



## Featured Article

# LEGAL CORNER

with Reb Gregg

## Standards Standing in a Jungle

by Scott Andrews

## 10 Key Components of Great Facilitation

by Jen Stanchfield

## ACCT and Hollywood

by Victor Gallo

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# Welcome to Parallel Lines™!

We are pleased to present our Members with this online user-friendly design and format. Our goal is to provide our Members with an easy to read periodical that reflects the more modern world in which we live.

In this edition of Parallel Lines we will be sharing information about the recent ACCT Conference & Exposition. We will also be celebrating ACCT's 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

We encourage you to share Parallel Lines with your colleagues in your community. Remember you can view the publication on our website at [www.acctinfo.org](http://www.acctinfo.org). As always if you have a program, member or topic that should be included, let us know! We can be reached at [membership@acctinfo.org](mailto:membership@acctinfo.org).

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**THE NEXT ISSUE OF PARALLEL LINES WILL BE PUBLISHED IN JULY. ARTICLE SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS JUNE 1, 2013.**

## April

11  
ACCT Board Conference Call

12  
Parallel Lines - Spring Edition

24-26  
ACCT Exhibiting at AAHPERD Conference

## May

2  
ACCT Participating in ASTM F24.60 Virtual Meeting

9  
ACCT Board Conference Call

15  
ACCT Public Comment Period Ends for revised standard, BSR/ACCT 03-201x

## June

30  
End of ACCT Fiscal Year

## About ACCT

The Association for Challenge Course Technology, (ACCT) is a recognized standards developer by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and was responsible for the development of the first Challenge Course Technology standards originally published in 1994. These internationally recognized standards are currently being maintained by ACCT through our accredited ANSI public comment process.

ACCT has served as the leading trade association for the Challenge Course industry, (including Aerial/Adventure Parks, Zip Lines, Canopy Tours, Team Challenge Courses, and Climbing Structures) worldwide since its inception. Currently ACCT has 41 accredited Professional Vendor Members (PVM's) and over 2600 Individual and Organizational members globally.

### What is a Challenge Course?

Challenge Courses are organized environments relying on structures that are composed of, but not limited to, poles, buildings, trees, beams and cables. They may incorporate, but are not limited to, specialized technology and components such as fall arrest systems, trolleys, pulleys, harnesses and ropes. Operation often includes, but is not limited to, staff managed and participant-directed activity by groups and/or individuals navigating challenges where the perception of risk is an essential component to the overall experience. They are managed by qualified professionals functioning under standards including those developed by the Association for Challenge Course Technology.

Examples of Challenge Course Technology include Aerial/Adventure Parks, Zip Lines, Canopy Tours, Team Challenge Courses and Climbing Structures.

## ACCT Open Comment Period



ACCT (Association for Challenge Course Technology) wishes to announce the opening of a public comment period of their revised standard, BSR/ACCT 03-201x, Challenge Course and Canopy/Zip Line Tour Standards.

The public comment period began on March 15th and will close on May 15th, 2013.

Obtain an electronic copy from: [www.acctinfo.org](http://www.acctinfo.org).

To obtain a comment form please contact Bill Weaver, Director of Operations and Secretary for the Consensus Group at: [bill@acctinfo.org](mailto:bill@acctinfo.org).

All comments must be sent to: [standardsmanagement@acctinfo.org](mailto:standardsmanagement@acctinfo.org) (with copy to [psa@ansi.org](mailto:psa@ansi.org)).

## 2013 ACCT Membership Rollout Update

The New Membership Categories & Benefits were officially rolled out the beginning of February 2013. There are four phases to the rollout, with the first to be completed by June 29, 2013. As part of Phase 1, all Category & Benefit information will be updated to reflect the new Membership Package:

- 4/18/13 - All Membership web pages will be updated with the new Membership Categories & Benefits
- 4/18/13 - Registration Form will be updated
- 4/18/13 - Membership Categories will be updated on the backdoor of the website
- To be announced - Ability to post and view resumes online

If you have questions regarding the new Membership Categories or Benefits please contact the Membership Manager at [membership@acctinfo.org](mailto:membership@acctinfo.org). Updates will continue to be posted on the monthly ACCT Clipboard.





## Energy!

by Michelle Hepler  
ACCT Board Chair

For me, upon returning from ACCT's 20th birthday celebration and awesome conference in Nevada, I must say that the word that keeps coming to mind is ENERGY. I have reflected over and over on my experiences at past conferences, the significance of sharing with over 1000 attendees our most recent conference, and of course the association work that happens throughout the year, in addition to these events.

As Chair of this Association, I truly can not begin to express the amount of ENERGY that these thoughts fill me with inside. My attempt to do so can be found in the words that will follow...

**EXCITEMENT.** I am filled with excitement over our Association's growth in conference attendance, membership diversity, and what those things (and individuals) bring to the table for ACCT. The monumental projects that we have recently completed and the relationships with other organizations and associations that we have established over the years are truly significant. But for me, the thought of our current project list and where we are going together, is what really bubbles with excitement!

**NETWORKING.** I hear the word networking on a regular basis, when discussing with people what they like most about attending our conferences, or being a part of this Association. Opportunities for networking are found in abundance - at our conferences and symposiums, during committee meetings, and probably, most commonly, within our membership. By far, networking creates a sense of community and allows for sharing of ideas, business or program tools, that cannot be found in a book or online, but only through conversations and discussions.

**EDUCATION.** As one of our Strategic Plan core strategies, education continues to be a strong foundation in our Association. The leadership and founding members of this

Association developed ACCT with Experiential Education backgrounds. Our conferences and symposiums are designed as and continue to serve as educational forums. We learn from each other. We must seize every opportunity we can to emphasize and maintain that educational component for current and future generations of membership, for our industry.

**"...more than 13 committees, task forces, or work groups power this association on a daily basis, with more than 75 volunteer positions."**

**RE-ENERGIZE.** Even after 8 straight days of meetings, presentations, and events, I still return from each ACCT conference re-energized. I know it is hard to believe, but the excitement, the networking, the education all filled me with a sense of ENERGY. I'm often amazed at amount of fresh ideas, new concepts, new contacts, and new plans!

**GRATITUDE.** When think of the work that ACCT is doing, I am filled with gratitude. Our Association could not function without the unbelievable amount of volunteers, committee members,

financial support, professional staff, and passionate individuals found in our industry. Being a part of this group of dedicated professionals is something that leaves me feeling very proud and with an overwhelming sense of gratitude. Did I say Thank You? Let me express my gratitude!

**YOUNG.** In today's world, 20 years old is often considered still young. 20 year-olds seldom have had time to live, experience trials and tribulations, or reach that stage of maturity expected by today's society. While ACCT has been around for a number of years, (20!!), we are still very young. We have so much more ahead of us when it comes to our work and our contribution to this industry. It is probably a good thing we are so young, otherwise, we probably would not have the ENERGY to take on such strategic planning, education and advocacy on behalf of our membership! ;-)

So again, you ask, what comes to mind when I reflect on my involvement with ACCT? I can sum it up in one word, ENERGY.

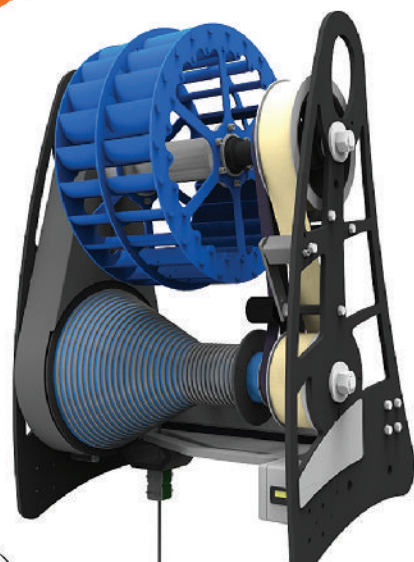
**Excitement  
Networking  
Education  
Re-energize  
Gratitude  
Young**

I am filled with it and embracing it - I hope you are too!



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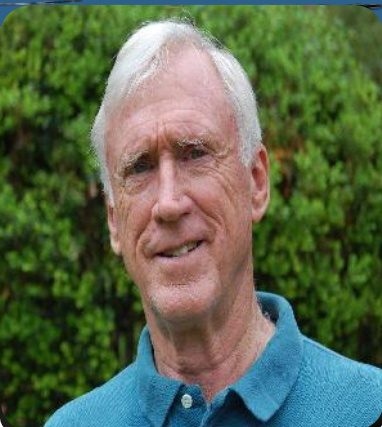
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**Featured Article**

## Legal Corner

by Reb Gregg

### Understanding Your Legal Duty of Care

Understanding and meeting your legal duty of care is important because, first, it's nice to take care of folks, and second, a duty of care is an essential element of a claim of negligence. The components of negligence, remember, are: 1) a legal duty of care is/was owed; 2) the duty was not met; 3) the breach of duty caused a loss.

The legal duty of care owed by one person to another, generally speaking, is to avoid causing unreasonable harm. The standard of conduct required is that of a reasonable person, acting under the same or similar circumstances. ACCT operators, constructors, trainers and inspectors are expected to act as reasonable persons in those positions would act.

Note the factor of "reasonableness" (not, please, "best practices", or excellence); and the objective nature of the test (the "reasonable person" test). Note, too, that the harm to be avoided must be unreasonable. There is reasonable harm: for example, harm arising from the inherent risks of an activity, or harm from a risk assumed by the client, or harm a claim for which has been released. A legal duty of care is not owed to everyone, everywhere and always. For a legal duty to exist at all, the

parties must have some relationship to each other. (In the absence of a statute, or special relationship, for example, one ordinarily does not have a legal duty to rescue a stranger.) And the harm which might result from a party's acts or omissions must be foreseeable.

**"The legal duty of care owed by one person to another, generally speaking, is to avoid causing unreasonable harm."**

The nature of the duty – that is, how much and what sort of care must be exercised - will vary, and includes the following factors, among others: 1) the reasonable expectations of the parties (created by promises, representations, conduct, etc.) ; 2) a significant disparity in the knowledge and experience of the parties (for example, staff on the one hand, and a participant on the other); 3) laws, standards and prevailing practices, which may impose or shape a duty; and 4) special relationships.

In certain (special) relationships, the duty to avoid unreasonable harm includes the duty to protect another from harm: that is, a duty to not only refrain from causing harm, but to protect another from harm. The special relationships which create this duty to protect include relationships wherein the client has surrendered control of her or his well-being to the service provider. Think, here, of common carriers, and rafting excursions in which the guides do all the paddling and route setting.

Members of ACCT should presume that, in performing their customary services, they have a duty to protect clients from harm. In the next issue of Parallel Lines we will discuss how one's legal duty of care can be reduced. Until then, ponder this: how does the legal duty of care owed by the facilitator of a traditional challenge course compare to the legal duty of care owed by an aerial tour operator?



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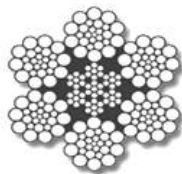
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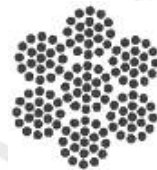
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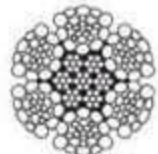
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## Standards Standing in a Jungle

by Scott Andrews

Chairman

Operations and Certifications Committee

I have just returned from an eye opening trip to Brazil. So what do you do about staff access when trees are not stapled because the tree will die quickly or literally spit staples out in 6 months? My neatly tied assumptions about what staff access look like took a beating when I watch the course manager pull a 6 month old staple out of a tree with his hand. I needed to see what they do with wider eyes. I also needed to see the application of the standards in broader terms. In this part of Brazil, staff access is hard work and that is ok. The answers are not complex however they take looking at the new place with an understanding of the intent of the standards not just the letter of the standard or my preconceived notions of acceptable.

More times than I can count, I heard, "what do the standards say about this?" This group of 22 people from 6 countries and speaking 6 different languages were all hungry for the standards. Representing courses from Kamchatka, Russia to the western Amazon of Brazil, they challenged me to think about how the standards apply in so many places. I was challenged to respond about how the standards apply in so many places with different concerns about their course. The number of times I have I said in a presentation that the standards are intended to function

internationally? Now I had to put those words into action. Here are some examples.

When you show up to do training at a course in a country where there are no third party professional inspectors, what do you do? Well, you do an inspection. This is an important but unintended consequence of the new training standards.

What kind of LOP do you write for access prevention of access by monkeys? What standard addresses procedures for training staff to respond to Russian Brown Bears wondering under the high course? What do you do with standards about "Spotting" when Portuguese has no word for Spotting? How does that get translated and put into practice?

I have a few answers after this experience and find most of all that I am more sure than ever, that the standards can be truly international. We have to reach with wide open arms to those whose greatest challenge is not insurance or liability but how to keep Anacondas from climbing up trees while staff are working in the trees.

I hope that as an association and as individuals we can maintain the spirit of welcome and inclusion. Let us welcome these worldwide practitioners to the ACCT table with open arms.





## 20 Years Strong!

by James Borishade  
Executive Director

I can remember it like it was yesterday. The doctor looked at me and said, "Mr. Borishade, you have a daughter!" What joy I felt knowing that I was now the proud father of a beautiful baby girl. As I gazed into her eyes for the first time and saw her smile, I knew I did not want to miss one moment of her life.

I've had the opportunity to participate in every major milestone of her life. I can remember her first day of kindergarten and her little Ruggats book bag. I remember her first modeling competition and how she would not go on stage until she knew exactly where I was sitting in the audience. It has been 20 years and through those years, we have grown together, laughed together and on occasion, we have even cried together. Over the last 20 years, I've seen my daughter grow from being daddy's little girl into a smart, confident, young adult. It seems like her growth accelerated during her last few teenage years. She is now considered a young adult. And as a young

adult she has more responsibility and more accountability. I'm proud to say she is handling it well! This year ACCT celebrates 20 years as an association. The founding fathers and mothers of this association have a lot to be proud of. Over the last 20 years, ACCT has grown into a responsible, dependable association. ACCT would not be where it is today if it were not for our members, volunteers and board of directors. ACCT would like to thank everyone who has been a part of our 20 year journey. We are 20 years strong because of you. To every committee member (former and current) we thank you. You have given your time and resources for the betterment of your industry.

We salute you and look forward to continuing the legacy you have built. We thank every board member (former and current). Your leadership and guidance has shaped this association. Last but certainly not least, to every staff member (current and former) we thank you. Your commitment to excellence is the foundation on which we stand. We are better because of all of you. We are 20 Years Strong because of all of you. We are poised for greatness because of all of you! In the coming weeks and months we will continue to celebrate the past; we will be diligent in caring for the present; and we will meticulously prepare for the future!

## ACCT Inspector Certification (ICE)

The first ACCT Inspector Certification Exam (ICE) was offered and administered at this year's International Conference & Expo. Congratulations to all of you who took and passed the exam!

If you are interested in learning more about the ICE program or are already an ACCT Certified Inspector and have questions please go to [www.acctcertifications.com](http://www.acctcertifications.com). Please submit any further questions you may have to the ACCT Inspector Certification Exam Committee by sending your questions to [membership@acctinfo.org](mailto:membership@acctinfo.org).





## Inspire Initiate Innovate!

by Cynthia Paris

Conference Committee Chair

Inspire Initiate Innovate! This year's annual conference at Red Rock in Las Vegas was truly fulfilling this theme as a record setting, 1,000 plus ACCT members flocked to the event to soak up more than just the desert sunshine. A big thank you to all who attended, exhibited, and presented! For much appreciated inspiration, over a hundred workshops were presented by experienced professionals. There was something for everyone this year. Close to gorgeous hiking and climbing in the Red Rock canyons, this was not a typical Vegas location.

Some attendees took advantage of nearby climbing and hiking opportunities to further their inspiration. Others took an evening trip to the historic Las Vegas strip or went to one of the hundreds of restaurants a short drive away.

Exhibitors took initiative to step up and create an elaborate sold out exhibit hall. Displays were more creative and more interesting than ever before. Trees and towers seemed to grow up from the floor, while shipyard crates and working displays highlighted our unique industry. When you needed a break, seats and quieter lounges were a great place to share project dreams. Soon dreams become reality as these professionals put their ideas into play. Latest technology was displayed and shared while a fun atmosphere was enjoyed around the hall. A booth crawl, with appetizers and beverages was held the first night. Attendees visited sponsoring booths amid the social atmosphere. One lucky winner received a conference registration for next year in Orlando! Celebrities flooded the hall on Friday night for some interesting entertainment! Booths competed with themes such as Austin Powers, Mad men martini lounge and Princess bride. We still are not sure who was behind the Cleopatra mask, the superhero

costumes or the Mae West red sequin dress! The buzz has already started about what will be next year's exhibit hall themes in Orlando! Submit your ideas and you could win a prize. Thank you to our exhibitors for providing a solid support system for ACCT members. You are the backbone of our annual conference and we look forward to seeing you in Orlando in 2014.

Colorful stories of early days in the rainforest canopy held intrigue as our keynote speaker, Dr. Don Perry shared his views on aerial innovation. Breathtaking images of frogs, flowers and unique species found at treetop heights were highlights of his talk. We have come a long way since the early days, and we celebrated ACCT's 20th birthday with plenty of cake at Saturday night's closing ceremony.

Experts inspired us during in-depth presentations during the pre-conference day on Thursday. Great discussion was had on personal protective gear, canopy and zipline hot topics, fun stuff games, processing topic of transforming drama, open forum for course managers, rescue systems, tree biology and visual inspection and social media marketing. A post conference session was added Sunday for Canopy Tours & Zipline industry. Over the next

few months, the ACCT office and conference committee works hard to select topics that will provide learning opportunity for our members. Please fill out the conference survey or send an email telling us what you would like to attend or lead. In consideration are adding additional offerings during 2 pre-conference days and more sessions post-conference. What innovative ideas would you like to see?

A special thank you to the ACCT staff and entire conference committee for working together to create another unique conference. Planning for next year in sunny Orlando, Florida is underway now. Our location at Renaissance Sea World offers an opportunity to combine the annual conference with a family trip. Maybe this is the year to bring your spouse and kids or family and friends? Watch the ACCT website for more information.

Next year, we look forward to seeing familiar faces and activities while trying out some new additions to the conference. Your feedback is always appreciated, the sooner the better. If you have an idea, or would like to look closer at helping plan and run this great event, please contact the ACCT office or contact me at [cparisconsulting@gmail.com](mailto:cparisconsulting@gmail.com).

### A Special Thanks to the Conference Committee & Service Crew

The ACCT staff would like to thank the 2013 Conference Committee & Service Crew for putting on a great conference! We look forward to seeing what you have in store for us next year!!!

James Borishade  
Executive Director

## 2013 ACCT Conference Sponsors

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## ACCT and Hollywood

by Victor Gallo

Canopy Tour/Zip Line Committee Chair

In the past few years while rigging bridges, zip lines and other aerial effects for film projects in Costa Rica, I have encountered the Production companies with the question..."What safety measures do you use or what standards will you be using for this job?" My obvious answer is ACCT. Some explanation comes in handy as well where I mention that the main purpose of the systems we use are for human transport via wire ropes, harnesses, and heavy duty hardware. Considering the stunt rigging industry has a much lower safety factor than what we use, ACCT standards and procedures are being accepted by film producers and their insurance companies around the world. The fact that the safety of famous actors, screaming pigs, grips, gaffers and cameras worth hundreds of thousands of dollars can equate to a Challenge Course program or a Zip tour really puts us up there. Is it possible that ACCT is getting more recognition in other fields and applications or can we see another branch of and ever growing industry? In any case it's good to see the "ACTION".





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## ACCT Committees

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Adam Bondeson, Chair  
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### Finance Committee

No Chair at this time

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## ACCT Logo Usage Policy

by ACCT PR & Marketing Committee

The Association's logo is a trademark and the property of ACCT. However, ACCT may grant a license to use the ACCT member logo to specific members that are in good standing.

To use the ACCT Logo Organizational and Professional Vendor Members must receive written consent from ACCT's Main Office. Permission may be granted for use on Business Cards, Letterheads, Websites and Brochures.

When using the Logo on printed material and websites please consider including the following statements that are appropriate to explain your relationship to ACCT.

### Organizational Members

We are an Organizational Member with the Association for Challenge Course Technology (ACCT) and our products and services are independent of those offered by ACCT. We are not an agent of ACCT nor does ACCT warrant, endorse, or approve any product or service offered by us.

### Professional Vendor Members

We are an Accredited Professional Vendor Member (PVM) of the Association for Challenge Course Technology (ACCT). Our company has undergone an extensive peer review process and has been accredited to provide practitioner certification trainings, course installation, and course inspections. Insert the option(s) that is appropriate for your company.

If permission is granted to use the member logo, the ACCT member logo should be printed using ACCT member logo received from ACCT and not a newly rendered logo. The logo can be used in black and white or grayscale. The right to use the ACCT member logo shall terminate and be revoked upon the authorized member's failure to remain in good standing, in the event of misuse by the member as determined by ACCT, or any other breach of this Policy for Use. Upon such termination and/or revocation, the unauthorized member will remove the ACCT member logo from all materials, products, and services, regardless of whether such materials, products, and services are preprinted or preexisting at that time.

Legal action can be taken against anyone who uses the ACCT member logo in violation of the above policy. For permission to use the ACCT member logo, please contact the ACCT Business office.

## ACCT MEMBERSHIP

### Student/Senior Membership

Any individual participating in full-time studies at a recognized educational institution. Proof of student status required. Senior status applies to individuals who are 60+ years old.

Membership period: 1 year  
Annual Membership dues: \$65 USD

### Individual Membership

Any individual interested in being connected to the ACCT community and gaining access to the professional challenge course industry and its resources. Membership benefits apply to one person.

Membership period: 1 year  
Annual Membership dues: \$85 USD

### Organizational Membership

Any organization interested in being connected to the ACCT community and gaining access to the professional challenge course industry and its resources. Membership benefits apply to the organization and its employees.

Membership period: 1 year  
Annual Membership dues: \$275 USD \$200 Non-Profit USD  
(Must provide proof of non-profit status)

### Professional Vendor Member

Companies who have successfully completed an ACCT application for Professional Vendor Member status. Membership benefits apply to the company and its employees.

Membership period: 1 year  
Annual Membership dues: \$1,800 USD

### ACCT Membership Office

The ACCT Membership Office handles membership services, conference coordination, registrations, standards sales, and general office duties for ACCT.

ACCT  
PO Box 47  
Deerfield, IL 60015  
phone +1.800.991.0286; fax +1.800.991.0287  
e-mail: info@acctinfo.org  
web: www.acctinfo.org





## Facilitators Toolbox: 10 Key Components of Great Facilitation

by Jen Stanchfield



Thank you to everyone who attended this year's "Facilitator's Toolbox Live" session at the annual conference. There was some amazing energy in the room and we packed a lot of sharing and exploration of the art of facilitation into an hour and a half. We centered the workshop around a list I put together of 10 Key Components of Great Facilitation:

1) Create Strong beginnings and Meaningful Endings: We discussed the importance of drawing group members into the experience from the moment they walk in the door with engaging reflective activities to create context, and help them transition into the learning experience. Equally important is helping them



tie it all together as they leave the program with meaningful closing activities. Sometimes using the same activity for both purposes can help a group see how far they have come in an experience (see my previous Facilitator's Toolbox article on strong beginnings and bookending

experiences, spring, 2011).

2) Knowing the "Why" Behind What We Do. It is always great to add more activities to our toolkit, but it is even more important to understand why we choose the approaches we do. There is great information available from the emerging field of educational neuroscience that offers valuable insights into how people learn best.

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3) Participant Centered Facilitation: One of the key tenets of experiential education is the importance of participant ownership, choice, and control. We can weave opportunities into our programs for participants to make choices and gain a sense of ownership from the very first activity we facilitate.

4) Ongoing Engaging Reflective Practice: Instead of just viewing reflection as a follow up "debrief" I like to think of reflection as an ongoing, enjoyable, and meaningful part of programs that can be integrated

throughout (see "Processing in the Middle" Facilitator's Toolbox Article, Summer, 2010).

5) Upcycling Icebreakers and Games as Reflection and Review Strategies: We explored a number of ways facilitators can "upcycle" or repurpose icebreakers and games they already know as effective reflection and review strategies.

6) Use of Metaphor, Art, Writing, and Other Twists on the Traditional Sharing Circle: We shared alternatives to the didactic, verbal question and answer session and explored ways to engage group members in reflective activities that are active, engaging and use all of their senses including creative expression, metaphor, and active dialogue.

7) Time spent up front on group building pays off later! We spent a lot of time on activities that set the tone for a program, and establish rapport between group members. Positive group norms are developed through this intentional time up front. We shared how important it is to give group building the time and attention needed to promote engagement and enhance learning outcomes later on in a program.

8) Thoughtful Sequencing and Scaffolding: Facilitation is like cooking. There are key ingredients that make

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teaching, with careful observation of their group's needs and the art of knowing which "ingredients" to add when (See Fall 2010, Facilitator's Toolbox article).

9) Attitude is Everything: Our attitudes and expectations make all of the difference. (See Inspired Educator Blog Post/Experiential Tools "Attitude is Everything.

10) Experiment!!! What our Facilitator's Toolbox workshop is all about, experimenting with the possibilities in group facilitation. Don't be afraid to try something new even if you don't have all of the details worked out. Sometimes your group members can teach you ways to use an activity that never crossed your mind!

This year I brought my vintage toolbox filled with a variety of tools to the conference. As group members entered the room I asked them to choose a tool that represents their view of the most important "tool" to have in one's facilitation toolkit- whether it is a method, approach, a philosophy, or attitude. Here are some of tools group members chose and the most important aspects of facilitation they shared:

"I chose the Allen wrench set, because facilitating is often like picking a wrench and putting it into the hole only to find out you have the wrong size, so you keep trying until something fits, gains leverage, and turns for the better."

"I chose the piece of elastic because in my mind the most important key to good facilitation is being flexible. I come prepared with an agenda and goals for the day, but I have to adjust the changing needs of my groups and welcome the unexpected learning

opportunities for learning that arise."

"I chose the matches: To me they are a symbol of using activities to ignite the spark of learning in participants."

"I chose the battery. The battery represents the importance of energy from the facilitator in a program they are facilitating. The level of energy and passion a facilitator puts into a program will play a big role in the outcomes experienced in the group. If I run a program with a group and am bored with the activities I am facilitating, then why should I expect the group to be excited about it?"

Also the more energy I put into learning about the group and what they do before the program starts normally results in a more structured program tailored to the group, and the outcome of this will be the group digging deeper in the activities and getting more growth out of the program for them to take home with them."

Group members shared many of their favorite tricks, tools and variations on activities. Mark Suroviec of Winshape Wilderness shared this great no prop activity he calls "Post-Modern Rock, Paper, Scissors" which he uses as an icebreaker, as way to explore the value of creativity, or to spark reflection on values and different points of view. Here is his description:

Objective: To play Rock, Paper, Scissors with ANYTHING except for Rock, Paper or Scissors.

Directions: Ask participants to get in groups of three. Inform the participants that they are going to play RPS, but they are not allowed to choose Rock, Paper, or Scissors. Instead they have the

freedom to choose anything they can think of. (Elephant, Lion, Crying Baby, Bulldozer, TNT, Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich, Godzilla, Volcano, Black Hole, Peace on Earth, etc.). Two of the people in the group will play against each other, while the third person will act as the judge to determine the winner.

The players will face each other and say "1, 2, 3 Shoot". On "Shoot" they will make the sign or motion for their choice. Sound effects are strongly encouraged. After the players present their choice, they have 30 seconds to make a case for why their choice is superior. After hearing both sides the judge picks a winner. The game is played three times so each person has a chance to play twice and judge once.

Encourage the group to have fun and be creative. They often will enjoy it more by choosing ridiculous things.

Variations:

Play the game tournament style until one winner is chosen by the group. Play the game without the judge as a way to encourage creative thinking.

Created by Mark Suroviec at WinShape Wilderness. Original idea/concept by Gretchen Goldman at Georgia Tech Leadership Challenge Course.

Join us for "Facilitator's Toolbox Live" next year in Orlando. Please send any questions or comments to Jennifer Stanchfield at [jen@experientialtools.com](mailto:jen@experientialtools.com).



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Would you like to be a part of an ACCT Committee? We are currently taking applications for various committees. Please see the ACCT website or contact the ACCT office for an application.

### Other Opportunities

There are many ACCT Committees that could use volunteers to help accomplish specific tasks such as creating a brochure for a certain subject matter, helping to obtain auction items for the live auction at the conference, and many, many others. We are looking for various types of skills and people who want to be involved without the same level of time commitment as being involved on a committee. ACCT will soon be adding the option on your member portal where you can either list the skills you have to offer or sign up for a specific task that is listed. An announcement will be sent out to the membership when this feature is up and running.

## Did You Know?

Canopy tours originated in the lush rainforest of Costa Rica where adventurous biologists, desperate to study the diversity of animal life that habituates the upper canopy level of forests, devised a system of cables and platforms that would allow them to explore this previously inaccessible ecosystem.

It wasn't long before this developed into a breathtaking eco-tourism activity that not only allowed people to enter and experience the upper realm of a rainforest, but raised awareness to the plight and beauty of the world's endangered indigenous forests.

## Fun Facts

by Trudy Robbins

### APRIL

- APRIL is a month for gardening – GARDEN Month encourages for planting, growing, and spending time creating a beautiful, healthy and productive environment. Gardening and growing plants is good for you, encouraging relaxation, cooperation, and a sense of achievement.
- Wednesday, April 10th is "Sibling Day."
- Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> is "Earth Day."

### MAY

- MAY is PHOTO month - Digital cameras, instant printing and powerful software has made photography widely available and accessible; some cameras on mobile phones have more power than commercial cameras from less than a decade ago, and the pace of improvement continues. Photo Month encourages you to use all of this technology and power, and to take some incredible photographs.
- Saturday, May 4th is "Firefighter's Day."
- Monday, May 20th is "Maritime Day."

### JUNE

- June is Camping Month, and time to stock up on marshmallows! Pack the tent or stock the caravan, and head out into the countryside. Get away from desks, television and the internet for a couple of days and experience the tranquility of camping out in the open world.
- Sunday, June 2nd is "Cancer Survivor's Day."
- Saturday, June 27th is "Wife Appreciation Day."

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	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months
Position 1	\$400 per month	\$375 per month	\$350 per month
Position 2	\$350 per month	\$325 per month	\$275 per month
Position 3	\$300 per month	\$275 per month	\$250 per month





Founded in 1993, The Association for Challenge Course Technology (ACCT) is the world's leading and largest American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Accredited Standards Developer focused specifically and solely on the challenge course industry. It is the mission of the organization to establish and promote the standard of care that defines professional practice and effective challenge course programs.

The Association for Challenge Course Technology is a nonprofit trade association with a main office in Illinois and satellite offices in Maryland and Washington. Parallel Lines is the organization's publication sent to all of our affiliates and friends. With member organizations across the United States, Europe, Asia, the Caribbean, Canada, Japan, Korea, Central America and worldwide, ACCT is the leading organization dedicated to supporting professionals in the challenge course industry.

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