

Transitions in Progress

By the time you read this, 2008 will have begun. I hope that you have had a good beginning and hope it will continue so. I have just finished two years as editor of the *Journal of Dentistry for Children (JDC)* and several changes (both small and large) have taken place during this time. There have been personnel changes as well as editorial changes in office policy and procedure.

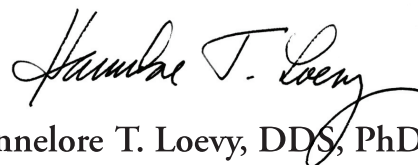
When I started, *JDC* appeared in a printed copy; now we produce an electronic publication and it is truly a different ball game. We no longer think in terms of paper and ink costs but rather how to work with a software program that is not always cooperative. I understand that using a hammer and hitting the monitor will not help to make it work properly. However, the computer has changed our efficiency reducing the existent manuscript backlog. You may have noticed that the process is more timely when submitting a paper to the journal. This improvement in the handling of papers (during 2007 we received 228 new papers) is due to the great help we received from our volunteer reviewers. I appreciate the amount of time that our reviewers are able to provide. Despite other responsibilities, they find the time to assist me with a timelier decision for the authors.

With last year's 228 new submissions, this improvement could not have occurred without their help. I am looking forward to the Academy's 2008 Annual Session to meet all of the new and old reviewers and thank them in person (not just via the list published in the Sept./Dec. issue of the journal) for helping me so much during the past two years.

IngentaConnect, the company that hosts the journal, reported that the *JDC* made their top list of full text downloads in 2007! Also, *JDC* ranked 83rd with 1168 full text downloads and 94th with 1738 home page views for the period of December 1, 2007, to December 31, 2007.

Soon it will be time for the 61st meeting of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry in Washington, D.C., and I am looking forward to better weather than what Chicago is able to offer to us at the moment. As usual we will have a meeting of the editorial board and I hope you will be able to attend. I also hope to meet some more members willing to help in the effort to improve the *JDC* and provide me with suggestions and comments. There is always room for improvement, and I would like to hear your ideas.

See you in Washington!



Hannelore T. Loevy, DDS, PhD
Editor