Audrey Cantley



Besides being president of the best IAAP chapter ever, I have another rare distinction – I am a San Francisco native! Although I was born in Palo Alto, I grew up in San Francisco during the best time – the post-war years, followed by the wild and crazy '60's and '70's! Great years!

I am presently not married, have five adult children of whom I'm very proud, and seven grandchildren who are, of course, the brightest, smartest, most incredible children ever! But then, perhaps I'm a bit prejudiced!

For most of my adult life, I have resided in the South San Francisco/San Bruno area and find that it is an everchanging landscape of both industrial and residential growth.

My career path has been in the administrative professional field since my first job at 16 at Wells Fargo Bank in San Francisco, followed by a 10 year gap to have my children, then on to such 'tasty' jobs as secretary to the management at See's Candies for 5 years! For the last 25 years, I have been associated with the biotech/pharma industry, working for such companies as Genentech (I was among the first 400 employees there!), Xoma in Berkeley, ALZA Corp. in Mountain View, Jazz Pharmaceuticals in Palo Alto, and presently at TRF Pharma in Burlingame.

When asked what job I'd like to have in five years, my answer has always been "an administrative professional". To me, this role is essential to every company and every manager and as the cigarette commercial, paraphrased, said, "We've come a long ways, baby!"

Without my 30 years of membership in IAAP, I would not have experienced the professional growth that I needed to succeed nor made the friendships that have enjoyed along the way. May they continue for many more years!