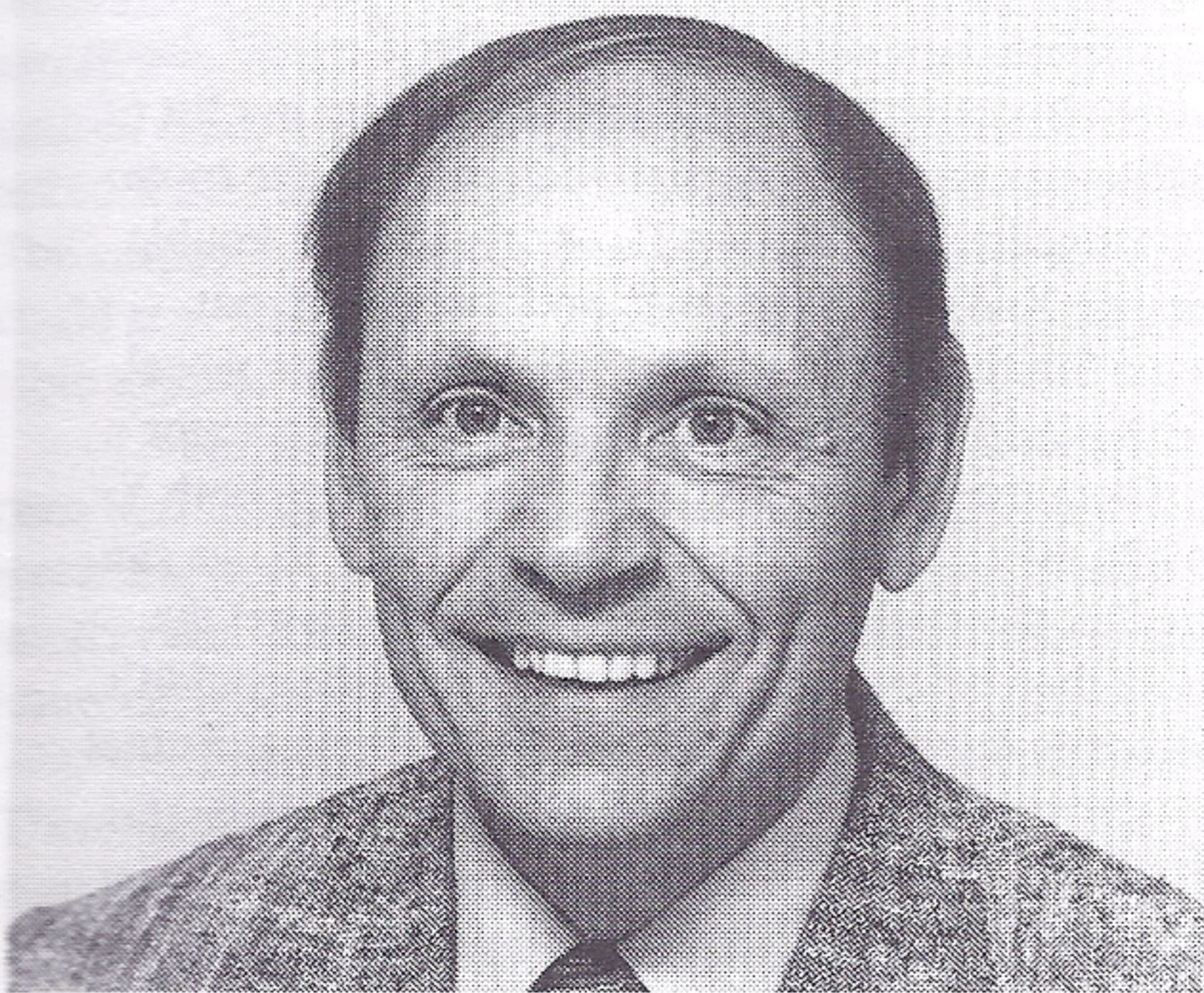


REGIONAL MESSAGE -- STEVE CARLSON



Current issues and activities-NSTA-Journal Article and Report.

I represented OSTA at the Board of Directors/CAG's meeting in Washington D.C. this summer. It was very interesting and informative. To help in an understanding of what NSTA is involved with at a national level I've listed in this report some of the agenda items and focuses.

CAG's (local association presidents and representatives)-NSTA BOARD session:

- How different science bills are processed through the senate
- Overview of Senator Glenn's different science education bills
- Overview of Senator Hatfield's science education bills
- First Points program (This program is now endorsed by NSTA)
- Funding programs using research and design
- Influencing your legislature
- How to write for various publications
- How to write grants and secure monies from various agencies
- Business partnerships
- Teacher enhancement and materials development grants from NSF
- Eisenhower Grants and other pertinent issues -Allen Schmeider DOE
- Parliamentary procedure
- Membership
- Newsletters
- Computer Bulletin Boards
- Conventions
- Finance

In addition NSTA Board agenda items:

- President's report
- Position papers- Animals in the classroom, International Science education, multicultural science education, science teacher professionalism.
- Task force reports-Supervision, retired members, Science education reading & writing, elementary curriculum, board organization, 50th anniversary.
- Budget issues
- Endorsements-Reading is Fundamental, Disney Teacher of the year, AIT Environmental Curriculum, National Council for the Social Studies.
- NSTA Certification Program
- Carleton Award
- NAEYC-Appropriate Curriculum Content and Assessment in Programs Serving Children Ages 3-8.
- Preschool/Elem Classroom Teacher Rep on NSTA Committees
- Visions Report
- Proposed Conferences
- HQ 5 yr plan
- Upcoming conventions
- Publication
- New board orientation
- Soviet Convention
- Director's Budget

Of particular interest to me at the meeting were the Presidential initiatives and Headquarters plans for 1990-1995 because they show the direction NSTA is going. Details about the agenda items and directions are covered in NSTA publications so it is an advantage to belong. The following is a list of strategic direction for the 1990's and beyond:

- Strategic Direction 1: Developing Standards for school science
- Strategic Direction 2: Ensuring quality science education for all students, especially the underrepresented.
- Strategic Direction 3: Implementing curriculum, in instruction and assessment based on the standards.
- Strategic Direction 4: Professionalism and professional development of science teachers.

The NSTA Five Year Strategic Plan for 1990-1995 has the following components:

HEADQUARTERS:

- Create a comprehensive policies and procedures manual for NSTA.
- Search for new or additional headquarters space.