

March 2020

Issue No. 32

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## Advertise with APA!

If you know a company that might be interested in advertising in this newsletter or on our website - have them [contact APA](#).

## From Your APA President

I am honored to be the new President of APA. I want to again thank our 2019 president Sharon Woodmore, everyone at Knox Wollard, and everyone who has ever volunteered their time in bringing this organization to the point we are at today. The theme for this year is "Aim High, Stay on Point."

I am amazed at the things APA has accomplished, and excited about the things which are on the horizon for us. We began as an organization whose name said it all.... We were the Texas Registered Accessibility Specialists Association. One of the first goals of our group was to come together and present a unified voice in communicating with the State of Texas. Another was to provide the continuing education necessary for the State's licensing program. There were probably other goals along those lines but over time, more and more of us recognized that our group had the potential to become a national organization, and that we could accomplish even greater things than were originally envisioned.

This year at our conference we had attendees from Oklahoma, Missouri, Tennessee, the state of Washington, Colorado, Maryland, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, New Mexico, Alabama, Alaska, California, Oregon, Wisconsin, Georgia, and of course Texas.

A lot has been done and moving forward into the next year we will continue to grow as a national organization. In 2019, in addition to providing evermore excellent training opportunities at our annual conference and at our regional trainings, we provided a day-long training in August in Miami, Florida, which was very successful with over 90 people in attendance. Two more trainings are being planned for Florida in 2020. People from other parts of the country are beginning to show an interest and understand the need for the type of training we offer. There have been discussions regarding starting a chapter with a group from Georgia, as well as a group from Seattle, Washington.

We are also taking aim at providing a national

## **Builders, Architects, City Planners: 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.

## **If you are a current member, this year's APA Member Logo is available for your use.**

## **In Partnership with the International Code Council (ICC)**

And sponsored by our Technical Standards Committee.

[Click here](#) to read "Assisted Toileting and Bathing Options."

## **ADA Tips and News**

Check out this interesting article: "[Navigating Disability in the Kitchen Is All about Finding the Right Adaptations.](#)"

Provided by [Charlie Watt](#), Communications Committee

## **ADA Relevant Articles from an APA Member Attorney**

[Read here](#) about **ADA Compliance as a Nondelegable Duty.**

By [William Goren](#), APA GA Chapter initiative

## **Welcome Our New Members!**

certification opportunity for individuals. While initially we were looking into developing a product certification program, we have put that on the back burner so that we can set up a certification body and develop a process by which we can offer people a legitimate credential. For many years now we have been offering specialist exams and we have learned a great deal about the development and administration of those exams. This step will take us to the next level and has the potential to lead us to other possibilities in the certification arena.

There are big and exciting things on the horizon for APA but we must continue to focus on the steps in front of us. We must stay on point.

I look forward to serving as your 2020 president and I encourage each of you to become involved with a committee. By being involved you will be amazed at the skills of the people you meet and build a network of lifelong friends and mentors in this field.

Thank you,  
[Robin Roberts](#)  
2020 APA President

## **Upcoming Training Events**

### **Schertz - San Antonio, Texas**

March 27, 2020

- [Register here](#) for in-person attendance.
- [Register here](#) for webinar attendance.

### **Doral (Miami Area), Florida**

June 26, 2020

- [Register here](#).

### **Plano, Texas**

August 7, 2020

- [Register here](#) for in-person attendance.
- [Register here](#) for webinar attendance.

Orlando, Florida  
TBA

## **Well, the 2020 Annual APA Conference has come and gone. What a great time it was!**

Our keynote speaker, Bill Botten from the US Access Board, delivered quite a wonderful presentation about how accessibility, and the lack thereof, has affected him personally. Bill also had two breakout sessions where he presented on various aspects of recreational facilities.

[Bill Goren](#) had a couple of presentations about the legal

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

[Greg Allwine](#)  
Seattle, WA

[Eric Bell](#)  
Tucson, AZ

[Steven Cain](#)  
Fishers, IN

[Debra Day](#)  
Canyon Lake, TX

[Robert Fine](#)  
Miami, FL

[William Hecker Jr.](#)  
Birmingham, AL

[Richard Hinrichs](#)  
Fairhope, AL

[Jillian Infurchia](#)  
Austin, TX

[Lisa Kennedy](#)  
Franklin, WI

[Mark Mazz](#)  
Hyattsville, MD

[Marsha Mazz](#)  
Hyattsville, MD

[Jonathan Mueller](#)  
Seattle, WA

[Lori Murphy](#)  
Houston, TX

[Abril Parra](#)  
El Paso, TX

[Dennis Peterson](#)  
Saint Louis, MO

[Ross Prieto](#)  
Surfside, FL

[Sharon Roberts](#)  
Tyler, TX

[Mark Robinson](#)  
Austin, TX

[Emily Rozypal](#)  
Corpus Christi, TX

[Bradford Russell](#)  
Richardson, TX

[Sherry Santee](#)  
Tucson, AZ

aspects of accessibility, from serial plaintiffs to internet communications. [Jim Terry](#) also had multiple presentations covering construction tolerances and accessibility for the hospitality industry. We were also fortunate to have Marsha Godeaux from the TDLR Architectural Barriers (AB) Department discussing some of the updates to the TABS program, new laws and a Q&A about various topics as the AB tech interpret the Texas Accessibility Standards. Time and space do not permit me to list all who presented.

However, this isn't just about Texas anymore. Although we continue to have a large representation from Texas, attendees came from 17 different states - from Florida to Alaska, from California to Tennessee - and members in seven more states. This is truly becoming a national organization and a national event.

But, it wasn't all work and no play. On Thursday evening we teamed up in groups of two to play Kahoot! And it was... a hoot! This game included trivia about the accessibility standards, the presentations during the prior days, and some general interest questions as well. (Do you know how many children the little old lady who lived in a shoe had?)

We're already gearing up for next year's conference, which we hope will be even better. But, in the interim, don't miss out on opportunities for continuing education at our regional events in Schertz in March and Plano in August. There's also training being put together by the Florida chapter of APA. Check the website for details.

A personal thanks to everyone who helped on the conference this year, especially staff who always do the heavy lifting. We also have a few special people on our committee who contribute in big ways; so, thank you. If you're curious about that, we can always use more people on the committee.

[Gene Boecker](#)

Education and Events Committee Chair

**Thank you to all our 2020 exhibitors and sponsors!**

#### **PLATINUM SPONSOR**

[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

Sarah Strauch  
Denver, CO

Gerald Ward  
Colleyville, 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 discussions.

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

## APA Needs You!

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

Communications

- [Maggie McCarthy](#)

Education & Events

- [Gene Boecker](#)

Jim Boyce Scholarship

- [Tanya Allen](#)

Legislative & Legal

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

Membership

- [Iliana Diaz](#)

Technical Standards

- [Kim Hooker](#)

Exhibitor/Sponsors

- [Tom Ellis](#)

Expansion

- [Jack McClellan](#)

Florida Chapter

- [Diana Ibarra](#) and [Jeff Yanke](#)

our Oklahoma City headquarters.

Contact: [Kurt Primuth](#)

## GOLD SPONSOR

[International Code Council](#) (ICC) is a member-focused association 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](#)

## BRONZE SPONSOR

[ADA Sign Depot](#) is a trusted Source for American Made ADA Compliant Signs, Handicap Parking Signs, and Truncated Domes Shipped nationwide. ADA Sign Depot manufactures and distributes ADA signage and ADA products in compliance with: the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA), the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices MUTCD, the United States Access Board (ADAAG), as well as California's Title 24 and AB 1732 regulations.

Contact: [David Boyne](#)

[MobilityWorks](#) is a national chain of wheelchair accessible van providers - serving the disabled community with wheelchair accessible minivans, full-size vans with lifts and commercial fleet vehicles. Thousands of individuals and business clients each year are impacted by the products and services they provide.

Contact: [Daniel Albrecht](#)

## EXHIBITORS

[Corada, powered by Evan Terry Associates,](#)

provides accessibility information, tools, and solutions that enable professionals and organizations with the ability to provide exceptional services to everyone. Their ADA One tool provides a streamlined process to identify ADA compliance gaps and a thorough self evaluation. Corada's ADA Product Certification is the first and only certification for accessible products.

Contact: [Harold Carlisle](#)

[Don't DisMyAbilities, Inc.](#) (DDMA, Inc.) is a non-profit organization that develops and employs strategies aimed at addressing barriers to accessibility in communities via outreach, education, advocacy, and ADA-related action in order to make lasting impacts in the lives of individuals with disabilities, their families, and the neighborhoods in which they live.

Contact: [Robin Petty](#)

[International Code Council \(ICC\)](#)

[Smarttool](#)

## 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.

## APA Board of Directors

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

[Robin Roberts](#): President  
[Robert Ronson](#): President-Elect  
[Meghan Simecek](#): Secretary  
[Clark Teel](#): Treasurer  
[Stacey Brewer](#): Board Member  
[Mork Morley](#): Board Member  
[John Torkelson](#): Board Member  
[Sharon Woodmore](#): Past President

## Learn More about Us!

### About Us

### Vision and Mission

### APA Annual Reports

### History

### Past Board Members

\* 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

[The Southwest ADA Center](#) is one of ten centers across the U.S. that serves a wide range of audiences who are interested in or impacted by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and related laws. The centers provide information to employers, businesses, government agencies, schools and people with disabilities. Expert staff members are available to provide training, information and publications and respond inquiries via the toll free hotline at 800-949-4232!

Contact: [Marisa Demaya](#)

[TAVCO](#) is a premier partner of wide-format printing equipment, supplies, and software solutions from Canon, Océ, Contex, Colortrac, and Bluebeam Revu. With the Bluebeam Revu PDF Workflow Software, learn how to maximize your wide-format productivity and efficiency through powerfully dynamic PDF files. Exhibit will include software demonstrations and Q&A.

Contact: [Kevin Vaughan](#)

[Trileaf Corporation](#) is an NCARB certified professional design firm that provides "Best in Class" right-fit, high-volume, turn-key architectural solutions for any built environment. Trileaf can also assist those looking to modify existing spaces to meet accessibility standards.

Contact: [Dennis Peterson](#)

## Move into the Spotlight and Be Featured on our Homepage!

Every month we're randomly selecting members to be featured on the APA homepage. Consider 2020 as the time to cultivate connections and increase your project lead opportunities!

Take advantage of this membership benefit by updating your profile so that it includes a headshot and a description (about 200 words) of you and your services. To update your profile, click on your name in the top right corner of the website once you're logged in. Be sure to mark all states you serve so that people looking to hire a specialist can find you. You must have a photo and bio in order to be considered for the Member Spotlight.

## Universal Design Reduces Social Isolation

Universal Design is a way to connect people of all age groups by allowing them easy access to all public



(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.

If you have any articles for our next newsletter please submit your articles to [Camille North](#), APA Communications Director.

## 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](#).

spaces. In 2010, the AARP did a study on loneliness and discovered that 55% of the respondents who were lonely were in poor health and tended to have less contact with friends. Architects and design professionals can use Universal Design to create easier access for all people in public spaces to come together and reduce social isolation.

[Click here](#) for the full article by [Natalie Crawford](#).

## APA Member Honored by JBMS Gift

What better way to pay tribute to a career of professional service than to pave the way for junior members who might hope to follow suit.

That is exactly why Bob Davies served as a member of the Jim Boyce Memorial Scholarship (JBMS) and why his wife, Mary Rae, decided a gift to JBMS was a fitting way to salute and honor him for the work he did to expand and enhance the accessibility field. The Accessibility Professionals Association lost a great friend and member upon his passing on December 19, 2019, at the age of 88. Bob (Robert) Davies hailed from Irving, Texas.

As one of the earliest Registered Accessibility Specialists, Bob spent a long career dedicated to improving the quality of life for many disabled citizens by using his skills honed in the field and through his very active membership in APA.

The scholarship has enabled numerous students to begin their career in the accessibility field since it began in 2003. Students who wish to apply must be currently pursuing a degree in architecture, landscape architecture, civil engineering, construction management, interior design, or other degree program closely related to accessibility/universal design at an accredited United States institution of higher learning. Students must have a 2.5 or higher GPA and demonstrate a strong interest in accessibility in both design portfolio and future career interests.

Each year applications are accepted through March and the scholarship is awarded in May via the attended institution's financial aid office.

Today, APA members are encouraged to consider the [Jim Boyce Memorial Scholarship](#) as a meaningful way to channel their charitable donations. If you would like to know more about the scholarship, or how it could be a legacy gift for your family, please contact the [Jim Boyce Memorial Scholarship Committee](#).

- [Maggie McCarthy](#), APA Communications Chair

## **Jim Boyce Memorial Scholarship APPLICATIONS DUE by MARCH 31**

[Click here to view the application.](#)

### **APA Needs Your Voice - Join a Committee!**

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

#### **APA Chapter Expansion Task Force:**

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

#### **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 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 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 Is an Approved\* Provider for the Florida DBPR, AIA, ICC, TDLR and More!**



Continuing Education - \*APA is a registered provider with the American Institute of Architects (AIA/CES,

#G583), Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR, Provider #0007855 / license #PVD312), Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR, #1521) and a preferred provider for the International Code Council (ICC, #1321). APA provides pre-verified ACTCP credits for the ADA Coordinator Training Certification Program (ACTCP). We provide courses of study and award an Accessibility Standards Basics completion, as well as Designations for APA-ADA Specialist, APA-ADA Assembly Specialist and APA-ADA Transient Lodging Specialist, when all criteria are met. Members/guests can meet the CE/LU requirements of numerous organizations by attending APA Training, and verifying with organizations when a course has been registered.