FROM THE PRESIDENT

Who reads messages from society presidents? When we find out, we'll know what to say here. I suppose we could increase the readership of this column by offering prizes, or possibly by launching a vicious attack on some unsuspecting sister society. In any event this column precipitates a dialogue with True Seaborn, who as editor has to read it.

I suspect a few of the society's officers and Governing Board members read this column, wondering what kind of make-work exercises the president may have in store for them—or hoping the president isn't (or is) making a fool of himself. For them, I have a surprise. We're going to give them a chance to use this space to tell you, the membership, what they're doing for you. And, of course, we'll start with those who didn't read this message. Seriously, I believe we have a great team, and I do intend to ask a number of them—including representatives of the parent IEEE leadership—to contribute to this space.

The membership does respond to articles and notices in Computer if they hit the mark. We were delighted with (and we're still recovering from) the 2200 responses to the solicitation for technical committee participation that appeared last May.

My principal orientation is to increase member participation and to broaden the base of our leadership. I hope that as each of our leaders discusses his activities in this space, you will be able to see opportunities for your own active participation. For example, some new or expanding activities we're pushing hard right now include our recently announced COMPSAC—Computer Software and Applications Conference (see February Computer, pp. 4-5), microcomputers, and computer communications.

Let us hear from you.

Merlin G. Smith, President IEEE Computer Society