Showing gratitude is associated with the Thanksgiving celebration in Canada and the United States. Although each country celebrates the holiday on a different day—Canada’s is the second Monday in October and the U.S. date is the third Thursday in November—both countries have the tradition of giving thanks. The Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing also celebrates Thanksgiving, although ours is not a holiday. Our thanksgiving takes the form of publicly acknowledging the importance of our reviewers.

Reviewers are the behind-the-scenes people who make a journal and authors look great! Through their work in reviewing, sometimes the same manuscript more than once, they provide substantive feedback for the editor to make a decision about a manuscript. Sometimes that feedback is global, such as raising questions about the clarity of a part of the manuscript or the methods used. Other times, the feedback is in the details, such as identifying line-by-line critiques of wording that would help clarify the submission. The best possible outcome is having both elements to guide authors in revisions.

The volunteer nature of being a reviewer is one of the hallmarks of a substantive process. Many reviewers identify that the reasons they engage in this labor-intensive process have to do with being at the cutting edge of emerging information and giving back to the profession. That sounds like altruism to me. Why would you spend many hours several times a year doing thought-provoking work if it were not for such reasons?

We want to thank each of our reviewers for the hours and brain cells they devote to the work they do. We want you to know that you are instrumental in taking a good manuscript and making it great (or telling us it is already great). You spend even more time and thought in working with those manuscripts that have great ideas but need assistance in being clearer or more complete.

Thank you! As you celebrate Thanksgiving this year, know that the editorial staff, authors, and readers of The Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing join together to acknowledge your contribution to the advancement of the profession. You have earned this recognition!

P.S. I am writing this statement on behalf of those of us who are editorial board members, reviewers, and authors. We are thankful that the editorial staff working with us are so competent and caring. You treat us as a member of the family. So as we gather around the “big table” this month, know that we are honored to be at this celebration of thanks.

Patricia S. Yoder-Wise, RN, EdD, NEA-BC, ANEF, FAAN
Editor-in-Chief
psywrn@aol.com

The author has disclosed no potential conflicts of interest, financial or otherwise.
doi:10.3928/00220124-20161017-01