



*alliance in support of airport progress in the 21st century*

402 West Broadway, Suite 1000, San Diego, California 92101 619.544.1361 [www.ASAP21.net](http://www.ASAP21.net)

## **ASAP 21 Media Kit**

### **Biography: John Chalker**

John Chalker is a long time San Diego County resident and an active member of the downtown business community.

His experience in San Diego's political arena began 10 years ago, and he has worked tirelessly since then as a member of the Board of Directors of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, actively seeking out ways to improve San Diego. His financial acumen, sharpened by 20 years as a financial consultant at Merrill Lynch and 15 years as an investment adviser for institutional clients, has given Chalker a firm grasp on San Diego's economy, and the potential economic impact of the air transportation industry on the region as a whole.

As a resident for twenty-five years, Chalker understands the San Diegan viewpoint and witnessed a number of airport expansion initiatives stall amid a flurry of politically motivated objections. He viewed the debate surrounding these airport expansions, and its effect on local politics with growing concern.

As a lifelong conservationist—he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Oceanography from the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland—he recognizes the need for proper environmental study and stewardship of alternative airport site.

Chalker knew San Diego needed an organization to help the region improve its air transportation infrastructure, and with the passage of California Assembly Bill 93 and Senate Bill 1896 (establishing the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority), he knew the timing was right to form an organization that could help San Diego change its approach to the airport debate. This organization would get involved early, support the Regional Airport Authority, and help to define the issues that San Diegans would eventually debate and vote upon at election time.

Founding this organization, ASAP 21, was an extension of Chalker's commitment to bettering San Diego for business and for citizens across the region.

Currently, Chalker is the co-founder, and Managing Director of LM Capital Group, LLC and a member of the firm's Investment Strategy Group. LM Capital is a leading provider of fixed-income investment services to institutional investors and manages approximately \$1.1 billion in five fixed income products. Previously, he had been with Merrill Lynch & Co. as a financial consultant, where he distinguished himself as a member in the firm's Chairman's Club. Chalker has more than 22 years experience in investment management.

Prior to joining Merrill Lynch, he completed a tour of duty as a carrier based attack pilot with the U.S. Navy from which he received an honorable discharge in 1979.