

EDITOR'S NOTE

We begin this new volume year with a sense of excitement and optimism for the future. As you will note, this issue is a special issue devoted entirely to a cumulative index for the past twenty-seven years. The notes and book reviews which normally appear will be presented in the October issue. Working on this project has given all of the editors an interesting perspective on how the profession and this journal have changed over time. Hopefully, we have not just grown older but also a bit wiser.

I am delighted to announce that the Conference of Latin American History last December agreed to award an annual prize called the Tibesar Prize in honor of our esteemed Editor Emeritus, for the best article in a volume year in *the Americas*. The committee has been formed by Dr. E. Bradford Burns, the current President of the CLAH, and the first prize, covering volume 47, will be presented at the meeting of the Conference next December.

I would also like to welcome four new editors to our board and say good-bye to some old friends. Professors Donna Guy of the University of Arizona, John Kessell of the University of New Mexico, Colin Palmer of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and Lyman Johnson of the University of North Carolina, Charlotte are beginning their terms. I am delighted that they agreed to join our effort. On the other hand, I will remember fondly the collaboration and willing participation of those whose terms are ending: Dr. Vicenta Cortés Alonso of Spain and Professors Franklin Knight of the Johns Hopkins University and Thomas Schoonover of the University of Southwestern Louisiana. They have my deepest gratitude for all their contributions to our success.

On a sadder note, we are permanently losing the collaboration of one of our most esteemed Senior Editors, Fray Lino Gómez Canedo, who died last December. An appreciation of his life and his contributions to the field and this journal is included in this issue. For my part, I would like to say that I will personally miss his gentleness, warmth and sound scholarly advice. I thank God for the fifteen years in which I had the good fortune of knowing and working with him.

J.D.R.