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SPECIAL  
POINTS OF IN-  
TEREST:

- \* **Deadline to get the special rate at Opryland Hotel is October 7, 2008. Use the code X-TABA8 when making reservations.**

## Conference Deadlines

It's that time of year again; the annual TABA conference is quickly approaching, and registration deadlines are quickly approaching. The deadline for early registration is October 15, 2008. The deadline to get the special TABA rate at Gaylord Opryland Hotel is October 7, 2008. (that's coming up real soon.) Make sure to use the code X-TABA8 when reserving your room. For those who have never stayed at the Opryland Hotel before it is one of the most amazing places you will ever see, and we are fortunate enough to be able to hold our conference there for the second straight year.

This year's conference should hold many exciting and stimulating presentations, so make sure you submit your registration as soon as possible.



## From the President . . .

The 2008 Annual TABA Conference is quickly approaching! We have exciting invited and local presenters on the program this year. The program should be posted on the TABA website by the second week of October. Please pre-register for the 2008 TABA Conference at: [www.taba.org](http://www.taba.org). You can also go ahead and pay your CEU fees online.

I would like to take this opportunity to let everyone know that the TABA annual business meeting will be held on Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup> during lunch time. A light lunch will be provided for all those attending the business meeting. All TABA members are invited and encouraged to attend. At last years meeting we spent time discussing the need to increase attendance for the TABA business meeting. I would like to encourage all of you to get involved, even if that just means attending the business meeting, expressing your opinions and voting for next years Executive Committee members. We are currently accepting nominations for President, East, Middle and West Tennessee Representatives, as well as Student Representative. If you are interested in volunteering your time by participating in a TABA committee, this meeting will be a great opportunity for you to find out more about TABA's various committees.

At the TABA business meeting we will also be discussing our current efforts to obtain 501(c)3 status. The Executive Committee voted to meet with someone who specializes in helping organizations obtain 501(c)3 status. After years of efforts on the part of countless TABA officer's we still have not reached our goal of obtaining nonprofit status. We felt that it is time for professional consultation in this area so that we may better serve our membership. Our goal is to have met with this consultant prior to the annual business meeting so that we may report TABA's progress to you and further discuss obtaining 501(c)3 status with the TABA membership.

On a much more exciting note, I would like to let you all know that your CEU fees from last year have been put towards a great cause. The TABA Conference CEU fee was implemented in 2007 for two reasons. The first purpose was to assist in covering the costs associated with providing CEU's to conference attendees. The second purpose of the CEU fee was to allow TABA to have funds that could be awarded to student members to help cover the costs associated with obtaining board certification. We will be sending out applications in the next week to disseminate this information to students, recent graduates and those in post doctoral appointments. The application outlines the eligibility requirements. Please pass this information along to anyone you know that may qualify for this award. Those receiving the award will be announced at the TABA business meeting. We will be taking applicants for this award every year, so please encourage any students you know to become TABA members, as one requirement is to have been a member of TABA for at least one year!

In closing, I would like to thank all of you who have volunteered your time and effort to keep TABA going. This includes those who started this organization over 10 years ago, to our current Publications Committee, Professional Standards Committee, Membership Committee, and last but not least, our 2008 Continuing Education Committee who has been planning our TABA conference for the last year.

I look forward to seeing you in November!  
Nea Houchins-Juárez  
TABA President

# Currently Scheduled

**T. Vollmer**

Three Kinds of Translational Research

**K. Macurik**

STEP – A Level System That Works

**C. Roantree**

Collaboration of Behavior Analysis and Psychopharmacology in Two Case Studies at Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital

**Shook**

TBA

**Otto**

TBA

**There**

**are**

**more**

**Events**

**still**

**T. Beeson**

ABA, Positive Behavior Supports and Person Centered Planning: managing different conceptual frameworks in the development of effective behavior supports within adult services.

**S. Glenn**

Some Distinguishing Features of Radical Behaviorism

**K. Lane (2)**

**FIRST presentation:**

Illustrations of How to Use Behavior Screening Measures to Assess Risk and Identify Students for Targeted Supports in the K-12 Continuum.

**SECOND presentation:**

Designing Functional Assessment-Based Interventions Using a Systematic Approach: A Promising Practice for Supporting Challenging Behavior

**J. Fox**

Issues in evaluating behavior change in school-wide positive behavior support programs: Implications for research and practice

**C. Skinner**

Interspersal and Choice: Increasing the Probability of Students Engaging in Assigned Work.

**McGrew et al**

TBA

**Chub, Darling, Lunsford**

TBA

# Posters

## **Bruhn**

Utilizing a Function-Based Intervention to Reduce Off-Task Behavior in a Job-Share General Education Classroom

## **Goldman**

Functional Assessment and Intervention for a Sixth Grade Student with Attention Deficit/ Hyperactivity Disorder.

## **McDaniel**

Differential effects of morphine and naloxone on escape and reflex responses to nociceptive thermal stimuli in the rat.

## **Parker**

The Effects of a Differential Attention Intervention to Decrease Student Disruptive Behavior.

## **Smith**

It Works for Teachers Too! The Effects of the Good Behavior Game on Praise.

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**TABA** is here  
 to advance the  
 awareness,  
 development &  
 access to the  
 practice of  
 behavior analysis  
 in the state of  
 Tennessee.

# Bookstore Open Again

Last year's book store was such a success that it's opening again this year. Besides creating the opportunity to provide stimulating reading to the members of TABA, the bookstore generates revenue for the organization. If you have any ideas for books to add to the list or would like to help with the bookstore during the conference, contact Nea Houchins-Juarez

## Tentative Booklist for the

1. Tactics of Scientific Research Evaluating Experimental Data in Psychology, Murray Sidman
2. Coercion and Its Fallout, Murray Sidman
3. Activity Schedules for Children with Autism, Lynn McClannahan and Patric Krantz
4. Applying Behavior Analysis Across the Autism Spectrum: A Field Guide for Practitioners, Beth Sulzer-Azaroff and Associates
5. Ethics at Work, Darnell Lattal, Ph.D and Ralph W. Clark, Ph.D.
6. The Tough Kid Tool Box, Ginger Rhode, H. Kenton Reavis, & William R. Jenson
7. The Assessment of Basic Language & Learning Skills (ABLIS) 2006 Revised Edition



**We' re on the web!**

# DMR Mess: Those who fail to learn from history . .

By Robert Peets

As many of you know and as mentioned in the last newsletter, the Division of Mental Retardation Services in Tennessee is in the process of changing Behavior Analyst services (along with all other services) again. This represents yet another huge paradigm shift in how services are provided to people with developmental and cognitive disabilities.

If I were to lay one enormous criticism at the feet of the Division it would be that the leadership is hopelessly reactive to the events in the immediate future without much long term focus or planning. In behavior analysis, we would define this as “impulsive behavior.” When I started working in this field in 1992, I worked in a six person group home with one other staff member on duty. Five of those six individuals had significant behavior problems. Interventions to address these behaviors (when they existed) were not formally trained and I don’t remember ever seeing one written down. They focused heavily on consequences, and a great deal of the time using the now prohibited take downs and prone restraints. Staff were poorly trained, supervised, and screened. It sounds like a recipe for disaster and it was. Shortly afterward things started to change, prompted mostly by law suits against the state’s developmental centers and a

push to get people out of them and into the community.

Ten years ago, I attended an ISP training session put on by the division that taught me that we should “teach people how to fly.” The accompanying story described a man who wanted to fly, and his circle of support arranged for him to parachute from an airplane. People were promised the stars and sky in order to get them out of the institutions. People who had never lived in an institution got the dirt and the rocks. Behavior services were created with no standards, no requirements for what these services entailed, and virtually no oversight.

It sounds like a recipe for disaster and it was. Along came CMS who put the whole Division on moratorium. In response, the Division created grand systems of monitoring and threw buckets of money at agencies. This time, the goal was to get off of moratorium and get people off of the waiting list.

Sounds like a recipe for disaster and it was. The money ran out. Now the Division is taking up a medical necessity model, cutting services, taking people from successful living arrangements and putting them into unsuccessful ones. Now the goal is to stay within “the budget,” and get more people off of the waiting list. To do this, the Division plans on putting more people in to homes together with fewer staff, limit access to therapy services, and deny Behavior Analyst services to people who don’t succeed and to those who do succeed.

Sounds like a recipe for disaster. . . (please re-read this article in three years).

**This article  
reflects the  
opinion of  
the author  
and not  
necessarily  
that of**



## 2008 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Register on-line ([www.taba.org](http://www.taba.org)) or mail form and payment to: Jason Otto, TABA, P.O. Box 1111, Cookeville, TN 38503-1111.

Please make checks payable to TABA. If you have questions, please email Jason Otto at [Jason.otto@taba.org](mailto:Jason.otto@taba.org).

Name (Last, first, middle initial) \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Mailing Address (for all ABA mailings) \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Mailing Address 2 \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Country, Postal/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone # (include area code) \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone # (include area code) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax # (Include area code)  Home  Work \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a Board Certified Behavior Analyst? If yes, BACB # \_\_\_\_\_

<i>Membership categories</i>	<i>Membership Descriptions</i>	<i>Fees Please indicate category</i>
<b>Full (voting)</b>	Any individual holding at least a Bachelor's degree in behavior analysis, psychology, education or related field, with training or professional experience in behavior analysis and whose interest includes teaching, research, and/or the practice in behavior analysis.	<b>\$30</b> ** Fee will increase to \$35 starting 5/1/08
<b>Affiliate</b>	Any individual who does not meet the qualifications of full membership. Affiliate members will enjoy all benefits of voting membership, except for the right to vote on matters of interest to the organization and the right to hold office.	<b>\$25</b> **
<b>Associate</b> <b>-Student</b> <b>-Direct Care</b> <b>-Parent</b> <b>Consumer</b>	Any individual pursuing formal training in the discipline of or related to behavior analysis on at least a half-time basis may apply for membership in this category. Student members may neither vote nor hold office, except in the capacity of Student Officer. Associate membership is also available to non-degreed persons working in a direct service role. Verification of employment at an agency is required for direct care membership. Parents of an individual with disabilities, as well as individuals with disabilities are also able to apply for this membership category. Associate members will enjoy all benefits of full membership, except for the right to vote on matters of interest to the organization and the right to hold office.	<b>\$15</b> **
If applying for full membership, be sure to include vita and proof of education (copy of degree).		TABA donation _____
		Total payment _____