After nearly 24 years in Carmel Valley, Tom Turner has combined his occupation and community involvement into a treatise on cooperation and conflict resolution. He is a commercial real estate transactional attorney and managing partner of Procopio, the largest San Diego-based law firm, and he’s currently chairman of the board for the National Conflict Resolution Center (NCRC). At Procopio, Tom finds satisfaction in helping his clients resolve problems, avoid disputes, and obtain win-win situations. At the NCRC, the theme is much the same, utilizing a variety of techniques to help people avoid and resolve disputes of all kinds, through mediation and constructive non-confrontational communication.

Founded in 1983 by the University of San Diego Law Center and the San Diego Bar Association, the NCRC serves a variety of communities in both the public and private sectors – regionally, nationally, and internationally. It provides the resources, training, and expertise to help people around the world manage conflicts with civility. Tom takes part in a variety of programs, including Avoiding the Pipeline to Prison, the Campaign for Campus Civility, and numerous Restorative Justice programs. “As our tagline says,” he explained, “we are ‘Empowering People and Transforming Cultures.’” When asked what inspired him to work with the NCRC, “Perhaps a little bit of the leftover hippie in me,” Tom smiled. “I found resonance in the effort to build a more peaceful and civil society.”

Tom is inspired by Martin Luther King, Jr., John Wooden, Willie Mays, and Alex Cory – the founder of his law firm. He feels his fabulous wife Jennifer is the glue that holds the Turner family together. “Both of our daughters married great guys and each has blessed us with a grandson. We feel very fortunate that they live close so we can regularly convene at our Carmel Valley home,” Thomas shared. “Our son is in Chicago, but we do our best to stay close.” As a matter of fact, rather than downsizing after the Turner children left home, they did a major expansion and remodel, “so our Carmel Valley home will remain the family social hub for the long haul.”

Following his involvement in everything from Malim Burnham’s Chairman’s Competitiveness Counsel, to Home Start, mentoring at the Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies, and volunteer coaching youth baseball and basketball, Tom is now enjoying his efforts building peace and civility through the NCRC. Now we are celebrating Carmel Valley’s Tom Turner!