

## From the Editor

I'm at the *Journal's* helm for the first time, trying to fill the editorial shoes of Joseph Kimble and his predecessor, Bryan Garner. Daunting? Well, let's just say that I have a newfound appreciation for how Bobby Murcer felt in trying to uphold a Yankee tradition set by Joe DiMaggio and Mickey Mantle. (Just don't trade me to the Giants.)

Let me start by thanking Joe for his years of excellent, dedicated work as the *Journal's* editor in chief. He exemplifies all that Scribes stands for. And fear not, *Journal* fans: Joe's still doing some heavy lifting as senior editor, bless him.

Please welcome Raymond Ward to our editorial staff. Ray is an accomplished appellate specialist from New Orleans, where his pens are red and his music is blue. Ray has a keen editorial eye, and his passion for the *Journal* — and the Scribes mission — runs deep.

Our editorial work is enhanced, as always, by veteran copyeditor Karen Magnuson. She wields her trademark purple pencil with a surgeon's precision (and a poet's heart).

Together, we'll do our utmost to help our star contributors shine their brightest.

And speaking of stars, this volume looks like a night sky in northern Michigan. If you loved volume 13 — which contained Bryan Garner's interviews with eight Supreme Court Justices — then you'll love this one, too. We lead with transcripts of Bryan's conversations with U.S. Court of Appeals Judges Frank H. Easterbrook, Pierre N. Leval, Sandra L. Lynch, Stephen R. Reinhardt, and Diane P. Wood. These interviews offer another vivid view from the bench, a wealth of insights on what impresses our most important readers — and what doesn't.

Scribes is grateful to Bryan Garner for sharing these interviews and to the judges for allowing us to print the transcripts in the *Scribes Journal*.

And if all that weren't enough, we add two articles that are sure to pique your interest. We're pleased to welcome Judith Fischer back to our pages. She revisits our old friend *The Elements of Style*, by Strunk and White, offering a fresh, comprehensive, and frank assessment of the book's value to lawyers. We follow with an article by Frank Wagner, who was the Supreme Court's Reporter of Decisions for more than 20 years. Besides giving us a peek at the Court's inner workings, he recounts some colorful history surrounding a 19th-century case syllabus that continues to spark fireworks today.

Two final words of thanks:

Thank you, *Journal* readers, for your continued support of Scribes. You're the best that our profession has to offer.

And my thanks to Thomas Cooley Law School for its many years of generous support for all things Scribes. It's a debt that Scribes cannot possibly repay.

— Mark Cooney