

## President's Message

*David Shia*



"It's all in the planning" as the saying goes. So, here we go again. Your chapter board of directors, at its meeting on May 20, began the decision process to schedule events for 2008/2009. We are hoping to rebound from the limited meeting events held last year. Our current plan calls for meetings in September, October & November 2008 as well as February, March & May 2009. A variety of meeting topics were discussed and work is under way to line up presenters. We expect at least one of the meetings will be held together with the Niagara chapter. The IMA is more focused on providing educational opportunities for members at the chapter level. The goal is to provide you with skill improvements that will help you to succeed in your chosen profession. If you have an idea for an event, input from members is always welcome. Contact information is provided below.

Meeting prices will be determined by our ability to meet any attendance minimums that are imposed by the catering location. In general, a dinner buffet will cost \$25 and should the meeting consist of a two choice entrée, the price will be \$20. A \$5 discount will be given to students. The board also agreed to continue its support of the Variety Club.

A noteworthy statistic about our non-student membership is that over 70% have been with us more than 10 years and almost 40% have been members more than 20 years. Obviously, this shows that membership has its value. While this is especially encouraging, one important challenge our chapter faces is the lack of new board members. This situation has been publicized in past issues of the newsletter. We hope that members will give this challenge serious consideration. Some of our current board members are handling 2 or 3 positions. Your assistance to help share the work is essential. A phone call or email to investigate any of the opportunities available is the first step: 681-1973, x205 or [dshia@yahoo.com](mailto:dshia@yahoo.com). Your time commitment will be 1 or 2 hours a month. Training will be provided. Why not join us for our June planning meeting and find out what chapter administration is all about. There are personal and professional advantages, too. Thank you for your consideration.

With summer right around the corner, many of you will be preparing to visit with family and friends. Have a great time. We hope to see you in September.