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American Viola Society



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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues,

At the time of writing this, I have just returned from the 2002 International Viola Congress at the University of Washington (Seattle), hosted splendidly by Helen Callus. To hear excellent violists perform, to meet new people and renew friendships, and to share in the joy of the viola is what our Society does best.

I would like to see us continue to focus on the high-quality, high-profile events which make the Society special: the *Journal* of the AVS, the Congresses, the Primrose Competition. We will also look for and fund other projects that best exemplify our mission to enhance and promote all aspects of the viola.

Peter Slowik has been an inspired and enthusiastic leader of the Society over the last four years; in fact, he was the one who inspired me to join the AVS many years ago. Catherine Forbes and Ellen Rose have spent countless hours organizing our membership database and financial records, and William Preucil has been an invaluable source of wise and practical advice.

Our newly elected officers and board continue this tradition of enthusiasm and hard work in the service of our Society. As an additional help to our organization, we have hired a professional management team (see Announcements section, page 10) to provide us with a national office, facilitate communication among members, and enhance our ability to increase membership and raise funds for future AVS endeavors.

I hope to see all of you at the next Congress! B



Ralph W. Fielding
President, American Viola Society
Faculty, University of Southern California



Ralph Fielding