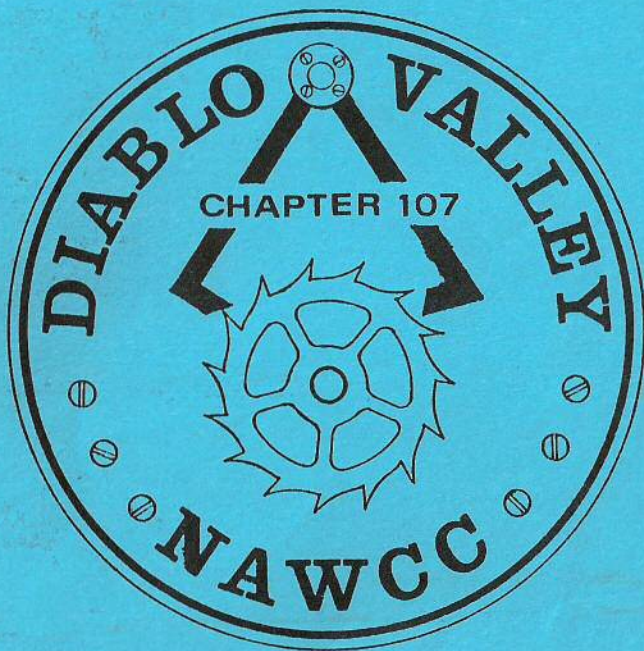


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DIABLO VALLEY CHAPTER #107      BULLETIN # 14  
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FOURTEENTH ISSUE

FEBRUARY 1981

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATCH  
AND CLOCK COLLECTORS

Diablo Valley Chapter #107  
PO Box 23315  
Pleasant Hill, California 94523

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OFFICERS

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PRESIDENT.....Royal English.....937-9605  
 V. PRESIDENT.....Karl Walker.....532-0984  
 V. PRESIDENT.....Bob Weck.....933-1418  
 SECRETARY.....Scott Grabill.....825-1984  
 TREASURER.....Jane Saville.....837-5589

DIRECTORS

Phil Russell.....229-2462  
 Bob Gustafson.....687-3389  
 Bob Wahrer.....462-4912  
 Wayne De La Roche.....939-6563

John Sanderson-Past President.....676-9188

CHAIRMEN

BULLETIN.....Dorothea Sanderson.....937-6272  
 MEMBERSHIP.....Don Giannini.....937-0189  
 REFRESHMENTS..Bud Ehler & Tom Ciarimitaro.....228-5387  
 MART.....Scott Grabill.....825-1984  
 DISPLAY.....Tom Hensley.....937-0605  
 LIBRARY.....Sandy Cuthill.....686-3144  
 PROGRAM.....Karl Walker & Bob Weck.....532-0984  
 FACILITIES.....Andre Aldenhuisen.....828-1306  
 NOMINATING/ELECTION  
 DRAWINGS.....John North.....676-9188  
 PHOTOGRAPHER...Gareth Busher.....686-5983  
 SUGGESTION BOX..Andre Aldenhuisen.....828-1306

(Where the chair is shared, the telephone number of the first name listed, is shown.)

CHAPTER MOTTO: Accent on Education

Statements of opinion or fact made by authors of articles appearing in the Chapter publications are to be accepted as the author's own; the Chapter assumes no responsibility for the accuracy or correctness of any statements of its contributors.



A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

I thought that the first meeting of the newly elected board would be a settling-in affair, getting organized, talking about people, etc. Gee, was I wrong. Your board for 1981 hit the ground, running. To make a long story short, all Committee chairs were filled (save one) and the outline for the year's programs were set.

A word about the programs for this year. The themes represent a good balance for both clock and watch collectors, beginner repairers, and the experts. The Chapter motto, "ACCENT ON EDUCATION", is truly brought out through the advancement of understanding, introduction of skills, protecting your collection, and many more ideas. Most of the programs will rely on terrific talents we have among the membership---which means if called upon to share your skill, do it. We will be bringing in some outside talent in some areas, such as burglar-proofing your home.

All in all, the prospects for 1981 look great!

*Royal*

ROYAL ENGLISH



ATTENTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE!

The time, date, and place of the next Executive Committee meeting has not yet been set. Please see Royal at the next meeting.

Remember, any member or Committee Chairman is welcome to come. Good and constructive suggestions are needed and appreciated.

\* \* \* \* \*

Diablo Valley Chapter #107 meeting schedule is the second Funday in the months of February, April, June, August, October, and December. (The specific dates are: February 8th, April 12th, June 14th, August 9th, October 11th, and December 13th.)

Our December meeting is devoted to election and installation of officers, mart, display, and "Pot Luck" Luncheon and Social. (See the recipe from one of the dishes at our December 1980 luncheon elsewhere in the bulletin.)

\* \* \* \* \*

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS !!!!!

- Thomas Mitch
- Bob Prochnow
- Tom Kochmann
- Sid Chaikin



GLAD TO HAVE YOU WITH US!

\* \* \* \* \*

ATTENTION COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN, SECRETARY  
AND CONTRIBUTORS TO THE BULLETIN.

DEADLINE FOR APRIL ISSUE...MARCH 10, 1981



MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 8, 1981

Mart set-up: 11:30 to 12:00  
Mart Opens: 12:00 Noon

Meeting Begins: 1:00pm

DISPLAY THEME: Fakes, Forgeries, and  
Marriages

PROGRAM: RAILROAD WATCHES

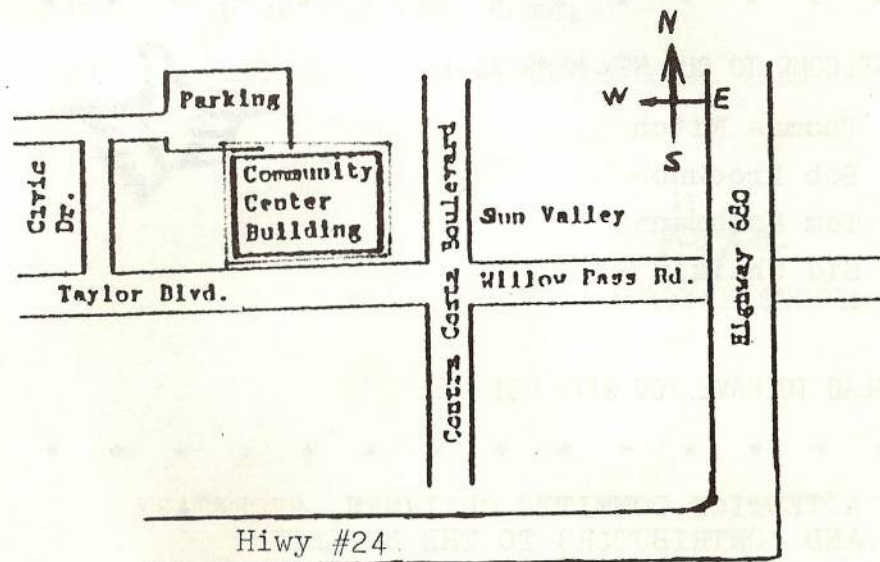
( a surprise program by  
John North)

Dues: Chapter members \$15.00 (includes Re-  
freshment donation)

Refreshment donation \$1.00 non-member  
(kids free)

Mart: FREE!

PLACE: Pleasant Hill Recreation Center



Did you enjoy that 8 hours sleep last night?

Did you know that while you were resting, the tireless balance wheel in your watch oscillated 144,000 times?

With the help of the coiled hairspring (called that because it is about the size of a hair in thickness and width) and a slight boost from the pallet fork, the balance wheel circles in one direction, then the other. This motion causes the noise we call the "tick".

Follow this: 5 ticks to the second, 300 to the minute, 18,000 ticks to the hour, 144,000 ticks while you were in bed last night, and 432,300 ticks each calander day.

Should the little wheel for some reason (lack of oil, lack of quality, change of temperature, etc.) make only 431,700 about faces in a day, the watch would be one minute slow; 432,300 ticks, one minute fast.

$$\frac{300}{432,000} = \frac{1}{1440}$$

So, on a 24 hour performance, if your watch gains one minute, it is within one-fourteen hundred and fortieth of perfection. Astoundin? Yes! But the fine watches do even better than that, when in good condition.

What condition is your watch in?

The rim of the balance wheel travels about the distance from New York to Los Angeles in a year!!!

Royal English

*Royal*



\*\*\*\*\*  
FOR SALE  
\*\*\*\*\*

ADVERTISING IN THE BULLETIN IS FREE TO OUR MEMBERS OF DIABLO VALLEY CHAPTER #107. WE WILL ACCEPT ADVERTISING FROM NAWCC MEMBERS OUTSIDE OUR LOCAL CHAPTER AT A FEE OF \$5.00 1/2 PAGE, AND \$10.00 FOR A FULL PAGE. SEND YOUR ADS TO DIABLO VALLEY CHAPTER #107, BOX 23315, PLEASANT HILL, CALIFORNIA 94523

MEMBERSHIP IN OUR CHAPTER IS \$15.00 per YEAR.

\*\*\*\*\*

Looking for a long case clock????

Call John North 676-9188

\* \* \* \* \*

Use your bulletin for advertising. If it is going to be a good medium of exchange, we must have advertising. It can only be effective with willing buyers and willing sellers.

\* \* \* \* \*

I have some clock books in. Come in and look around. The Old Tymer  
Scott Hampton 283-4720

\* \* \* \* \*

Skeleton Clock C. 1910 English passing strike \$1025.  
Blick Time Clock \$375.  
Silvering Powder - one packet \$5.  
John Sanderson 937-6272

\*\*\*\*\*  
FOR SALE  
\*\*\*\*\*

American and European watches. French Mantle clocks, English Skeletons, Vienna Regulators.

Don Levison 567-4555

\* \* \* \* \*

Beginners and experienced clock repairmen will find something in:  
"The Best of J. E. Coleman:Clockmaker"  
Regularly priced at \$30.00...Club members \$28.00

Scott & Lissa 284-4720

\* \* \* \* \*

More on the 1st annual Clock Watch and Music Box Show and Sale to be held next October.....  
We expect to have the contract's available at the February meeting. Have your money ready. Full information will be available Dorothea Sanderson, Karl Walker, or Scott Hampton and Lissa.

\* \* \* \* \*



\*\*\*\*\*  
WANTS  
\*\*\*\*\*

I need a Seth Thomas #2 Regulator or similar  
one wt. American clock.

Leon Jaussaud 825-5836

\* \* \* \* \*

Grandfather movement - 8 day with or without dial  
plate ca. 1850 or before. Prefer with sec. and  
calendar hands. call Bob Prochnow 449-5956

\* \* \* \* \*

High quality, complicated, beautiful American,  
English and European pocket watches and wrist  
watches.

Don Levison 567-4555

\* \* \* \* \*

Clockwork mechanical dolls and toys!

Karl Walker 532-0984

\* \* \* \* \*

HELP WITH YOUR WANTS!

I will be on the East Coast until Mid 1982....  
If I can help you locate that special American  
clock (s), let me know.

David L. Morgan  
Box 6078  
Bridgewater, Twp., New Jersey

\* \* \* \* \*

"Shop Regulator" case or parts thereof..especially  
top and/or bottom.

Scott Grabill 825-1984

\* \* \* \* \*

\*\*\*\*\*  
FROM YOUR CHAIRMEN....  
\*\*\*\*\*

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Dues for 1981 were due January 1st! The annual  
dues are now \$15.00, but there will be no re-  
freshment charges and no Mart charge. This  
arrangement will continue as long as we can to  
encourage participation in the Mart.

If you have not paid, you will NOT receive the  
April Bulletin. So, get your check in now for  
the further adventures of "The Marine Chronometer  
Man"!

The Phantom Turkey



\* \* \* \* \*

DISPLAY CHAIRMAN

The display for the February meeting will  
be Fakes, Forgeries, and Marriages.

Bring forgeries and the real thing when  
possible.

Joe Ford

\* \* \* \* \*



REFRESHMENTS

For those of you who attended the December "Pot Luck" we will be printing some of the recipes for some of those yummy dishes. Below is the salad that was contributed by Juanita Hampton.

Everything was just great, and although there was plenty of everything, there was nothing left over but somebody's tray!

If you want to let us print your recipe, give it to the editor (or send it) at the next meeting.



The "Turkey"

TWO LAYER CITRUS MOLD

Juanita Hampton

- 1 3 oz pkg orange jello
- 1 3 oz pkg lemon jello
- 2 11 oz cns Manderin orange sections
- 1 pkg lemon pie filling
- 1 C whipped cream
- 3 Cups Boiling Water
- 1 6 oz can Frozen Orange Juice
- 1 flat can crushed undrained pineapple
- 1 package of whipped topping

Directions: Dissolve jello in water, add juice and chill until slightly thickened. Fold in orange sections and pineapple and refrigerate until firm. Cook pie filling and cool. Fold in whipped cream and spread over top of jello mixture. Garnish with chopped nuts or grated cheese and refrigerate until ready to serve.

Mart tables are now free of charge!! You can't beat the price. Bring those bargains.

Last months silent auction was a tremendous success. It will be back for a command performance. This service is also FREE.

Here's how it works-----  
Bring your item in and fill out a form stating your minimum price. Then let them battle over the bids until the bell goes off.

Scott Grabill

\* \* \* \* \*

LIBRARY

Business is booming in the Library.

December arrivals will be on display at the February meeting.

Sandy

P.S. Anyone want to donate????





## TICK FEVER

A few random thoughts that came to me while cleaning a nice little French four-glass by Samuel Marti. The clock wasn't in bad shape outwardly, though much of the original gold plating had been polished away, and there was a green stain on the brass base under the mercury pendulum. Since the standard rack and pinion round movement bore the "Medaille D'Or - Paris 1900" round mark, I guess we can assume it was made in the first 10 or 15 years of this century. Interestingly though, the 1 was missing from "1900". I wonder if one could sell it for an early 10th century piece?

But the thing that gathered my interest as I disassembled the movement was its mute evidence of a very poor job by the preceding workman. First, I noticed the greenish oil stains running from the pivots (mercifully in excellent condition). Then there was the clock pin holding the suspension spring - it was far too small in diameter and to make it stay in place it was just bent at right angles at each end. Reminded me of the old Japanese school clock I once saw whose time spring had long ago parted in the middle and been riveted together with an upholstery tack. But back to the French clock: one of the pins holding the movement into the case had fallen out - a dangerous situation in a four-glass. Also, the spring holding down the warning lever was so poorly adjusted it didn't even touch the lever. Worst of all, whoever "repaired" the clock didn't know the function of the small leaf spring holding the fly to its arbor. They solved the missing spring problem by carefully

soldering the fly fast to the arbor, thus causing more green corrosion and negating the slipping clutch action so necessary to smooth striking. Letting down the springs revealed stickiness, which upon opening the barrels proved to be yet another sticky green film on the springs themselves, though they were dripping with oil. Strange patterns of brown corrosion, outlining the wheels and spokes on the inside of the plates led me to the supposition that someone had "cleaned" the clock without taking it down, then had liberally inserted oil into the barrels and onto every pivot.

A lot of careful cutting with a sharp penknife removed the solder from the fly. Pegging the holes cleaned them and a good sonic bath after polishing the back of the plate made everything look good.

I'll tell you how it came out next time, if I get it done by then. But in the meantime, hide away your soldering iron, and ration your oil carefully.

*John North*





(Printed over John's protest. Editor)

A "DEAR JOHN" LETTER TO DEAR JOHN SANDERSON.....

Dear John,  
Well, it's finally over,  
And it really makes us sad,  
It hasn't all been clover,  
But, it hasn't all been bad.

Everything that you have written,  
Everything you tried to teach,  
Has always been so fittin',  
And not beyond our reach.

Dear John,  
You know we'll really miss you,  
Standing up before us all,  
Speaking softly as you do.  
Always at our beck and call.

We know how hard it's been this year,  
With our meetings and the rest,  
The hours that you've spent are dear,  
To us, you've been the best.

Dear John,  
Even though it is the end,  
It still won't be a crime,  
To smile and talk and still be friends,  
While Royal "does his time".

Dear John----Thanks from all of us

----for being such a good leader.

Ginny Ford

WATCH MAINSPRING REPAIR! "Hole-end"

Watch mainsprings can be saved if the barrel end is broken. File the end smooth and flat so that it has a square edge. Heat the end of the mainspring to "Red Hot" over a gas flame. Simultaneously, with long nose pliers, bend about one centimeter of the end of the spring back toward the barrel side of the spring. This should be almost, but not quite, flush with the other part of the spring; it should catch on the barrel projection on which the hole end once fastened. Do not temper the spring; leave it flexible or it will break when fully wound.

Don Levison



FROM THE SECRETARY

The Executive Board met late this month on a very wet and rainy evening. The snacks were excellent, and the clocks were great. (That's one of the pleasures of attending Executive Board meetings.)

One of the items not covered elsewhere in the Bulletin is of interest to the Committee Chairmen only, BUDGETS. Budgets are due to be voted on at the March Executive Board Meeting. They are then turned over to the Treasurer for her report which should appear in the April issue of the Bulletin.

Outgoing Secretary  
Dorothea Sanderson



This is now part five of the story of John Harrison, and a statement of my purpose for writing the series may be in order. I have admittedly left out much technical data for explanations of his horological inventiveness are available elsewhere and well known.

I was, rather, impressed with the man himself, and his singleminded, perservering, problem solving personality. He had faith in himself and his inventions and was unable to rest until both were acknowledged. He was also querulous, obstinate, insistent, and often rude, traits which created few friends. Personally, I don't think Harrison cared.. he had his vision instead.

Part V

When the four mathematicians finally announced their calculations, there was no doubt that H-4 had performed within the time-keeping limits laid down by the Act of Queen Anne for the full £ 20,000 prize. H-4 had gained only 54 seconds in 156 days after application of Harrison's predetermined rate (which point he finally won). Maskelyne's Lunar method was also successful as the tables enabled him to determine the longitude to within  $\frac{1}{2}$  degree.

But the prize which seemed a certainty, was to be denied. The Board, of which Rev. Maskelyne was now a member (he was also Astronomer Royal) awarded only £ 10,000 less those monies already advanced. Harrison was convinced that Maskelyne was responsible for his difficulties and objected violently not only to the award, but to the conditions set forth by the Board. It was to no avail.

The Board took the position that the original Act of Queen Anne specified that the solution to finding the longitude be "practicable"; further, conditions were added by the Act of George III, and sanctioned by Parliament. They therefore stipulated that Harrison should provide a written explanation of the workings of H-4, and hand over the working drawings from which the watch had been made. He would also be required to dismantle the watch in front of the Board's representatives. Worst of all, he was to hand over H-1, H-2, and H-3 to the Admiralty. Harrison was given 5 days to accept or reject. Two days later he met with the Board, but the meeting ended with his storming out without giving an answer. A week later, another meeting took place...also ending in a temper tantrum in which Harrison exclaimed that he "would not comply with the Board's resolution "as long as I have a drop of English blood in my body".

At last, Harrison capitulated, and was forced to sign an oath. He then dismantled H-4 in front of the Board's representatives, and explained its working. He won his argument that he would need access to H-4 to supervise construction of a duplicate, but the Board would not let him keep possession. They insisted that it be turned over to a workman of his choosing. Harrison picked Larcum Kendall who was the nearest watchmaking neighbor. You will recall that Kendall probably had a hand in the making of H-4 during his apprenticeship. Kendall was willing to allow Harrison access to H-4 at any time, and also to attempt to make a copy himself. For reasons not recorded by the Board in their minutes, Kendall's proposal (and that of one other watchmaker) for the construction of the duplicate was rejected as unreasonable. Apparently, there was now



no reason for Kendall to have custody of the watch, and the Board next decided that it, with its original drawings, should be surrendered to the Commissioners. He was, however, allowed to hold on to H-1, H-2, and H-3 for awhile. After receiving Harrison's assurances that the watch would come to no harm if it were not wound regularly, the Board ordered it sealed in its locked box, and relegated to a store room in the Admiralty. Harrison was now age 72.

Next Harrison proposed two schemes to the Board designed to gain him the second £ 10,000, and regain possession of H-4 to use as a model for the construction of two more watches. The Commissioners rejected them apparently for two reasons. They were not unanimous in the belief that H-4 could sustain the accuracy of the Barbados test, and ordinary workmen should be able to construct the duplicate (necessary to proving the "practicability" of manufacture). They proposed instead another test, this time at the Royal Observatory in Greenwich, of all four machines.

Thus it was that on May 23, 1966, the Rev. Maskelyne surprised Harrison by appearing at his home in Red Lion Square with a letter authorizing Maskelyne to pick up the first three machines. There was a quarrel over the wording of the receipt. Harrison wanted it to say the timekeepers were in perfect condition, and Maskelyne wanted the wording "appear in perfect condition". They then quarrelled over whether they should be transported intact, or disassembled, since Maskelyne showed up in an unsprung carriage. One sharp word led to another, and finally Harrison stalked off to his room; no blame was to be his if any accident befell the clocks!

Maskelyne summoned a workman to help carry the machines and load them into the carriage (remember #1 weighed approximately 80 lbs., and was three feet high and wide). They managed to get #2 and #3 loaded successfully but in the turmoil while carrying #1 down the stairs, they dropped it.



John Sanderson

End..Part V





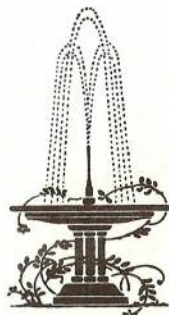
WATCH THE FLIERS which come with your Home-owner policy renewal or billing. They are not all advertisements!

For Example, one company has introduced maximums on silverware, which up to now, has had no limitations. The maximums are the result of the rise in the value of silver, and the huge losses resulting from the theft of silverware. (What used to be a \$1500. loss, is today a \$20000. loss.)

Another change not limiting the coverage, but affecting some collectors in the pocket-book, is jewelry rates. One carrier I know is increasing the rate by \$.50 per hundred! Since watches are classed as jewelry, increases in jewelry rates are particularly hard on watch collectors.

While none of us like rate increases, they are not as potentially harmful as the unawareness of something that is no longer covered or something which has been newly limited. So, WATCH TOSE STUFFERS!

Dorothea Sanderson



16th Century Horological Trivia

Dr. Dee was astrologer and mathematician who was frequently consulted by Queen Elizabeth I. In 1580, a contemporary wrote a short article on the character of a close associate of Dr. Dee, Thomas Allen: "In those darke times, Astrologer, mathematician and conjurer were accounted the same things. Thomas Allen had a great many Mathematical Instruments and Glasses in his Chamber, which did also confirme the ignorant in their opinion, and his servitor (to impose on Freshmen and simple people), would tell them that sometimes he should meet the Spirits coming up the stairs like Bees. And too, when visiting a friend, he happened to leave his Watch in the Chamber windowe. (Watches were then rarities) The Maydes came in to make the Bed, and hearing a thing in a case cry Tick, Tick, Tick, presently concluded that that was his Devill, and tooke it by the String with the Tongues (tongs) and threw it out of the Windowe into the Mote (to drowne the Devill). It so happened that the string hung on a sprig of an elder that grew out of the Mote, and thus confirmed them that twas the Devill. So the good old gentleman gott his watch again."

  
John Sanderson







This portion of Jack Coulter's December  
Nominating committee report bears repeating.

\* \* \* \* \*

We urge all of you to seriously consider next  
years' committee when they call for volunteers  
for 1982. It doesn't take any experience or  
much time, just a willingness to help the  
chapter maintain its progress.

Jack Coulter  
Election Committee Chairman

\* \* \* \* \*

SUGGESTION BOX



Folks, remember that the Suggestion Box is  
for your benefit. It appears at every  
meeting for your use so that you can be  
heard at our Executive Committee meetings.  
The suggestions from the box are always  
discussed, and a report made in the Bulletin  
or announced at the next meeting.



TIPS

To strip chrome plating from a brass bezel,  
you can soak it in muriatic acid for 5  
minutes or longer as needed. Muriatic  
acid is the acid used to maintain the PH  
in swimming pools and is readily available  
in pool supply store.. You can see the  
chrome dissolve and the brass appear under-  
neath, as a sort of copper color. The  
brass will then polish up nicely.

John Sanderson

\* \* \* \* \*

Watch for the October 18th Clock, Watch,  
and Music Box Show and Sale. More details  
as time goes on.



## EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Your Bulletin is late!...AND the Phantom Turkey has been at it again!! Transitions are not always as smooth as one would like them to be.

I have been asked, and have accepted the Editor's Chair for another year. (Actually, it's a family affair..even Brigit helps collate.) In my first message for 1981 I am going to depart from the usual theme in the hope of convincing more of you to step forward and be counted when asked to help.

Four years ago, I 'phoned Sandy Cuthill and said, "If I try to start a Chapter over here, will you HELP?" and Sandy said, "Yes." (We both counted on our husbands' HELP). We then went to Lissa and said, "Will you HELP." and she said "Yes." (She counted on Scott's HELP).

A year later we had our Charter with 34 members, and we needed more HELP, and the Gustafsons and the Coulters and the Aldenhuy-sens stepped forward to HELP. Our membership has almost tripled now, and we have new members who are saying "Yes" when asked to HELP...the Wecks, the Dela Rocheses, and the Grabills, but they are not increasing in the same proportion as the membership. It takes about 20 people to keep the Chapter running smoothly. If you see the same names repeatedly it is because they said yes when asked and someone else said no.

We need and want new ideas. In order to get them, we must bring in new people. In order to bring in new people, more people have to say "YES" when asked to HELP or to accept a chair or office. I would suggest that the first in line should be the person who wrote on his ballot "This is a choice?", and if the Nomination Chairman has not yet been selected, it would be an education for him to accept that position. However, he or she would be welcome in ANY position as long as he or she would HELP.

