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From the Editor...

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From the Editor...

Dr. Harold Karbal

There are two topics currently holding the attention of the education world: high technology and higher order thinking skills. Either one will evoke considerable discussion. This issue of the **Michigan Reading Journal** has as one of its central themes the use of the computer in the teaching of reading. It is inevitable that when the discussion veers toward this subject thought will be given to the introduction of television into the classroom some years ago. We had such high hopes as to what TV would do for us. It never happened. Will the same be said of the computer some years hence? As I compose this piece on my word processor, I do think things will be the same. It's like nothing that ever happened before. We seem to be absolutely engulfed in this technology. Children are engrossed in it, and we simply must learn how to take advantage of it.

Happily, we have educators in our state who are giving serious thought to using the computer in the classroom. Many thanks to Martha Irwin and her colleagues for helping us think through the implications of its use. That she feels strongly about helping teachers become aware of the possibilities of word processing in the teaching of reading and the other language arts comes out strongly in the article she wrote. Interestingly she geared her thoughts to the new definition of reading being promoted by **MRA**. Kathy Brown has looked at recently published materials and has gleaned a number of practical teaching suggestions from them. Dianne Novak describes her experiences of integrating comprehension activities with a computer into her tutoring of a sixth grade student. To add to the above fare, **IRA** Board of Director's member Nora Forester helps us see

how a district plans for and implements a computer program for reading.

So that we do not neglect other aspects of reading, former **MRA** president Anne Hughes shares with us the lifelong love of reading that is basic to everything we as teachers do. What is more everyday than the newspaper? Nicholas Criscuolo has shared with us ten creative ideas to incorporate into our thinking and teaching. Our second article from Texas comes from Candice Carlile with a general article on computers which helps put the whole concept into perspective.

The next issue will deal with reading and the gifted. Do you have a program, a study you are conducting, gifted students in your class or school you wish to describe or any of many ideas you want to write up? You will be made welcome in the pages of your journal.

We are also looking for poetry written by students which would be appropriate for the journal. The work of gifted students is welcome at any time, but especially for the next issue.



Dr. Harold Karbal