

editor's page

Your Journal and Mine

The *Journal of Extension* is just that, a journal written, revised, edited, published, and evaluated by, for, and about Extension professionals. The Board of Directors, which makes the policies and is responsible for all aspects of the *Journal*, is a group of Extension staff with a high degree of commitment and dedication to making the *Journal* the best it can be. As the new editor, it's my task to implement the policies of the board. The bottom line will be measured by the extent to which the *Journal* proves to be a valuable tool in your own professional development.

I'm no newcomer to Extension. My first involvement was as a 4-H member in Huron County, Ohio. Nor am I a newcomer to the task of implementing the development of people through Extension. This was my assignment as a county staff member, a state 4-H staff member, a coordinator of staff development, and as a teacher and advisor to potential and current staff members.

However, I'm new to this assignment, and to follow such a distinguished group of editors who have developed the *Journal* to the current level of professionalism is a bit scary. Special thanks is due Joan Thomson for raising the professional standards and providing us such a helpful tool during the past two years.

I've been a reader of the *Journal* since the first issue in 1963 (my bookshelf includes every issue). I was the Iowa liaison representative for 15 years. I've used the *Journal* in my classes, during in-service training sessions with staff, and have recommended articles to individual staff members. But putting together six issues a year, each of which includes something that will help each of us in our professional development, will be a real challenge. To do this, I need your help. I need your articles, your thoughts (the Forum), your successes and failures that should be shared with others (the Idea Corner), and your ideas about how the *Journal* can be of even more value to you. We need to keep the *Journal* on the cutting edge of Extension.

Another point . . . now is subscription time. If you're a current subscriber, you know the value of the *Journal*. If you're not a subscriber, make the *Journal* a part of your personal library. Renew your present subscription or start a new one NOW!

