

March, 2018

Issue No. 26

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Welcome These New APA Members!

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

[Jay Etheredge](#)
Katy, TX

[Keith Fey](#)
Helotes, TX

[Laura Grace](#)
Houston, TX

From your APA President - APA Vision 2025

This past year has been one of continued efforts on the part of our President, Board, and Committee Members to move APA from a leadership position in ADA training in Texas to a leadership position throughout the nation. Our last two APA presidents have laid the groundwork through discussions with other accessibility organizations. Numerous members have stepped up to participate in education initiatives and the creation of new tests for additional specialist designations. Many others have accepted rolls in helping with the day-to-day operations of APA.

This year, we hope to accelerate the growth of APA as the lead educational organization teaching and testing relative to the ADA Standards. Additionally, new initiatives will offer us an opportunity to fund our efforts toward offering a true nationwide certification of accessibility professionals.

There was a time when just a few recognized the potential value of a such an organization for Registered Accessibility Specialists in Texas. Those Charter Members have seen the old TRASA organization morph into the Accessibility Professionals Association under the leadership of many dedicated and unselfish volunteers. It is my hope that this year will be the break-out year for APA to plan for a future of growth and development beyond the imagination of those early Charter Members. APA should be the most recognized organization for accessibility training. We should become the hub for accessibility resources. We should establish firm long-term relationships with other accessibility organizations that concentrate on complimentary areas of interest. With planned growth and new initiatives, we can ultimately provide low or no fee membership opportunities. To this end, we will plan goals for 2025, and we will develop strategies to reach those goals.

At this critical juncture, members this year will have the opportunity to be a "Second Wave" of Charter Members. As we continue to draw members from across the nation, we need the support of both the established membership and those new to APA. I have seen how the involvement of those beyond our state have enriched the quality of programs and inspired all of

Gina Hilberry
Saint Louis, MO

P. Kyle Holloway
Washougal, WA

William Ince
Luling, TX

Krista Jacobson
Houston, TX

Joshua Kuphal
Austin, TX

Matthew Lechser
St. Louis, MO

Mary Jean McCarthy-Tapp
Golden, CO

Karin Morris
Bend, OR

Larry Nuzum
Tampa, FL

Claudia Ramos
Houston, TX

Isaiah Saenz
McAllen, TX

Jim Safranek
Seattle, WA

Dean Shinault
Garland, TX

Stadina Shinault
Garland, TX

Juanita Webber
Austin, TX

Have ADA, FHA, TAS or other Technical Questions?

It is easy to ask 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 your preferences and opt in for any new

us to expand our horizons.

All of us who work in this industry have a right to take pride in the positive effect we have had in changing the built environment to serve not only disabled individuals, but also the elderly, caretakers, and children. I urge you to take a role in the "Second Wave" of Charter Members. The rewards of active participation in this endeavor are far greater than the time invested. Knowledge is Power, and APA can make YOU a more powerful player in the world of accessibility.

Jack McClellan, 2018 APA President

Thank you to the 2018 Annual Conference Exhibitors & Sponsors!

The full list of exhibitors and sponsors is [at the bottom](#) of this newsletter. To view the list with live links, please, visit our [website](#).

Members - Do you know a student who meets the criteria for the Jim Boyce Scholarship?

Now a nationwide scholarship! The deadline is March 31st so please let any students know that it is available. As a member, feel free to write a reference letter on the students behalf. All [criteria](#), [guidelines](#) and an [application form](#) are on our [APA website](#).

2018 Annual Conference Recap and some Photos

The APA Conference was another successful training and networking event! With approximately 150 in attendance, everyone was eligible to get all their required continuing education for 2018. Additionally exhibitors offered job opportunities, product and service offerings. The Jim Boyce Scholarship silent auction brought in over \$3,000 dollars, committees were formed and we participated in a wonderful memorial to George Ferrie, Jim Boyce and other APA members who have passed.

discussions.

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

Builders, Architects, City Planners, etc. - Do you need to Hire an Accessibility Specialist?

Looking for a specialist to help with planning your building designs and/or inspections? If so, we have the expertise you need on our website. [Check Hire A Specialist for a complete directory](#) by expertise, name or location.

APA Needs You!

It is never too late to help an APA committee - either as a member or doing a special one-time task. Members may see Committee minutes [here](#). Contact anyone below to discuss how you can help:

Communications

- [Mark Morley](#)

Education & Events

- [Kim Goss](#) and [Jim Terry](#)

Jim Boyce Scholarship

- [Tanya Allen](#)

Legislative & Legal

- [Peter Grojean](#) and [Carroll Pruitt](#)

Membership

- [Marcela Abadi Rhoads](#)

Technical Standards

- [Kim Hooker](#)

Marketing

- [Donald Bloom](#)

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.



Thank you to all 2017 Committee Chairs!



Meet your new Board of Directors! (See list on the left of this newsletter.)

SAVE THIS DATE!

Next APA Annual Conference & Expo
Round Rock TX - near Austin
January 30-February 1, 2019

APA Needs Your Voice - Join a Committee!

See a list of chairs to contact on the left side of this newsletter.


APA Marketing Task Force:

We are looking for feedback from those national members who live and work outside of Texas in order to expand our reach and provide members with more opportunities.

APA Communication Committee:

The Communications Committee is responsible for the quarterly APA newsletter and the oversight of all APA communication tools. Acting as gatekeeper, we support APA committees with communications and use volunteer

[Our Website](#)

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View our profile on 

Join Our Mailing List!

[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 Directors

Meet this year's **Board of Directors**. Members may see all Board minutes [here](#).

[Jack McClellan](#): President
[Sharon Woodmore](#): President-Elect
[Tom Ellis](#): Secretary
[Clark Teel](#): Treasurer
[Stacey Brewer](#): Board Member
[Robin Roberts](#): Board Member
[Paul Glenn](#): Board Member
[Carroll Pruitt](#): Past President

Vision Statement

A national Association of professionals with knowledge and expertise in pursuit of compliance with accessibility regulations related to the built and physical environment.

APA Mission

[CLICK HERE FOR PAST ANNUAL REPORTS](#)

* The APA Newsletter is provided to share general accessibility information and other resources that

proffers to review all internal and external written material published or sent out on behalf of the Association.

APA Membership Committee:

The Membership Committee is responsible for the plans and actions used to COMMUNICATE with and RETAIN current Members, WELCOME new members, RE-CONNECT with dropped members and RECRUIT potential new members. Additionally we want to PROMOTE MEMBERS and the APA to the building and accessibility industry.

APA Technical Standards Committee:

The Technical Standards Committee provides a technical resource library (FAQs) and a FORUM for members to get technical clarification on ADA and other standards. We give input on regulations affecting the industry by drafting position papers for the APA BOD to review, when needed. We provide a Technical session (Tech Talks) at the Annual Conference and plan to provide webinars for members.

APA Exhibitor/Sponsor Committee:

The Exhibitors/Sponsors Committee is formed to bring in exhibitors that can provide our Conference Attendees with exposure to new products, tools and concepts, as well as bring revenue to APA via exhibitor and sponsor fees.

APA Education and Events Committee:

The Education and Events Committee is responsible for continuing education programs throughout the year in addition to programs at the annual conference as well as regional training.

APA Legislative & Legal Committee:

The Legislative and Legal Committee keeps a watch on legislative activity and takes action when needed.

APA Jim Boyce Memorial Scholarship Committee:

Since 2010, APA has awarded select design students The Jim Boyce Memorial Scholarship for their dedication and interest in promoting accessibility in their future careers. The committee revises and mails out application materials, awards scholarship(s) and raises funds each year.

APA Newsletter now accepting advertisers!

If you know a vendor who might be interested in advertising in this newsletter or on our APA website - have them contact ninapaquette@gmail.com. This ad is just \$50 per issue.

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 for 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).

Additionally, we provide space for advertisers but we do not claim any knowledge of or approval of advertisers products or services.

This Year's APA Member Logo will be available for your use on business materials beginning January 2.

How to Increase your business? Update your Profile!

Member Referral Requests are Increasing!

"I am receiving 4-6 inquiries a week asking how to find a RAS and or a Consultant on Accessibility" noted Shirley Knox, Executive Director of APA. "I send everyone to our website's member directory to do a search by City or by Skill" So, it's time to update your profile, ADD a picture, and market yourself! "

NOTE: Interested parties looking to hire a Specialist, will NOT be able to find you unless you have updated all your "interests".

Process to update your Profile:

- * Login
- * Click on your name in the top right corner
- * Click on Profile
- * Click on Interest Tab
- * Check all items that apply to your services
- * Hit the save button
- * Do a few sample searches under the Membership Directory tab and see if your Profile comes up as you would expect it to.

Still unsure of what to do? [Watch this helpful video.](#)

APA is an Approved* Provider for AIA, ICC and TDLR!



****APA is a TDLR Provider (#1521), AIA/CES Provider (#G583), ICC Preferred Provider (#1321) and provides selected courses which apply toward ACTCP certification, APA also awards an APA-ADA Specialist Designation, APA Assembly Designation and Accessibility Standards completion certificate, when all criteria are met***

Proofers Wanted!

The Communications Committee is always seeking proofreaders for the APA newsletter and other APA communications. If you are knowledgeable, talented, and interested in grammar, spelling, sentence structure, etc., please contact [Nina Paquette](#) .

We Welcome Members to Submit Articles

Include articles on topics of interest to your readers, relevant news and events. If you find an interesting article on the Web, you can easily ask the author's permission to summarize the article and link to it from your newsletter. Inserting a link in your article lets you track which topics attract the most interest.

Thank you to our 2018 Sponsors and Exhibitors

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EHP CONSULTING, L.L.C. Real Estate Environmental Consulting Services: Supporting a wide range of product areas including asbestos, lead-based paint, mold, indoor air quality, and various levels of soil/groundwater assessment and/or remediation.

Contact: Bryan Paxton
bkp@ehpdallas.com, www.ehpdallas.com

★ **LIFT-U*** Is unique in the accessibility equipment industry. Instead of designing standard products and having the customer alter his design to accommodate the standard product; LIFT-U designs each product to meet the customer's requirements. This approach gives the customer the freedom to optimize his design and provide the required accessibility. Often, this approach allows architects to provide accessibility where it was not thought to be possible.

Contact: Bill East
billeast@hoganmfg.com, www.lift-u.com

★ **SMARTTOOL™** With accuracy to hundredths of a degree, SmartTool Digital Levels are the single smartest choice for projects that live or die by precision. Our

custom patented sensor technology sets these levels apart from the rest, making them the leader in the digital level and protractor category for more than 25 years. All SmartTool sensor technology is produced in our Oklahoma City, OK headquarters

Contact: Tom Creighton, tom.creighton@mdteam.com, www.mdteam.com/our-business-units

TAS COMPLIANCE LLC Accessibility Specialist providing ADA Standards compliance services; Assessments for existing facilities, Plan Reviews and Inspections. Licensed in Texas (RAS 389 since 2003) and California (CAsp 525, since 2013).

Contact: Paul Glenn
paul@tascompliance.com, www.tascompliance.com

TOM ELLIS, RAS Accessibility Specialist providing ADA Standards compliance services; Assessments for existing facilities, Plan Reviews and Inspections. Licensed in Texas (RAS 085)

Contact: Tom Ellis
tomellis1@me.com

GOLD SPONSORS

★ **ACCESSABILITY™ BY WIKK** Wikk is the leader in innovative design and fabrication of Knowing Act switches and custom mounting solutions. Our products either meet or exceed the most stringent of state and federal requirements. Our INGRESS® first patented over 15 years ago is revered as the first activation switch of Universal Design. Manufactured in the USA, Wikk AccessAbility™ switches are compatible with all manufacturers' brands of automatic pedestrian door operators, elevator hall stations and lifts. Our custom and stock bollard products provide accessible mounting solutions for most any combination of devices needed for activation, fire, communication and access control.

Contact: Kyle Holloway
Kyle@wikk.com, www.wikk.com

★ **INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL (ICC)** is a member-focused association. It is dedicated to developing model codes and standards used in the design, build and compliance process to construct safe, sustainable, affordable and resilient structures. Most U.S. communities and many global markets choose the International Codes.

Contact: Hamid Naderi
HNaderi@iccsafe.org, www.iccsafe.org

★ **PRECISION SAFE SIDEWALKS, LLC*** provides sidewalk issue surveying services as well as ADA compliant uneven sidewalk repair services with its proprietary equipment and methodology.

Contact: Dave Lardner
dave@safesidewalks.com, www.safesidewalks.com

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TURNER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY is a North American based international construction services company. Founded in 1902, Turner first made its mark buildings to clients. The company continues to embrace emerging technologies and offers an increasingly diverse set of services.

on the industry pioneering the use of steel-reinforced concrete for general building, which enabled the company to deliver safer, stronger, and more efficient

Contact: Brenda Premenko
bpremenko@tcco.com, www.turnerconstruction.com

EXHIBITORS

ACCESSOLOGY TOO, LLC Accessology works with Title II entities to ensure they are in strict and full compliance with all of the Title I and Title II requirements initiated by the Department of Justice. We work in all 50 states and are looking for qualified data collectors to help with the assessment of buildings and/or parks using our software. This can be on a contract basis or on a full time basis depending on your situation. We also have opportunities for RAS work in the more remote areas of Texas. If you might be interested, please stop by our booth sometime during the Exhibit hours and sign up.

Contact: Kristi J. Avalos
kjavalos@accessology.com, www.accessology.com

ADA COORDINATOR TRAINING CERTIFICATION PROGRAM (ACTCP) The ACTCP is a unique program designed to meet the training and professional

needs of ADA Coordinators. Training available at the National ADA Symposium, June 17-20, 2018, Pittsburgh, PA.

Contact: Mike Edwards
edwardsmic@missouri.edu, www.adacoordinator.org

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