

From the Senior Editor



It has been noted that great civilizations are often distinguished by their writings or documentation—not necessarily by inventions or development. While I do not profess that the American Society of Ocularists (or the *Journal of Ophthalmic Prosthetics*) falls into the category of great civilization, I do believe our society and publication are reflections of many creative, caring, and distinguished professionals. The American Society of Ocularists has always felt a commitment to share and record, from its inception 50 years ago and continuing with the first journal generated in 1972.

In recognition of the Senior Editors who have helped create, inspire, and cultivate the *Journal of Ophthalmic Prosthetics* and its predecessors, *Today's Ocularist* and *The Journal for the American Society of Ocularists*, I have invited them all to submit an article to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the ASO. The enthusiastic response to this “Editors’ Journal” is clearly shown in the unique and diverse topics that follow.

I wish to thank all of the former Senior Editors, including Joe LeGrand, Sr. and Jack Diner, as they set the standards that I humbly follow. It is noteworthy to mention that of the eight Senior Editors who have held the position, six have worked with Joe LeGrand, Sr. and/or LeGrand Associates. The professionalism that Joe LeGrand, Sr. established is evident in the legacy he has left to the society and to this journal.

My editorial message would be remiss if I did not thank all the writers who have written articles over the years. They have helped build the ship that we editors have navigated. I also wish to acknowledge Maria Costillo and Neill Hughes for their typing and computer assistance and the Editorial Board for all the behind-the-scenes tasks and finally, our publisher, Art Brown of ABI Professional Publications, whom I hope will be with our society for the next 50 years!

Michael O. Hughes
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Journal of Ophthalmic Prosthetics