

*ABA International Affiliate Chapters
Supporting and Growing Together*

Gerald R. Bernicky, BST, President-Elect, Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis
Joseph J. Plaud, Ph.D., Director of Research, Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies

Special Announcement:

Now available: an electronic forum for the Presidents, Board members, and Committee members of the 36 Affiliate Chapters of ABA International to discuss and exchange ideas for supporting the growth and development of each chapter.

"Association for Behavior Analysis Affiliates Network" has been developed and is now 'open for business' on the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies website at www.behavior.org A huge thanks is given to Joseph Plaud, Ph.D., Director of Research, WebBoard Administrator, and WebMaster for his time, knowledge, and help in getting this forum operational.

How did this come about?

From the Affiliate-Chapters Business Meeting held at the 26th Annual ABA Convention in Washington DC, several issues emerged. It was noted that there was no simple method for affiliate chapters to communicate with each other. There was also agreement from affiliate chapter members (both during and following the meeting) that there would be a benefit from the exchange of ideas for affiliate chapter operational issues. Operational issues may include membership recruitment and retention, information sharing regarding affiliate chapter events such as conferences, sponsored workshops, etc., chapter by-laws and/or policy development or revision, and discussions of how ABA International can continue to support the affiliate chapters.

(Continued on page 2)

**ONTABA 2000 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM
INSIDE!
SEND IT IN TODAY**

Contents

Conference Registration, Proposed Bylaw Changes	inserts	Conference Committee and Board
Events, ONTABA Connections, Job Opportunities	pg. 2,3,4	Newsletter Committee
Student Corner	pg. 5,6	Cheri Beaubiah
Conference update	pg.7	Rosemary Condillac
Nominated Members for ONTABA Board Positions	pg.7	Elections Committee
Sustaining Member Profiles	pg.8	Sustaining Members
"From the Inside"	pg. 9	Membership & Recruitment

the ONTABA ANALYST

ONTABA

The Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis

An Affiliate Chapter of The Association for Behavior Analysis International

Caroll Drummond
Editor, Production Manager

Gerald R. Bernicky
Associate Editor, Submissions

(Continued from page 1)

An additional benefit from such a forum would address what several affiliate chapter members agreed was an existing issue. Each affiliate chapter seeks to create and distribute a newsletter to its paying members. However, obtaining submissions to the individual newsletters can at times be sparse. This new network creates the opportunity for the exchange of article submissions from across all of the affiliate chapters.

Who should join?

The board and committee members of the existing 36 Affiliate Chapters of ABA International would benefit most from joining such a forum and participating in the exchange of ideas and materials.

How do I join?

Visit the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies website at www.behavior.org, and enter the Virtual Behavioral Community page to locate the Association for Behavior Analysis Affiliates Network.

Contact Gerald Bernicky by email at gbernicky@westpark.org for details.



The Research Special Interest Group (RSIG) was formed to provide an opportunity for researchers, professionals, and other interested individuals working in the field of developmental disabilities to exchange research, ideas, resources, and concerns.

**OADD/ RSIG
Research Special Interest Group
9th Annual Research Day
April 4, 2001**

**Sheraton Parkway Toronto North
600 Highway 7 East
(Corner of Leslie Ave. and Hwy 7)**

**For important information on submitting
a paper, poster or presentation, go to;
www.oadd.org (link to RSIG call for papers)**

**For further information contact
Sandy Palombo
Chair of Research Day (RSIG)
rsigcall4papers@home.com
or P.O.Box 25, 4700 Keele St., North York, Ontario,
M3J 1P3**

NOTICE: *If you received returned mail from the ONTABA address recently- Please send it back to the same address. There were problems with our post box and we didn't know it... but ... it is now resolved. Sorry for the inconvenience.*

ONTABA

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1999 - 2001

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Maurice Feldman
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ONTABA Analyst Submissions

Your newsletter is only as good as your contributions.

The *ONTABA Analyst* is a forum for us to stay connected in many ways. All members are encouraged to submit articles on topics related to behaviour analysis; theoretical, practical or topical issues, perspectives from different regions, jobs or schools, research accounts, news, announcements, your biography, reviews, student practicums, etc.

Article submissions:

We reserve the right to edit without changing the intent of an article, request further editing by the author, publish articles relative to the content of the current Newsletter, publish them at a later date with due respect to the timeliness of a given article, or refuse an article. You will be informed of acceptance, rewrite, or refusal of an article. Announcements will be published at the discretion of the editor. *ONTABA* will not be held responsible for the views and opinions of *ONTABA Analyst* contributors.

Advertising in the *ONTABA Analyst* is available for a fee payable to *ONTABA* (\$100.00 1/4 pg., \$200.00 1/2 pg., \$300.00 full pg.). Job ads may be posted on the *ONTABA* website for up to 30 days.

Submissions for the next *ONTABA Analyst* must arrive to Gerald Bernicky by December 15, 2000, to meet the January 15, 2001, mail-out deadline.

Conferences and Workshops

- ◆ **National Association for the Education of young Children, Annual Conference.** November 8 to 11, 2000, Athens, Georgia. To find out more phone (202) 232-8777.
- ◆ **The National Conference on brain injury: Vancouver 2000.** November 16 to 18, Vancouver, British Columbia. To find out more phone (604) 944-2652.
- ◆ **ONTABA 2000; The 8th Annual Conference of the Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis.** November 30th and December 1st, 2000. 55 Metro Hall, 55 John Street, Toronto, Ontario to find out more information
- ◆ **Annual International Division for Early Childhood Conference on Children with Special Needs and Their Families.** December 7 to 10, Albuquerque, New Mexico. To find out more phone: (410) 269-6801.
- ◆ **OADD Research Special Interest Group (RSIG)** April 4, 2001 and **OADD**, April 4, 5, and 6th, Sheraton Parkway Toronto North, Toronto, Ontario.

Getting Connected

ONTABA HOME PAGE

Internet address:
<http://www.sl.on.ca/ontaba/>

E-mail Bill Kirby at:
bkirby@sl.on.ca

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Toronto, Ontario
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NEW-E-mail : ontaba@sl.on.ca

Employment Opportunities



Surrey Place Centre

Surrey Place Centre is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with developmental disabilities.

Surrey Place Centre is coordinating the receipt of applications for positions to be funded through Intensive Behavioural Services for Children with Autism in Toronto.

Senior Therapists

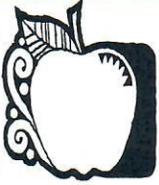
- ◆ You will have or be working towards a Master's level graduate degree in psychology or related field and have six months or more direct clinical experience in intensive behavioural intervention program for children with autism
- ◆ Or have clinical experience in intensive behaviour interventions with children with autism and other relevant educational backgrounds
- ◆ You will be responsible for caseload of children and family training related to behavioural intervention and home programming
- ◆ You will supervise instructor-therapists working directly with these children
- ◆ Service providers must comply with the Ministry's criminal reference check policy
- ◆ You will report to a registered psychologist or equivalent

Instructor-Therapists

- ◆ You will have a community college or university degree in a field related to social services or psychology
- ◆ Previous experience providing intensive behavioural intervention would be of benefit
- ◆ Experience with different cultural and language backgrounds would be an asset
- ◆ The bilingual fluency especially in French would be an asset
- ◆ You will be required to participate in a mandatory provincial training initiative
- ◆ You will work directly with children with Autism and their families in the provision of an intensive behavioural service
- ◆ Service providers must comply with the Ministry's criminal reference check policy
- ◆ Your clinical supervision and guidance will be provided by the Senior Therapist and the registered psychologist

Please send your resumes to Dr. David Factor, Clinical Director, c/o Surrey Place Centre, 2 Surrey Place, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 2C2.

We thank all applicants for their interest, but regret that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



STUDENT CORNER

Cheri Beaubiah, BA, BST

Applied Behavior Consultants, Sacramento, California
cbeaubiah@applied behavior.com

I'm sitting here at my desk, looking out my classroom window. There is complete silence, as all my little ones have gone home for the day. It's about 94 degrees outside on this sunny September afternoon. I've just finished writing an IEP and am taking a short break before beginning to write a behavior plan for one of my students.

I have been living in Sacramento, California for 7 months now, and still cannot believe I am here. Six years ago had you asked me what I would be doing at the age of 24, I would have told you I would be starting my career as a kindergarten teacher. For years, I had been dreaming of going to Queen's University to be part of the concurrent education program and then begin a teaching career. As a 19 year old OAC student, I was pretty cocky and figured I had a guaranteed acceptance into the program. After all, I had almost a 90% average and was involved in all kinds of extra curricular activities. That June, I received a shock, as I opened a rejection letter from the Queen's Faculty of Education. I was accepted at 2 other universities for the same program, but I could not afford to go. I still wanted to go to university. Sad and bitter, I enrolled in a regular arts program at Queen's, majoring in psychology.

It was at Queen's that I was introduced to Skinner and the wonders of Applied Behavior Analysis. I took any class I could that involved ABA and I began looking into education after Queen's, since there were not many good paying jobs out there for someone with a BA in psychology. I still wanted to be in the education field, but I started realizing maybe I did not want to be involved in mainstream education. It was near the middle of my fourth year at Queen's when I saw a flyer about the Behavioural Science Technology program at St. Lawrence College, hanging on a cork board in the psychology library at Queen's. It was a three year program, but it could be completed in a year if you had a BA in psychology! Better yet, included in the program was 1000 hours of placement experience. There were so many placements available in the education field, in areas I had never heard of! I immediately wrote down the number and called Bill Kirby.

He returned my call within a few hours, which really impressed me. He also took a good half hour to forty-five minutes to listen to my career interests, tell me about the program and to go over the application process. He had told me about student job success stories. What caught me were the details he had about certain institutions that took placement students. Some of these places sounded like the exact kind of work I wanted to do. I was hooked. I had to be in the program. I applied and waited many long months to hear a reply. Three weeks before my university graduation, I received word that I would be starting St. Lawrence College in September. I was so excited.

That September, I met 7 girls who would become some of the best friends I will ever have. I also got to know a small staff of teachers who genuinely care for their students. Dr. Gary Bernfeld and Dave McKay taught many of my classes. They were always available to answer questions and help in any way. Their office doors were also always open, for students to get help, chat or talk about careers. These men knew the names of almost every student.

My exceptionalities teacher, Kim Trudeau-Craig was the person who got me interested in autism. I mentioned this to Dave McKay during an office visit. A couple weeks later, I was starting placement at Hotel Dieu Hospital, working with children with autism and other similar disorders. My supervisor, Roxanne Morrow, knew so much about her field and about the job. My placement lasted 6 weeks and I learned so much. I wrote behavior change programs and was there long enough to see my programs help change children's behaviour! Around Thanksgiving, I was approached by Dave McKay, asking if I wanted to go do a placement in California. I thought it was a big joke. I soon realized by the look on his face, he was not kidding. He gave me the phone numbers to call and introduce myself. I phoned Dr. Phyllis Williamson in Sacramento, California. She is the Clinical Administrator at Applied Behavior Consultants (ABC). I sent her my transcripts and course outlines from St. Lawrence College. After a couple more phone calls, I was made an incredible offer. I would come to California for my last two placements (14 weeks). I would be paid an intern salary and they would pay my airfare out there.

(Continued on page 6)

Student Corner (Continued from page 5)

In turn, I agreed that if I liked the company, I would stay for 2 years, working as a teacher in their school for children with autism. I could not refuse.

It was so hard to concentrate on classes until that March when I left. However, I was busy. I had to get a lot of documentation together to present to the immigration officials at the airport. Due to the fact that ABC is a human services agency, I was able to come to the U.S. with the title of social worker. This allowed me to travel to the U.S. and live there under the Free Trade Agreement. I did not need a Green Card or any difficult documentation, just my degree, course outlines, letters of reference and a letter of offer of employment.

On March 13 of 2000, I said good bye to my family and got on a plane headed for California. I arrived in Sacramento and to work at ABC 2 days later. I was introduced to the owners, Dr. Joe Morrow and Brenda Terzich. Both welcomed me and wished me luck with my internship. What amazed me most is that everyone is on a first name basis, even Joe and Brenda. There are no egos here. It is all about the kids.

I was initially trained as a technician. I learned to work one on one with children with autism, aged 3 to 7. I ran discrete trails stations and taught speech. It is an amazing feeling to see a child who had no awareness of others, suddenly start saying "hello." After the children went home, I would spend the rest of the afternoon in training. I learned how to write lessons, do skill assessments, train other staff on discrete trials, and how to progress children through their curriculum. I also learned how to train children and staff on the Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS), a functional, universally understood communication system for non-verbal individuals. I also wrote behaviour plans, as part of the requirement for my diploma.

It was a lot of work, but my 14 weeks were finally over and my internship complete. I graduated from St. Lawrence with a 4.0 GPA and received an award from Correctional Services of Canada for success in my placement experience and my good grades.

I was promoted at ABC to classroom teacher. I now oversee 7 staff and 10 children. I do student assessments, write behavior programs, write IEP's, lessons plans and I also train staff in ABA. My job is amazing. I am continuing my education by working on getting my certification in PECS from Pyramid Educational Consultants in New Jersey and I am writing an exam in May to become a Board Certified Associate Behavior Analyst. I plan on doing a Ph.D. in a few years, but right now I am content with teaching my little ones and passing on my knowledge to my staff.

There is a great deal of opportunity in the U.S. for those with a degree and experience in ABA. There is never a day I do not open the newspaper and see ads for behavior analysts. These positions pay extremely well, and the jobs are with really reputable companies. Take my company for example. We were featured in Newsweek magazine this past July and 60 Minutes was here filming in August.

On the personal side, Sacramento is great place to live. It is a whole lot bigger and busier than Kingston, Ontario, and there is so much to do. There are lots of museums, theatres, and we even have a Midevil Times restaurant close by (if you have seen the movie *The Cable Guy*, you will know what I mean—VERY fun place). I am 45 minutes from gorgeous Lake Tahoe, 2 hours from San Francisco (I have even been on the red trolleys!), and 5 hours from L.A.. My front door has palm trees on either side and I am 10 feet from the swimming pool. As I come to a close, I feel I must give thanks to a lot of people, because I certainly did not get here on my own. I thank my parents for making me do homework while everyone else was out riding their bike. I thank my teachers at Queen's, especially Dr. Bill Marshall and Dr. Freedman, who introduced me to Skinner and lent me so many of their own books for my research projects. I thank all my teachers at St. Lawrence for their knowledge, patience and caring attitude. Students could not ask for better teachers- Bill Kirby, Dave McKay, Dr. Gary Bernfeld, Kim Trudeau-Craig, Claire Crooks, Steve Dine and Pat Dennis. I would not be here without any of you, and cannot fully express my gratitude with these words. Lastly, I thank Julie, Michelle, Sandra, Vicky, Jenny, Jessica and Alison for helping me through, helping me study, and most of all, making me laugh. I miss you all.

So, as I sit here, realizing I need to be writing a behavior plan, I again think to myself, "I cannot believe I am here."

ONTABA has a new e-mail address at
ontaba@sl.on.ca

Conference 2000 Update
Rosemary A. Condillac

ONTABA Conference 2000 is around the corner, and we have had an unprecedented early registration. With just over a month to go, we have 118 people registered in advance, and are continuing to receive daily calls from individuals requesting information. **We want to ensure that we have enough space (and coffee) for everyone who is planning to attend, so please register in advance, and encourage others to do the same.** The conference program spans the areas of interest and practice of our diverse membership. On Thursday evening, we will be joined by many parents and professionals interested in Autism, and evidenced-based approaches to treatment in general.

The conference committee has been working diligently to put ONTABA 2000 on the map. In addition to significantly wider advertising, we have sent out several requests for product donations from local businesses. To date we are privileged to have received donations from Parentbooks in Toronto, Effem Inc., the Holiday Inn on King, and Pillitteri Estates Winery in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Organizing a conference is a huge endeavour. We are looking forward to your feedback on the conference program and organization. We will include summaries of conference 2000 attendance & conference evaluations in the next issue of the Analyst. One way to make a significant contribution to ONTABA, and influence the conference program is to get involved in the conference committee. If you are interested in helping with next year's conference, please email rcondillac@oise.utoronto.ca, sign up at the conference, or send a fax with your name and contact information to (416) 769-2910.

Nominated Members for ONTABA Board Positions
PROFILES

Member at Large (2 yrs.); 3 positions

Amy McParland (currently a Board appointment)

I am a graduate of the BST Program at St. Lawrence College. I have worked for 6 years in the field. I am a member of ABA International and a member of ONTABA for 7 years. For the past 5 years I have worked on the Membership and Recruitment Committee and am the current chair. For the past 2 years I have sat as an appointee on the Board of Directors of ONTABA. I have focussed on liaising with community groups to increase the awareness of ONTABA in the community.

Student Representative- Elect (1 yr.); 1 Position

1) Tanya Dwyer

I am a graduate of Queen's University with a B.A. and am currently a 3rd year student in the BST Program at St.Lawrence College in Kingston. I am a member of ONTABA and will be joining ABA International prior to the election.

2) Jennifer Laforce

I became interested in behaviour analysis when I took a Learning and Behaviour course from Dr. Frank Epling at the University of Alberta, where I completed my B.A.(Honours). I am currently in my second year of my Ph.D. at Queen's with Dr. Maurice Feldman where I am enjoying my work with families of children with, or at-risk for developmental disabilities. I am a member of both ONTABA and ABA.

ONTABA Sustaining Member Profiles

In order to acknowledge the contribution and support of our Sustaining Members to this association and to provide readers with a better picture of our membership we have asked for profiles which will appear in this and future editions of the *ONTABA Analyst*.

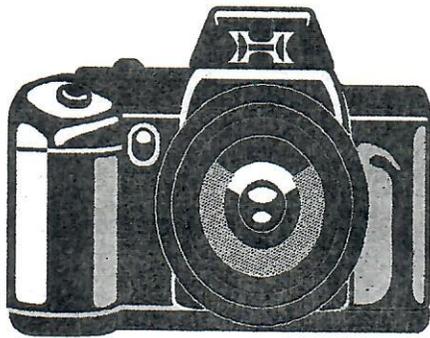
Bill Kirby
Professor & Co-ordinator
Behavioural Science Technology
St. Lawrence College, Kingston

Currently I'm serving as president, previously as president-elect and co-chair of the Standards Committee and the Certification Committee. I helped organize ONTABA's regional conference held in Kingston in 1998.

I'm in my 26th year of teaching behavioural psychology at St. Lawrence College in the Behavioural Science Technology program. In addition to classroom based courses, I also have the opportunity to supervise some students in a wide range of field placements.

During the summer months, I like to windsurf on Lake Ontario when the winds are 15 knots or stronger. When the wind isn't blowing, I tend approximately 30 hives of bees which manage to produce about 2,000 lbs. of honey annually.

Call for Photos!



ONTABA has been established since 1993 and we have a lot of memories and special events already under our belts. The Newsletter Committee has purchased a photo album to keep track of ONTABA related photos from the past and for the years to come. We already have some ONTABA photos but are seeking copies taken by others.

If you or someone you know has taken photos relating to ONTABA, take the time today or tomorrow and find them and send us a copy. If you have only the negatives, we would appreciate these and we will cover development, printing, and postage to return the negatives to you.

Send your photos or negatives to Gerald Bernicky
c/o Behaviour Solutions and more!,
6 Dunstall Crescent, Toronto, Ontario, M1E 3M2.

Maybe your photo will appear in a future edition of
The ONTABA Analyst!

Come to

ONTABA 2000: The 8th Annual Conference of The Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis

**November 30th and December 1st,
2000.**

**Metro Hall,
55 John Street,
Toronto, Ontario**

SEND IN YOUR REGISTRATION

***Bring your ONTABA Bylaws
insert with you to the Annual
General Meeting at the Conference
to vote on proposed changes.**

“From the Inside”

Membership Update

As of October 25, 2000, we have a total of 169 paid memberships for the year 2000, (125 full members, 17 sustaining members, 20 student members, 6 affiliate members, and 1 member emeritus - Dr. W. Larry Williams, University of Nevada-Reno). Of the 169 members, 67 are new members to ONTABA, and the 102 are membership renewals. We have received word that there are still a few more memberships to come in, so we should be close to meeting our committee's goal for 103 renewals, and at least 80 new members in 2000.

Already there have been inquiries as to when we will begin our membership recruitment for 2001. In response, ONTABA membership recruitment for the next calendar year begins at the annual conference typically held in the fall. The Membership and Recruitment Committee has been busy preparing the 2001 membership packages for the conference.

We are about to start the creation of The Annual Membership Directory for 2000, which will also be available for pick up at the annual conference (those not able to attend will receive theirs with their membership renewal at the first mailing in either late 2000 or very early in 2001). Any ONTABA 2000 memberships received after November 1st will not be in time to be included in the annual directory, but will be included as an insert in the first edition of The Analyst in 2001.

Lastly, the committee is preparing a poster presentation for the annual conference outlining the effectiveness of our various recruitment activities throughout 2000. The Membership & Recruitment Committee looks forward to seeing you at the conference, and seeing if we can start our 2001 recruitment efforts by breaking the number of renewals that took place during the conference last fall.

If your organization or agency is interested in having a member of the Membership & Recruitment Committee come and provide an informative presentation on the goals, benefits, and areas of focus of ONTABA, please contact Amy McParland at (416) 243-3600, ext. 2605, or by email at amcparla@westpark.org

By Amy McParland and Gerald Bernicky



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Conference 2000:
Rosemary Condillac and Tara Smith *

Elections 2000:
to be filled

Member Emeritus

Larry Williams

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Rosemary Condillac
Ken Hranchuk
Wanda Smith

Gary A. Bernfeld
Caroll Drummond
Bill Kirby
Jane Summers

Sean Brunett
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Kevin Cauley
Maurice Feldman
Mary McMillian
Rebecca Ward

ONTABA, the Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis,
is an affiliate Chapter of the Association for Behavior Analysis International.
ONTABA currently has members from professions such as
education, nursing, health care, and psychology.
The objectives of ONTABA are to promote behaviour analysis in the province of Ontario,
to facilitate interactions between professionals engaged in behavioural activities,
to monitor and participate in legal and professional issues related to behaviour analysis,
and to initiate standardized practices and certification of Behaviour Analysts.

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