



One Hundred and Going Strong

A 100th birthday is always special and I am proud to be a small part of this Society's growth and accomplishments through all these years. I made my debut as a "regular" at ECS meetings in 1979. As I dig out the fall 1979 Boston meeting brochure from the dusty piles in my office, I am first of all struck by its small size (as many of you may recall, the full size, 8.5 by 11, meeting booklet didn't happen until a few years after that). Then as I browse through the listings of the Society Headquarters staff and the officers, I notice that all the names, without a single excep-

tion, have changed in the twenty-odd years since 1979! It is quite remarkable that the Society continues to make quantum improvements in meeting features, publications, and member services, notwithstanding the changing faces and names of its constituents. The officers, staff, and the members at large can all take pride in this seamless quality of our Society.

This special issue of the magazine looks back with renewed pride at the journey we have taken and the milestones we have passed. The heart of this centennial issue is a pictorial celebration of the Society's 100 year history that Mary Yess, our Managing Editor, painstakingly distilled from the forthcoming new Society history book written by Dennis R. Turner and Forrest A. Trumbore, and after many months of archival research. Other bonus specials are also offered in this issue: a Tech Highlights column containing summaries of the most frequently cited articles on electrochemical/solid-state topics from the Society *Journal* (and its predecessor, the *Transactions*), a collection of excerpts from editorials that appeared in the *Journal* pages dating back to 1948, and a gallery of caricatures of familiar faces in the electrochemical community. I would be remiss here in not acknowledging the tireless efforts of Mike Kelly, Mary Yess, and Bill O'Grady (who acted as a talent scout) in coordinating these three projects respectively. Ellen Popkin, our Production Manager, managed to bring it all together using a layout that seems to get better with each issue of this magazine. Finally the program for the 201st meeting in Philadelphia is appended along with details on the special events planned for that momentous gathering. Hope to see you all there.

Let me sign off with a few "big picture" comments. Our Society, as with any other organization, does not exist in a vacuum—it is shaped by events and technologies that occur outside of it. Yet it is the rate of change of these outside influences that perhaps is hitherto unprecedented. Thus we have sent men to the moon, made incredible advances in telecommunications, computing, and information technology, developed remarkable materials, and eradicated many diseases. Corresponding developments in the political, economic, and societal fronts continue to evolve at a bewildering Internet pace. New challenges have emerged—among them, combating cancer and AIDS and safeguarding our way of life. At the same time, the ecological/climatic consequences of unfettered technological and population growth, and the widening gap between the haves and have-nots must be addressed. What will our world be like after the next hundred years of existence of the Society? Only time or a Time Machine can tell! Stay tuned.

Raj K.

Krishnan Rajeshwar
Editor

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