



President's Message

Marc Fink
Madison, Wisconsin

Dear IDRS colleagues and friends,
 It has been a truly exceptional experience to serve as your president during the past four years. On my watch, I have had the incredible opportunity to host one annual conference and assist with three others including our first venture to South America. I have met and corresponded with many of our members throughout the world who share in the joy of double reeds. I have served with a wonderful crew of dedicated individuals on the executive committee. Above all, I have developed a huge appreciation for what our Society does to promote collaboration and communication in our unique double reed world.

To the inevitable question, "Well, what does this job pay?" I would answer that I have been richly rewarded with lasting international friendships and great satisfaction for the continuing contributions of IDRS to our double reed heritage, history, and performance. The unique and wonderful atmosphere of sharing the enthusiasm that each of us has for double reeds at conferences continues to amaze me.

The future of IDRS looks very exciting as well. This year's Banff conference will be a very special event in a very special locale, another "don't miss" opportunity to combine pleasure with pleasure. Future conferences at the University of North Carolina Greensboro and Monash University in Melbourne, Australia

will provide us with very exciting new venues. My hope is that in the future we could expand our international conference sites to France and Japan, countries with very active and large double reed societies. Just as our first conference in Graz was a real milestone, our outreach to South America provided another giant step in sharing our Society's goals with the world-wide community.

I am deeply indebted to many individuals with whom I have had the privilege of working for the past four years: executive secretary/treasurers **Lowry Riggins** and **Norma Hooks**, the true "heroes" of IDRS; editors **Ron Klimko**, **Dan Stolper**, and **Yoshi Ishikawa** who are responsible for our realizing our Society's goals in print and online with their outstanding publications; business liaisons **Peter Klatt** and **Larry Festa**, on whose wise counsel I have relied; and the officers of our executive committees who have provided outstanding leadership during my tenure as president.

Lastly I thank **you, the members of IDRS**, for the honor of serving you. You have become and will continue to be my extended family.

I offer my personal best wishes to incoming president **Terry Ewell** and the new executive committee members. We look forward to their leadership in the years ahead.

With best wishes and thanks,
 Marc Fink