



Newsletter

SUMMER 2004



From the Director's Desk

One of JRC's unique features is its colorful, artistic environment. Each spring we attend ArtExpo, an exposition of artists and galleries that is held in New York. There we purchase posters, sculptures and art pieces to decorate our hallways, conference rooms and residences. This year we commissioned Kip Frace, a New York pop artist, to do a large mural (250 feet long, on moveable panels) for one of our assembly rooms. All of our students contributed their own finger-

and/or hand-prints to the mural and twelve worked as Kip's assistants. (See below and page 5). When you next visit, be sure to see this mural.

On June 1st we offered a guided tour to persons attending the Association for Behavior Analysis convention in Boston. Approximately 225 psychologists and educators from 15 different countries (Austria, Canada, France, Iceland, Ireland, Israel,

Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Turkey, Great Britain and United States) visited us. After providing small group guided tours, we offered a sumptuous and healthy lunch followed by several short presentations describing key aspects of our program. To see and hear these presentations, go to www.judgerc.org and click on the link at the top of the page. One participant called our tour the highlight of his convention experience and wrote in a



Several students pose with Dr. Israel and artist Kip Frace (third from left) in front of the student-created mural that now appears in our 250 Turnpike Street building.

ABA Attendees Tour JRC

listserv "...JRC proved most impressive. The artwork, the furnishings, the people, the classroom facilities, the grounds, everything. The computers and their software--absolutely astonishing, and breathtaking in scope...Matt and his people have THE center for behavior analysis." (See pages 2, 3)

As part of JRC's summer program we opened the swimming pools at two of our residences. Each week during the summer, weather permitting, a different group of students, drawn from all of our residences, enjoyed the water and sun at these pools (page 7).

Our Big Reward Store, which helps motivate students to improve their behavior, has recently been updated and enriched with: several colorful massage chairs with individual stereo music consoles and wireless headphones; a second ping pong/air hockey/pool table; a foosball table; a karaoke machine with electric drum set; and new arcade games (page 6).

Each year we update our Follow-Up Study by collecting information on all of the students who have left our program. This study shows that the number of students requiring psychiatric hospitalization and psychotropic medication was dramatically reduced for students after attending JRC as compared with before JRC. The number engaged in constructive daytime activities increased significantly (see page 4). We have started an important follow-up service for our former students in which we offer extensive support, advice, visitation and communication to students after they leave JRC to help them to hold onto their gains (page 4 top).

In May, to reinforce our nutrition/wellness initiative, we started a vegetable garden on park land between our two main buildings. Students have planted, weeded, harvested and eaten the tomatoes, cucumbers, zucchini, eggplant, squash, lettuce, strawberries, beans, peppers, dillweed, lavender, thyme, oregano, basil, scallions, parsley and mint (page 8).

Matthew Israel
Executive Director



The visit began with a showing of a video about JRC, which was introduced by Dr. Israel. After the video, the guests were divided into small groups that toured JRC's classrooms, administrative offices, and other facilities.



On Tuesday, June 1st, Dr. Israel welcomed approximately 225 attendees of the 30th Annual ABA (Association for Behavior Analysis) Convention being held in Boston to a tour of our facilities.



Here a tour group is shown our Big Reward Store. Students have behavioral contracts that enable them to gain access to this room and to enjoy the items it contains. An online photo-tour of our facilities, similar to the tour given to the ABA members, can be found on our web site, www.judgerc.org.

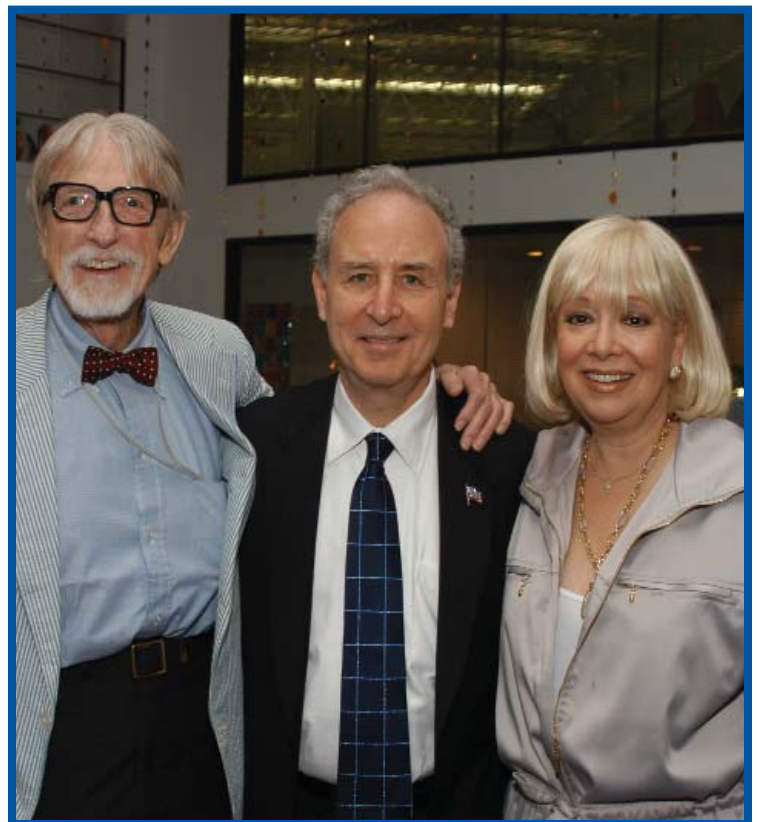
ABA Attendees Tour JRC



After their tours the visitors gathered in our Whimsy Room for a delicious and healthy lunch that consisted of salad, fruit, and pasta.



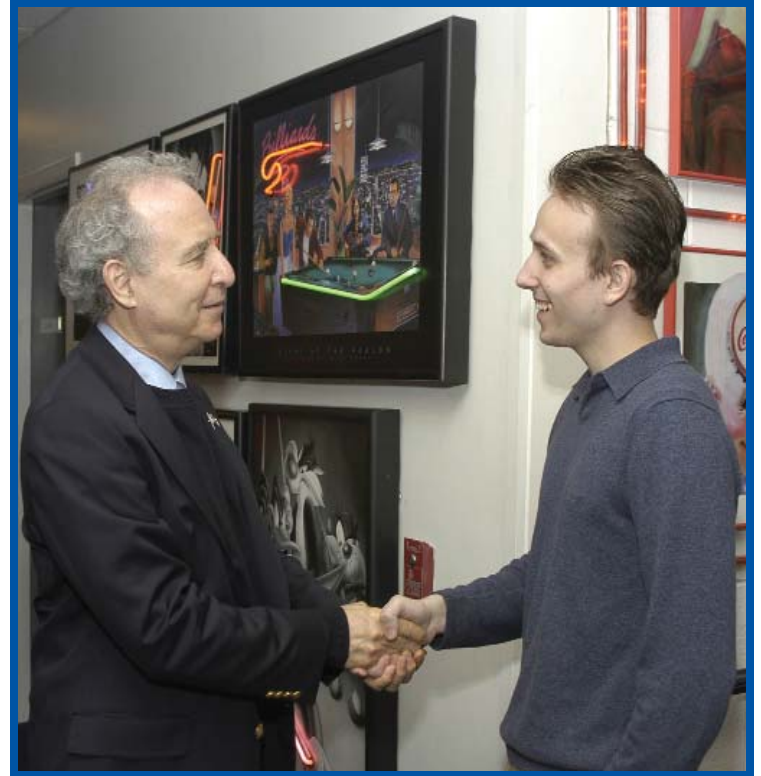
Next, several members of our staff gave multi-media presentations on various aspects of our program. If you would like to watch a video of these same presentations, please visit our web site at www.judgerc.org and click on the link at the top of the page.



Dr. Ogden Lindsley (originator of Precision Teaching) poses with Dr. Matthew Israel and Judy Weber (consultant to JRC).

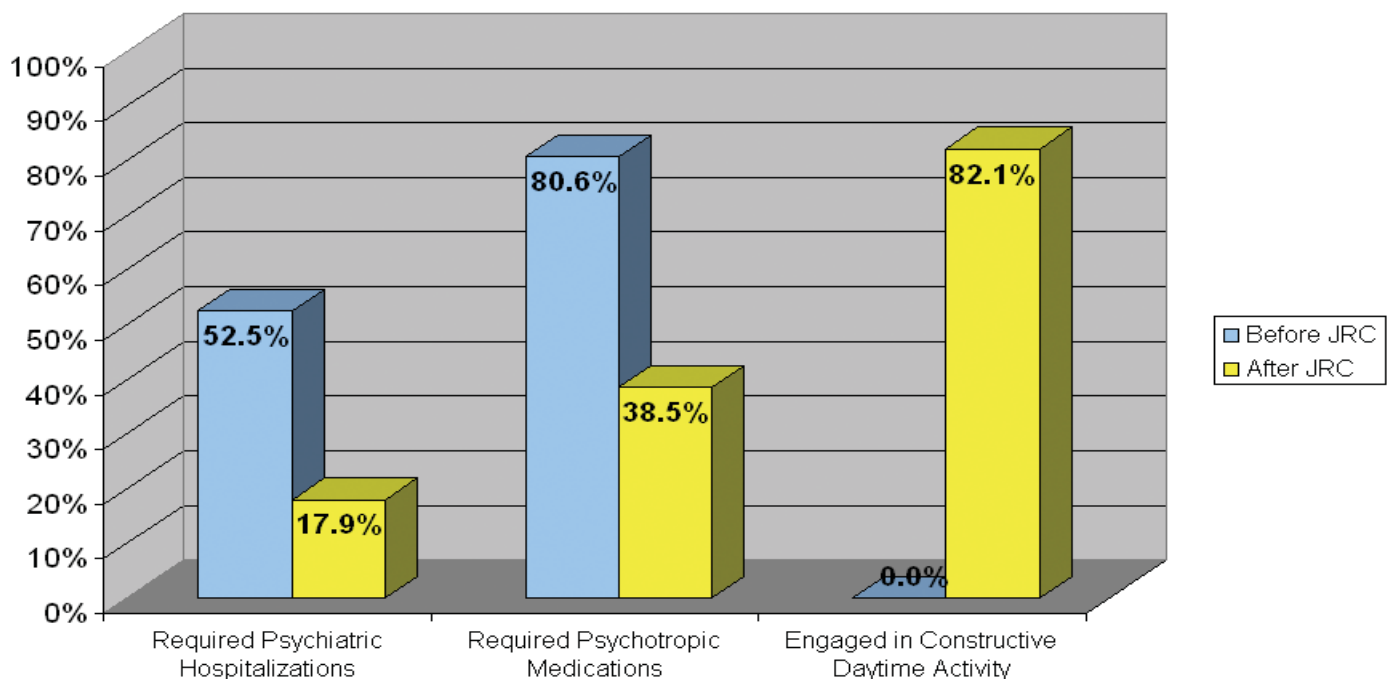


Follow-Up Support Services



We have started a follow-up Support Service in which we provide support, advice and communication to students after they graduate to help them hold on to their JRC gains. The support is coordinated by our Student Services Department and includes phone calls to students and parents (above left), visits by former students (above right), and training to agency staff. Our Student Services Department is continuing its work on our follow-up study. Some of the key findings are shown below.

QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATORS FOR 39 FORMER JRC STUDENTS





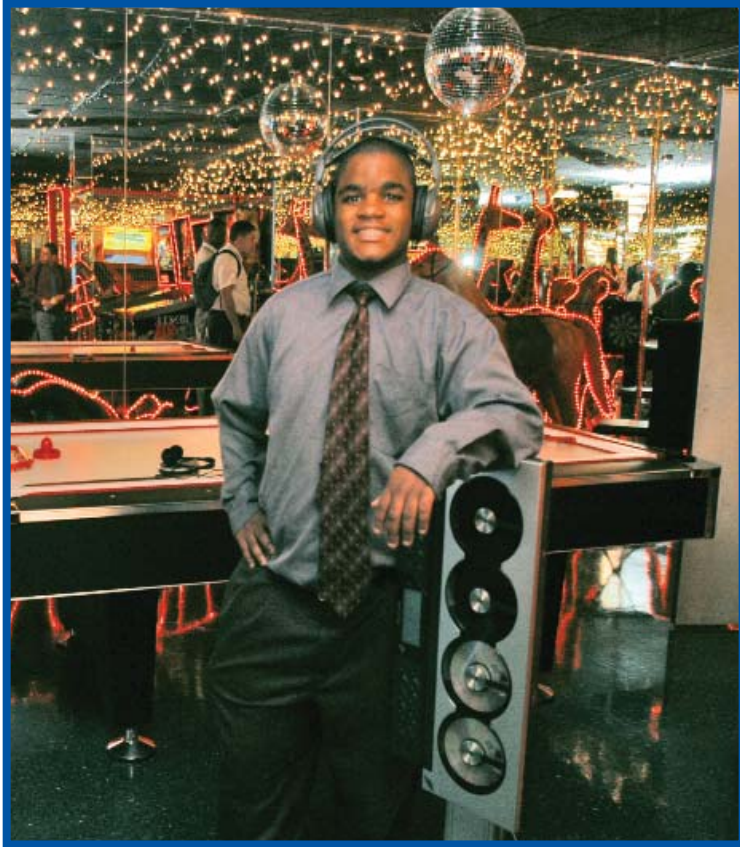
Students Paint Mural



In March, we commissioned Kip Frace, a New York pop artist, to paint a huge 250 foot mural for our 250 Turnpike Street building and to involve our students in the creation of it. The mural shows many large interlocking hands, as a symbol of brotherhood and cooperation. It is applied to large panels that cover all four walls of an assembly room. Twelve students assisted Kip throughout the project and everyone of our students applied his/her own handprints to the wall as part of the painting (see bottom left). The students were wildly enthusiastic about participating in this project.



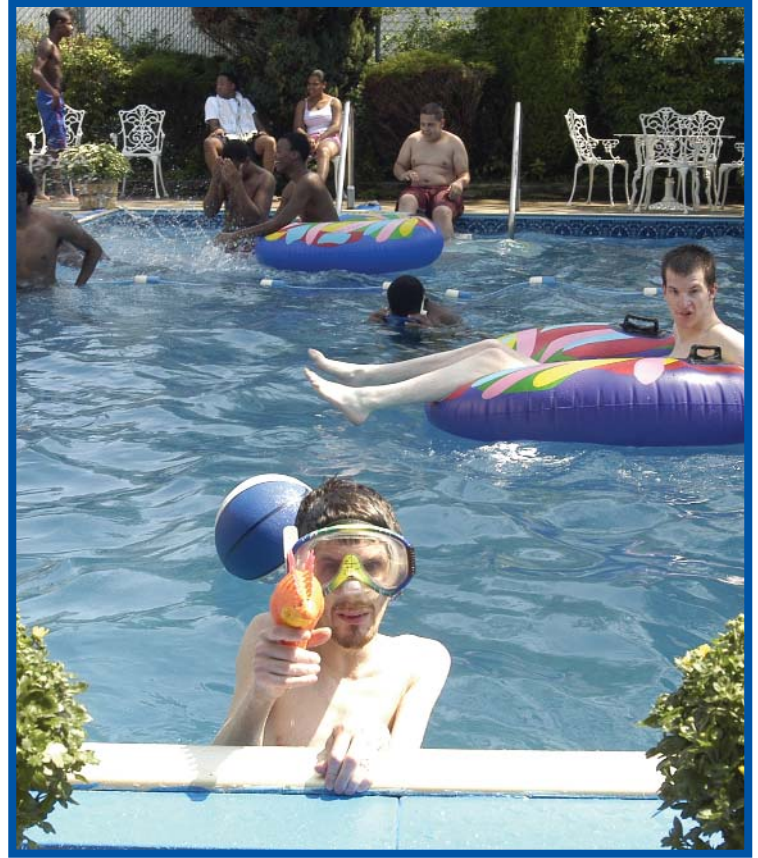
New Additions to our Big Reward Store



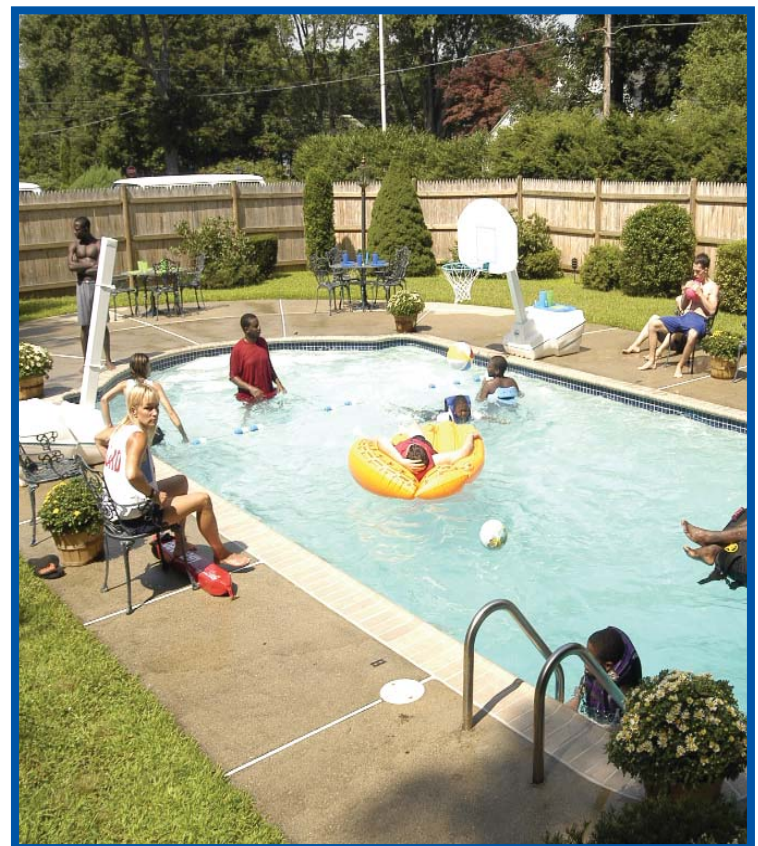
Recently we enriched the Big Reward Store in our 240 Turnpike Street building with the addition of several massage chairs each with it's own stereo music console (above right), a second ping pong/air hockey/pool table (above left), a karaoke machine with electric drum set (below right), and a foosball table (below left).



Summer Swimming



Two of our residences, Brae house and Aspen house, have their own swimming pools. The pools are enjoyed by JRC students during the summer under the watchful eye of a lifeguard and other staff members.





Vegetable Garden



In May, several students planted a vegetable garden as a part of our Nutrition/Wellness program. Among the vegetables that were planted were zucchini, green beans, bell peppers, lettuce, squash, and jalapeno peppers. In July, the students were able to pick and enjoy many of these nutritious vegetables!

