

EDITORIAL

This issue of Word Ways is a festschrift in honor of our venerable editor, A. Ross Eckler and his wife Faith who, after 37 years, have decided to turn over the editorial reins to me. All the authors contained herein (with the exception of Ross himself of course to whom this was supposed to be a surprise) dedicate their articles to both of them. So much material was in fact received for this festschrift that some items will have to appear in future issues. The admiration and appreciation shown for the Ecklers was manifest!

Yet the Eckler influence is not over. They will continue, generously, to be there when I need support during my “growing pains” as editor. Ross has also agreed to write a regular column for each issue and we expect even more specialized articles in his particular areas of logology. His encyclopedic knowledge of all recreational linguistics will be relied on often. He seems also to be able to recall the content of the thousands of articles previously printed in Word Ways and this will be a valuable asset to tap for a new, struggling editor.

Inevitably there will be some changes. For one the size of the journal differs with this issue to make it easier (and cheaper) for our new printer, Butler University’s “Campus Impressions” to produce. This will actually mean a bit more printed space for the articles. We now add an editorial board to advise the editor on readability matters. But we will continue to be a forum on all aspects of wordplay including technical computer generated articles. These latter items may occasionally be mostly contained on the website which will be expanded to include useful lists for the logologist. We expect this to happen by the next issue.

It is daunting to realize that I take over from the likes of Dimitri Borgmann, Howard Bergerson and A. Ross Eckler, three giants of recreational linguistics. If it were not for my wife, Karen, I would not attempt it. She supports me in all ways but will be especially helpful in the many editorial matters that arise from day to day. Karen’s attention to detail will smoothly run the business end.

Word Ways relies on the contributions of its readers and I ask for your support. Like Ross, I will try to exercise few editorial constraints and “let each author speak in his own voice.” If difficulties arise on the definition or scope of recreational linguistic terms, we will rely on Dave Morice’s *The Dictionary of Wordplay* or Chris Cole’s *Wordplay, a Curious Dictionary of Language Oddities*.

Suggestions, advice and editorial correspondence, as well as subscriptions and renewals, should be directed to the editor Jeremiah Farrell, 9144 Aintree Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46250-4424 (email wordways@butler.edu). With your help Word Ways can continue for another 40 years.