

March, 2015

Issue No. 14

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Regional Trainings Announced

April 17- San Antonio, TX

August 7- Plano, TX

October 16- Houston, TX

Save these training dates - 8 CE hrs. will be offered at each location. Watch your inbox for Constant Contact emails from APA. Check our [website](#) after March 1 for more details.

Welcome These New APA Members!

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

President's Welcome

The 2015 annual meeting and conference is now behind us. I want to especially thank the education committee for the excellent programs they put on. It takes considerable time and effort to make the conference a success. If you missed it, there may be some opportunity to catch some of the programs at the regional meetings. However, where possible, I strongly encourage you to always attend the annual meeting as it is a great opportunity to network with your peers. A big THANKS to all involved in making the conference a success. Now that the conference is over and I hope you enjoyed downtown Austin, I can let you know that we will be returning to the Marriott in Round Rock in 2016. Dates will be announced in the near future.

The theme this year is Moving Forward - Excellence in Access. It is my opinion that APA is on the brink of the reality of becoming a national organization, but also has the opportunity to have significant impact on accessibility in the built environment across the country. No doubt, it will take a lot of hard work by the board of directors, committees and members to happen. The board of directors will be taking a hard look at our efforts to become a strong national organization during our face to face meeting in March in Austin. We will, of course, continue to meet the needs of our RAS requirements here in Texas. Excellence in Access is pertinent to our membership. We, as APA members have opportunities to delve deeper into the standards and have far greater understanding of their meaning and application. The continuing education at the annual meeting and the regional meeting gives us the opportunity to learn more than what is taught at the basic state training.

David Dante
Houston, TX

Kim Hooker
Amarillo, TX

Jesus Lardizabal
Austin, TX

Gordon Love
San Marcos, TX

James Rickard
Austin, TX

John Rickard
Austin, TX

Michael Sheiren
San Marcos, TX

Have Technical Questions?

It is easy to do via the APA member-only [Forum!](#)

*Just log in and access your member profile.

*Under the Forums heading select Forum Memberships.

*Choose the forums and threads that interest you.

*You may opt-in for any or all discussions.

Sign up for [Job Opportunities](#) and [Member News!](#)

*Even if you have previously joined the Forum, and "opted in for all discussions", you must go back to you preferences and opt in for any new discussions.

Don't forget that we also have [FAQs](#) for members only!

Walter Qualls, Chair Technical Standards

Additionally, our understanding and expertise in the standards gives all of us the opportunity to expand our influence and services beyond the borders of Texas. I encourage each of you to be the best that you can be. The board will also be looking at how we can move plans forward to develop a national certification exam during our March board meeting.

Our legislative committee will be keeping a close eye on the Texas legislature for the next several months and will be prepared to pounce if necessary to protect our state program. It could take all of us to influence whatever might come up during the current legislative session. Perhaps you have heard the saying that none of us are safe while the legislature is in session.

With the election of Jack McClellan to Treasurer, an unexpired vacancy was created on the Board of Directors. I am pleased to announce that Leslie Marrero has stepped up to the plate and was appointed by the board to fill the unexpired vacancy for the coming year. Let Leslie know that you appreciate her willingness to step in. We have an additional new board member this year, Sharon Massey. As your president, I am excited to work with the current board and see what they will accomplish this year. All of the current board is extremely dedicated to the success of APA.

Wishing the best to each of you for a successful 2015. More to come as we move forward this year.

Carroll Lee Pruitt, FAIA, NCARB, APA
2015 APA President



Committees Need Volunteers

If you were not able to join us at the Annual meeting for committee sign-up it is not too late. All of the committees below

Your Scholarship Program - A chance to give back

Jim Boyce Memorial Scholarship was established by the Accessibility Professionals Association (APA), to honor and recognize our friend and colleague, Jim Boyce. [Click here](#) for applications, donations to Silent Auction and general donations.

[Jimmy Bell](#), 2015 JBMS Chair

[Our Website](#)

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[Sign up for membership today!](#)

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

APA Board of Director Elections - Results!

Meet your **2015 Board of Directors**

could use additional members. Feel free to contact any of the chairs below to discuss the committee goals and expectations. If you don't have time for a monthly committee meeting, but would be willing to do a specific task for APA, please contact Nina at ninapaquette@gmail.com. We have a number of tasks that wouldn't take much time.

Meet the **2015 Committee Chairs**

Communications - [Mark Morley](#)
Education & Events - [Jeromy Murphy](#)
Jim Boyce Scholarship - [Jimmy Bell](#)
Legislative & Legal - [Robert Ronson](#)
Membership & Marketing - [Tom Ellis](#)
Technical Standards - [Walter Qualls](#)

2015 Annual Conference Exhibitors & Sponsors

PLATINUM SPONSOR

EHP Consulting

Real Estate Environmental Services Consulting. Contact: Russell McMillan at rcm@ehpdallas.com or visit www.ehpdallas.com

GOLD SPONSORS

Adventure Playground Systems

Local Manufacturer specializing in the Design and Installation of Playground systems, Splash Pads, Shade Structures and Site Amenities. Certified Staff offers a turn-key solution to meet your Project needs! Contact: James Contreras at atjames@adventureplaysystems.com or visit www.adventureplaysystems.com

International Code Council (ICC)

ICC is an association dedicated to helping the building safety community and construction industry provide safe, sustainable and affordable construction through the development codes and standards used in the design, build and compliance process. Contact: Hamid Naderi at HNaderi@iccsafe.org or visit www.iccsafe.org

Turner Construction Company

Providing building services to clients who value diligence, resourcefulness and creativity in a partner. Contact: Josh Kubala at jkubala@tcco.com or visit www.turnerconstruction.com for more information.

Carroll Pruitt - President
Peter Grojean - President -
Elect
D. Clark Teel - Secretary
Jack McClellan - Treasurer
Robin Roberts - Board
Member
Sharon Massey - Board
Member
Leslie Marrero - Board
Member
Chris Schexnayder - Past
President, Ex-Officio

Vision Statement

Further develop a national association of professionals with knowledge and expertise in pursuit of compliance with accessibility codes and standards related to the built environment.

APA Mission

- Support membership needs and organizational growth at a national level.
- Enhance professional development including specialized and advanced certifications.
- Actively promote the services provided by our members.
- Hold our members to a high standard of professionalism and ethics.
- Facilitate consistency in the application of accessibility codes, rules and standards.
- Present a unified voice in our industry.

BRONZE SPONSORS

National ADA Symposium

The most comprehensive conference on the Americans with Disabilities Act, May 10-13 in Atlanta, Georgia. Contacts: Julie Brinkhoff at brinkhoffj@missouri.edu, Jim de Jong at dejongj@missouri.edu or visit www.adasymposium.org

2014 EXHIBITORS

Adventure Playground Systems - Gold Sponsor

Bobrick Washroom Equipment, Inc.

Bobrick is a 100+ year-old global washroom accessory and partition company headquartered in North Hollywood, CA with six manufacturing divisions across the United States and Canada and business operations that extend into 85 markets worldwide. A leader in product innovation and manufacturing, Bobrick prides itself as a company that delivers best-in-class products and service. For more information:email info@bobrick.com or visit www.bobrick.com

International Code Council (ICC) - Gold Sponsor

RAScal - GlenRidge Construction Services, LLC

RAScal is a software package that produces RAS reports, TDLR forms and client letters. GlenRidge Construction Services is pleased to introduce RAScal 2.1 which adds many new features requested by RAScal users. Contact: Glen Zoerner at gzoerner@yahoo.com or visit www.rascaltx.com.

Southwest ADA Center

Promote voluntary compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) by providing technical assistance, training and information. Contact: Marisa Demaya at mdemaya@bcm.edu or visit www.southwestada.org for more information.

Texas No Slip

Non-slip coatings. Contact: Mark Wood at texasnoslip@gmail.com or visit www.texasnoslip.com

TXRAS

TXRAS software is a complete TAS project management software for document preparation of plan reviews, inspection reports, and miscellaneous letters, forms and other documents for notices and project status reporting. Contacts: Sharlynn Keys at skeys@prs-sunset.reviews, Carroll Pruitt at cpruitt@pruittconsulting.com or visit www.grutcomputing.com/RAS.php

webuildfun, inc.

- Actively participate in the development, interpretation and adoption of accessibility codes, standards and regulations.
- Promote the value of certified accessibility specialists and consultants.

[CLICK HERE FOR PAST ANNUAL REPORTS](#)

* The APA Newsletter is provided to share general accessibility information and other resources that may be of interest to our members and constituents. While the APA Newsletter is published by the Accessibility Professionals Association, it is not intended to draw legal conclusions nor does it substitute the advice of an attorney. The APA Newsletter does not speak for and does not represent the U.S. Department of Justice interpretation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) nor the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations (TDLR) interpretation of the 2012 Texas Accessibility Standards (TAS).

Recreational playground equipment, park & site amenities. Contact: Josh Bailey at joshb@webuildfun.com or visit www.webuildfun.com

Thank You to our Silent Auction Donors

A Silent Auction is held each year at the APA Annual Conference. All proceeds from this Silent Auction, over \$2,500, and any additional monetary donations made throughout the year, are used to promote and award scholarship dollars to students. We honor Jim Boyce with this scholarship by providing financial assistance to college students who demonstrate a keen interest in accessibility.

Please Join us in thanking the 2015 donors

- APA Board Members
- APA Committee Chairs
- Kristi Avalos
- Jimmy Bell
- Lucia DeBauge-Harcum
- Tom Ellis
- Kim Goss
- Jeff Gutknecht
- Jay and Dee Heilman
- William & Shirley Knox
- Sharon Krueger
- CC Lee
- Jeromy Murphy
- Hamid Naderi
- Carroll Pruitt
- John Torkelson

APA is Proud of its Diversity



APA is proud of its diversity, including the great percentage of women professionals that are an important part of our organization. Currently APA is represented by 25% women, including many who own their own business. Pictured here are just some of our group - those who attended the recent 2015 APA Conference. [Join us today!](#)

News from the Governor's Office

The [ADA25 Legacy Bus Tour](#) will be making several stops in Central Texas in early March. Details are still in the works, but mark your calendar for several stops Sunday, March 1, through Tuesday, March 3 in Hutto and Austin (including stops at the Texas State Independent Living Centers Conference, the Jewish Community Center, Disability Rights Texas and a big celebration at the Bob Bullock Museum). For a full schedule of stops, visit the [TXSILC Texas ADA25 website](#).

March 3 at the Bob Bullock State History Museum will provide an opportunity to acknowledge Texas Trail Blazers and to see historical photos from the ADA movement. **Lex Frieden**, one of the architects of the ADA, will be the keynote speaker and will share photos, videos and stories from the movement that led up to the passing of the ADA. To attend the **FREE luncheon ceremony at the Bob Bullock on Tuesday, March 3, 11:00am - 1:00pm**, please RSVP at <https://www.facebook.com/ADA25Texas>.

Jo Virgil,
Texas Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities
jo.virgil@gov.texas.gov

Barbara Jordan Media Awards

The Barbara Jordan Media Awards ceremony will take place on **Saturday, April 18, 6:00pm, on the campus of UT Austin.**

See the winners at <http://gov.texas.gov/disabilities>