

Susan stated that any form of enrichment, professionally and personally, is a benefit and says that SCCoLPA provides her with both. Speaking personal goals, you might be interested to know that Susan is trying new things. Over the past few years, she has tried several things she has never done before like, auto-cross racing, fly-fishing, snow mobiling, camping, jet skiing, mountain bike riding, snow shoeing, downhill skiing, archery, skeet shooting, and wake boarding. I say "Kudos to you for being courageous and for stepping out of your comfort zone!"

There you have it! Susan Husher in a nutshell. Congratulations Susan, we are honored to get to know you a little better.