

## Editorial

You will have noticed that the previous issue (32.1) was rather late. As I write this (June 1<sup>st</sup>), we have good reason to hope that this issue will have a postmark to match its cover date. Perhaps a word or two of explanation is in order. To begin, I myself had an extremely hectic academic year, 1997-98, which I do not expect to repeat in the coming semesters. Because the material for the blues issue came from a variety of sources (*i.e.*, each song had a different author, and the issue was largely given over to songs), it took longer to select items and to get permission to use them. Finally, once the material was selected, most of the songs had to be transcribed, and then Michael Pollock (who did much of the transcribing) had to prepare camera-ready versions of them.

Unless and until we can afford to buy him a proper music program, this means that Michael lifts each note from a palette, using his mouse, sets it into place, gauging a reasonable line length as he goes along.... It takes time. (And Michael deserves a serious round of applause from all our readers for the time he puts into both transcribing—about which he is probably excessively diligent—and the finishing of these pages. Without him, you'd get a considerably uglier *Bulletin*. If you don't believe me, look at some of the back issues (say, from a decade ago), in which lead sheets were sometimes pencilled by me or my kids....

I don't know when or if we'll be able to buy Michael that program—I hope that sooner or later we can at least reimburse him for out-of-pocket expenses. At least one member has claimed that, given the Society's (lack of) funding, the proposal

we brought to last year's AGM (that the editors of the *Bulletin* be remunerated if/when the money is available) is, at best, nutty. Perhaps, though we have barely begun to seek further revenue, so it may be too early to laugh at us.

Our first sally has been promising. You may have noticed on the inside cover page of the last issue (or of this one) that we've been awarded a grant from SOCAN. John prepared the application in the early weeks of this year; he deserves the applause for this piece of good news—the money promised us from SOCAN will eliminate the shortfall that we experienced during the previous two years, so we can be assured that, if membership doesn't *drop*, we can produce that same *Bulletin* that we've offered for the last few years.



**Errata:** Our goal is to produce a *Bulletin* that is on time more often than not. (Given that we had to miss an issue last year, we're a bit embarrassed about the tardiness of the first issue of '98.) I suppose it's too much to hope that we'll ever produce an erratum-free issue, but, still, some foulups are embarrassing. Howlers from 32.1. Introducing the conceptual blues festival, I promised readers "nine songs by nine singers." Anyone who can count noted that there were eleven. In the words of Ishmael Reed, they "jes' grew." The address given for George W. Lyon in the list of Society Directors is out of date. I currently reside at 1908 —49 Avenue SW, Calgary, Alberta T2T 2V2. My other data remain as given. [GWL]