

# West Coast Conference on Autism

Friday ~ April 20, 2012 ~ 7:30 am - 5:00 pm

## Keynote Speakers

**Andy Bondy, Ph.D.**

Pyramid Educational Consultants, Inc.

**Peter F. Gerhardt, Ed.D.**

Upper School for the McCarton School, NYC

**Jane Howard, Ph.D., BCBA**

California State University, Stanislaus

**Robert K. Ross Ed.D., BCBA-D**

Beacon ABA Services

*with special introduction by*

**Hank Pennypacker, Ph.D.**

Chair of the Board of Directors

Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies



**Santa Ynez Valley Marriott,  
Buellton, CA**

**A one-day conference featuring leading experts in fields of Science,  
Special Education, and Autism Spectrum Disorders**

Presented by: The Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies and Autism Society of Santa Barbara

## **Andy Bondy, Ph.D.**

### **Pyramid Educational Consultants, Inc.**

Andy Bondy, Ph.D. has over 40 years of experience working with children and adults with autism and related developmental disabilities. He served as the Director of a statewide public school program for students with autism for more than a dozen years. He and his wife, Lori Frost, pioneered the development of the Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS). He designed the Pyramid Approach to Education as a comprehensive combination of broad-spectrum behavior analysis and functional communication strategies. Dr. Bondy is the co-founder of Pyramid Educational Consultants, Inc., an international team of specialists from many fields providing services from a base of 11 countries promoting the application of the principles of applied behavior analysis.



## **Peter F. Gerhardt, Ed.D.**

### **Upper School for the McCarton School, NYC**

Dr. Peter Gerhardt is the Director of Education — Upper School for the McCarton School in New York City. Dr. Gerhardt has over 30 years experience utilizing the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis in support of adolescents and adults with ASD in educational, employment, residential, and community-based settings. He is the author or co-author of articles and book chapters on the needs of adolescents and adults with autism spectrum disorder and he has presented nationally and internationally on this topic. In addition, Dr. Gerhardt serves as Chairman of the Scientific Council for the Organization for Autism Research, on the Editorial Board of *Behavior Analysis in Practice*, and on numerous professional advisory boards. Dr. Gerhardt received his doctorate from the Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey Graduate School of Education.



## **Jane Howard, Ph.D., BCBA**

### **California State University, Stanislaus**

Jane Howard, Ph.D., BCBA is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst and a member of the Psychology Faculty at California State University, Stanislaus where she teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in Applied Behavior Analysis. She is the Founder and Co-Director of the Center for Direct Instruction, an on-campus clinic at California State University, Stanislaus that serves children with a range of behavioral and academic needs. Dr. Howard co-authored the Applied Behavior Analysis textbook, *Human Behavior: Analysis and Application* with Ellen Reese. She is also the co-author of research studies on teaching and language training for children with special needs that have been published in the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis* and *The Analysis of*



*Verbal Behavior.* Dr. Howard has made numerous presentations on language and educational applications of Applied Behavior Analysis, including those designed particularly for children with autism, at national and international conferences. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the California Association for Behavior Analysis and has served continuously on the board since 1996.

**Robert K. Ross Ed.D., BCBA-D**  
**Beacon ABA Services**



Dr. Ross is the Senior Vice President of Training and Research at Beacon ABA Services. Beacon provides intensive behavioral educational services to children diagnosed with PDD/Autism and behavioral and learning challenges. Dr. Ross is a primary instructor in the BCBA certification programs at Cambridge College in Cambridge Massachusetts and The University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth for Beacon ABA Services. Dr. Ross is the President—elect of the Autism Special Interest Group (SIG) of the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI), the largest membership organization with ABAI. He also serves on the Practice Board of ABAI. Beacon ABA Services is active in pursuing cutting edge research in the treatment of children with Autism Spectrum Disorders and Dr. Ross oversees all research activities at Beacon. Dr. Ross is currently focusing research efforts in such areas as early literacy, social and play skills, and application of visually supported instructional methods.

*with special introduction by*

**Hank Pennypacker, Ph.D.**  
**Chair of the Board of Directors**  
**Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies**



Hank S. Pennypacker, Ph.D. is a Professor Emeritus at the University of Florida and has been a major figure in behavior analysis through his contributions in research, teaching, and service. He has made significant contributions to instructional design through his work in precision teaching. His book, with Jim Johnston, “Strategies and Tactics in Behavioral Research”, has become a classic and essential reference on methodology in behavior analysis. He helped to establish Florida as a model for behavior-based treatment in the area of developmental disabilities. He is perhaps best known both within and outside the field as the developer of methods and devices for effective training of self-examination for breast cancer and founded a company (MammaCare) to further this potentially life-saving effort. This work has been widely recognized in the behavioral medicine and cancer prevention communities. Dr. Pennypacker serves as the Chair of the Board of Directors for the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies.

The **Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies** harnesses the expertise of hundreds of behavioral scientists to solve problems in the home, school, community, and the workplace.



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**Autism Society of Santa Barbara** provides local support to families affected by autism and related disabilities throughout the County. The rapidly increasing rate of autism among all races, ethnicities, and social groups points to a greater need for education, particularly with regard to the early diagnosis and appropriate treatment of this complex developmental disorder. We are proud to be Santa Barbara County's primary resource for individuals and families living with autism. Through our four pillars of Advocacy, Awareness, Education, and Support, we dedicate ourselves to empowering people to succeed in living with autism. Autism Society serves the community through informational publications, such as their award-winning ACCESS Guide for parents of newly-diagnosed children. They conduct workshops and seminars for parents and professionals throughout the county – including presentations at staff meetings – and support awareness and advocacy at the local, state, and national level, maintaining active, collaborative partnerships within the legislative, service, and educational communities countywide. Autism Society regularly hosts social and recreational activities for the whole family, including sensory-friendly films, their annual holiday "tailgate party," Surf and Beach Day with the Santa Barbara Seals Surf School, and their Annual Santa Maria Autism Awareness and Resource Fair.



Autism Society of Santa Barbara has been lead by an all-volunteer Board of autism parents since its inception. Every dollar raised remains here in the community and provides programs and services to assist individuals and families throughout the County.

**Hosted by TEAM Holdsambeck**



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