

## Of Hurricanes and More

It was, in general, an editor's dream.

In addition to abounding with information, the piece sparkled with style. The length seemed just right for the space allotted. And, despite unexpected travel, the author had submitted the piece on time.

Unfortunately, the unexpected travel was the evacuation of New Orleans because of Hurricane Katrina. Long-time resident Britt Bromberg had written for the *Science Editor* issue before you a piece on the attractions of New Orleans, where the 2006 CSE annual meeting was to be held. As most readers know, because of damage to the hotel the meeting has been moved to Tampa, Florida. For more about plans for the meeting, please see page 29 of this issue.

Editors in many places felt repercussions of Hurricane Katrina and then Hurricane Rita. Britt Bromberg and oth-

ers, including annual-meeting editor Ann Morcos, evacuated affected areas and tried to continue their work and daily lives from afar. Editors elsewhere who had authors, peer reviewers, or journal recipients in those areas also contended with challenges.

In press when Katrina struck, the November-December issue of *Science Editor* was to contain an article titled "New Orleans, Here We Come! E O Wilson to Speak". Once it was clear that the meeting would be moved, program chair Devora Krischer rewrote the article; instead of accompanying it with a photo of New Orleans as planned, we ran photos of speakers. Special thanks to Devora for her efforts and to designer Tiffany Inbody for making the changes in proof.

When Hurricane Rita appeared headed for where I live and work, I disconnected my desktop computer, piled files

on my chairs and desk, and left my office—material for the January-February

*Science Editor* in hand—to join my husband in preparing our home for a storm. Rita veered away, however, and meteorologically our community felt little impact. Over the coming weekend, my time originally allotted for working on *Science Editor* was spent in helping nursing-home patients and others who had been evacuated to our community. Thanks in part to our designer's patience in awaiting the copy, the issue is now before you.

Figurative storms, too, have affected many of us in recent months. For some of us, the *Science Editor* article "Science



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Editing and Caregiving: Experience and Guidance" (July-August 2001) has become all too relevant. Some readers and contributors have themselves faced medical difficulties. And because of downsizing, outsourcing, and other factors, some have made unanticipated career transitions. Yet, often with support of each other, we go on.

As 2006 begins, those editorial colleagues and others who have recently contended with storms are especially in my thoughts. May the year 2006 and the years to come be good ones for readers of these pages. And may *Science Editor* have reason soon to run a version of Britt Bromberg's delightful piece. Editors continue to dream, and sometimes the dreams do come true.

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