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From the Editor

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From the Editor

Here we are at the start of another year full of fresh promise, potential, and of course the ever present pitfalls. Our resolution is to again make SciTech News a quarterly package of ideas and information to fulfill the first two "p"s in the previous sentence, and to help you over the last. We think this issue gets the year off to a terrific start on all accounts.

You may have noticed that this is the first issue of Volume 60, which indeed means that SciTech News (STN) is celebrating our 60th anniversary. There is something about a decade age marker that inspires the desire to commemorate or celebrate in a special way. We are actively soliciting your input to help us with our celebration. I have delayed my "history" article until the next issue so I can do it appropriate justice. If you have some reminiscences about past contributions that have helped you in your work, anecdotes about "library life" during the past 60 years, or other thoughts, we welcome them.

To start us off, I will remember Ron Buchan, who I met when I first came to Baltimore in 1994. At that time he was the Book Review editor of STN, and I was pleased to get some very interesting titles from him to review – and consequently to keep. I have lost touch with Ron, who was an extremely talented indexer at NASA STI and when I met him was suffering valiantly with a very mysterious and debilitating illness. Even so, he was a fascinating introduction to Baltimore and the wonderful world of SciTech News, which of course was then being edited by Ellis Mount. Hope to hear from you with your memories to share.

We are very pleased to welcome a new regular columnist to this issue. As noted in my November editorial, this is Diane F. Brenes of The Boeing Company. Her first Web Reviews column quite serendipitously continues the aerospace topic that was the focus of David Hook's final Web Reviews column. And all her sites are new ones!

Earl Mounts and Ellis Mount continue on with their New Journals and Book News selections, respectively. I have to confess that as Editor I read them even more closely than I did in the past, and all three columns are gold mines of resources that assist me in my roles as a library manager, researcher, and collection developer.

Susan Fingerman



This issue also contains several opportunities to be acknowledged and rewarded for your professional expertise. Each Division has one or more award announcements, and all offer both recognition and monetary rewards. You're sure to find one for self-nomination and /or the opportunity to nominate a colleague.

I'm very pleased to again include feature articles in this issue. Several are from the Chemistry Division, one from the Aerospace Section and one from another contributor. As Marcie Rodney says in her Section Chair column, SciTech News is always interested in another columnist or a stand-alone article submission. If you don't want to write it, we'd still be interested in topics that you'd like to read about.

And be sure to check out the pictures from the Daser-2 Summit held in College Park Maryland this past December. Christina Pikas, our Assistant Editor, was the official Summit blogger and is becoming a well-known blogger in her own right. We thought you'd like to see what she looked like. Division leaders, Ann Koopman and Mary Steiner attended and presented at the Summit and Michael Leach as ASIS&T President pulled it all together. We have a few snapshots of them as well.

Best wishes to the MRM membership as they embark on their new path as a Section of the Chemistry Division. We're sure there will be synergies for all concerned.

Our Division and Section Chairs and Co-chairs are already looking forward to the Annual Conference in Baltimore this coming June. All I can say is our "small but mighty" Maryland Chapter is working feverishly to help make this a positive experience outside of the Conference Center! The city and area really have a lot to offer and we're going to uncover some of the highlights for you.

Happy New Year.❖

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