PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's an exciting time to take over as the 1993 ADED President. Our membership is at a record high, the successful 1992 Conference has given us some fiscal breathing room and other organizations are actively seeking our experience. To continue our growth and development we must expand the services to our members and reach out to other organizations. Plans for expanding services include:

* Completing an ADED Bibliography on disabled driving topics
* Developing an ADED Resource Packet for current and new members
* Designating ADED Approved continuing education courses
* Further refinement of the Certification process to include a knowledge test
* Refining the ADED Membership Data Base
* Provide information regarding ADA transportation issues

Developing relationships with other organizations allows us to share our special skills and knowledge as we learn from the expertise of others. I recently attended the Transportation Research Board Conference in Washington, D.C. I was impressed with the large amounts of research and discussion concerning the older driver. The researchers were impressed that ADED members actually conducted evaluations in real life traffic! We have much to learn from each other.

Our strong relationship with N.M.E.D.A. will help us both as we strive to keep up to date with the latest in adapted technology and standards. The American Occupational Therapy Association has invited us to participate in the 1993 AOTA Conference in Seattle. As we build relationships with other organizations our influence and knowledge base will ultimately benefit greater numbers of people with disabilities that seek the freedom of mobility.

On behalf of the ADED Officers and Board I invite you to play an active role in our organization. The ADED Spring Board Meeting is March 12-14. Please contact an officer or board member if you have any ideas or suggestions. And don't be surprised if you get a phone call to help with a project. The Board will appreciate your help.

Tom Kalina
MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBER

PAUL HELM
Certification Chairperson

Paul Helm has been Certification Chairperson for 2 years, after serving on the Committee for 3 years prior to that. He is currently in his 11th year as a Driver Education Instructor at the Model Secondary School for the Deaf in Washington, D.C. He taught Driver Education for 16 years in the public school systems.

Paul graduated from Frostburg State College in Maryland with a degree in Social Studies. He completed his Master's Degree in Secondary Administration from Bowie State, also in Maryland.

Paul and his wife Rosalie are the parents of two sons. (Rosalie is a former Driver Education Instructor herself.) They enjoy downhill skiing at their vacation ski cabin at Brick Mountain, Virginia. In the summers, they take an annual vacation to North Carolina.

Paul has devoted many hours to the task of getting ADED's certification process in order. The best way we can think him is to submit questions to him in multiple choice (guess?) format dealing with information we all should know to perform our jobs effectively.

Newsletter sponsored in part by:

FROM THE EDITOR:

Just a reminder that the next newsletter deadline is April 15, 1993. I look forward to your input. Please send your article(s) to Sue Henderson, Memorial Hospital - RTC, 615 N. Michigan, South Bend, IN 46601, Fax (219) 284-3259

THANKS!

I wish to thank those members of the organization who responded to my concern regarding the anti-lock braking system. I'd like to advise others of the information that was given to me.

Two responses were in favor of adding a kill switch to the vehicle. Two responses recommended placing the car into Neutral.

This is the technique that I and my three instructors use on our Oldsmobiles and will continue to do so. We use a palm down method, to insure that the car is not placed in reverse or another gear, and apply the brake firmly while instructing the student to decelerate. I would prefer not having to take that extra time consuming step in order to bring the car under control. However, until we're able to come up with an alternative, it appears as if we have no choice.

Sincerely,
Richard B. McCall
Handicapped Driver Training Consultant
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"SHOW ME" THE WAY,
ADED in Kansas City
August 21-24, 1993
FOR YOUR INFORMATION

At the ADED meeting in Cambridge, there appeared to be a lack of knowledge in relation to Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS). The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has promulgated regulations governing the crash safety of motor vehicles with particular attention to passenger cars. However, during the next four years, most of the regulations will also apply to light trucks and vans. There are now 53 FMVSS which primarily regulate the safety of new vehicles. The following information is being taken from the SAE Technical Paper Series "Applying the Intent of Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards to Vehicles Modified for the Use of Disabled People" dated February 24-28, 1992 and the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards and Regulations from the U.S. Department of Transportation NTHSA dated June 1989.

The Standard in question which was raised at the opening of the conference is FMVSS 216, Roof Crush Resistance. As described by NHTSA, this standard "sets minimum strength requirements for passenger car roofs to reduce the likelihood of roof collapse in a rollover accident." This standard will be extended to vans under Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW) of 6000 pounds after September 1993 and can be used as a guideline for roof modification as stated by Diggs and Dalrymple in the SAE Paper.

As individuals look forward to the future, we need to be aware of the federal mandates which will affect our clients and be well informed by the facts and not by an interpretation of the facts.

NOTEWORTHY

Tony Regan is returning to Ireland to take-up a newly created position with the Disabled Drivers Association of Ireland. His new position, located in Dublin began in early January.

DRIVING RELATED ACTIVITIES AT THE AOTA CONFERENCE

The American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) 1993 Conference in Seattle, WA, will include several sessions of interest to ADED members. On Saturday, June 19, an all day institute entitled "The OT as a Driver Rehabilitation Specialist" will be conducted by Susan Pierce and Carol Blackburn. On Sunday morning, June 20, AOTA and ADED are co-sponsoring the mid-year meeting of the Transportation Research Board's Task Force on the Safety and Mobility of Older Drivers. Current and potential assessment tools for assessing older drivers will be presented. On Sunday afternoon there will be a scientific/technical panel entitled "Able Driving is Safe Driving: Escalating Need for Improved Assessment of Older Drivers". Tom Kalina, 1993 ADED President, was invited to moderate the panel, which includes John Eberhard of NHTSA, Steven Lee of AARP, Linda Hunt, an ADED member from Washington University in St. Louis, MO. Several driver assessment tools will be displayed during the conference, including the Doron Simulator, the Elemental Driver Simulator and the Vision Analyzer. Contact Tom Kalina for more information – (215) 251-5688

THANKS TO THE RETIRING BOARD MEMBERS

Several long-time ADED Board Members retired from the Board at the end of 1992. The following individuals deserve our special thanks: Bill Hinze, Belinda Morris, Ray Frick, Hank Syrkin, Carol Blanc, Kevin Helman and Loretta Stone. They devoted countless hours of service to this organization; their official contributions and good humor will be greatly missed.

Tom Kalina

CALL FOR DATA

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is searching for data sources that have the potential to link vehicle crash rates and age-related physical and mental limitations. If you are aware of data sources that may be relevant to this research, please contact John Eberhard of NHSTA at (202) 366-5595.

REMEMBER WHEN...

by John Arthur

In the new year, we will be asking our members to test their knowledge of ADED with our newest feature - The ADED Trivia Quiz. There is no way to study for this, but if you have a good memory or copies of old newsletters or a good phone network, the answers should easily be found. As a reward for correctly answering the questions a prize will be awarded to the member who supplies correct answers to all the questions. In the event of a tie, the winner will be picked by drawing at the fall board meeting with the prize being awarded during the conference. The correct answers will be displayed at the registration booth at the conference. Good luck and let the game begin!

1. In what year did ADED have its first organizational meeting? 
2. Who was elected as ADED's first president? 
3. The second annual conference was held in what city? 
4. The only out of country conference was held in what city and country? 
5. In what year was the position of President vacant? 
6. What state hosted the most (3) ADED conferences? 
7. In what year were the first certification awards being awarded during the conference? 
8. Who is the immediate Past-President? 
9. How many elected officers are on the Executive Board? 
10. How many appointed board members are on the Executive Board?

Please send your responses to:
John Arthur
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2301 Argonne Drive
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ADED/NMEDA BOND GROWS DURING 1992
by Charles W. Puckett, ADED President-Elect

The positive relationship between ADED and NMEDA (National Mobility Equipment Dealers Association) continued to expand during 1992 as both organizations moved in tandem toward many identical goals.

For its part, ADED agreed to put a workshop at the annual NMEDA Conference in Phoenix in February, an event NMEDA members were looking forward to as this is written.

NMEDA, meanwhile, in 1992 began sending information about ADED and ADED membership application forms to all new NMEDA members, encouraging dealers to join both associations. NMEDA also held its September, 1992, board of directors' meeting in conjunction with the ADED Conference in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

"We're anxious to see both organizations grow," says Becky Plank, the executive director of NMEDA. "We both are striving for the same things: mobility for the disabled, and safer streets and roads for everyone."

To that end, NMEDA implemented its Quality Assurance Program during 1992, a program in which qualified members of the association agree to meet strict standards for excellence. Meeting these standards virtually assures customers that work done on their vehicles not only is of professional quality, but will result in the highest level of performance and safety.

Not all mobility-equipment dealers are members of NMEDA, of course, and only members can qualify for the Quality Assurance Program. Awarding of the NMEDA Quality Assurance Dealer recognition is a signal honor for the recipient firm.

The program is expected to generate expanded membership for NMEDA during 1993. "More and more of our dealers are finding that safety and quality are the keys to profits in our business, and they're working hard to qualify for the program. The increase in the number of Quality Assurance Program dealerships this year will be significant," says Plank.

NMEDA is also justly proud of its rapid rise to national prominence. In the group's three short years of existence it has promulgated safety standards for vehicles equipped with mobility aids for the disabled that have been adopted in whole or in part by six states. The group is pushing for national safety standards that will make all roads safe for drivers and passengers, disabled or not.

For further information, contact Becky Plank, Executive Director of NMEDA (813) 932-8566.