The Chairperson's Corner
By Alvin Cox

Happy New Year to everyone! As chairperson I would like to update everyone on what's going on in the region. At the Region IX Business held in Montreal Canada, May 3, 2006, it was reported that Mary Sower (Maryland), resigned from the treasurer position. We want to wish her well for her many years of service to the region. We wish to also congratulate Sidney Blanchard (New Jersey) for being elected as the new Treasurer. I also would like to commend both Mary and Sid for the smooth transition in transferring accounts from one state to another.

Also at the Region IX Business Meeting it was agreed that Pennsylvania would host the Region IX Conference, and that the region would financially assist Pennsylvania in planning for the conference. It was also agreed that the Region IX Chapter and the Pennsylvania Chapter would split the proceeds of the conference. Pennsylvania State Chairman Michael Powanda and the Pa. Planning Committee have been working extremely hard in planning a fall 2007 conference in Lancaster Pa. (More information to follow from Michael Powanda).

Paul Spangler (Pennsylvania) and I met in December 2006, with Hugh Kelly an AAMR member from the state of Delaware regarding the AAMR Delaware State Chapter. Mr. Kelly is involved with an information advocacy organization name DIAC, the Disability Information Advocacy Corporation. As the Region IX Chairperson, I'm scheduled to attend the next DIAC meeting to discuss AAMR membership and the AAMR Delaware State Chapter.

Sid Blanchard (New Jersey) continues to hold quarterly New Jersey State AAMR meetings and publication the New Jersey AAMR Newsletter keeping AAMR members updated on the issues facing adults with disabilities throughout the state. The next new Jersey State Meeting is scheduled for February 15, 2007, 3:30pm, at 80 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ.

If any Region IX member wants to become more involved in their state and or at the region; please contact me at 201-997-9371 ext.18 or pti450@aol.com. I look forward to hearing from you and working with you to make your state and our region strong.
Region IX Conference Update:
by Michael Powanda

Region IX Conference, hosted by the PA-AAIDD Chapter
September 6 & 7, 2007
Willow Valley Conference Center, Lancaster PA

The PA Chapter of AAIDD is hosting a Region IX conference on September 6 & 7, 2007 at the Willow Valley Conference Center in Lancaster, PA. The conference will include a Keynote presentation on the current and future trends within the Intellectual Disability field as well as the opportunity to attend many different breakout sessions. There will be three primary tracks including Academics, Professional and Family/Advocacy. Please plan on attending this important and informative conference.

If you are interested in presenting at this conference information on call for papers will be sent out to AAIDD membership within the next couple of weeks.

Noteworthy

• National AAIDD, May 21-24, 2007, Atlanta, Georgia
• Region IX Conference, hosted by the PA-AAIDD Chapter
  September 6&7, 2007, Willow Valley Conference Center, Lancaster PA

National News Update

Effective January 1, 2007, AAMR officially became the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD)

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American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
Region IX

Formerly known as American Association on Mental Retardation

c/o Sidney Blanchard
Community Access Unlimited, Inc.
80 West Grand Street
Elizabeth, NJ 07202

Phone: 908-354-3040
Fax: 908-354-3186
Email: sblanchard@caunj.org
AAIDD Membership Application

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

Name ___________________________________________________________________________

 □ Office □ Home Street Address __________________________________________________________________________________________________________

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Title ___________________ Employer ___________________ Highest Degree ___________________

AAIDD 2007 MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES & DUES (SELECT ONE)

______Active Member—For disability professionals who wish to stay current on the latest developments in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities. Includes our highly ranked journals Intellectual Disability and the American Journal on Mental Retardation; PY1-the Association’s monthly electronic newsletter; and access to Washington Watch. Includes member discounts at conferences; discounts on books and other publications; and reduced rates for posting classified advertisements on AAIDD’s Career Center, our online career service where resumes are posted for free.
Active Member Dues $150

______Active Sustaining Member—For current and future leaders in our field who wish to support research, policy, advocacy, and service the Mission of the Association.
Active Sustaining Member Dues $250

______Active Young Professional/Direct Support Professional Member—For college graduates who are new to the disability field and for individuals who are on the “frontlines” of service delivery and have incomes less than $25,000 per year. Includes general Active Member benefits of, and on line access to either □ Intellectual Disability, OR □ The American Journal on Mental Retardation.
Active Young Professional/Direct Support Professional Member Dues $75

______Active Family Member/Self-Advocate Member—For individuals with disabilities and family members who have incomes less than $25,000 per year. Includes general Active Member benefits of, and on line access to either □ Intellectual Disability, OR □ The American Journal on Mental Retardation.
Active Family Member/Self-Advocate Member Dues $75

______Active Electronic Member—For electronically savvy professionals who wish to access their information by electronic means only.
Active E-Member Dues $150

Active Student Member—Reduced-price membership for full time students preparing for a disability related career. Requires confirmation of student standing from faculty advisor. Active member benefits. College/University________________________ Graduation Date________________________
Active Student Member Dues $50

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AAIDD 2007 Membership Dues (from one category above)
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Visit AAIDD’s website at www.aaidd.org for information on Access General Group Membership.