

## **Editor's Preface**

This issue of the journal, containing the Proceedings of the Conference on Transport and Propagation in Nonlinear Systems, is dedicated to the memory of Mark Kac and Stan Ulam, two great mathematicians who died last year. It begins, appropriately enough, with an interview with them, conducted by Mitchell Feigenbaum, shortly before their deaths. I am sure the reader will find this interview most interesting.

Of the two, I knew Mark Kac better, having first met him in 1952 or 1953 when I was a first year graduate student at Syracuse University and he gave a colloquium on the Ising model. His obvious enthusiasm for science was matched by his enthusiasm for good food and good conversation at the dinner table. This enthusiasm, which I later came to know better, extended to all aspects of life and never left him. At our last meeting, as Cochairman of The Committee of Concerned Scientists, his devotion to helping scientists in trouble with authorities in all corners of the world was inspiring. He refused to despair over the enormity of the problem and the meagerness of our accomplishments.

He was and will remain an inspiration to all of us.

Joel L. Lebowitz