

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

The deadline for submissions to this issue was September 1st and it appears that no further material will come to hand so September 13th is the day I write my piece prior to contacting the printer to run off enough copies for our foreign and Canadian members. Then the manuscript goes to Fran for the US members still requiring hard copy. The next job after that is for me to wrestle with putting each of the submissions into an electronic format so Chris Dahle can post the material on the website. What a complicated process it seems now compared to the previous editor's time.

The first Ornithology "New Issue" column may be found on pages 123 to 132 and they will not seem that new to members who collect birds. The column was assembled from back issue pages of "Flight" in an attempt to catch up with the time elapsed since Randy Shore's last column. I transcribed the material myself, so if there are any errors in scientific names or bird numbers, they are mine alone. Chuck Braun has submitted "New Birds in the Philatelic Aviary" with some up-to-date issues following on from previous series of British Local issues. There will be more of these in the future, as Chuck discovered some additional listings.

Roy Rings has some new issue material reported in his Herpetology and Invertebrate Zoology columns plus a short article on lizards. Don Wright is now using a new taxonomic system for the Nymphalidae and has also constructed a listing of all the family names that he is now using for the butterflies in his Entomology column.

A week from today – September 20th – yours truly will be in the local Southlake hospital having both knees replaced! Some say that I am crazy to get both done at once, but I decided that a single recovery period of six weeks was far better than two separate six week recoveries! I know of some people who have had both done at the same time and not found it too onerous, so I am keeping my fingers crossed. I guess my knees will not be crossed for some time! One downside to this is that we live in a split level bungalow and there are seven steps down to the basement where all my computer gear and references are, so I may not be answering e-mails for a bit. One lucky factor is that I do not weigh too much and am relatively active, so those facts should help me. Someone asked me the other day if I was 'scared'. I said that 'apprehensive' would be a better word and I would guess that most people having some sort of major surgery would be apprehensive. We shall have to see how long it takes to get mobile again and that will be reported in the next journal.

Until next time.

Alan J. Hanks