

# Enhancing Abilities

## Mid-South Access Center for Technology E-Newsletter

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**MEMPHIS**  
Dreamers. Thinkers. Doers.

**Mid-South ACT, where we provide demonstrations, resources, and services for individuals with disabilities throughout the Mid-South area.**

### Roll with the Punches



**Wheelchair Users Group**

### March Support Group Meetings

Friday, March 8, 2013 - BATS Support Group Meeting Members gathered together for "GAME DAY." Games played included Bingo, Cards and Dominoes. A great time had by all. [Read about BATS...](#)

Friday, Monday, 15, 2013 [Read about Roll With the Punches...](#)

Friday, Monday, 22, 2013 - [Read about Brainiacs...](#)

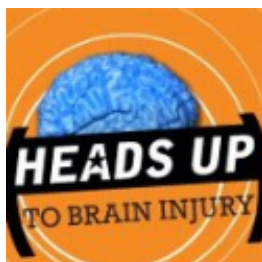


### DynaVox® Training March 29, 2013

Mid-South ACT will host a DynaVox® Training on March 29, 2013 from 9:00am to 12:00pm. Please bring your DynaVox® device (-V/Max/Vmax+/Maestro) if possible. Topics will include:

- Introduction to InterAACT language strategy
- Modifying Buttons
- Navigate the DynaVox Series 5

[Click here to register for this class...](#)



### March is National TBI Awareness Month

According to The Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) website, Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is a serious public health problem in the United States. A TBI is caused by a bump, blow or jolt to the head or a penetrating head injury that disrupts the normal function of the brain.

This month in Enhancing Abilities eNewsletter, Mid-South Access Center for Technology (ACT) encourages you to better understand TBI, as well as to help support awareness and individuals who have experienced TBI locally and

statewide. So mark your calendar for upcoming events listed below

[Read about TBI prevention...](#)



## TBI Experiences

To better understand TBI experiences we offer you two reflections. The first is “My Story” about an individual that experienced TBI personally. The second is from the professional perspective, a Speech Language Pathologist.

### *My Story*

It’s a strange thing to have absolutely no memory of the most seminal event of your life. But that’s how it is with me. Although I mercifully escaped my head injury with no lasting effects, it has absolutely been the defining moment of my life so far. [Read More...](#)

### *The Accident*

I had just snuggled beneath the covers of the bed in a Nashville, Tennessee hotel. I needed to study for the final test on the children’s version of the Porch Index of Communicative Abilities. For the past eight years, I had worked as a speech-language pathologist with neurologically impaired children. During the past year, I had acquired an increased interest in children with traumatic brain injuries, due to the increased number of students with traumatic brain injuries enrolled in the school, where I worked.

Upon hearing the phone ring, I casually picked it up to say “hello” when I heard my sister Carolyn say, “Jenelle has been hit by a car.” I panicked. “What should I do? How bad is it?” [Read More...](#)



## Support Individuals that have experienced TBI

Tennesseans can help provide funding to send persons with traumatic brain injury to camp. Purchase a Tennessee Brain Injury Awareness Specialty License Plate for \$35 plus \$1.50 processing fee.

[Read More...](#)



## Brainiacs Support Group Meeting, Friday, March 15th

In support of Traumatic Brain Injury Month Mid-South ACT will feature “Journeys to Success,” individuals with traumatic brain injuries and stroke will share their stories about how their brain injuries have affected their lives.

Also Dr. Kendra T. Jones, Occupational Therapist, returns to provide demonstrations of Zumba and other exercises that will help individuals stay active after a brain injury or stroke.

[Read More...](#)



## TBI Conference in Nashville, TN March 22nd

Brain Injury Association of Tennessee and the Tennessee Traumatic Brain Injury Program holding their Annual Conference at Trevecca Nazarene University on Friday, March, 22, 2013. The theme this year is Journey of Hope and Healing: Taking Care of Yourself.

[Click Here for Registration Information...](#)



## Upcoming April Events

Thursday, April 4th from 5:30pm to 8:30pm, visit Mid-South ACT's booth at Shelby County Schools Post-Secondary Transition Fair at Southwest Tennessee Community College, Macon Campus. This event is free to all participants.

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Mid-South ACT will host Deaf-Blind Technology Training Day on Monday, April 8, 2013 from 10:00 am to 4:00pm. The National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program enables low-income individuals who are deaf-blind to access 21st Century communication services. To name a few of the program provisions:

- Free equipment to Deaf-Blind individuals
- Provides training on assistive devices
- Provides warranties/repair to distributed equipment

[Read More...](#)

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On April 11, 2013 Mid-South ACT will host Freedom Scientific's Vision Awareness Day.

Discover the benefits of video magnifiers, screen magnification software, accessible Pocket PC, products that read your computer screen or read your books, bills, and mail - and more!

Sessions for those with vision loss, instructors and trainers, parents and families of those with vision loss, seniors and senior center staff, and support groups.

- Free Learning Session
- Free Lunch
- Hands on Demonstrations
- Hands on Demonstrations
- Door Prizes

Space is limited, so register today. Register:

By phone: (800) 336-5658

By email: [seminars@freedomscientific.com](mailto:seminars@freedomscientific.com)

[Register online...](#)

Large print, braille, or audio tape copies of this newsletter are available upon request. Please call Mid-South ACT at 901.678.1489.

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