editor's page

Journal Freedoms

In carrying out my editorial duties, I'm often reminded of the important parallels between *Journal* activities and the concept of freedom. The freedom that's so basic to our American Heritage is also the foundation the *Journal* is built on. We take many freedoms in the publication field for granted, so it may be interesting to mention a few of the important *Journal* freedoms I encounter daily.

First, there's the freedom to write—to develop a *Journal* article as one sees fit. Closely related, authors have the freedom of topic choice. No one tells them what to write, within the broad spectrum of clientele interests and a reasonable article length.

There's also the freedom to submit. Authors freely choose the *Journal* as their publication source. Articles are submitted to the editor free of fees or handling charges. Articles are evaluated by an unbiased group of *Journal* reviewers. They exercise their freedom to constructively criticize and suggest content changes. They decide to accept or reject an article for publication.

However, there must be a majority of opinions to reject recorded by reviewers before an article's turned down by the editor. When this occurs, authors are freely given reasons for the rejection. Authors are allowed the freedom to appeal, followed by arbitration, accommodation, rewrite, and article resubmission.

Then there's the freedom to give. Since articles are freely submitted, the *Journal* permits other educational outlets to reprint *Journal* articles without charge.

There's also the ever-present freedom to grow. This shows the *Journal's* educational philosophy of bridging the gap between research, theory, and application. Each freely developed, published article stimulates both author recognition and content growth. Moreover, every *Journal* article educates and spurs one's desire for deeper knowledge. In protecting these cherished *Journal* freedoms—the nation's freedoms, there's no greater educational mission or citizen responsibility.

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