

e-Line on Nine

The Chairperson's Corner

By Alvin Cox

AAMR held its 129th Annual National Conference on September 21st and on September 22nd Region IX held its annual business meeting. I'm proud to announce that the following states were represented at the annual business meeting: Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. Although all states were not represented, it does show that there still is a lot of commitment from the region to remain active and to continue to present workshops and conferences which focus on the delivery of best practices; and also a commitment to the continuation to advocate and support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. On the other hand, it also indicates that Region IX has work that needs to be done to rejuvenate the other state chapters which were no represented and may not have an active state chapter. For the region to reach its highest potential two things must occur: first we must find out what is needed to assist the states that are inactive to rebuild their state chapters. I encourage each state chapter chairperson or a representative from an inactive state to contact me so that we can discuss what the region can do to assist you; and then to develop a plan of action to address the problem and work towards a solution. My email address is PTI450@aol.com. Secondly, once the states are strong we can then work together as a unified team with each state taking a responsibility in participating in projects that are sponsored by the region.

Excerpts from Region IX Business Meeting Minutes:

The following states were represented at the Region IX Meeting:

Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia

Election Results:

- Chair Alvin Cox (NJ)
- Chair Elect Sidney Blanchard (NJ)
- Vice Chair Paul Spangler (PA)
- Secretary Bonnie Minick (PA)
- Treasurer Mary Sower (MD)
- Member-at-Large Sid Katz & Karolina Scutari (NJ)
- Assembly Representatives Nancy Kirchner & Todd Wilson (MD)

Treasurer Report:

- Checking \$10,342.78
- Savings \$ 949.44
- CD \$ 4,640.40

Action Plans:

Action Plans must be completed by each entity that wants to meet, each state chapter needs to submit an action plan to the National Office; this will show that your chapter is active. National will also issue rebates to active chapters who submit action plans. If you need addi-

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tional information on how to submit the action plan, refer to the website and/or contact the National Office, they will provide information on the process.

Other Topics discussed:

- Steps that AAMR needs to take to attract new members and how to bring these individuals into leadership was a major topic discussed. A workshop was conducted during the National Conference by young membership leaders on what attracted them to AAMR and what keeps them active in this association.
- 130th National Conference will be held in Montreal in May 2006. And what we can do to attract more people to attend this conference.
- Name change of AAMR: The National Board is still meeting to discuss the name change. Membership and advocates want mental retardation removed from the name. The acronym AAMR is used whenever possible, but for legal documents and purposes, the full name American Association on mental Retardation needs to be used. Additional meetings will be held throughout the year and at the 130th National Conference in Montreal to discuss the issue.

AAMR Membership Application

Send this application and your payment information to AAMR, 444 N Capitol St, NW, #846, Washington, DC 20001-1512 or by fax to (202) 387-2193

Please print/type Mr. Ms. Dr. Rev. Sr.

Name _____ Nickname _____

Office Home Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____

Country _____

Title _____ Employer _____ Highest Degree _____

AAMR 2005 MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES & DUES (SELECT ONE)

<p>Active Membership-Full professional membership in AAMR. Includes annual subscriptions to <i>Mental Retardation</i>, <i>The American Journal of Mental Retardation</i> and FYI (AAMR's electronic newsletter). Annual Active Member Dues \$135</p>	<p>Associate Membership-Special membership for young professionals and others making less than \$25,000. Includes general benefits of Active Membership, and select your choice of either <i>Mental Retardation</i>, OR <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The American Journal on Mental Retardation</i> OR <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Frontline Initiatives</i> (quarterly newsletter of the National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals). Annual Associate Member Dues \$60</p>
<p>International e-membership-On-line subscriptions only. Available only to those who reside outside of the US and Canada. Annual International e-membership \$110</p>	<p>I certify that my adjusted gross income was \$25,000 or less last year. Signature _____</p>
<p>Sustaining Membership-Denotes individual committed to making a special financial contribution to AAMR. Includes a donation made to support and sustain AAMR programs and services. Annual Sustaining Member Dues \$225</p>	<p>Supporting Membership-For individuals not regularly employed in the field. For parents, siblings, friends and people with disabilities. Includes member discounts for conferences and publications plus <i>Electronic FYI</i>. Annual Supporting Membership dues \$49</p>
<p>Full Time Student Membership-Reduced-price membership for full time students preparing for a disability related career. Requires confirmation of student standing from faculty advisor. Active member benefits, except can vote and hold office in college Chapters ONLY. Annual Student Member Dues \$49</p>	

I hereby verify that the person making this application is a full-time student (graduate or undergraduate) preparing for a career related to mental retardation.
College/University _____ Graduation Date _____ **Signature**, Faculty Advisor _____ Date _____

**Join the Conference of Professional Interests each division and special interest group is only \$10 each.
By joining these professional groups you can tailor your membership to benefit your needs.**

Administration	Communication Disorders	Community Services	Creative Arts Therapies
Direct Support Professionals	Down Syndrome	Education	Families
General	Genetics	Gerontology	Health Issues
Legal Processes & Advocacy	Leisure & Recreation	Medicine	Mental Health Services
Multicultural Concerns	Nursing	Nutrition & Dietetics	OT & PT
Psychology	Religion & Spirituality	Sexual/Social Concerns	Social Work
Technology	Vocational Rehabilitation		

AAMR 2005 Membership Dues (from one category above)	\$ _____
1. Conference _____ \$10 each	\$ _____
2. Conference _____ \$10 each	\$ _____
3. Conference _____ \$10 each	\$ _____
4. Conference _____ \$10 each	\$ _____
Total Dues Enclosed, Payable to AAMR	\$ _____

Credit Card Information: Visa MasterCard Check enclosed payable to AAMR

Account Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Name on Account _____ Signature _____



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