

## Report from the Executive Secretary/Treasurer

**Norma Hooks  
Finksburg, Maryland**

### THE EXCITEMENT IS BUILDING

As the months roll on, the excitement of our Banff conference builds. If you've never been to the Canadian Rockies, you're in for a spectacular treat. If you've had the good fortune to visit there, you know that it is one of the world's most beautiful areas. It provides the perfect opportunity for a wonderful vacation before or after the conference. There are so many things to do, and a ride on the Rocky Mountain Rail Line is a wonderful way to see the area.

To get an idea of what you are in for at the conference, you must visit the website and see the schedule of all the exciting concerts and master classes that are being planned. I'm sure the chance to meet and play in such an incredible location will be the envy of all your friends and colleagues.

We'll have exhibitors from around the world, and many Canadians will be joining us for the first time. If you are a business person interested in exhibiting and haven't been contacted by me, please let me know. My contact information is on the officers page..

### EXPANDING OUR WEBSITE

In an effort to reach as many of the world's double reed players as possible, our society has undertaken a project to offer translations of articles from The Double Reed on our website. We are also providing translations into English from other double reed publications. This is an exciting new step in promoting intercommunications between all our members, and reaching oboists and bassoonist throughout the world.

Our thanks to **Yoshi Ishikawa** and **Terry Ewell** our online experts, **Ron Klimko** and **Dan Stolper**,

our publication editors, and all those who are doing translations, for their work on this translation project. You're all doing a terrific job!

### THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

If you are moving, PLEASE notify us before you do. The Double Reed is mailed in April, July, October and December. If you miss the mailing date, your issue has to be forwarded to you. The post office charges 60 cents for a change of address notice. That's not much you might say, but when 150 people forget to notify us for each issue, that can really add up.

If your issue is returned, it costs the society for the return and then it costs several dollars to mail it back to you. We try very hard to keep our administrative expenses down so that we can keep the quality of our publications at their highest. Please think about us when you're making a move and call or drop me a note.

### SOME ENCOURAGING NEWS

The second dues notice was mailed at the end of February. To date, we have 3,500 current members. That's almost 1,000 more members renewing before our first issue than last year. Bravo! and Thank you for renewing in a timely fashion.

If you know someone who may not have renewed, give them a gentle reminder. They won't be getting a copy of this issue unless their dues is paid.

Last year we had 608 new members. We already have 182 new members this year. It's is good to see our society growing and becoming stronger and more responsive to double reed players all over the world.