



Susan McDonald
Area 4 - San Simeon Creek, Pine Knolls
Representative, Council Chair

BACKGROUND

A second-generation native Californian, I was born and educated in San Diego. My dad worked in aerospace and my mother was a secretary, the only mom in our middle-class neighborhood to work outside the home. After high school, I majored in French at California Western University in Point Loma.

LIVING ON THE NORTH COAST

In 1979, I moved to Cambria with two young sons, fulfilling a dream for rural, small-town life. Cambria has never disappointed. My boys attended Cambria schools, played sports and left home for college after graduation from Coast Union High School. I married Bob McDonald in 1982, and we live on San Simeon Creek in a house he built in 2000.

I have enjoyed a mixed bag of careers, from fitness instructor to newspaper reporter and editor to public relations and advertising professional. I learned about county government firsthand in the mid-90s as administrative assistant for county Supervisor Bud Laurent. Two accomplishments we shared were organizing the first NCAC election and creation of the elephant seal viewing area and docent program in San Simeon. I later became the first director of Friends of the Elephant Seal.

Participation in local organizations includes Cambria Historical Society, PROS, Cambria Forest Committee, Farm Bureau. I proudly hold a National Parent Teacher Association lifetime membership and I am currently a member of the Cambria Fire Safe Focus Group.

15 MINUTES OF FAME

My Hollywood claim to fame is a very brief appearance (blink and you miss it) in “Arachnophobia.”

WHY ARE YOU VOLUNTEERING TO SERVE ON THE NCAC?

My goal in serving on the NCAC is to set a tone of respect and civil public discourse that will encourage more Cambrians to get involved in local affairs.