

EDITOR'S NOTE

In 1989, filled with hope and terror, I assumed the role of Managing Editor of the *ARSC Journal*. I had edited previously in an environment uncluttered by computers, cabling, and software which only partway lived up to its speculative hype. Now, four calendar years and five volume years later, I have one complete file cabinet, one overused computer with postscript printer and outdated software, and six linear feet of shelving filled with the products of those years.

Now it ends. This is the last issue which I will produce as managing editor. No one can possibly understand the uncertainty, fear, hope, and overtime work that went into the first issue. We had to learn desktop publishing software for the first time, the software interface with the word processing software didn't work right or sometimes at all, the computer was too slow taking sometimes twenty minutes to perform a layout routine. We literally learned the process from the ground up.

Many people worked on this journal in that first year and later. ARSC owes a debt of gratitude to them. Linda Lancaster and Jared Smith, UMKC students, served as assistant editors. They are responsible for "engineering the issues of the Journal." Pat Payne of UMKC's University Libraries proofread every word that was published, sometime more than once or even twice. Eleanor Brantley Schwartz, first as Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and later as Chancellor provided enthusiasm for the work and, yes, money. Gene Jacobs, Jim Walsh, Gene Funk, and others at Lowell Press served as teachers first, then facilitators and creators of the physical reality which the *ARSC Journal* became. Chuck Haddix performed his responsibilities with delicate veracity, and served ARSC and *ARSC Journal* readers well. The members of the editorial board, the editorial advisory board, authors, reviewers, and numerous others deserve great credit for the quality and accomplishments of the *Journal*. When things have gone wrong, it has been my fault.

ARSC is really quite an extraordinary organization to work for. As editor I received help when I needed it, and freedom of action and decision at all other times. Unquestionably, critical comments have been received, critical in the best sense of the word. They have made the *ARSC Journal* better.

Barry Ashpole now assumes the editorship. In his able hands, great things will happen. Support him by writing, reviewing, and helping with the *Journal*. The *ARSC Journal* is only as good as the members of the Association make it. For the next year or so, I will move to the chair of the ARSC Publications Committee. In that capacity, I hope to strongly support the work of Barry, David Summerfield, Jim Farrington, and the officers and members of ARSC.

Recently, I was reminded of one of those great quotations uttered by Yogi Berra. "When you come to a fork in the road, take it." I'm going to do just that right now.

Ted Sheldon
Managing Editor
(Retired)