

Editor's Comments

The Fall issue of Volume XVII marked the end of Ron Reynolds' term as editor of *Therapeutic Recreation Journal*. To Ron goes our deepest thanks for so skillfully guiding and upgrading *TRJ* and thereby providing increased prestige for the National Therapeutic Recreation Society and the profession it represents. A special thank you also goes to those individuals who are leaving the Editorial Advisory Board and Associate Editors group. Your services have been appreciated.

During the next three years I, as the new Editor, the Associate Editors and Editorial Advisory Board members are dedicated to continually upgrading the quality of *TRJ* in keeping with the tradition set by Ron Reynolds and his distinguished predecessors. To accomplish this goal, we are instituting several changes in procedures that should strengthen the editorial review process and the quality of published materials. First, all articles will be sent to two of our Associate Editors who in turn will each select two reviewers, one of whom is supposed to be a practitioner. Thus, authors will get back comments based on six reviews plus those of the Editor. As a second step to improving the review process, we are trying to give articles turnaround in 40-50 days from receipt. Additionally, effective with this issue, we are adopting the American Psychological Association (APA) style as the format for all published articles. Thus, writers are urged to obtain a copy of the third edition of the *Publication Manual of the APA*.

Securing publishable manuscripts in a field that emphasizes practice is always difficult. As we all suspect, University personnel are the largest group of contributors to *TRJ*. There is a need to increase the volume of manuscripts submitted and at the same time increase manuscripts from practitioners. We are interested and willing to work with all potential authors to develop publishable manuscripts. This may involve authors using reviewer's comments to complete a viable second draft for a second review by the editor. The benefits to the field of having more practitioner input cannot be overstated.

TRJ encourages philosophic and historical as well as research based articles. Programmatic articles are also encouraged if the how-to's are the result of systematic evaluation. Descriptions of new ideas and approaches are particularly encouraged if they are grounded in theory and subjected to some form of analysis. Prospective authors are

encouraged to write to the Editor if they wish to determine the appropriateness of a given idea or approach before submitting a fully developed article.

Prospective writers are also encouraged to submit papers for theme issues. A call for papers for the fourth quarter of 1984 is contained elsewhere in this issue. That special issue will focus on fiscal management of therapeutic recreation service. It will be co-edited by Ray West. Authors are also encouraged to contact Gerry Fain at Boston University regarding a planned issue on ethics and therapeutic recreation service. No publication date has been set for this theme at this time. Finally, readers are encouraged to suggest other themes for future issues of *TRJ*. The editor is also interested in receiving ideas for articles, and suggestions for people who should be encouraged to make submissions, etc.

I look forward to a three-year term as Editor. *TRJ* will ultimately only be as good as the material we have to work with in the editorial process. For those who are unhappy about what appears in *TRJ* or would like to have particular topic areas pursued more fully, your help and assistance is solicited in making *TRJ* a fully responsive professional publication.

Peter A. Witt, Editor