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# CHARMING NEW ORLEANS BECKONS IN 2013 ABDA Biannual Conference: October 12-13, 2013

Our prior conferences in this magical city have always been special. October 12-13, 2013 will be no exception. Our three diamond hotel is all suites, full hot breakfast, hot tub, fitness center and superb location in the center of the cultural district only 8 blocks from the French Quarter. Other city attractions include the Aquarium of the Americas, Audubon Zoo, Superdome, National D-Day Museum, Harrah's Casino, Tulane, Loyola and Xavier Universities, authentic New Orleans and Cajun cuisine, unique art galleries, colorful shopping, breweries and walking tours. Our room block with a rate of \$195 plus tax will fill early - so <u>do not delay and register now</u> at the Embassy Suites New Orleans Convention Center, 315 Julia Street, New Orleans, LA 70130 (504) 525-1993. Request discounted "American Board" room rate. Please act now. The Program Committee is continuing to accept proposals which may be mailed, e-mailed or faxed (615) 327-9235 for a short while longer.

# 🗇 🛛 ABDA Founders Society 🗠 🖻

ABDA is establishing the Founders Society in response to a membership driven initiative. Funds generated will greatly assist our credentialing organization to strengthen and preserve our future as a viable leading multidisciplinary credentialing organization. In recognition of all who join this special new tier of membership now, they will receive <u>free attendance for two</u> to all future ABDA biannual conferences typically held in October at attractive locations effective 2013 in New Orleans.

The size of the Founders Society will be <u>limited</u> and if it becomes oversubscribed, preference will be given to those who have been members longest. Names of those who join at this level will be published in the next issues of <u>The Disability Analyst</u>. To join please remit one time fee of \$3600 issued to ABDA Founders Society and send to ABDA Central Office, 4525 Harding Road, Nashville, TN 37205. A specially designed <u>commemorative medallion</u> will be sent to all who support this effort.

# **\star EMERITUS STATUS \star**

We are pleased to announce that qualified members with 20 years or more of professional experience as a Senior Disability Analyst and Diplomate and who have been board certified for no less than eight years are eligible to apply to upgrade their credential to Emeritus status. This designation may be used on all correspondence, business cards, letterhead, etc. as appropriate. If interested, please forward a request in writing, current vita and \$172 U.S. processing fee issued to ABDA. Please send items to ABDA Credentialing and Certification Committee, Belle Meade Office Park, 4525 Harding Road, Nashville, TN 37205.

# E-MAIL ADDRESS

So far we have received e-mail addresses from about 83% of the membership. The sooner we receive the remaining e-mail addresses, the more efficient we will be in alerting members to information they need to have before the publication of forthcoming issues of the newsletter and other information. E-mail addresses may be sent to our e-mail address at <u>americanbd@aol.com</u> or faxed to us at 615-327-9235.

### **\*** CONTINUING **\*** EDUCATION CREDIT

As a membership driven organization, we accept continuing education credits/continuing medical education credits from all appropriate sources. There is no need to duplicate time spent in continuing education events for your other requirements. Simply remit copies of those certificates or credits along with your annual renewal material.

#### → URGENT! ←

If you received this issue of <u>The Disability Analyst</u> newsletter in hard copy, it is because we do not yet have your e-mail address. As our organization strives to become increasingly green, we have sent out the great majority of this volume via e-mail. In the future we hope to approach 100% of our mailings using e-mails. **Your help is greatly needed.** If you have not yet provided your e-mail to the Central Office, please do so at your earliest convenience by contacting us at <u>americanbd@aol.com</u> or by fax 615 327-9235. Recent issues of our newsletter and other valuable information and research links can always be accessed at no cost by members at our website: <u>www.americandisability.org</u>.



Members interested in serving as faculty presenters for the next conference in New Orleans October 12-13, 2013 (see Calendar on back page for details), please submit a 1-2 page abstract or outline by mail or fax (615) 327-9235. Decisions are generally made within two weeks. Please indicate if any audiovisual equipment may be needed and the amount of time requested (i.e., 30'-45' is optimal). Those who have presented at two or more ABDA or ABMPP national conferences in any five-year period are eligible for appointment to the American College of Disability Analysts (ACDA). Presenters are urged to submit programs that invite audience participation. Case studies, applied research, polemical/ideological talks, ethics, innovative techniques, evaluation strategies, forensic experiences, customized software, economic issues, private practice insights, earnings loss projections, life care plans, hedonic assessments, labor market surveys and other topics of interest to members are encouraged. Please submit to ABDA Program Committee, 4525 Harding Road, Nashville, TN 37205, by fax: (615) 327-9235 or by e-mail:americanbd@aol.com . K)

# NEWEST SENIOR DISABILITY ANALYSTS AND DIPLOMATES

Congratulations to all members who have upgraded their national board certification credential since 2011. If you have been a practicing professional with at least nine years of professional experience in rehabilitation or healthcare in good standing with ABDA and wish to do so, please remit fee of \$148 and current CV. Your request will be reviewed by the Credentials and Certification Committee which meets regularly about such matters.

# **CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

Please keep the ABDA Central Office advised of any change in your postal address so there will be no interruption in your receiving items from the Central Office. All special correspondence will be by e-mail unless you notify us otherwise. Feel free to fax (615) 327-9235 or e-mail: <u>americanbd@aol.com</u> that information.

#### \* \* \* 2013 ABDA Board Certification Renewal Notice \* \* \*

#### Optional Gold seal can be obtained by sending in a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Please respond immediately to help us avoid the unnecessary time and expense of reminder mailings.

Your listing (alphabetical and geographical) in the ABDA Directory	
Renewal Fee (one year)	Funds)
Renewal Fee ( <b>three years</b> )	Funds)
Renewal Fee ( <b>five years</b> )\$410 (U.S. (\$450 after January 15, 2013)	Funds)
Lifetime Fee	Funds)

Please issue payment to ABDA by no later than **January 15, 2013** to avoid a \$15 late charge. The national examination is required of persons seeking board certification for the first time and is required of those who allow their certification to lapse. **By maintaining your current status you are exempt from the written examination**.

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**Please remit your 2013 renewal fee and information below.** <u>This is the only notice you will receive</u>. Remittance by Visa or MasterCard is acceptable. **Please type or legibly print information below** as you wish it to appear in the next <u>Directory</u>. If renewing with a credit card (Visa and M/C only), please provide necessary information. **Post Office Box addresses are not acceptable**.

□ Check Box if information has changed.

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City: State:	Zip:
Phone: Fax:	
E-mail: ( <u>required)</u>	(Extremely important for future timely communication.)
I prefer to receive the newsletter and all other correspondence by	e-mail: yes 🗆 no 🗖
Check One: Visa: $\Box$ Mastercard: $\Box$ Check: $\Box$	
Credit Card #	_ 3 digit V-code: Exp. Date:
Signature:	Amount:
Check One: 1 year $\Box$ 3 years $\Box$ 5 years $\Box$ Lifetime	L
List continuing education experiences (from workshops, conferen January 1, 2012 (minimum 8 hours to fulfill annual requirement	t).
Optional: Have you performed 8 hours pro bono work (charitabl	

# $\star$ DISABILITY HEADLINES $\star$



About two-thirds of women between ages 18 and 34 cited a high paying career their among top life priorities, compared with just 59% of young men, according to the Pew Research Center. That was a reversal from 1997, when 56% of women rated a high - paying career high on their list of priorities, less than 58% of men surveyed back then according to Pew.

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The emotional toll for Americans who lose a friend or loved one in a motor vehicle crash has a steep financial counterpart-an average six million dollars per fatal accident, according to Auto Club AAA. The study, which used 2009 data, found that the average cost of an injury-only crash is \$126,000. AAA based its estimates on Federal Highway Administration data that places dollar values on 11 components: property damage, lost earnings, loss of household activities, medical costs, emergency services, travel delays, vocational rehabilitation, lost time at work, administrative costs, legal costs and pain and lost quality of life. These dollar amounts have roughly doubled since 2005.

According to Talent Acquisition Factbook 2011, **the median cost-per-hire** by industry is as follows: manufacturing: \$6,443, business services: \$5,700, technology: \$4,339, retail: \$3,009, banking/insurance: \$2,530 and healthcare: \$2,127.

According to CollegeBoard, **the average four year cost for public college tuition climbed** from \$4,586 in 2001 to \$8,244 in 2012.

Just one percent of Americans accounted for 22% of **healthcare costs** in 2009, according to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. US residents spent 1.26 trillion dollars on healthcare in 2009. Five percent accounted for 50% of healthcare costs, about \$36,000 each.

A profile of **characteristics of patients in the top ten percent of healthcare spenders in 2009 were**: 60% women, 40% 65 or older, only 3% were ages 18 to 29; 80% were Caucasian. Hispanics, 16% of the 2009 population, spent less on healthcare than other groups.

**Prescription drug abuse is the nation's fastest growing drug problem**, according to the White House Office on National Drug Policy. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has classified the misuse of these powerful pain killers as an epidemic with 1.3 million emergency room visits in 2010, a 110% increase since 2004. Overdose deaths on opioid pain relievers

surpassed deaths from heroin and cocaine for the first time in 2008. The term Opana has been coined to describe this phenomenon.

According to Mercer, the <u>most added benefits by</u> <u>employers</u> from 2008 to 2010 were as follows: work at home policy, lactation rooms, legal counseling and paid/subsidized off site fitness. The most dropped benefits were job sharing, long term care insurance and educational assistance.

The Social Security Administration reported that **50% of US workers earned less** than \$26,364 last year but the number of people making one million dollars or more rose by more than 18% from 2009. Despite population growth, the number of Americans with jobs fell last year, with total employment of just under 150.4 million, down from 150.9 million in 2009.

According to the National Eye Institute, an estimated 4.2 million Americans are **blind or visually impaired.** That is expected to increase by 70% in the next two decades as the population ages. One in every 12 men is color blind.

According to CareerBuilders, the following are the **"scariest"** jobs: 1) bomb squad technician 2) high rise window washer 3) armed forces 4) miner 5) police officer.

Unlike Americans, French, German, British workers use up their **vacation time**. The percentage of those who say they use it all: France 89%, Great Britain and Spain 77%, Germany 75%, Russia 67% and US 57%. (*Source: Ipsos Public Affairs*)

**Both men and women are living longer** on average, but the change is smaller for women: in 1989, lifespan for men was 71.6 years compared to 76.2 in 2009, a gain of 4.6 years. For women in 1989, the life span was 78.6 years and in 2009 was 81.3 years, a gain of 2.7 years. (Source: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation)

The Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that **men are getting more new jobs** than women. Major gains for men occur in retail. The percentage of women in workplaces is down to 49.4% from 49.9%.

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 Median household income
 is the

 lowest since 1996.
 (in 2011 dollars)

 1996
 \$50,661

 1999
 \$54,932 (peak)

 2010
 \$50,831

 2011
 \$50,054

 (Source: US Census Bureau)

In 2011, 10.6 million were on Social Security Disability compared to 9.3 million in 2008. (Source: Wall Street Journal, September 19, 2012)

(continued on page 5)

# **DISABILITY HEADLINES**

According to the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey, **25.2% of the households have someone 65 or older** while 34.4% of households have someone under 18.

**The average amount spent to raise a child to age 17** (Adjusted for inflation) Compared to \$192,000 in 1960 is \$235,500 (2011) (Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture)

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The number of college degrees expected to be awarded in 2013 are as follow:

Associates	937,000
Bachelor's	1.8 million
Master's	756,000
Doctorates	174,700
(including medical	, law and other professional degrees)



DIM PROSPECTS FOR DISABILITY BENEFITS PROGRAM

At the current growth rate, the SSDI Trust fund, which pays for benefits, won't have enough money to meet its obligations in 2018. In September, 2011, SSDI paid nearly 8.5 million injured workers an average of \$1,070

per month; that's up nearly 20% from 7.1 million when the recession began in December 2007. There were only about 3 million recipients in September 1990.

Roughly half of all applicants eventually get accepted into the program and less than one percent ever return to work. Among new program enrollees in 2010, more than half cited <u>back pain</u> or <u>mental problems</u> as their disabling injury, compared with just 26% of such claims in 1965. Appeal hearings reverse 60% of previous benefit denials. Between 1989 and 2009, the share of working-age Americans with SSDI benefits doubled to 4.6%, while benefit payments tripled to 120 billion over the same period. Yet, the number of SSA Disability reviews to determine if longtime recipients still meet program medical standards has fallen precipitously.

In addition to monthly benefit checks, SSDI enrollees also get Medicare coverage after two years in the program, regardless of their age. Data from an MIT study estimates that each new SSDI recipient cost taxpayers an average of \$300,000 in total lifetime costs (figured on a present value basis). In fiscal 2011, the program paid out an estimated \$130 billion dollars in benefits while the trust fund took in only \$111 billion dollars.



# **NEW ABDA LIFETIME MEMBERS**

The following individuals deserve special recognition. By becoming Lifetime Members, during the past 24 months the organization benefits in many ways by being able to plan new projects enabling ABDA to grow in a planful manner. If interested in joining this list of Lifetime Members, exempt from all future renewal fees, and entitled to 25% discount at all ABDA training events and meetings, please write, fax or call our Central Office at Belle Meade Office Park, 4525 Harding Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37205. Fax number (615) 327-9235.

L								
l	Eftim J.	Adhami	Michael	Doss	Ayaz M.	Khan	Genevieve	Reilley
l	Rizwan	Ali	Teddi F.	Eisen	John A.	Kline, Jr.	Mary Louise	Roberts
l	Julie A.	Andrews	Samuel E.	Epstein	James R.	Корр	John	Rosario
l	Laurence F.	Aucella	Andrea Dawn	Evans	Paul B.	Kornberg	Rosangel	Santiago
l	Marietta	Babayev	Ada M.	Fisher	Martin Alan	Lauber	Robert G.	Schwartz
l	Alireza	Bagherian	Ronald J.	Fleck	Thomas A.	Lauderman	Bryan J.	Schwieters
l	Wanda Angelica J.	Barreto	Orlando G.	Florete, Jr.	Dario T.	Lebajo	Nadeem	Shabbir
l	Jan C.	Bax	Gerardo A.	Franceschi	Clementia J.	Lewis	Tom G.	Shahwan
l	Naguib	Bebawi	Michael E.	Frey	Armando E.	Marull	Olga B.	Soto-Moise
l	Sarjoo M.	Bhagia	Wendy D.	Frickel	Stanley John	Mathew	Kelly A.	Supple
l	Asha	Bhardwaj	Juliana	Garcia	Elizabeth A.	McGettigan	Elizabeth W.	Teet
l	Frances A.	Breslin	Adekunle R.	Gbadamosi	William B.	Meneese	Paula J.	Thomas
l	Marcel	Brysk	Andrea M.C.	Genereux	Barak	Mevorak	William	Thorpe
l	Jeffrey W.	Buttle	Naurang S.	Gill	Anthony W.	Mimms	Janie R.	Vale
l	Ericka Rivera	Castro	Wilfrido	Girona-Rivera	Anju	Nayar	Shailesh	Vora
l	Paulette R.	Caswell	Fernando	Gonzales-Portillo	Karen A.	Perez	Hasmukm A.	Vyas
l	Yassar	Chakfe	Kristine Kay	Gross	Janet	Perez-Chiesa	James P.	Weiner
l	Yen-Fu	Chen	Elie Joseph	Hercule	Jean-Daniel	Pierrot	Isaac	Witkowski
l	Tajul S.	Chowdhury	Hante C.	Hercule	Serge	Podrizki	William E.	Wright
l	Igor E.	Cohen	Annette K.	Holder	Jose Luis	Ponce de Leon	Shawn X.	Wu
l	Carlos M.	Colon-Guzman	Glenn J.	Jakobsen	Yamile D.	Porro	Atmaram	Yarlagadda
l	Bradley A.	Cooper	Mohsen	Jamali	Russell Anthony	Provenzo, Jr.	Timothy M.	Zgleszewski
I	Kasra	Djalayaer	Smith	Joseph	Xuemei	Qu		
L	Roberto V.	Dominguez	Mary C.	Keenan-Yauch	Nancy A.	Ratey		



# SUSTAINING LIFETIME MEMBERS

We wanted to express special appreciation to those Lifetime Members who voluntarily agreed to generously support the new ABDA Sustaining Lifetime Member Category. Their names appear below:

Then hames appear below.								
Aldrich	Jose J.	Miami, FL	Greenfield	Gerald Q.	San Antonio, TX	Perez	Armando	Miami, FL
Alt	Nan	Granville, MI	Gyarteng-Dakwa	Kwado	Greensboro, NC	Perez, Jr.	Fred L.	Edinburg, TX
Bajwa	Qasam M.	Ballwin, MO	Halum, Jr.	Ramon	Munster, IN	Pierrot	Jean-Daniel	Sunny Isles Beach, FL
Balasubramanian	Vijayalakshmi	Lancaster, CA	Hammond	Timonthy	Washington, DC	Pimentel	Benjamin	Waldorf, MD
Banta	Dante A.	Los Angeles, CA	Hsu	Jui-Chih	Elkton, MD	Pimentel	Michael	Waldorf, MD
Barkhaus	Paul E.	Whitefish Bay,WI	Hutchins	P. Joan	Gallatin, TN	Que	Leon	Chicago, IL
Berrios	Miguel A	Humacao, PR	Iannuzzi	Charles	Pittsburgh, PA	Reesal	Michael	Fayetteville, NC
Birman	Hector R.	Long Beach, CA	Jamshidi	Saledl	Oxon Hill, MD	Salado	Erick M.	Hialeah, FL
Brown	Andrew	New York, NY	Jan	Mian A.	West Chester, PA	Samak	Srinivas P.	Lakeland, FL
Bryson	Grace Lennon	Maple Shade, MS	Jarboe	Donald R.	Wilmington, NC	Schmidt	Frank K.	Somerset, PA
Butts	Donald R.	Springfield, MO	Jawdat	I.M.	Humble, TX	Shafer	Diane	Williamson,WV
Carreras	Birgit	Hinesville,GA	John	Christopher L.	Little Rock, AR	Shahwan	Tom	Pennllyn, PA
Catsaros	Dimitri C.	Las Vegas, NV	Judge	Martha T.	Chicago, IL	Sniezek	David P.	Washington, DC
Chen	Chun Ming	Flushing, NY	Kerkar	Pramod	Sterling Hts, MI	Stendig	Elliot	Garland, TX
Cusco	Baudilio J.	Miami, FL	Lamba	Rajinder S.	Hudson, FL	Subbarao	Aragam R.	Hollidaysburg, PA
DeGanuza	Daisy E.	Tampa, FL	Landis-Carey	Vance	Watsonville, CA	Sundaram	Bharathy	Sherman, TX
Denys	Allen P.	Windsor, Ont. Canada	Lee	Douglas	Surrey, BC, Canada	Tan	Simon Sy	Grapevine, TX
Duerden	Marc E.	Indianapaolis, IN	Mariara	Douglas	Savannah, GA	Thomas	Jose R.	Sebring, FL
El-Attrache	Mamdouh F.	Mt. Pleasant, PA	Martinez,	Candido	San Juan, PR	Thompson	Cleveland	Missouri City, TX
Ellegood	J.H.	DeSoto, MO	Martinez,	Carlos Manuel	Homestead, FL	Van Hack	Franklin T.	Lilburn,GA
Ellis	Tracey E.	Washington, DC	Meller	Julius	Miami, FL	Vanapalli	Raju	Morrow, GA
Farnham	Richard	Sioux Falls, SD	Momah	David N.	Covington, GA	Vindhya	Prem K.C,.	Odessa, TX
Follansbee	Jeffrey T.	Colgate, WI	Morris	Ritchi	Scarsdale,NY	Witkind	Mark J.	Coral Cables, FL
Forbes	Lorna M.	Pomona, CA	Nair	Govinder P.	St. Petersburg, FL	Wong	John	Visalia, CA
Frino	Marie Marthe	Baldwin, NY	Narkehede	Nitin	Brooklyn, NY	Yao	Tito	Chicago, IL
Garcia	Juan F.	Jacksonville, FL	Northcutt	Randall	Longview, TX	Yi	Young Sun	Los Angeles, CA
Garcia	Lovegilda S.	Elizabethtown, KY	Nosko	Michael	New Brunswick, NJ	Yousseff	Nagy	Hattiesburg, MS
Garg	Shyam L.	Hampstead, NC	Nova	Miguel A.	Toa Baja, PR			

# PASSAGES AND MILESTONES



Did you know that there are board certified Disability Analysts in every state and nearly every province of Canada along with eleven foreign countries? Our ABDA Membership Coordinators are doing an excellent job of identifying qualified,

experienced colleagues to recruit for membership in ABDA. Robert S. Unger is our newest Membership Coordinator for the province of Ontario, Canada.

The 2012 ABDA International Membership Directory is available on diskette (\$120 for members).

Thank you again for providing your e-mail addresses. If you have not done so, please be sure to do so as soon as possible. We communicate regularly with members who have e-mail addresses and we do not want anyone to miss keeping abreast of important new developments and announcements.

Congratulations to **Dr. Robert D. Baize** on the publication of his most recent book: The Physical Side of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Available in paperback for \$18.97 from LuLu.com or from the author at DocBaize@hotmail.com.

Attention Life Time Members: Each week Central Office receives inquiries regarding the current status of various members for purposes of hospital privileges, licensure, listings on panels, expert witness credentials for courts at every level among other purposes. Some of our Lifetime Members have not been in contact with Central Office in

more than 12 months. If you are one of those members, please provide an update of your CV, along with e-mail address and listing of continuing education activities so we can update your file. By doing so, we will be able to respond to each of those requests in a timely and helpful manner. Thank you for your cooperation in this important matter.

We are extremely pleased to announce that the October 2015 biannual meeting will be in Naples, Florida. Details will follow in the 2014 e-newsletter. This will be the first event which will offer a golf opportunity as a part of the meeting weekend for spouses, guests as well as members.

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Congratulations to our longstanding Business Manager, Lela Boggs, who is celebrating her 25th year with ABDA and ABMPP, having begun in 1988. Her contributions are endless and we are extremely grateful for her loyalty and resourcefulness.

If any member is planning a workshop, seminar, lecture or other training event and would like to award ABDA Continuing Certificates (one CEU for each contact hour) you may do so as a benefit of your board certification membership. The only cost is the actual cost to ABDA Central Office of \$4.00 per certificate. Simply provide the number of certificates needed and the number of contact hours which should appear on each certificate, enclose a check to ABDA for the appropriate amount of certificates and they will be sent to you. Please provide six weeks notice. Unused certificates must be returned to Central Office. Of course, a sign in sheet is required for each event.

# HISTORY OF ABDA **TRAINING EVENTS**

We are extremely pleased to have held training events all over the world since the inception of ABDA. At each event, there are roughly half who have previously attended our meetings and half who are first timers. Right from the beginning we learned that it was not necessary to seek outside faculty as our own ranks are so rich with book authors, research investigators, forensic specialists. experienced administrators, brilliant clinicians, innovative entrepreneurs, test developers, vocational experts, health care pioneers, life care planners and rehabilitation specialists. Feedback from our meetings is almost universally positive and nearly everyone is struck with the diversity of the program. It would be almost impossible to avoid new learning at one of our meetings. We are deeply indebted to the hundreds of faculty presenters over the years who have gone out of their way to develop practical presentations and to be accessible not only during their talks but afterward as well. The Program Committee strives to construct curricula that will leave every registrant enriched and stimulated as a result of having attended.

#### ALL ABDA/ABMPP **CONFERENCES HELD**

CITY	YEAR	People to People: China	1998
Cancun, Mexico	1987	Miami, FL	1999
Hilton Head, SC	1988	Toronto, Canada	1999
San Juan, PR	1989	Brussels, Belgium	1999
San Francisco, CA	1990	Miami Beach, FL	2000
Toronto, Canada	1990	Washington, DC	2000
St. Thomas, VI	1991	Honolulu, HI	2001
Cancun, Mexico	1992	Orlando, FL	2001
Hilton Head, SC	1993	Anchorage, AK	2001
Phoenix, AZ	1994	Quebec City, Quebec	2002
New Orleans, LA	1995	Chicago, IL	2003
Marco Island, FL	1996	Las Vegas, NV	2004
Cairo, Egypt	1996	Chicago, IL	2005
Albuquerque/Santa Fe	1997	Las Vegas, NV	2006
San Diego, CA	1997	Atlanta, GA	2007
Ft. Lauderdale, FL	1997	Las Vegas,NV	2008
Cancun, Mexico	1997	Fort Myers Beach, FL	2009
Huntington Beach, CA	1998	Washington, DC	2010
San Juan, PR	1998	Montreal, Canada	2011





The nation's 3.5 million commercial truck drivers are experiencing serious health issues including obesity. A recent Gallup-Healthways Well Being Index found transportation workers to have the highest obesity rate of any industry. Truckers also have higher rates of high blood pressure and smoking than the general public. Nearly a third of them have a sleep disorder that can cause drowsiness and slowed reaction times while driving. Truckers spend long hours behind the wheel trying to cover as many miles as possible during their federally restricted driving hours. It is often difficult for them to purchase healthier fare because of truck-parking restrictions, leaving many with no dining options other than truck-stop restaurants. Many get little or no exercise.

Data suggest that about 86% were overweight and 66% were obese; that compared with 65% of the general public that were overweight and nearly half who were obese. The good news is that the trucking industry is trying to reverse those trends. Wellness programs are being established. Some truck-stops are offering healthy menu options and free exercise rooms for drivers. Many are carrying bicycles with them on the road or brown-bagging it. The federal agency that regulates commercial truck drivers is considering mandatory testing of truckers who have high body mass index readings for sleep apnea, which can cause drowsiness. One recommendation is that any driver with a BMI of 35 or higher to be evaluated for sleep apnea. That is a condition in which the air flow pauses or decreases during sleep because the airway is narrowed, blocked or floppy and repeatedly interrupts sleep, leaving sufferers fatigued.

Obesity rates by industry are as follows:					
Transportation	37.8%				
Manufacturing or production	30.5%				
Installation or repair	27%				
Construction or mining	26.4%				
National average	26.1%				
Service industries	26%				
Clerical Office	25.1%				
Manager, Executive or Official	24.4%				
Other	23.7%				
Farming, fishing or forestry	23.1%				
Sales	23%				
Business owner	22.1%				
Professional	21.9%				

# ATTENTION ABDA ENTREPRENEURS

ABDA prides itself on being both membership driven and innovative. Several members have proposed a new program that was recently approved on a trial basis to allow interested members on a first come basis to become ABDA State Meeting Managers by purchasing time limited exclusive rights to publicize, organize and manage appropriate training programs, workshops, seminars, conferences, symposia in their state for a three year renewable period. All expenses associated with such events will be assumed by the member (or group of members) and they will retain all fees generated by the fruits of their labor.

ABDA Central Office will provide free support of those events (by e-mail to members in that state or province) and approve ABDA Continuing Education Credits to all who attend (one CEU credit for each contact hour). The fee for a three year period (renewable) in a single state or province is \$2,100 for states with populations of less than four million and \$2,600 for all others. Attendees can be drawn from any state, province or country. All proceeds for those events would stay with the ABDA State Meeting Manager and all expenses and liabilities for those events would also be his/her responsibility. There is no minimal requirement or maximum number of events involved. Simply send requests for the preferred state(s) or province along with appropriate remittance issued to ABDA and sent to ABDA Central Office, 4525 Harding Road, Nashville, TN 37205.

#### Аменски Воаяр ог **D**ізавіціту АиалязиА



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Contact hotel (see above) directly for reservations at: Tel: 504-525-1993 Credit Card (circle one) VISA / Mastercard (no others accepted) Name: Guest Name: Card # \_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_ Exp. date Amount Name on Card\_\_\_\_ Zip City State Telephone (home)\_\_\_\_\_ (office) \_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_Fax\_\_\_ Signature \_ Please make checks payable to and return to: ABDA Program Committee • Belle Meade Office Park, 4525 Harding Road, Nashville TN 37205

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New Orleans. Louisiana **Embassy Suites Convention Center** 315 Julia Street • New Orleans Tel: 504 525 1993 Future sites under consideration: Florida, Puerto Rico, South Carolina **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION** • Act Now Please New Orleans, Louisiana October 12-13, 2013 Pre-registration fee includes extensive resource packet and certificates for Fourteen Continuing Education Units (CEU's) \$200 US Member • Guest \$90 US • Non-member \$275 US Please type or print. No refunds 45 days prior to event. Request "American Board" room rate. Special conference room rate \$195 includes full hot breakfast.

**MEETING CALENDAR** 

October 12-13, 2013 Seventeenth Annual ABDA/ABMPP International Conference