

# SSIblings

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Newsletter of the Society for the Study of Ingestive Behavior

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## **Letter from the President Gerard P. Smith, M.D.**

As I write this letter, I am on the train to Manhattan to meet a friend of mine from college. She is an editor for Harcourt Brace and we meet each year for dinner just before Christmas to review the year and to exchange book presents. We have been doing this for more than a decade. It is one of the rituals that I enjoy when Christmas comes to New York.

This letter is another ritual -- one of the privileges of being your President. I bring you "good tidings" at this holiday season. Thanks to Steve Woods's leadership and the work of the other officers and members of the Board, the Society is humming along. We were a major presence at the recent Neuroscience meeting. Our own evening meeting had an interesting mini-symposium, but the room was not big enough to accommodate all that wanted to attend. We've learned from that and are making arrangements for next year which we hope will be more comfortable in a number of ways.

Israel Ramirez and Mike Tordoff are arranging for our next meeting in Philadelphia in conjunction with the EPA. The

old jokes about Philadelphia no longer hold -- Philadelphia is delightful in the Spring and I hope to see many of you there.

And you should know that committees have been formed to prepare for a joint meeting with the National Association for the Study of Obesity in 1991 and for our first independent meeting in 1992. I shall have more details about the meetings in my next letter.

The Nominating committee, chaired by Jim "Big Daddy" Gibbs, is also at work and you will soon be invited to submit names for officers and members of the Board. Please take this nominating process seriously. We want a Society that is representative in all the important ways -- scholarship, service, gender, and geography.

We need more members. The Society has not yet reached optimal size. You'll be hearing more on this from the Membership Committee, but I urge each of you to recruit a new member, particularly students because they are the future.

That catches you up with what we've been doing. I'd like to hear from you, especially those of you who are dissatisfied with the way the Society is taking shape, what it is not doing for you.