LETTER
from the Board •

We're pleased to present you with the eighth issue of *FreeBSD Journal*. Subscription rolls continue to grow and subscriber retention remains high. Taken together, these are clear signs that the contributors, editorial board, and staff who spend so much of their time working on the *Journal* are doing a great job. Thank you!

Yet another cause for celebration is the 15-year anniversary of the FreeBSD Foundation, the good folks who help fund the *Journal* and who do a great many other things to keep the FreeBSD Project going strong. Justin Gibbs, the founder and current president of the Foundation, has written an article for this issue that lays out the history and future of the Foundation and also includes a mention of some exciting work coming out this year.

The editorial board decided to focus the technical articles in this issue on the topic of storage, one of the areas in which FreeBSD continues to excel. The adoption of ZFS from OpenSolaris has opened up huge new vistas for storage applications, all built around an open-source solution. Getting the most from a ZFS installation requires some tuning, and that's just what Allan Jude shows us in his article on ZFS Best Practices.

On an educational note, the FreeBSD Project is once again a mentoring organization for Google's Summer of Code (GSoC), and mentors and students are currently being matched up. You can find more on FreeBSD's involvement in GSoC at http://www.google-melange.com/gsoc/homepage/google/gsoc2015 and in this issue in Dru Lavigne's This Month in FreeBSD column.

In closing we want to thank everyone who's reading this, those who have recently subscribed and those readers who have re-upped their subscriptions. We've got a lot of topics to cover in the *Journal* this year, including a few articles on how you can interact with the FreeBSD Project (see Erwin Lansing's article in this issue on How to Write a Port) as well as themed issues on networking, FreeBSD in the Cloud, performance tuning, and much more. Please stay tuned!

Sincerely,
FreeBSD Journal Editorial Board