

September, 2016

Issue No. 20

## In This Issue

[Meet our new advertiser](#)

[Welcome New Members](#)

[Have Technical Questions?](#)

[Do You Want to Hire a Specialist?](#)

[APA Committees Need You  
APA Scholarship Program](#)

[Your APA Board](#)

[Volunteer to Meet with Legislators](#)

[Re-writing the Texas RAS Procedures](#)

[Upcoming regional trainings](#)

[2016 Jim Boyce Scholarship Fund](#)

[Advertise in the newsletter!](#)

[Update your profile!](#)

[2016 APA Member Logo](#)

[APA now a Preferred Provider for ICC, AIA and TDLR!](#)

[Proofers Wanted!](#)

[Thank you to our Exhibitors and Sponsors](#)

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## News from your APA President

The dog days of summer are almost over, but your board, committees and staff have all been working to improve and expand the benefits of APA membership.

As I have mentioned in previous communiques, several APA Board members have been talking with TDLR about the current Architectural Barriers Administrative Rules and RAS Procedures. We have been told that proposed changes to the RAS Procedures are forthcoming, though we have not yet seen those proposed changes. In anticipation of these proposed changes we are forming an ad hoc committee to work together to present a united voice for any changes proposed by TDLR. I fully appreciate that any changes to the Rules and RAS Procedures affects how RASs conduct business, so input from our membership is critical in this effort.

The 2017 Annual meeting is coming together and promises to be great! We will have available training sessions on accessible housing and expert witness services. We will also be providing the APA-ADA Specialist training and exam again. The exam is being vetted by the Technical Standards committee to improve the quality of the examination. Also new to the event will be training on the Technical Standards - Chapters 1 through 10. This is a first for APA but something that is needed in order to reach potential non RAS members. The board has approved allowing individuals who wish to take the Standards training - and who pass the Standards exam - to enroll in the APA-ADA Specialist program. This gives people like ADA Coordinators, facility managers, property managers, etc., an opportunity to become APA-ADA Specialists (and APA members!).

Please feel free to contact me with any comments and/or suggestions for the improvement of APA. This is your Association.

[Peter Grojean](#), 2016 APA President

**Advertisement  
here?  
If so, please  
contact us.**

**Welcome These  
New APA Members!**

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

Tabb W Hendrick  
*Kennedale, TX*

Thomas J Karstetter  
*Tijeras, NM*

Paul Klein  
*Marysville, CA*

**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 discussions.

Don't forget that we also have FAQs for members only!  
Walter Qualls, Chair Technical Standards

**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

**APA is looking for Texas Member volunteers to visit legislators**

Next year's APA meeting will take place during the session of the Texas Legislature. The Legal & Legislative committee is looking for volunteers to visit their respective legislators to let them know that we are available to answer their questions about accessibility concerns if they arise during the session. To participate in the committee task force, please let us know by responding to [executivedirector@accessibilityprofessionals.org](mailto:executivedirector@accessibilityprofessionals.org).

Carroll Pruitt, APA President Elect

**Re-writing the Texas RAS Procedures**

APA Texas Members - Your Legislative and Legal Committee is working on re-writing the Texas RAS Procedures or, if new procedures are proposed soon by TDLR, working with TDLR/AP and responding to the proposed changes. If you are interested in working with the committee on this effort, please let us know. Or, if you have specific concerns or recommended changes you can submit those to us for consideration.

If you have particular concerns or recommended changes for the task forces review, please submit them to us via the email below. You may also participate in the committee task force by contacting us at [executivedirector@accessibilityprofessionals.org](mailto:executivedirector@accessibilityprofessionals.org)

Peter Grojean,  
APA President

**Register for the next regional training!**

APA will be hosting a regional training opportunity on October 21, 2016 - Houston, TX. Earn your required eight hours of RAS continuing education in-person.

**Save this date for future training:**

APA Annual Conference & Expo  
Feb 1-3, 2017, Marriott North, in Round Rock, TX - near Austin

The Austin Marriott North is now open for room reservations.

Kim Goss and Jim Terry, Education & Events Chair

**2016 Jim Boyce Scholarship Fund Campaign**

Good news! We have received over \$2,500 in donations to date. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation and help us reach our goal for this year,

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

- [Jimmy Bell](#)

Legislative & Legal

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

[Pruitt](#)

Membership & Marketing

- [Jessica Hamm](#)

Technical Standards


- [Walter Qualls](#)

## 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](#)

 Like us on Facebook

View our profile on [LinkedIn](#)

please [click here](#) today!

**Donate to YOUR APA Scholarship Fund**

Please consider a donation to the Jim Boyce Memorial Scholarship. Help us reach our goal for this year.

Goal reached!



\$5,000  
\$4,500  
\$4,000  
\$3,500  
\$3,000  
\$2,500  
\$2,000  
\$1,500  
\$1,000  
\$500

[Jimmy Bell](#), JBMS Chairperson

## APA Newsletter now accepting advertisers!

Notice our new AD in the left side column by [Elegant Insights](#) [Braille Creations](#). If you know a vendor who might be interested in a similar AD have them contact [ninapaquette@gmail.com](mailto:ninapaquette@gmail.com). This AD is just \$50 per issue in our 2016 pilot year.

[Mark Morley](#), Communications Chair

## How to Increase your business? Update your Profile!

If you have not yet done so, I encourage everyone to take a few minutes to update your membership profile. You will notice a new selection, "Interest" has been added. Here you will be able to specify your areas of specialty, industry, service area, and other areas which will allow your professional accomplishments to stand out. This will provide more detailed information to individuals searching to "Hire a Professional" or search the "Member Directory." So please take the time to update your information. It will be well worth your while!

**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.

[Jessica Hamm](#), Chair Membership & Marketing Committee

**Your APA 2016 Member Logo will be available for your use on business materials on January 1, 2016, or when you renew in 2016.**

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](mailto:ninapaquette@gmail.com)

## APA Board of Directors

Meet your **2016 Board of Directors**. Members may see all Board minutes [here](#).

[Peter Grojean](#) - President  
[Carroll Pruitt](#) - President-Elect  
[Tom Ellis](#) - Secretary  
[Jack McClellan](#) - Treasurer  
[Jimmy Bell](#) - Board Member  
[Sharon Massey](#) - Board Member  
[Ken Otten](#) - Board Member

## 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

- Support membership needs and organizational growth
- 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 regulations
- Present a unified voice in our industry
- Actively participate in the development, interpretation and adoption of accessibility

**APA is now a Preferred Provider for ICC - as well as AIA and TDLR!**



## Proofers Wanted!

The Communications Committee is 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](#) or Communications Chair, [Mark Morley](#). Thank you for your consideration.

**Thank you to these Exhibitors and Sponsors from our January 2016 Annual Conference & Expo!**

### PLATINUM SPONSOR

**EHP** - 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 at [bkp@ehpdallas.com](mailto:bkp@ehpdallas.com) or visit [www.ehpdallas.com](http://www.ehpdallas.com)

### GOLD SPONSORS

**International Code Council (ICC)** - The International Code Council 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. communicate and many global markets choose the International Codes. Contact: Hamid Naderi at [HNaderi@iccsafe.org](mailto:HNaderi@iccsafe.org) or visit [www.iccsafe.org](http://www.iccsafe.org)

**sComm** - sComm is the engineer and manufacturer of Ubiduo. Ubiduo is a communication device that enables a deaf and hearing person to communicate with each other without barriers. Contact: Jason Curry at [Jason@sComm.com](mailto:Jason@sComm.com) or visit [www.scomm.com](http://www.scomm.com)

### BRONZE SPONSOR

#### 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. Contact: Mike Edwards at [edwardsmic@missouri.edu](mailto:edwardsmic@missouri.edu) or visit [www.adacoordinator.org](http://www.adacoordinator.org)



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 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.

**American Construction Inspectors Association (ACIA) -**  
The ACIA is a Non-Profit membership organization that offers educational programming for construction inspectors and other construction professionals, and certification of inspectors in numerous areas including ADA Compliance inspection. Contact: Dale Lacasella at [executivedirector@acia.com](mailto:executivedirector@acia.com) or visit [www.acia.com](http://www.acia.com)

**Bohdee LLC -** At Bohdee we specialize in providing Bluebeam Revu PDF software online. Our competitive discounts, excellent service, and technical expertise have earned us a Gold Partner status from Bluebeam. Bluebeam Revu is the industry standard PDF creation, markup, editing and collaboration technology that can help make your Plan Reviews paperless. Contact: Jack Hartnett at [sales@bohdee.com](mailto:sales@bohdee.com) or visit [www.bohdee.com](http://www.bohdee.com)

**Ponte Giulio USA -** Ponte Giulio's mission is "solutions for safe bathrooms". We provide safe, warm, welcoming products that bring any bathroom project to life. Our products provide a superior grip, are soft and warm to the touch, easy to install, non-institutional in appearance, antimicrobial and environmentally friendly. From the smallest residential need to the largest commercial project we can provide products that fit any décor. Contact: Alicia Davidson at [adavidson-pg@att.net](mailto:adavidson-pg@att.net) or visit [www.pontegiuliousa.com](http://www.pontegiuliousa.com)

**Turner Construction Company -** Providing building services to clients who value diligence, resourcefulness and creativity in a partner. Contact: Jordana Miiller at [jmiiller@tcco.com](mailto:jmiiller@tcco.com) or visit [www.turnerconstruction.com](http://www.turnerconstruction.com)

## 2016 EXHIBITORS

**Cole -** Cole is a national, multi-disciplined engineering, planning, survey and landscape architecture firm with a specialized team focused on ADA Self Evaluation & Transition Planning for public agencies of all sizes. Cole is known nationally for sound ADA guidance, exclusive technologies and turn-key solutions that streamline the process for efficiency, effectiveness and long-term manageability to pragmatically improve access. Contact: Belinda Banger at [bbanger@colestl.com](mailto:bbanger@colestl.com) or visit [www.colestl.com](http://www.colestl.com)

**CORADA, Powered by Evan Terry Associates -** CORADA is the Comprehensive Online Resource for the ADA, a website built to assist professionals working in ADA and access-related fields find the information they need, so that they will be more effective and efficient in their work. Corada offers a massive online database that connects ADA requirements and official technical assistance materials developed by the Department of Justice, the Department of Transportation, and the Access Board, to other relevant information such as products, how-to videos, expert opinions, design ideas, possible solutions, training opportunities, and upcoming events. Contact: Ann Marie Leveille at [admin@corada.com](mailto:admin@corada.com) or visit [www.corada.com](http://www.corada.com)

**International Code Council (ICC) -** The International Code Council 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 at [HNaderi@iccsafe.org](mailto:HNaderi@iccsafe.org) or visit [www.iccsafe.org](http://www.iccsafe.org)

**Precision Safe Sidewalks, LLC -** 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 at [dave@safesidewalks.com](mailto:dave@safesidewalks.com) or visit [www.safesidewalks.com](http://www.safesidewalks.com)

**sComm** - sComm is the engineer and manufacturer of Ubiduo. Ubiduo is a communication device that enables a deaf and hearing person to communicate with each other without barriers. Contact: Jason Curry at [Jason@sComm.com](mailto:Jason@sComm.com) or visit [www.scomm.com](http://www.scomm.com)

**Southwest ADA Center** - The Southwest ADA Center provides resources, information and training to businesses, employers, government agencies and consumers regarding their rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Contact: Marisa Demaya at [mdemaya@bcm.edu](mailto:mdemaya@bcm.edu) or visit [www.southwestada.org](http://www.southwestada.org)