

## From the Editor

The late Charles Alan Wright was the most notable writer ever to become a member of Scribes. The editors therefore thought it fitting to dedicate this issue to his memory. Hence “The Wit and Wisdom of Charlie Wright,” with which the issue opens.

The issue marks a little more than a decade for the *Scribes Journal*. From 1990 to 2000, we’ve put out seven issues covering a broad array of topics, from critspeak to complimentary closes, from style sheets to sexist language, from law reviewese to plain language. Many articles from the *Journal* have been widely reprinted and disseminated.

For those who would have liked ten issues instead of seven, I can only say that so would I. But practical problems impinged. When I began editing the *Journal*, I was a full-time faculty member at a law school. I had staffing resources at my disposal, including as many research assistants as I wanted. By the time of the second issue, that was no longer true: I was running a small company, not to mention publishing books of my own and keeping a busy travel schedule. Meanwhile, year after year my colleagues and I have rejected far more than half the submissions we’ve received for the *Journal*.

Given these realities, it’s surprising that we managed to produce even seven issues. That wouldn’t have been possible if it hadn’t been for Beverly Ray Burlingame, who has worked hard on every issue since 1990. Without her extraordinary dedication, producing the *Journal* would have been impossible. Also, for the past three issues, Joseph Kimble has served as managing editor with great energy and skill.

For the opportunity to edit the *Journal*, I want thank all the Scribes board members during the 1990s. But it’s time for me to hand over the reins. I hope to continue as a contributor. I’ll be like a flying buttress on a church — I’ll support the *Journal*, but from the outside.

—Bryan A. Garner

