## DEPARTMENTS

## LETTER FROM THE E D I T O R



Susan Weiss, CNMT Editor Journal of Nuclear Medicine Technology

his issue of the *Journal of Nuclear Medicine Technology* marks the beginning of a new decade with significant changes. As you have readily discerned, the cover, style, and organization of the *Journal* have changed to reflect the continuing evolution of our field. These changes represent the combined efforts of the *Journal*'s staff. It is our hope that these enhancements will provide additional stimulus for you, the readers.

It is also our desire to stimulate increased *Journal* article submissions from you. To that end, the next issue of the *Journal* will include another new feature which is particularly well suited for technologist contributions. We seek submission of interesting imaging artifacts, including a description of the imaging procedure, pertinent patient history, and a description of the artifact and its etiology. Nuclear medicine technologists are most adept at the identification of artifacts. We believe that this opportunity for you to share your knowledge with your peers will have a two-fold benefit. First, it is an opportunity to publish, which requires less time and effort than a full-length scientific article. Second, the educational value to the reader is significant in enhancing the individual's professional skills. We hope that this will provide an opportunity for neophyte authors to publish on an "entry-level."

The primary function of the *Journal's* Board is to help authors to get their articles published. The review process is specifically designed to provide helpful suggestions to the author, which will enhance the paper and facilitate publication. The *Journal of Nuclear Medicine Technology* historically has a low rejection rate for submitted manuscripts. This is reflective of the editorial staff's efforts in assisting authors to reach their goal of publishing their original materials. Many of you have not taken advantage of this opportunity and I wonder why. It is obvious to me that there is much expertise among our membership, which could be shared with a wide audience through publication in the *JNMT*.

Each year, at various chapter meetings, as well as at the annual SNM meeting, many of you give presentations on your original work. Presenting that information in the form of a full scientific article would benefit many more members of the section. Another benefit to the author is an additional entry to your curriculum vitae. Considerable effort must be put into an oral presentation. Why not reap the added reward of having your work published in the *JNMT*? It also offers you the opportunity to expand upon your oral presentation, many times in response to questions at the time of your presentation.

The oral presentation should be considered an initial step in the publication process. Your data is organized. The results have been determined and the conclusions have been drawn. A good method of turning your oral paper into a manuscript is to tape the presentation and have it transcribed into written form. Once that is done, you have many of the elements of a manuscript on paper. You have already prepared an abstract, so you are well on your way toward that final manuscript. Once you have a draft, ask others to read it and to make critical suggestions. The editorial staff of the *JNMT* is available to assist you in preparing a final manuscript for submission. Do not hesitate to send a draft manuscript to the Editorial Office for a review. I will assign an Associate Editor to work with you in the preparation of a final manuscript. You will also receive assistance in technical editing, that is, copy editing for diction, grammar, rhetoric, punctuation, terminology and abbreviation when your final manuscript is accepted for publication. You will have other opportunities to enhance your manuscript after acceptance, as well as in the typeset version. With all of this assistance available, why not take the opportunity to get your name in print in the *JNMT!* 

Aue Weiss