New transactions launched; Computer Society growth continues

We are pleased to report that our new quarterly, the Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence, has passed all the essential hurdles. The first issue will be published in January 1979. The editor will be K.S. Fu, one of the most recognized contributors to the general pattern recognition field. TPAMI's publication reflects the fact that pattern analysis is one of the most important growth areas in computer technology.

A number of other IEEE groups and societies are interested in this new journal. We will cooperate with them in the editorial process, and their members may subscribe at the same rates as society members. We hope you will subscribe. If you are a member of any of the following IEEE groups or societies—Computer; Aerospace and Electronic Systems; Control Systems; Engineering in Medicine and Biology; Information Theory; Sonics and Ultrasonics; Systems, Man and Cybernetics—you can subscribe with your next IEEE dues statement, or send your name, mailing address, member number, and the $4 subscription fee to the IEEE Service Center, 445 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, New Jersey 08854.

There is other good news. Society membership continues to grow at an increasing rate. Our July 31, 1978 total was 33,658, up 25.2% from our July 31, 1977 membership. This growth rate will bring our membership to about 40,000 by year's end. Participation in all society functions is up—a clear indication of the increasing pervasiveness of data processing. We believe this growth results not only from the increasing numbers of people involved with computers, but also from the responsiveness of the society to members' interests. We are listening to your comments and we welcome your suggestions. We are also preparing a member brochure describing Computer Society activities. You can request a copy from our Long Beach offices.

Predictably, we are witnessing much growth in software and applications interest. Our COMPSAC 1978 conference, to be held in Chicago, November 14-15, has had an unprecedented response from authors. We hope you can join us there to participate in a fine program.

Have you noticed the changes in Computer magazine? We continue to build all aspects of Computer, including increased volunteer and professional support. We feel it is the premier membership magazine in the computer field, particularly in terms of its breadth of scope.

Once again it is time to recognize contributors to our field. We would like to help you with your nominations of deserving people to the grade of IEEE Fellow. Joe Logue, our Fellows chairman, and I stand ready to advise. And if there is someone deserving of one of our society awards, I hope you will propose them to our Awards chairman, Rex Rice. Your inputs, in care of any of our addresses listed in Computer, will be given careful attention.

We conclude on a sad note. Tudor Finch, a long time friend of many of us and a recognized contributor to the IEEE for many years, has passed away. Tudor had served as the chairman of our Computer Elements Technical Committee, as our representative to the Solid State Circuits Council, and as a member of our Governing Board. Most of all, Tudor enthusiastically maintained his technical interests through a long and productive career. We will miss him.

Merlin Smith
President