# cartographic perspectives 

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## MESSAGE FROM NACIS PRESIDENT

In the Fall of 1980 I attended a meeting in Gatlinburg Tennessee. Alan MacEachren, then at Virginia Tech, called and urged me to attend. Since it was within easy driving distance and just on the edge of Great Smokey Mountain National Park (one of my favorite places for hiking), I decided to go. I can't remember any of the papers that I heard, though I'm sure some must have been quite good, but I do remember that I enjoyed the atmosphere of the conference. It was intimate, I'd guess about fifty people were there, and it was exciting; I also remember that I never got a chance to go hiking.

The North American Cartographic Information Society was founded at a time when cartographic information was exploding. The promise of the computer, long talked of during the 1960's and 1970's, was being realized as the 1980's began. This explosion has both continued and accelerated and NACIS has grown with it, expanding not only as measured by the number of members but also in the strength of its outreach. The birth of Cartographic Perspec-

