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Newsletter

June, 2012

Issue No. 3

In This Issue

[Save the Date!](#)

[Welcome These New Members!](#)

[Call for News Articles!](#)

[Winners of the Jim Boyce Memorial Scholarship](#)

[Successful APA Training!](#)

[Social Media Tip](#)

[Technical Standards Resources](#)

Save the Date!

2013 Annual APA Conference,
January 22-24, 2013, near
Austin, TX!

Save the Date!

Summer and Fall Regionals -
Dates and locations:

- * August 3, Houston
- * September 7, San Antonio
- * October 5, Dallas /FtWorth

Proposed topics: Playgrounds,
Long Term Healthcare facility
(new or remodel), Transient
Lodging, Technical Guidance
on TAS 2012 Signage,
Assembly Companion
Seating/Designated Aisle
Seating, File Management,
Business Tips, Insurance,
Legal Assistance, etc.

APA members with special
knowledge in any of these
areas, and who would like to
make a presentation, should

Moving Forward. Leading the Way.

By now, we've all had a chance to get our feet wet with the new 2012 TAS, and I venture to guess, most of us have spent a lot of time scratching our heads! For me, it harkens back to the days when I was a brand-spanking-new RAS (ICP way back then), when my TAS book was almost a permanent appendage and every day brought more questions than answers. It will take some time before we all feel proficient in applying the new standards without looking up every answer, but until then, we have each other. I know that sounds a little sappy, but what I really mean is that we have an incredible means of sharing information in the [online forum](#). Many of our members are attending the TAS Academy and are able to share what they learned. Our Technical Standards Committee continues to seek answers to the most confounding questions and will share those answers as they are available. And don't forget we have our regional meetings coming up late this summer and early fall. As always, they will be chock full of quality information as well as those sought-after continuing education hours. And, it's always a good time to commiserate...err, I mean...*socialize* with your fellow APA members!

Kim Goss, 2012 APA President

Jim Boyce Memorial Scholarship Announces Winners!

This year the Accessibility Professionals Association (APA) awarded \$2000 in total scholarships to qualified recipients. Notice of award, along with an 11 x 17 poster, scholarship rules and application were sent to all eight accredited schools of architecture in Texas last fall. Historically, the number of applicants has been low. Despite our extra efforts to promote the scholarship this year, we still only received a total of five applicants. Of the five, two were selected for a \$1000 scholarship each. The winners are listed below.

Karen T. Andzic - Graduate School of Architecture - The
University of Texas at San Antonio

contact [Michael Love](#), or [Tom Ellis](#), as soon as possible.

James (Mike) M. Oler - Graduate School of Architecture - Texas Tech University

Welcome these APA New Members!

Click on the member's name to view his or her profile in our Member Directory!

Michael Allen

Pensacola, FL

Robert C Barker

Flatonia, TX

Will Cummings

Houston, TX

Felipe Guerrero

Brownsville, TX

Thomas N Killebrew

Fort Worth, TX

John B Montgomery

Riverside, TX

Ross A Thomas

Mckinney, TX

Call for News Articles!

The CM&M Committee is asking all our members to submit articles for the newsletter. It will be a new feature for the Fall issue. The deadline is August 1st, 2012.

The topics could be:

- Interesting findings in an inspection that you performed and want to share with the group
- Any tools that you have used that have been useful to your RAS duties (including

Both recipients were honored to have received the award. Mike Oler and his wife were particularly pleased as Mike's financial aid had been cut off because he had earned too much money at his job. Mike helped design the headquarters for his employer and his application included a glowing letter from his employer stating how Mike had brought to their attention the need to make the facility accessible - something they had not given much consideration. Karen Andzic sent a 'Thank You' note stating that she 'feels the responsibility to return this gift to our community in the form of service and support by incorporating universal design in every way possible.'

APA is happy to continue the scholarship program as it helps promote accessibility amongst design students in Texas and honors one of the Charter Members of APA, Jim Boyce. If you are interested in serving on the Jim Boyce Memorial Scholarship, please email [Chris Schexnayder](mailto:Chris.Schexnayder@access-lp.com) at chris@access-lp.com. Thanks to all who have shown their support of the scholarship through your efforts with the [Silent Auction](#) and other [donations](#)!

Successful 8 Hours of Continuing Education for APA Members!

APA recently hosted a Spring Training event at McKinney-Roughs, April 16, 2012. Attendees were able to log 8 Continuing Education hours! The presenters were excellent and featured APA members, [Robin Roberts](#), [David Deming](#) and [Peter Grojean](#) in a panel to contrast the old and new TAS - Bob Posey, TDLR/AB, reviewed the 2012 TAS Issues and RAS Procedures & Challenges - Deborah Jahns, TDLR/AB, reviewed TAS 2012 Children's Use - Attorney Scott Lyford reviewed RAS Liability. APA thanks all the expert presenters!



door gauges, review software)
- Any interesting information you learned from TDLR or any other educational avenue about the new Standards
- Anything that you think might be of benefit to our members!

The CM&M committee reserves the right to print or not print any submitted articles. It is not a guarantee that you will be published, but it will be a great opportunity for us to learn more about you and maybe share interesting things with the other APA members! Brief articles with links to more detailed information are best. And - remember to update your profile in case you do get selected for publication. You will be featured as well.

Marcela Abadi Rhoads, CM&M Committee Chair

CM&M Committee's Social Media Tip How do I best use Social Media? Social media is the online version of face to face networking and advertising! So keeping that in mind, the best way to use social media is to know who your target audience is and speak to them. That is easy for us RAS's. Our target audience are architects, interior designers, civil engineers, plumbing engineers, landscape architects, contractors, building owners, facilities managers, and even product vendors. Since most of these are in the building and real estate industries, finding ways to "advertise" to them will be easy.

Social media is a free way to let everyone know you are out there and ready to help them understand the Texas Accessibility Standards as well as the ADA and other accessibility guidelines. There are several places that you can share your knowledge and expertise. You can create a [Facebook](#) page, a [LinkedIn](#) profile, a [Twitter](#) account, [YouTube](#) videos and the newest way is [Pinterest](#) (just to name a few).

If you have never done social media, start slow and work your way up. Whichever site you choose to start with, you can create it and then learn from others how best to make it work. Once you create your presence, you can share about the new "DOJ Pool Webinar", or a new product that helps the disabled, or even post a blog that you might have written about accessibility. The possibilities are endless. Just keep in mind that by sharing information with the world and helping them understand the standards they will be grateful and try to help you back, maybe even by hiring you to be their consultant!

Submitted by Marcela Abadi Rhoads, Chair

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If you have any articles for our next Newsletter please submit your articles to ninapaquette@gmail.com

Technical Standards Resources

Our APA website is a great resource for technical information. Among other features you can download a [guidance document](#) on the 2010 Standards and ask questions in the members-only [Forum](#).
Robin Roberts, Chair

[Forward email](#)



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