

# 2019 International Conference & Exposition Registration Brochure



February 7-10, 2019, Denver, CO, USA





## 2 Conference Overview

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### Who should attend?

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This conference is open to everyone, people from all facets of the industry, with all levels of experience are welcome. ACCT takes pride in the diversity of our community. Because of this attendees will always find workshops to benefit from, and other professionals to connect with. Here's a snapshot of the people we welcome every year:

- Managers, guides, facilitators, therapists
- Designers, installers, inspectors, engineers
- Trainers, consultants, researchers, mentors
- Manufacturers, retailers, software developers
- Administrators, current and future site owners
- Lawyers, insurance brokers, risk managers

ACCT is home for us all, and we all gain from our collective experience in every facet of the industry there is. Join us in Denver!

### About ACCT

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Founded in 1993, the Association for Challenge Course Technology (ACCT) is an international trade association dedicated to standards, government relations, credentialing, professional development and advancement of our members. ACCT is an ANSI Accredited Standards Developer, and the ANSI/ACCT Challenge Course and Canopy/Zip Line Tour Standard is a respected reference for the international industry at large. ACCT continues to be the leading resource and network for professionals who design, install, and operate educational use, recreational, and commercial based programs, as well as for businesses who provide equipment, training, and other critical services to our worldwide

### Conference Workshop Tracks

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Take part in networking and professional development opportunities led by representatives from all sectors of the industry. In addition to the trainings and certifications offered, there will be more than 120 workshops of all different levels for you to choose from. The presented workshops fall into one of six different Conference Tracks:

- CZ – Canopy & Zip Line Tours
- FP – Facilitation & Programming
- IB – Industry & Business
- OM – Operations & Management
- TT – Technical Topics
- DEMO – Demonstration

Information about individual workshops will be posted on the ACCT conference website. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be available again this year for the conference sessions.

Thank you,  
Tier III Sponsors!





# Conference Overview

3

## Trainings & Certifications

There will be 2 certification and training courses offered before the conference, as well as the Inspector Certification Program Prep Course, followed by ACCT Inspector Certification Exams on Sunday.

- Professional Inspector's Forum: Tues. 2/5
- Petzl Inspection of PPE Competent Person 2/5 & 2/6
- ACCT Inspection Certification Prep Course: Thurs. 2/7

## Opening and Awards

One of the aspects of a community is getting to know one another. Introductions at the opening and awards ceremonies can help match faces with names. Attending the Awards Ceremony is always a fun experience!

## Pre-Cons/Post-Cons

We are pleased to present you with a wide choice of Pre-Conference workshops this year. Pre-Conference sessions will take place on Thursday, February 7, 8:30 am - 3:30 pm. These learning opportunities provide a chance to explore a specific topic in depth with an experienced presenter.

## Exhibit Hall

The heart of the conference is the Expo in our exhibit hall. The Expo offers a full range of exhibits - equipment, resources, and services - that support all aspects of the challenge course, zip/canopy tour, and aerial adventure industry. The receptions in the exhibit hall are a highlight for both exhibitors and attendees, as they promote an environment for networking and the exchange of industry products, services, and information. Companies interested in exhibiting should contact HPN Global [aspearman@hpnglobal.com](mailto:aspearman@hpnglobal.com) 858-774-4503.

## Networking

Along with the great professional development opportunities, conference attendees report networking as being an important factor in their attendance. From our various events and conference receptions, to the ACCT Olympics, we have some fun and exciting things lined up for our attendees, allowing them to connect both in and out of workshops.

## Annual Meeting

**NEW SCHEDULE!**  
**Friday, 7pm!**

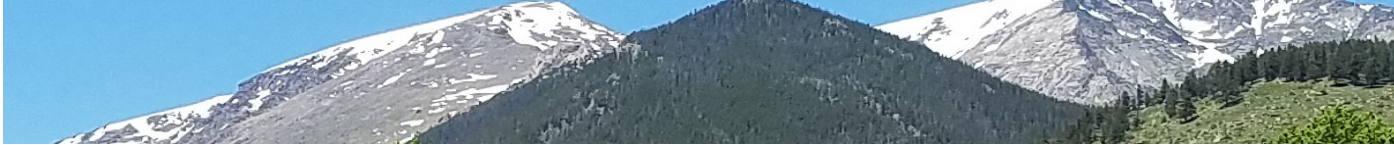
The Annual General Meeting is open to everyone and is a great way to find out what is going on inside the Association. Come be a part of this meeting and meet the Board of Directors as they discuss and report on Association business. Presentations throughout the workshop sessions also offer opportunities to interact with the board members, and explore topics in depth with committee members and other leaders in the Association.

## Advertising

This is a perfect way to be seen by buyers at the conference. If you're interested in purchasing advertising space in the conference program, see the [2019 ACCT Prospectus](#) for details or contact HPN Global [aspearman@hpnglobal.com](mailto:aspearman@hpnglobal.com) 858-774-4503.







# 4 Conference Happenings

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## 90 Minute Workshops

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Full conference attendee registration grants access to a plethora of things, but one of the greatest draws is the 120+ general conference sessions. These ninety minute sessions are offered over the course of two days (Friday & Saturday) on a first come, first served basis. No need to pre-register for these, you just need to have your conference ID badge and arrive early - we do close the doors once rooms have met maximum capacity for fire code. There will be a variety of learning opportunities for individuals with varying skill sets and interests. We will be loading detailed information on each session including presenter bio(s), course description, and learning objectives onto the conference website for you to preview all offerings in advance and make your plan!

## ACCT Olympics

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Come join the fun at the ACCT Olympics! This long-standing event consists of small groups competing against one another in an effort to be the overall winning team! The competitive events offered will be developed based on five different industry tracks: Canopy & Zip Line Tours, Facilitation & Programming, Industry & Business, Operations & Management, and Technical Topics. Teams can be established prior to the conference or can be formed at the conference with your newly made friends. Expect to see some new events along with some of your favorites. Participate or spectate, but don't miss the fun!

## Receptions and Other Fun

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**Thursday evening**, join the fun in the Mile High Ballroom at the Colorado Convention Center as we kick off conference festivities. Don't forget to stop by the ACCT Booth to meet the Tech Talk Series Presenters!

**Friday evening**, celebrate with everyone at the Hyatt Regency at the Colorado Convention Center for the industry awards and annual general meeting.

**Saturday evening**, finish up your conference experience by joining everyone at a local climbing gym for a night of bouldering and networking!

All receptions are open to all registered attendees. Make sure you dress appropriately to participate in some fun backyard games! Rumor has it the Board of Directors will be getting in a dunk tank. It's going to be EPIC!

## Silent Auction

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With attendance from all over the globe, the HOMETOWN AUCTION is always a win! This style of auction provides an opportunity for all attendees to show their pride in their hometown and / or community by donating an item that shares where they come from. Proceeds from the auction go to ACCT's conference scholarships and special projects. To make a donation, contact Melissa Webb at [melissa@acctinfo.org](mailto:melissa@acctinfo.org) or bring your donation to the conference.







# Conference Opportunities

5



## Service Crew

Service Crew members, the “Yellow Hats,” assist in many areas of conference operations. Service Crew members are expected to work approximately 17 hours during the conference. In return, registration fees will be reduced by half of the conference registration fee. This is a great way to learn more about the conference and get connected to others in the industry. Interested persons must submit an application, available on the ACCT [conference website](#). For further information, contact Leigh Carruth or Carina Surface at [acctcrew@gmail.com](mailto:acctcrew@gmail.com).

## Sponsorship Opportunities

There are many different opportunities to sponsor various events at the Annual International ACCT Conference & Exposition. It's a great opportunity for your company name and products/services to be promoted to industry buyers.

If you are interested in finding out what events are eligible for sponsorship, see the [2019 ACCT Prospectus](#) for details, or contact HPN Global [aspearman@hpnglobal.com](mailto:aspearman@hpnglobal.com) 858-774-4503.

## Scholarships

ACCT will be providing four scholarships to attend the conference. Thank you to those of you who have donated and purchased auction items. A portion of those proceeds help make our scholarships possible! **Applications are due by Friday, October 12, 2018**, and can be found on the ACCT [conference website](#). If you have additional questions, contact Melissa Webb at [melissa@acctinfo.org](mailto:melissa@acctinfo.org).

*“It was so helpful to connect with all the bright minds of the challenge course community and brainstorm new innovative ways to create adaptive programming to make challenge courses available to individuals with special needs. I learned so much from attending the ACCT conference and it has only inspired me to learn more in the future. Thank you to all that made this opportunity happen for me and my organization.”*

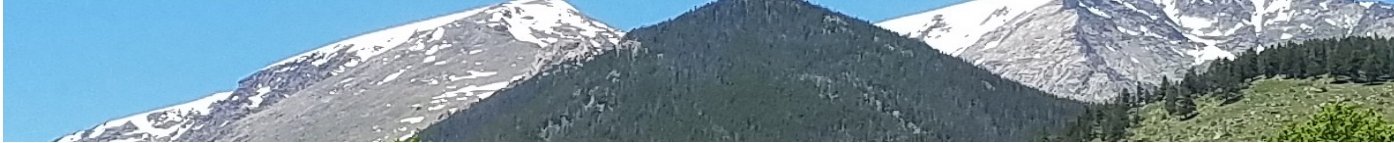
--Kyle Lamb

Assistant Camp Director, Camp John Marc  
Dallas, TX

2018 Conference Scholarship Recipient

## Demo Workshops

Have a product or service you want us to learn more about? Be sure to secure a Demo Session slot! Registration for all Demo Sessions will be available via the Exhibitor Registration by clicking [here](#).



# 6 Preliminary Schedule

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## Monday 2/4/2019

8:30 - 5:00 Certification / Training Courses

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## Tuesday 2/5/2019

8:30 - 5:00 Certification / Training Courses

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## Wednesday 2/6/2019

8:00 - 5:00 PVM Symposium  
8:30 - 5:00 Certification / Training Courses  
10:00-7:00 Exhibit Hall Move In  
2:00 - 7:00 Registration Open  
2:00 - 4:00 Service Crew Training  
5:00 - 7:00 Early Arrivals Reception - *Tentative*  
7:00 - 9:00 ACCT Volunteer Social - All are welcome!

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## Thursday 2/7/2019

7:30 - 8:00 Registration and Information  
8:00 - 4:00 Exhibit Hall Move In  
8:30 - 3:30 ACCT Inspector Certification Prep Course  
8:30 - 3:30 Pre-Conference / Training Courses  
4:00 - 5:30 Opening Ceremony & Tech Talk Series  
6:00 - 9:00 Exhibit Hall Open  
6:00 - 8:00 Reception

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## Friday 2/8/2019

7:30 - 5:00 Registration and Information  
8:00 - 8:20 1st Time Attendee Orientation  
8:30 - 6:15 Workshop Sessions  
10:00-12:00 Exhibit Hall Appointment Only Hours  
12:00-7:00 Exhibit Hall Open  
6:00 - 7:00 Cocktail Reception in Expo  
7:00 - 10:00 Annual General Meeting/Awards Ceremony  
All Welcome!

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## Saturday 2/9/2019

7:30 - 12:00 Registration and Information  
8:30 - 4:30 Workshop Sessions  
8:00 - 9:00 Exhibit Hall Appointment Only Hours  
9:00 - 3:00 Exhibit Hall Open  
3:00 - 9:00 Exhibit Hall Move Out  
4:30 - 6:00 ACCT Olympics - All Welcome!  
7:30 - end Off-site Networking Event - *Tentative*  
All Welcome!

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## Sunday 2/9/2019

8:00 - 12:00 ACCT ICE Exam

We've revamped the general conference schedule to create a more efficient and pleasant conference experience.

**Please look closely as there are several changes.**

## Important Dates

### September 2018

All presenter agreements must be signed and returned to ACCT

Online registration opens for 29th Annual International ACCT Conference & Exposition

### Friday, October 12, 2018

Scholarship application deadline.

### Monday, October 29, 2018

Early Bird registration ends. All check payments for this rate must be postmarked by October 29.

### Monday, November 26, 2018

Regular Registration ends. All check payments for this rate must be postmarked by November 26.

### Monday, January 4, 2019

Last date to book at the Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center at the ACCT rate. Make your reservations early! All conference attendees booking a room after this date will not be guaranteed the group rate and will be responsible for paying a higher room rate (if space is available).

**Please note:** the room block may sell out prior to this date, so ***please make your reservations early.***

Late Registration ends.

Attendees registered after this date will be considered a walk-in registration.

### Tuesday, January 15, 2019

On-site / Walk-in Registration rate goes into effect.



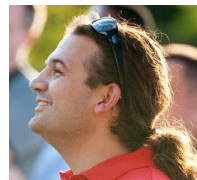
With the significant growth we've experienced in the industry over the years it has been increasingly challenging to find an opening keynote presentation that truly resonates with our entire community. In an effort to ensure every person in attendance gets something out of the opening ceremonies we are offering a series of four fifteen minute talks (similar to Ted Talks) which we are referring to as "Tech Talks". The topics and speakers have all agreed to do a brief presentation on the topics listed below. In addition to Tech Talk presentations these presenters will be doing a deeper dive into their Tech Talk topic in either a 90 minute session or a pre-conference workshop. Each presenter will also spend some time at the ACCT booth following the Opening Ceremonies to interact with each of you. We invite you to join us for our first ever Tech Talk Series in Denver on Thursday afternoon!

**Career Paths in this Industry: Do you know how to connect the dots to move forward in this field as a long-term career?**

**Presenters: Dr. José H. González & Chris Ortiz**



**José González** has a doctorate in education with a focus on curriculum and instruction and has been an adventurer and educator his whole life. José started his career in outdoor education working for Guajataka Boy Scout Reservation in Puerto Rico in 1989. There, he led 5-day backpacking trips, taught several classes including first aid, navigation, wilderness survival and in 1991, after the construction of a new 6-element challenge course, he became a facilitator for several years. After that, José split some of his time between NH, Maine and the Caribbean. While in New England he facilitated for several programs including the Dartmouth Outdoor Programs, University of New Hampshire, Plymouth State University, Thompson Island Outward Bound and Hurricane Island Outward Bound. In 2002, he created Aire Libre in Puerto Rico to fulfill the need for outdoor education on the island and to support the Outward Bound Caribbean Semester. Now, Aire Libre is jointly run by José and Dr. Luis Acevedo, who developed services to support not only the domestic Zipline and Canopy tour industry, but also the international operations. José is an avid hiker and has hiked the Sierras, more than 200 miles of the Appalachian Trail, the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of New Mexico, Caribbean volcanos, and Torres del Paine, Chile among others. As a waterman, he teaches SUP Instructor Training courses for the American Canoe Association and surfs his local beaches in Southern California. Currently, he is an Assistant Professor at CSU Northridge in the Recreation and Tourism Management department.



**Chris Ortiz** is the Program Director for the Team Development Center at Shaver's Creek and is an instructor for the Recreation Parks and Tourism Management Department at Penn State University. For well over 20 years,

Chris has been delivering challenge course trainings and team development programs for schools, university groups, corporations, and professional sports teams that strengthen relationships, motivate growth and develop leaders. He regularly presents nationally and internationally at conferences where he shares innovative programming and activity ideas. Chris co-authored the Second Edition of the *High 5 Guide: Challenge Course Operating Procedures for the Thinking Practitioners*, as well as the *Ubuntu Activity Guide*. He has held leadership roles in both the Association for Experiential Education (AEE) and the Association for Challenge Course Technology (ACCT).

Chris and his wife, Kristin have two wonderful daughters, Julia and Indy, and a dog, Pelé. When Chris isn't enjoying time at home with his family, you will likely find him exploring the local mountain bike trails, playing disc golf or knocking a puck around the hockey rink... oh... and he loves Chocolate.

# 8 Tech Talk Series

## Scary Monsters: The Real Reason Reporters Act As They Do

Presenter: Skip King



**Skip King** has more than 25 years of public relations, crisis management, media training and marketing communications experience. As a former chief communications officer for an NYSE-listed company, he created

and executed external and internal communications and advertising campaigns supporting explosive growth, product introductions, acquisitions and divestitures, IPOs, earnings and high-visibility staff changes.

Skip offers a rare combination of skillsets in providing crisis communications training and counsel: he has dealt with numerous crises from both operational and communications perspectives. In 2002 he founded the award-winning Reputation Strategies, LLC, a public relations consultancy based on Cape Cod. His company has successfully managed major business interruption stories, catastrophic accident cases with international reach, environmental and land use issues, major corporate restructuring, issues-oriented political campaigns and a wide range of other challenges.

He is the author of the *National Ski Areas Association's Crisis Management Guidelines*. In addition to his work in the ski industry, he also provides counsel to industry sectors including leading experiential outdoor education programs, water parks and challenge course operators.



## How Do You Define the WHY Behind the WHAT: Program with Intention

Presenter: Melanie Wills

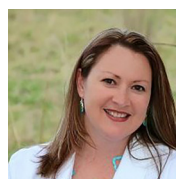


**Melanie Wills**, Director of Outdoor Education & Professional Services at Bradford Woods Outdoor Center. Melanie has been with Bradford Woods for over 10 years and supports several program areas including Adventure

and Environmental Education, Military and Family Programming and Retreats, specializing in universal design and accessibility on challenge courses. Her most-recent project includes the completion of a universal zip line ramp. She started her work in outdoor education in 2002 after working on international education contracts yet seeking to work more directly with people. Little did she know, this shift would contribute to amazing growth opportunities in the years to come, both professionally and personally. She is most passionate about using the outdoors as a way to encourage growth, independence, and recovery in a variety of populations, particularly those with disabilities or who have experienced trauma. In May 2019, she will finish her Master's in Public Health with a Physical Activity concentration. Her main research focus is on military veterans. In her free time, you'll find Melanie out hiking on a trail, exploring a waterway or traveling to her favorite island destination.

## Surfacing Behaviors Through Play

Presenter: Michelle Cummings



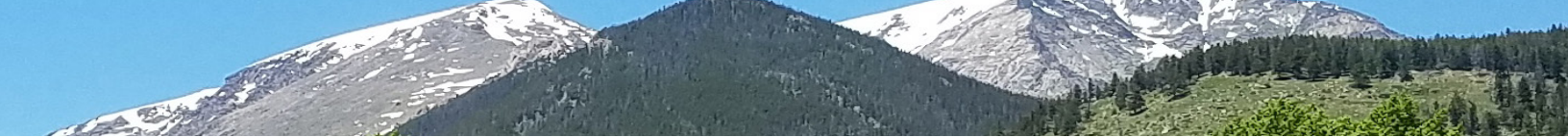
**Michelle Cummings, M.S.**, is the Big Wheel and founder of Training Wheels, a known leader in the Team building field. She is also the Co-Founder and Chief Creative Officer for Personify Leadership, a leadership development course. She

is an accomplished author and is a dynamic, sought-after speaker and consultant in the areas of leadership, teambuilding, and experiential learning. Michelle has created a wide variety of facilitation, debriefing and teambuilding activities that have collectively changed the way trainers and educators work.

Michelle speaks at more than 15 local, national, and international conferences each year and authors a weekly teambuilding newsletter called *The Spokesperson* that has over 15,000 subscribers in 65 countries. She has authored seven books to date, including her first novel titled, *The Reel Sisters*. She has another book due for release later this year.

Michelle holds a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Kansas State University and a Master's degree in Experiential Education from Minnesota State University at Mankato. She grew up on a farm in Norton, Kansas and currently lives in Littleton, Colorado.





# Conference Registration 9

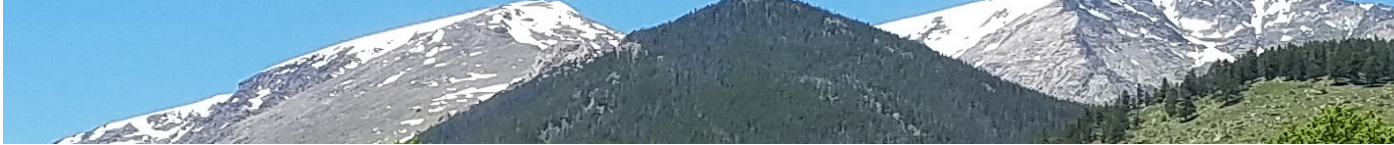
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	Early Bird Rate	Regular Rate	Late Rate	Onsite Rate
Categories	Ends 10/29/18	Ends 11/26/18	Ends 1/14/19	Begins 1/15/19
ACCT Member	\$475	\$515	\$570	\$590
Non-Member	\$605	\$645	\$700	\$725
Full-Time Student/Military (w/ID)	\$375	\$425	\$485	\$515
Exhibit Hall Only	\$245	\$295	\$345	\$370
Service Crew (must apply)	50% off	50% off	50% off	50% off
Primary Presenter (must apply)	50% off	50% off	50% off	50% off
One Day Pass (onsite only)	\$325			

- Registration is only available online at [www.acctconference.com](http://www.acctconference.com).
- Your registration is not complete until payment is received by the ACCT office.
- Registrations must be complete in order to lock in your rate.
- Check payments will not be accepted after January 14th, 2019.
- All registrations are subject to a \$3.75 CVENT processing fee.
- Full Time Students & Military must submit copy of ID to receive discounted rate.

## Cancellation Policy

Cancellations must be submitted in writing by email to [melissa@acctinfo.org](mailto:melissa@acctinfo.org). All cancellations received by ACCT on or before December 17, 2018, are entitled to a refund, minus a \$150.00 processing fee. Cancelling a paid registration in order to accept a complimentary or discounted registration is only allowed on or before December 17, 2018, and will be subject to the \$150.00 processing fee. No refunds or credits will be given to registrants who cancel after December 17 2018, or who fail to attend the Conference – absolutely no exceptions will be made for any reason, including illness, medical, family emergencies, or weather conditions. Substitutions for paid registrants may be made at any time. However, written notice is required, and for complete accuracy, must include all pertinent changes for the substituting attendee. Should a full refund for the registration fee be required to the original attendee's credit card, then all required credit card information for substituting attendee must be provided in order for the new transaction to be processed at the same time. No payment changes will be accepted at a later date. Service Crew applicants please see application form for waivers and exceptions.



# 10 Trainings & Certifications

Trainings and Certifications will be offered at various times between  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH AND SUNDAY FEBRUARY 10TH, 2019

There are several different courses being offered, plus the ACCT Inspector Certification Program.

## Professional Inspector's Forum

Tues. February 5th, 2019

Presented by: Kathy Haras

Keith Jacobs

Rich Klajnscek

\$250

**Kathy Haras** has worked at Adventureworks! Associates, Inc. in Canada for 20 years including 10 years as vice-president. She is a qualified challenge course trainer, installer, inspector, and designer. She is a certified ACCT Level 2 Inspector Supervisor and an Ontario TSSA zip line mechanic. Kathy currently serves as an ACCT PVM accreditation reviewer, is the Design, Performance, and Inspection Committee Chair, and a member of the Standards Development Committee. Kathy has a Ph.D. from Texas A&M University in Recreation, Parks and Tourism Sciences.

**Rich Klajnscek**, owner of Sea Fox Consulting, is a well-known leader in the challenge course industry. He is a licensed mechanical engineer who has been involved with all facets of the challenge course industry over the past twenty-eight years. He led the development of industry standards since ACCT's beginning in the early 1990s and was the Design, Performance and Inspection (DPI) Standards Committee chair from 2004 to 2016. He now chairs ACCT's new Standards Development Committee and is part of the ASTM Aerial Adventure Course Standards effort.

**Keith Jacobs** is the President of Experiential Systems, Inc. Keith is a Level 2 ACCT Inspector Supervisor and NAARSO Level 1 Certified Inspector. Keith is a member of the ACCT ANSI Consensus Group, Inspector Certification Panel, Standards Development Group and Government Relations Committee and ASTM 2959 Work Group. Keith has an MS from Western Illinois University in Recreation Parks and Tourism and has worked professionally in the challenge course industry for 23 years.

**Description:** This day-long session is designed for professional inspectors and builds on the success of last year's inaugural event. The session will utilize a combination of prepared presentations and open forum discussions on current hot topics. Potential topics may include: standards interpretation – what does “fail” mean, terminations, foundations and ground anchors, zip line brake systems, and Life Safety Systems. Participants will be prescreened to attend this workshop.

### Learning Objectives:

- Be aware of evolving changes in ACCT standards
- Have an appreciation of OEM requirements as they relate to
  - Compatibility of techniques and materials
  - Testing and test findings
- Recognise how the inspection process is being influenced by changes in the industry

Connect With ACCT







# Trainings & Certifications

11

## Petzl Inspection of PPE Competent Person

Tues. & Wed., February 5th & 6th, 2019

Presented by: Cliff Kirk

\$975

**Cliff Kirk** is a Certified Safety and Health Specialist and manager of Vertical Access a Petzl Technical Partner.

**Description:** This course will train you to competently examine work-at-height PPE using the Petzl protocol and to create an effective PPE-management system helping you to meet regulatory laws, standards and manufactures requirements for the inspection of your PPE by a competent person.

Operators, builders, managers, or anyone involved in inspection, training and maintenance of PPE for guests or employees may benefit.

### Learning Objectives:

- Learn the legal and regulatory aspects of periodic inspection of PPE for protection against falls from height.
- Learn to competently examine work-at-height PPE using the Petzl protocol.
- Learn to create an effective PPE-management system.



## Conference T-Shirt

Memorialize your conference experience with a wearable souvenir for only \$20! These will be available for purchase during registration and at the conference. This year's conference T-shirt is in the final design phase, and we'll give you a sneak preview of the final version soon!

We intend to have a very small inventory on-site available for purchase. However, T-shirts will need to be pre-ordered if you want to guarantee we have your size.



# 12 Trainings & Certifications

## ACCT Inspector Certification Prep Course

Thurs. February 7th, 2019

Presented by: ACCT Staff \$260

**Description:** This course will provide an overview of the ACCT Inspector Certification program, relevant industry standards, and information on the skills and knowledge that inspectors of all areas of the industry should be aware of. Recommended for those taking the ICE exam on Sunday, February 4th, 2018.

## ACCT Inspector Certification Exam

Sun. February 10th, 2019

Presented by: ACCT STAFF

### In-House Inspector

Level 1: \$165

Level 2: \$165

Supervisor Endorsement: \$55

Four Year Re-Testing: \$185

### Professional Inspector

Level 1: \$240

Level 2: \$240

Supervisor Endorsement: \$55

Four Year Re-Testing: \$260

*\*All applicants are required to pay a \$125 application fee. All transactions are subject to an online service charge. This includes 2-year certification renewals.\**

### In-House Inspector, Level 1 or Level 2

This certification is designed for those individuals who perform the Operator Operational Inspections for their own organization as described in Chapter 1, Section B.1.3 of the ANSI-ACCT 03-2016 Standards.

### Professional Inspector, Level 1 or Level 2

This certification is designed for the individual working for a legally licensed business that is properly insured to offer Professional (third party) Inspections as described in Chapter 1, Section B.1.2 of the ANSI-ACCT 03-2016 Standards.

An applicant in a supervisory role can also apply for the Supervisor Endorsement (In-House or Professional) The applicant must meet the requirements for Level 1 or Level 2 Certification based on the level of inspectors that he/she supervises. This is an additional exam taken immediately after completing the respective Level 1 and Level 2 exam/s for In-House or Professional Certification.

ACCT will offer a Prep Course on February 7, 2019 to assist the applicant in preparation for the exam/s. This course is a valuable opportunity to review materials and discuss questions pertaining to inspection knowledge and skills. This course is recommended but not required.

All applicants must complete an eligibility file to be approved by the ACCT Inspector Certification Committee. No applicant will be allowed to sit for the certification exam/s without an approved file. There is no WALK-IN option for this testing. You must apply and submit documents no later than December 17, 2018.

Follow the link below for Eligibility Requirements:  
<http://acctcertifications.com/certification-eligibility>





In order for the ACCT to accurately handle logistics for each pre-con / training course we require a minimum number of participants be pre-registered. The ACCT will be making final decisions on these courses 30 days prior to the event. If a pre-con / training course is cancelled by the ACCT a refund of that course will be offered to the registrant. The ACCT is not responsible for any additional fees that may be incurred due to cancellations.

All Pre-Conference Workshops will be held between  
**Tuesday, February 5th and Thursday, February 7th.**

## Trainer's Forum: Exploring Concepts and Outcomes

Wed. February 6th, 2019

Presented by: Rohan Shahani, Mandy Stewart,  
Brenda Reed, Andrea Vogt \$195

**Rohan Shahani:** Rohan is the Director of Training of Challenge Works and specializes in risk assessment and identification of normalized risks in challenge course, canopy tour, and adventure training programs.

**Mandy Stewart:** CEO (and Training Maven), Experiential Resources. Mandy's mission as a trainer and mentor is to create thinking practitioners. She digs well-sequenced trainings with diversified instruction.

**Brenda Reed:** Director of Training and Other Important Stuff. Brenda is passionate about cross training industry information and providing relevant and current information for trainers to equip themselves with when training practitioners.

**Andrea Vogt:** Andrea is the Training Director for Experiential Systems, Inc. (ESI). She has been in the challenge course industry since 2005 and is passionate about program design and innovation.

**Description:** For trainers of all levels, this forum provides a venue to identify and discuss foundational elements critical to training, regardless of content or program type. This session will identify topics attendees would like to explore as well as those relevant to us all. If you do any training at all you belong in this room!

### Learning Objectives:

- Identify and understand core elements that are key to the success of every training.
- Learn at least one new way to approach risk management and staff training.
- Share best practices in delivery of curriculum

## De-mystifying ACCT Standards: Design, Performance, and Inspection

Wed. February 6th, 2019

Presented by: Members of ACCT Standards  
Writing Committees \$250

Presenters will include current and former members of ACCT Standards Writing Committees. Many of the presenters also actively participate in the development of other standards and guidelines relevant to the challenge course industry.

**Description:** This one-day workshop is designed for those who are new to the challenge course industry as well as for those who may occasionally struggle to figure out how to act on what is written. The in-depth panel presentation aims to explain and illuminate the current ACCT Design, Performance, and Inspection standards by tackling common myths, mix-ups, and misunderstandings.

### Learning Objectives:

- Understand how to read Standards including supporting materials including and not limited to
  - Definitions
  - Scope
  - General Principles
  - Appendices
- Appreciate how standards fit into the broader system of directives including and not limited to
  - Legislation
  - Regulations
  - OEM requirements
  - Insurance obligations
  - Local Operating Procedures
  - Best Practices
- Be exposed to specific ACCT Design, Performance, and Inspection Standards in detail



# 14 Pre-Conference Workshops

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## De-mystifying the ACCT Operational Standards

Thurs. February 7th, 2019

Presented by: Members of ACCT Standards Writing Committees

\$250

Presenters will include current and former members of ACCT Standards Writing Committees. Many of the presenters also actively participate in the development of other standards and guidelines relevant to the challenge course industry.

**Description:** This session will explain the structure and content of the ACCT Operation and Training standards and provide insights into how these standards can be used to guide the development of local operating procedures and in-house staff training programs.

### Learning Objectives:

- Understand the structure and content of ACCT Operation & Training Standards
- Determine how the standards might be used to guide development of local operating procedures
- Determine how the standards might be used to guide development of in-house staff training programs

## Legal Requirements for Challenge Course Industry

Thurs. February 7th, 2019

Presented by: Charles Lee Mudd Jr. \$250

**Charles Mudd** is an internationally recognized attorney with more than 20 years legal experience. For the last 16 years, he has operated his own firm, Mudd Law, in areas of startups, business, IP, technology, Internet, and space. He serves on the Board of Directors for ITechLaw, as well as other diverse leadership positions with state bar associations.

**Description:** This 8 hour session with attorney Charles Mudd will explore critical issues in the

challenge course field from a legal perspective. This session is designed for the general industry and will have content for manufacturers, installers, inspectors, trainers and operators of challenge courses, aerial parks, ninja courses and zip tours.

**Learning Objectives:** Jurisdictional Authority, Standards, Codes and the law; Contracts for Services; Waivers and Hold Harmless Agreements; Signage and Postings; Training Documentation; Inspection Documentation; Understanding Patent Law and how to Read a Patent; Preparing for and Handling Incidents and/or Accidents, understanding what happens when/if you get sued; and the pro's and cons of doing Expert Legal Consultation.

## Portable Teambuilding Activities, 2019

Thurs. February 7th, 2019

Presented by: Chris Cavert

\$195

As an adventure educator **Dr. Cavert** has authored over a dozen books and focuses his teaching on how adventure education is used to develop pro-social skills in all ages.

**Description:** This hands-on experience includes a variety of ice-breakers, ground-based activities, and problem-solving initiatives, including low elements, that are super-portable, utilize versatile props easy to find or create, and work with middle school age participants and older. All experience levels are welcome. Some tried-and-true activity variations will be included along with some of the newest activities in Chris' bag of tricks.

### Learning Objectives:

- Be able to lead at least 20 new activities or activity variations learned during the workshop.
- Be able to describe and program two variations for each activity learned.
- Be able to make/build the portable low elements shown at the workshop.
- Be able to list and use three additional activity and reviewing resources found on the internet.





# Pre-Conference Workshops 15



## The Inspired and Thoughtful Facilitator

Thurs. February 7th, 2019

Presented by: Jennifer Stanchfield

\$195

**Jen's** depth of experience and creativity is evident in her innovative yet practical workshops and publications in which she incorporates the art of facilitation with the latest neuroscience research.

**Description:** Join this interactive workshop and take away both practical strategies to enhance your toolbox and a deeper understanding of the “why behind what you do” in facilitation. Explore brain-based techniques to create meaningful and impactful experiences including information from the neuroscience field about engagement and buy-in that will inspire new perspectives on your role and style as a facilitator.

### Learning Objectives:

- Experiential, brain-based strategies to actively engage learners physically, emotionally, socially, and intellectually
- Research from the field of educational neuroscience that supports and informs experiential education practice
- Strategies for increasing involvement, buy-in, and ownership
- Fundamentals of group facilitation such as the importance of participant choice and control, sequencing, and ongoing assessment
- Methods to design, sequence, facilitate and adapt activities to enhance learning outcomes
- Reflection tools and techniques to increase relevancy, meaning, depth of understanding, and connection to future learning situations
- New perspectives on their role as a facilitator, & the importance of flexibility, attitude and adaptation

## Gamifying the Guest and Staff Experience

Thurs. February 7th, 2019

Presented by: Jayce Stock

\$195

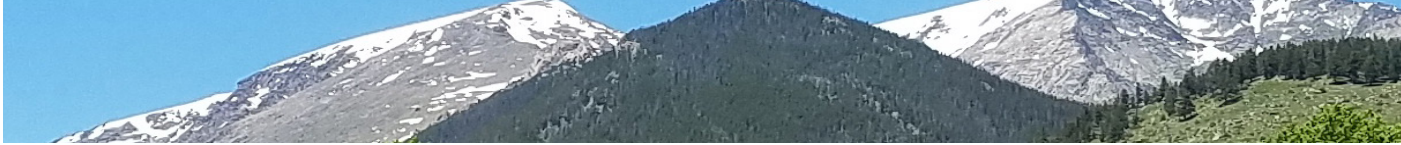
Bringing together psychology, sociology, neuroscience, and game design, **Jayce** works as a management and leadership consultant, and currently serves as the Director of Operations for ZIPStream Ruby Falls.

**Description:** Bringing together aspects of social psychology, neuroscience, and a healthy dose of game design theory, attendees will be taught how to maximize staff positivity, buy-in, engagement, and morale, as well as create an environment that deeply engages guests and generates an experience that they will want to repeat again and again.

### Learning Objectives:

- Attendees will be given a thorough crash-course in game design theory & social psychology, & be shown in detail how these topics directly relate to & affect the on-site experiences of guests & staff.
- Following these lessons, attendees will work with the presenter and each other to uncover and address core design failures and breakdowns in their operations that are acting against their company's core goals and intentions.
- Finally, attendees will work with the presenter and each other to develop and implement new operations, incentive, and interactions with staff and clients, using the lessons they have learned from the presenter to alter or replace the problematic or ineffective methods uncovered earlier, or by creating entirely new staff and guest features that promote the results they desire.





# 16 Pre-Conference Workshops

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## Universal Design on Challenge Courses Off-Site

Thurs. February 7th, 2019

Presented by: Melanie Wills, Ryan Craven \$275

**Melanie** is the Director of Outdoor Education at Bradford Woods. She works with a variety of populations including youth/adults with disabilities and those experiencing trauma. She is completing her MPH.

**Ryan** is the Assistant Director of Adventure Education at Bradford Woods, Indiana University's Outdoor Center. He has worked with multiple outdoor programs throughout the Midwest. His current focus is exploring technology and practices across all adventure disciplines to create opportunities for people of all abilities to participate in outdoor programs.

**Description:** This session will take a deeper look at Universal Design and Access for initiatives, low, and high challenge programming. It will start by taking a look at principals for programming (the WHY) and move forward with (the HOW). Specific examples from the Bradford Woods experience will be shared in an effort to transfer this learning to other courses.

### Learning Objectives:

- Disability awareness and general definitions (universal, inclusive, adapted, accessible) including principals for providing programming to all populations.
- Conversation, practice, and increased knowledge of initiatives and low/high challenge adaptations including a look at some basic gear that can be used on all courses.
- Interpret information and lessons learned to create a plan for your program, facility, staffing, and training.

## Inspiring Staff: Mentoring, Tools & Debriefing

Thurs. February 7th, 2019

Presented by: Kelsey Tonner \$195

An experienced, global tour guide and founder of the Be a Better Guide Project. Shortlisted for the 2015 World Guide Awards, **Kelsey Tonner** helps tourism businesses create memories of a lifetime.

**Description:** Learn from an experienced, award-winning tour guide trainer some of the best ways to motivate and inspire your staff:

- The Do's and Don'ts of great mentoring programs
- An overview of two powerful tools to help your team excel:

- 1) The simplicity and elegance of a Tour Leader Coaching Card
- 2) The LAUGH method for effectively managing difficult customers

### Learning Objectives:

- 5 common mistakes companies make when mentoring new staff
- Characteristics of world-class training programs
- 7 powerful and creative ways to debrief during training
- 5 ways to use a Tour Leader Coaching Card and why it pays to do so
- Teaching your team the LAUGH method for working with difficult and challenging guests – and ways to make it stick!







# Pre-Conference Workshops

17

## Guide Training Models for Commercial Operations

Thurs. February 7th, 2019

Presented by: Michael Smith

\$195

**Michael Smith**, Founder of ArborTrek Canopy Adventures and President of AdventureSmith, Inc. 25 years of experience developing and operating adventure programs.

**Description:** Explore guide training models for commercial zip line canopy tours and aerial adventure parks. Presenter will provide job competency models, sample curriculum and agendas, assessment tools, and more. Attendees will come away with models that can be immediately implemented into their in-house training or used to supplement external training. Target audience: operators, owners, trainers, and vendors of all levels.

### Learning Objectives:

- Review training models that work to develop a learning organization
- Receive access to a curriculum, agendas, and assessment tools that have been used to train thousands of commercial guides
- Dialogue about what is working for other organizations with suggestions of how to make the best use of internal and external resources

## OSHA Working at Height

Thurs. February 7th, 2019

Presented by: Jack Moeding

\$195

**Jack's** first zip line experience was 1984. He has been involved with the industry ever since. A former course facilitator, operator, part time builder of climbing walls and ropes courses, to designer and tester of fall equipment, and now a full time safety manager of a large construction company, Jack's experiences with working at heights and the OSHA regulations spans over 30 years.

**Description:** Every company has responsibilities under OSHA "to furnish to each of their employees, a place of employment which are free from recognized hazards". Employees working at heights as builders, inspectors, facilitators and owners, all have exposure to falls. Understanding the OSHA regulations and making a Work at Height Plan is essential.

### Learning Objectives:

- To become more familiar with the history of OSHA and what their role is today.
- To better understand what impact the regulations have on you and your organization related to working at heights.
- What do you need to know to be prepared for a visit from OSHA. Including explanation of some equipment and the limitations they may have.





# 18 Host Hotel

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The **Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center (CCC)** is the host hotel that will provide accommodations for the 29th Annual International ACCT Conference and Expo participants. Please refer to the preliminary schedule of events when making your hotel reservation. All participants, must contact the hotels directly to reserve their sleeping room. Reservations must be made by Monday, January 14, 2019 for the Hyatt. After these dates, any remaining rooms in the conference blocks will be released to the hotels for general sale and the group rate will no longer be guaranteed.

***For 2019, please make your reservations directly with the Hyatt Regency at Colorado Convention Center. To receive the ACCT negotiated rate, identify yourself as being with the Association for Challenge Course Technology.***



**Hyatt Regency Denver @ Colorado Convention Center**  
**650 15th Street, Denver, CO 80202**

Room Cost: \$189 Single/ Double Occupancy

Toll Free Information Line: +1-303-436-1234

*Reference International ACCT Conference & Exposition February 7, 2019 – February 10, 2019 when making reservations.*



Host Hotel reservation link Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center:

<https://book.passkey.com/go/acct2019>

## **Hotel Highlights**

The Hyatt Regency Denver at Colorado Convention Center has plenty of amenities available for the ACCT conference. Click [here](#) for a complete list of hotel features.





## Around Denver

Visit Denver has created a [micro-site](#) for us with a plethora of information to assist in navigating around the Mile High City. On this site you'll find information about things to do in the area, restaurants, ways to navigate around the city without a car (including how to get from the airport via the airport rail line), as well as loads of tips on things to add to your itinerary while in town!

## Meals

There will NOT be organized meal plans for the 2019 conference. Attendees will have multiple options with the various on-site & off-site restaurants, buffets, as well as grab and go food sales offered by the Convention Center.

## Schedule Changes

**Schedule changes for 2019:** We've revamped our general conference schedule in an effort to improve your overall conference experience and networking opportunities. Please pay close attention to the 2019 conference schedule on page 6 which outlines some of these changes.

**Training & Pre-Con changes for 2019:** In order for the ACCT to accurately handle logistics for each of these pre-con / training courses we are requiring a minimum # of participants be pre-registered. The ACCT will be making final decisions on these courses 30 days prior to the event. If a pre-con / training course is cancelled by the ACCT a refund of that course will be offered to the registrant. ACCT is not responsible for any additional fees that may be incurred due to cancellations.

**Saturday Night Bouldering Event:** In-line with all of the schedule changes we figured by Saturday evening you'd all be ready to get out of the concrete jungle at the Convention Center and strap on your climbing shoes for a fun night of climbing. We're working with a local bouldering gym to plan a low-key networking event on Saturday evening once we've wrapped up all other official conference programming. We are still ironing out the details for this and hope to have more information to you in the coming months.

**ACCT Bookstore:** Sam Sikes with DoingWorks has graciously offered to manage a bookstore for the ACCT inside of our Expo in Denver. This is an opportunity for you to share your published books with the ACCT community!

Authors w/ books that have the desire to be included in the store need to coordinate directly with Sam. Interested persons must e-mail Sam ([sam@doingworks.com](mailto:sam@doingworks.com)) and copy Melissa Webb, ACCT Event Manager ([melissa@acctinfo.org](mailto:melissa@acctinfo.org)) by no later than December 1st, 2018.

## Miscellaneous

The Certifications, Trainings, and Pre-cons do require additional registration as they are considered "a la carte" registration items. Exhibit Hall Only Passes grant admittance to the Exhibit Hall during show hours only as well as the ACCT Awards Ceremony on Friday evening.



# 20 Meet The Team

## ACCT STAFF

### SHAWN TIERNEY

#### Executive Director



Shawn is a seasoned outdoor-industry professional based in Boulder, Colorado. He currently serves as the Executive Director with ACCT, and is

responsible for the organization's finances, HR, legal, government relations, PR/Marketing, program development, and strategic planning with the Board of Directors. Shawn has a wealth of non-profit and association management experience, having served in a variety of senior level positions with internationally recognized organizations such as the University of California at Berkeley, Outward Bound, and the Access Fund.

### MELISSA WEBB

#### Events Director



An experienced Event Director with a demonstrated history working in the recreational facilities and

services industry. Skilled in Catering, Food & Beverage, Sales, Hotel Management, and Outdoor Education. Melissa is a strong operations professional with a BSBA focused in Hospitality from Bowling Green State University. Prior to working at the ACCT, Melissa was working as a Land Sport Supervisor at the US National Whitewater Center in Charlotte, NC. Melissa's off-the-clock passions include a life dedicated to health and fitness, traveling, and spending honest authentic time with her loved ones!

### CHARLES PETERSON

#### Administrative Reviewer



Charles Peterson began his career in the challenge course industry nearly 28 years ago as a Challenge

Course Director. This is where he developed a love for the fun and growth that this tool offers. He furthered his career working for two different PVM companies, AEI, and ABEE Inc., developing skills in all facets of the industry. For 10 years Charles and wife Christie created and ran PVM company, Challenge Options, Inc. While a PVM, Charles served for 7 years on the ACCT Review Committee and is currently working as an Administrative Reviewer for the ACCT.

### JEFF BOEKE

#### Administrative Reviewer



Dr. Boeke is a founder in the global industry of adventure-based challenge course service and recognized

as a leading professional in the field of outdoor educational programming and experiential learning methodology. Currently a professor of educational leadership and adventure education at Luther College, Boeke has actively initiated and resourced extensive service throughout the U.S. (lower 48, Hawaii, Alaska), Central Europe, Asia, Central America, and Caribbean regions since the mid-eighties. Throughout his career, Dr. Boeke has designed, implemented, and administered multiple facets of adventure education programs affiliated with school systems, colleges, the U.S. military, recreational organizations, corporate training, health care services, canopy tours, and international departments of tourism.

### DAN PERVORSE

#### Administrative Reviewer



Dan Pervorse has over 30 years of experience in the challenge course industry. He is the former president of Signature

Research, Inc. He is one of the five founding board members of the ACCT and has served as editor of Parallel Lines, Treasurer, Vice President, President and Chairperson of the Board, and on the installation standards committee for 13 years. He is currently serving as an Administrative Reviewer for the ACCT.

### HEATHER BROOKS

#### Business Manager



Heather loves meeting new people and playing in the Colorado sunshine where she was born and raised. Before

starting her new adventure with ACCT as the Business Manager, she was a Guide, Manager, and Trainer at Royal Gorge Zip Line Tours. She has two amazing and energetic boys and believes nothing is achieved if you stay within your comfort zone.

### ERIC WOOD

#### Program Manager



Eric Wood recently joined the team at ACCT as the Program Manager, a role in which he will oversee accreditation and

certification processes. He comes to ACCT after working four years as the General Manager of Lake Geneva Canopy Tours in Wisconsin. He is also a level 1 in-house inspector with ACCT and is thrilled to be part of this exciting industry.



## PARTNERS

### ANGIE SPEARMAN

Exhibit Management via  
HPN Global Inc.



Angie Spearman has been planning, marketing and executing events around the globe for over 20 years. In addition to a breadth of experience in meeting and event operations, she has specialized skills in meeting technology and event marketing campaigns. Fluent in German, Angie started her event career overseas with the USO. Her experience to date includes working in the Hospitality, Association, Corporate and High Tech Industries overseeing marketing campaigns, tradeshows, incentive programs and conferences. Education: BA, Business Management.

### LAURA PURTZER

Exhibit Management via  
HPN Global Inc.



For over 10 years, Laura has been in the meeting management and event planning arena in the corporate meeting, incentive markets, and association market. She has managed and implemented all elements of the pre-planning and on-site logistics. Laura has traveled all over the globe, both professionally and personally. Having graduated from the University of Arizona in 2003, Laura now resides in Cave Creek, Arizona with her husband, and two children.

### KRISTIN VINES

Conference Site Selection via  
HPN Global Inc.



Kristin launched her career in the hospitality industry 1999 and spent more than a decade working in hotels and resorts in both group sales and marketing roles. In 2011 she joined

HPN Global a meeting and events consulting team. She is now an advocate for meeting professionals who assists in sourcing and contract meeting and events.

## CONFERENCE WORK GROUP

### ALEXIS WEBB-BECHTOLD

Workshop Coordinator



Outdoor Experiential Educator and Trainer, Eco-Artist, Photographer, Videographer, Podcaster, Vlogger, Tour Guide, Entrepreneur (X37Adventures). Alexis tries to find fun and excitement in everything she does. Her passion for adventure, outdoors, community and art is what drives her to the brink of wild enthusiasm! More than two decades ago she joined the outdoor industry and has served as a facilitator, zip guide, director, and currently trainer.

### CARINA SURFACE

Service Crew Coordinator



Carina Surface began volunteering for ACCT in 2014 serving the PR&M Committee. In January 2017, she started a new volunteer journey for the Conference Work Group as the Service Crew Co-Coordinator. Carina currently works at Thompson Island Outward Bound Education Center located in Boston, Massachusetts as the Safety and Challenge Course Manager.

### JESSICA "BIRD" BROWN

Exhibit Hall Liaison



Brown graduated from North Georgia College and State University (NGCSU) with a degree in Physical Education and a minor in Leadership. She also has her Master's degree from NGCSU in Phys Ed. Registering for a ropes course class as a student was her

first taste within the world of outdoor rec and ed. Considering that she currently serves as a collegiate outdoor rec. professional, you can assume that she was hooked from the beginning. Bird's first involvement in ACCT was in 2015 a Yellow Hat. In 2017, she joined the Conference Work Group as the Exhibit Hall Liaison. Bird loves spending time with her three-legged pit mix named Olive (please ask to see pictures) and traveling to any and all of the places.

### JASON ROSE

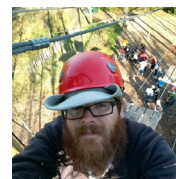
Special Projects Coordinator



I spend much of time at Wyman's camp property in Eureka, MO where I have lived and worked for 16 years. I have been with ACCT since 2007 and have served on the Conference Work Group since 2015. When I am not busy at camp you can find me relaxing lakeside or in canoe floating down the Meremac River.

### JOHN VOEGTLIN

Workshop Coordinator



John Voegtlin grew up at a summer camp with a ropes course, became a facilitator at that camp, and was dubbed the director of that adventure program at the tender age of 18. It's been over 20 years since then, and except for a couple of years where he had a "real job," he's been directing, co-directing, and facilitating programs and ropes courses ever since. He's currently a CCM-carrying mercenary facilitator in the Chicagoland area.

# 22 Meet the Team

## LEIGH CARRUTH

### Service Crew Coordinator



Leigh Carruth is a member of the fightin' Texas Aggie class of 2005 with a degree in HR Development and a Minor in Outdoor

Education. She has been a part of the Challenge Course Industry for 15 years where she started as a manager of an indoor course in Utah and since has facilitated all sorts of groups from corporate, military, sports, at risk youth, church groups as well as medical teams. Leigh was born to serve - Cancer Camp, ACCT, as well as friends & family. This conference will be her 14th year wearing her coveted yellow hat!!! She is passionate about Humans! Leigh loves baking, cycling, dancing, diet Sunkist, French fries, husband Andrew and being a mom to their four beautiful kids! She is our real life Super Woman!

## MIKE DILL

### Workshop Coordinator



Mike works at Bonclarken Conference Center in Flat Rock, NC. His experience includes overseeing and facilitating multiple

elements with people of all ages and abilities. He has worked in various camps and conference centers in Oklahoma, Colorado, Michigan and North Carolina. His passion is problem solving, excellent customer service and quality programming. Time off favorites are hanging on the beach, hikes and Disney.

## MIKE HOTZE

### Registration Coordinator

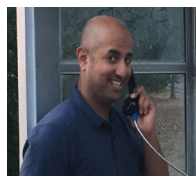


Mike Hotze is the Outdoor Education Program Director for Iredell County Parks and Recreation. He has been a yellow hat for 4 years and is

excited to be working on the conference work group. Mike has been working in the ropes challenge course field for the past 16 years. He currently resides in Mooresville, NC with his son and is working on obtaining his masters in Organization Development and Change at Penn State.

## ROHAN SHAHANI

### Registration Coordinator



Rohan Shahani is an outdoor and challenge course professional who specializes in training & risk management. He

enjoys helping people make connections, and connect concepts. When not in a tree or on a pole, he can be found near a lake or a river.

## TERRI SMITH

### Workshop Coordinator



Hey everyone! A little about me: I started out in Boy Scouts, moved to a challenge course at UCF, dabbled in a zip park

at a hotel, worked at a summer camp, and now I'm an Inspector! Along with my awesome wife, the only other thing I love in life is to keep pushing myself to be outside!

## ROBB ARMSTRONG

### Special Projects Coordinator



Robb can be described using many words but two of the first that come to mind are; enthusiastic and lanky. He has been in the adventure

education industry for the past 17 years and with ACCT since 2006. As cliché as it is, Robb does enjoy long walks on the beach and moonlit swims. He currently is the Outdoor Adventure Director at Winding Trails in Farmington CT.







## **BENJAMIN KOPP (Chair)**

As the current President of Signature Research, Inc. Ben brings the experience of seeing, firsthand, the challenges that face the companies and individuals within our industry on a daily basis. He wanted to serve as a board member because he felt a responsibility towards our industry and what it has provided for his family and his business.

By serving through his time and experience, he hopes he is able to make a positive impact on our industry. He has had the opportunity to serve previously on the ACCT Government Relations Committee. He also served on the Board of Directors as Treasurer for a small non-profit located in the greater Atlanta area since 2011. When not busy working within our company and working on ACCT Board responsibilities, he enjoys spending time with his three small children and wife Lee of 12 years. In the few moments between all of the above, he enjoys reading and flying at his local airport.

## **BAHMAN AZARM (Vice-Chair)**

Bahman Azarm is the president of Outdoor Ventures & Ropes Park Equipment. He has designed and built 30 of the largest ropes parks around the country and operates 7. He is Vice Chair of the ACCT Board, an inspector, and an industry leader in aerial adventure park training. He enjoys climbing, skiing, and playing squash in his spare time.

## **CARSON RIVERS (Treasurer)**

Carson has worked for a wide variety of both educational and commercial operations over his career. He currently serves as a Vice President within a family of companies that includes: Challenge Towers, an ACCT PVM; High Gravity Adventures, an aerial adventure park; Blue Ridge Learning Centers, an experiential education provider; and Aerial Adventure Technologies, an equipment/technology sales and distribution company.

## **SCOTT ANDREWS (Secretary)**

Scott is the Principal of Andrews Consulting, LLC DBA Northwest Teambuilding. Scott is currently serving on the Executive Committee as the Secretary for the Board of Directors. This is a dynamic time in our industry and Scott is excited to work with members to help ACCT adjust to the changes in the Industry, its membership and the regulatory environment.

Past service to the ACCT includes ten years as Chair of the ACCT Operations & Certification Standards Committee. He has been a member of the Association for many years, including four years as an Accredited ACCT PVM (Andrews Consulting, LLC).

Scott lives in Seattle with wife Laura and slightly crazy dog Tucker and whenever possible he enjoys biking or sailing. A favorite evening is to cook a simple meal, pair it with a bottle of wine, share it with friends and be part of a good conversation.

## **DYLAN BURT**

Dylan began his career as a tour guide in AK. A year after joining the company that he was guiding for, in the winter of 2004/2005, the company built a zip line canopy tour. He then began working as a zip line guide, and was shortly thereafter promoted to a Course Manager position, a few years later GM. Since then he has trained on and received training on multiple tours around the country, and managed tours in eight states. He is a Partner and former COO at Navitat Canopy Adventures, and is currently working as General Manager at Bonsai Design.

Before joining the ACCT Board of Directors, he worked on the Operation Certification Standards committee for 3 years and is currently serving as board liaison to the Standards Development Committee, and Insurance Committee. Dylan says he became a board member out of a desire to help the community that he works within. Dylan currently resides in Grand Junction, CO with wife Abigail two children Hendrix and Rosemary and dog Jack. He loves the outdoors, trees, and growing things (he's a bonsai hobbyist). Dylan spends most of his time trying to figure out how to spend more time outside!

## **SARA BELL**

Sara is a graduate of Brevard College's Wilderness Leadership and Experiential Education program. She started Green River Adventures in 2006, which she still owns and operates along with The Gorge - a zipline canopy tour in Saluda, North Carolina. Sara has served as the Vice Chair of the Economic Development Commission for Polk County, NC, the President of the Saluda Business Association, a board member of the Environmental Conservation Organization of Western NC, and is currently the Governmental Relations Chair for the North Carolina Aerial Adventure Association.

Sara looks forward to the possibility of brining her years of experience as a business owner in the adventure tourism industry in order to serve the ACCT community.

## **RYAN OLSEN**

Ryan is the President of ABEE, Inc. and has been a part of the Challenge Course industry for the past 23 years. He has a Master's Degree in Physical Education with an emphasis in Adventure Education. Becoming a Board Member came as a little bit of a surprise. He always knew that he wanted to contribute to ACCT and feels very fortunate to be able to contribute as a Board Member. Ryan enjoys working with such great people, not only on the Board, but also those that are part of the ACCT staff, PVM community, and general membership.

## **MANDY STEWART**

Mandy is CEO & Partner for ACCT Accredited Vendor ERI. She has worked within a broad spectrum of the challenge course industry, from camps and facilitation of educational use to commercial installation and operations. She is a QCP Trainer/Tester and also serves on the ASTM International F24 Committee for Amusement Rides and Devices. Aut inveniam viam aut faciam.

## **PAUL CUMMINGS**

Paul has a proven track record of over twenty years' experience consulting in the adventure field. Paul is a sought-after adventure business expert across the globe.