

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

ASTC Annual Meeting – April 3, 2020

Respectfully submitted by Stephen Placido, ASTC – Membership Committee Chairman  
March 17, 2020 via E-mail

New member recommendations to the Board of Directors:

On February 25, 2020 I received an application for membership from Jon Sivell, at Charcoalblue LLC New York. He applied for Full Member. The application included four completed projects and two projects still in construction. When this was brought to his attention, he replied that he had interpreted one of the examples from the instructions as suggesting that projects which had completed design but not yet opened were acceptable. He updated his application quickly and the membership committee unanimously recommends Jon Sivell as a full member.

On March 4, 2020 I received a complete application for membership from Jerad Schomer, at Charcoalblue LLC New York. He applied for Full Member. The membership committee unanimously recommends Jerad Schomer as a full member.

On March 5, 2020 I received an application for membership from Clemeth L. Abercrombie, at Charcoalblue LLC Chicago. He applied for Full Member. The application included five completed projects but one of the projects was the same as listed in the Jerad Schomer application. When this was brought to his attention, he replied that they had both provided different scope on those two projects and were principally responsible for their respective scopes. He also thought that the listed projects needed to be completed in the past five years. I requested that he revise his application to contain five completed unique projects and that they did not need to be completed in the past five years. He updated his application quickly and the membership committee unanimously recommends Clemeth L. Abercrombie as a full member.

The Membership Committee suggest that sponsors make sure that prospective members are aware that:

Five completed projects (not necessarily in the last five years) are required for each application where the applicant was the “responsible person in charge”.  
If multiple people from the same firm are applying that they are required to have five individual projects per application to avoid confusion over the “principal in charge” clause in the application.

Concept designs and feasibility studies do not comply for project submission.  
Duane Wilson will be updating the entire application package to make these requirements clearer shortly after the annual meeting.

End of Report

## PLUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT:

To the Membership:

The last issue of *ASTC:Notes* was sent out on 19 December 2019. The issue went to 1,693 addresses. 405 (28.2%) were opened. Encourage your architect friends to sign up.

Current Publications Committee Members:

Kent Conrad  
Andrew Gibbs  
Robert Long  
Kim Corbett Oates  
Robert Shook  
Michael Parrella  
Alex Robertson  
Paul Sanow

In addition, Peter Scheu, Kyle Smith, and Don Hirsch have provided valuable service as our Editorial Board.

Michael Parrella and Robert Long continue to work on the Did You Know pieces, with a goal of monthly issues to increase social media and general traffic.

We are planning a series on the Havana trip. We will kick this off with a photo travelogue (credit to the traveling contingent, especially Heather whose PowerPoint served as the jumping off point). Michael and Kent have edited a shorter version for our use. We are waiting for the new website template before publishing. We also plan four other pieces, approximately one per month, ending in June.

We expect a nice selection of articles for the spring issue, with a target date of 16 June. We have an article from Long/Shook in hand, and commitments from many others. In addition, we will recognize any new members, new Fellows, and of course include the Challenge.

All that said, we depend on contributions. We look forward to help from all ASTC members.

Respectfully Submitted,



Paul Sanow ASTC  
Principal Consultant

## CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

28 February 2020

To: ASTC Board of Directors  
From: Conference Committee  
Re: Committee Report for ANNUAL 2020, Houston

FORUM 2019: Havana, Cuba October 23-27 Was a great success for those who participated. A series of articles on this Forum will be published in the ASTC Newsletter and there will be a presentation made at the Annual meeting in Houston. The consensus of the attendees was that this type of more ambitious trip is very worthwhile and should be planned periodically.

ANNUAL 2020: April 4, 2020 at USITT in Houston with a nice lunch after (in lieu of our traditional ASTC member dinner.)

FORUM 2020: NATEAC in New York City. Date and time of the ASTC meeting has not yet been established. Options are Saturday, July 18, prior to the river cruise, or Tuesday, July 21 from 8 AM to noon. The Saturday option would keep the overall conference from bleeding more into the work week. The Tuesday option would serve those who prefer not to meet on weekends. There will be no ASTC member dinner, but as in 2016, ASTC will pay for ASTC members to attend the NATEAC Sardi's dinner on July 19.

ANNUAL 2021: The current plan is to meet in conjunction with USITT in Columbus, OH where we will also be hosting the ASTC Venue Renovation Challenge. Tentative meeting date: Saturday, March 13, 2021.

FORUM 2021: This is our next opportunity to hold a stand-alone forum, organized entirely by ASTC. Options previously discussed include Boston, Charleston, Montréal, Nashville, Richmond, VA, South Padre Island, TX and Mexico City. We met in Boston in 1991. We have not met in any of the other suggested cities. The Conference Committee has not yet explored topics for the theme for this Forum but will seek input on topics and sites from members at the annual meeting in Houston.

Sub-committees: We are forming a Logistics and AV Task Group under the umbrella of the Conference Committee. This Task Group will be responsible to transport, set up, monitor during the meeting and strike our conference equipment that allows for remote participation in our membership meetings. We are currently looking for a leader for this Task Group. If you are willing to lead or to be a part of this team, please contact me.

Conference Committee Members are: Heather McAvoy, Chair, Michael DiBlasi, Don Hirsch, Chris Purpura, Peter Scheu, Duane Wilson

## ETHICS COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Secretary,

The ASTC Ethics Committee has nothing to report for the 2020 Annual Meeting. There has been nothing to necessitate Ethics Committee activity in the last year. Over and out.

Jack Hagler, ASTC

## CHALLENGE COMMITTEE REPORT

### **2021 ASTC/USITT Renovation Challenge**

It is time again to start thinking about the 2021 ASTC/USITT Renovation Challenge. It really does take this much time for Universities and Colleges thinking about putting together a team to work it into their academic curriculum.

All of our ASTC Members should have received an email from me back in January with the information all the documents related to the 2021 Challenge. And, if you can't find that email there are a couple of options for you to get the attachments. The ones schools need are on the ASTC Website, or I will send them to you again if you ask so you have them and can forward them on.

The documents include; The 2021 ASTC/USITT Renovation Challenge – Announcement, the Application, and the Participant Guidelines.

I also have updated 2021 ASTC/USITT Renovation Challenge - Mentor Guidelines, and the Jury Guidelines for our ASTC members.

The Challenge Committee was impressed that we had the largest number of teams (9) and even the largest number of ASTC Member Mentors and Jury members for the 2019 Challenge. Hopefully, we can top that again.

Duane had printed out copies of the Announcement, the Application, and the Participant Guidelines for me to hand out at our ASTC Booth at the USITT in Houston. He even had gotten pop up banners to try and get Schools to stop by and get the forms. But, to do that now that the USITT in Houston was canceled, the task really falls back on us as ASTC Members to get the word out to schools we know and think should participate.

So, now the Challenge Committee is really asking all members to get involved, and get the word out! And, as a motivator .... Everyone who has taken part in past Challenges say the whole experience was very rewarding, so consider working with the 2021 Challenge.

Van Phillips, Challenge Committee Chair

## FELLOWS REVIEW COMMITTEE:

We recommend that the following three nominations are complete and meet all the requirements for nomination:

Jack Hagler  
Todd Hensley  
Duane Wilson

The ASTC Bylaws allow the organization to "elevate" up to three individuals in this nomination period while staying within the allocated 15% of membership. The committee has submitted the nominations and support materials to the Board.

Regards,

Robert Long  
Acting for Todd Hensley, Fellows committee Chair.

## CODES COMMITTEE REPORT:

To: Peter Rosenbaum, ASTC-President  
Cc: R. Duane Wilson, ASTC-Secretary  
Project: ASTC – Annual  
Subject: Code Committee Report – March 2020 Date: 03-20-2020  
From: Robert R. Smulling, ASTC

### Code Committee Members:

Names in **bold** represents ASTC. (M)=Member (P)=Principal (A)=Alternate  
(X)=Participant (C)=Chair (O)=Observer

**Bill Conner** SAF-AXE (P), FDW-AAA (P), ICC (X), ANSI A117.1 (A), ADA-AG (X) R.  
**Duane Wilson** ESTA/TSC-Stage Lift WG (A), Rigging WG (P), Followspot WG (O),  
A117.1 (P)

**Andrew Gibbs** ESTA/TSC-Technical Standards Group (P)

Jules Lauve ESTA/TSC-Followspot Working Group (P)

Kim. Corbett Oates ESTA/TSC-Controls Protocols WG (PC), Floor WG (A), Rigging  
WG (P), Tech.Std. Group(A)

**Peter Scheu** ESTA/TSC-Stage Lift Working Group (P), Rigging Working Group (P)

**Jody Kovalick** Co-share with Bill Connor on IBC.

**Peter Rosenbaum** (?) Co-share with Bill Connor on NFPA

Robert Smulling-Chair

Following items as submitted by members of the Code Committee. They are as follows:

Andrew Gibbs:

- a. Over the past year the Technical Standards Council has reviewed and approved 25 new or revised standards ranging from overhead hoist anchoring to control protocols to audience safety issues.
- b. Members of the TSC who also serve on the various ESTA working groups assist the rest of us on the council when clarification is required.
- c. Per Richard Nix, ESTA Assistant Technical Standards Manager:
- d. If you want more detail, the approved TSC minutes are online, here: <https://tsp.esta.org/tsp/tsc/minutes.php>.

Peter Scheu:

- a. No reports on the PLASA Stage Lift Working Group or Rigging Working Group.

Bill Conner:

- a. No reports from SAF-AXE, FDW-AAA, ICC, ANSI A117.1 or ADA-AG.

R. Duane Wilson:

- a. The A117.1 committee had an online meeting in late February to resolve some issues left over from the last cycle. This was a first step to the beginning of a new cycle. HUD has announced the intention to accept A117.1 as a safe harbor for housing issues. While not affecting our industry, it is an indication that the standard is being accepted by the government. b. ESTA has completed a new standard on temporary followspot positions as well as a rigging inspection standard. ASTC members should download and read these standards.

This is the information I have collected from our committee members as of Friday, March 20, 2020.

End of Code Committee Report.

Robert R. Smulling, ASTC