Das APCS Bulletin

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An additional word from the editor...

This issue of the APCS Bulletin marks the beginning of a new decade for our Association. After a group of voice teachers officially organized themselves into an Association on April 23, 1988 in Bern under the leadership of Prof. Jakob Stämpfli, the first official APCS Bulletin appeared in September of that year. The lead articles in 40 of these issues have been written by Prof. Stämpfli. As editor I have looked forward to his innovative, thought provoking ideas, colorful and inventive use of the language and down-to-earth practical suggestions on dealing with voice teaching. His many illustrations have caused us to rethink the validity of our own teaching methods. Although this issue of the Bulletin contains his last "official" contribution, we will look forward to many "non-official" articles in the future. After more than ten years as president of APCS, Prof. Stämpfli's guidance will certainly be missed as he retires from this position on January 1. Thank you, Jakob, for helping us through the first crucial decade of existance. Over the past ten years, APCS has increased its membership from 27 to 144. That is an increase of 433% and growing!

Just as a ship needs a captain to determine its direction, it also needs a motor to keep it going. Thus a special word of thanks is in order to our secretary, contact person, congress organizer, letter writer and telephonist Marianne Kohler. Without her untiring dedication to the details that make for a successful congress, EUROVOX 98 would ne-

ver have taken place. Since the very beginning of APCS, Marianne has been the driving force behind the concept of every effective congress and conference we have had over the years. She has indeed done the work usually delegated to several people in any organization and she has done it well.

My work in putting out this Bulletin in three languages four times a year would not have been possible without her personal contributions, persuasion of other members to write an occasional article and correcting the German and French for me. As long as she continues as APCS secretary (She is still looking for volunteers to take her place!) I will look forward to working with her on future issues of the Bulletin.

I also wish to personally thank Pierre-André Blaser, Monique Diem, Bernhard Hunziker and my wife, Hazel, for helping to make the task of registration go smoothly during EUROVOX 98. Thanks also to Yves Bouyer for being the man to call when an emergency arrived and for his work in keeping things functioning in the auditorium during the lectures.

Above all, my thanks to all of the APCS-EVTA members and friends from all over the world who attended the Congress. No congress can be a success without enthusiastic participants. By the way, there were more than fifty students from several different conservatories and private voice studios in attendance. This was encouraging to see as our future existance and growth as an Association depends on the interest and engagement of these young people.

Howard Nelson