From the Editor

Cover Image Quartet

Several people have asked me why *Microscopy Today* has four images on every cover. The answer is simple. The juxtaposition of several images can be used to show change or tell a story. The relationships among the four images become clear by comparing the images on the cover to the cover caption. Differences among the four images show effects in several areas: imaging technique (different modes of microscopy, various imaging filters, and slices through 3D datasets); analytical aspects (imaging with different wavelengths and compositional maps showing distributions of elements); and specimen characteristics (different organs from the same species, fluorescent images with different fluorophores, maps of material properties, temperature variations, magnetic field strengths, and video frames of dynamic processes). All of the above have appeared on our covers over the last seven years.

This issue's cover shows an enlargement series from a single secondary electron image, acquired in the scanning electron microscope (SEM) of an immature strawberry flower. The low-magnification image was taken with 2,500 scan lines and carefully recorded on film. At the time when this image was acquired, most SEM images were taken at the magnification at which they would be used because SEM images recorded on film then could not stand to be enlarged more than about 3 times. The enlarged images on our cover were all produced from the low magnification frame. The highest magnification image on the cover is an 8× enlargement. This and many other SEM images of living things were published 40 years ago in a book by David Scharf titled *Magnifications: Photography with the Scanning Electron Microscope*. Since then Scharf's SEM images of flora and fauna have appeared in numerous publications including *Time, National Geographic, Smithsonian, Discover, Science, Nature,* and *The New York Times.* It is remarkable that only a decade after the first commercial SEM appeared Scharf was employing the SEM in fine art photography, in addition to scientific studies.

Charles Lyman
Editor-in-Chief

Erratum: *Microscopy Today* 21(3), May 2013, 36-39. "Handling Cell Culture Monolayers for Transmission Electron Microscopy" by Leona Cohen-Gould, Page 38: *Note on materials*: The amount of NMA used should be 5.9 g (not 0.9 g as printed). Apologies to all who may have been frustrated by this.

Publication Objective: to provide information of interest to microscopists.

Microscopy Today is a controlled-circulation trade magazine owned by the Microscopy Society of America that is published six times a year in the odd months. Editorial coverage spans all microscopy techniques including light microscopy, scanning probe microscopy, electron microscopy, ion-beam techniques, and the wide range of microanalytical methods. Readers and authors come from both the life sciences and the physical sciences. The typical length of an article is about 2,000 words plus figures and tables; feature articles are longer. Interested authors should consult "Instructions for Contributors" on the *Microscopy Today* website: www.microscopy-today.com.

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