



Editorial

Reducing The Size Of The Bulletin

If you read the minutes of the business meeting at the convention (pp. 10-11 in this issue), you'll see that one of the proposals for raising more money for the RMS coffers is to reduce the number of pages in the bulletin. As Editor, you'll understand that I wouldn't be in favor of that!

Thus, I offer a counter proposal: persuade more members to switch to e-bulletins. Each e-bulletin saves the club printing and mailing that bulletin, plus time and materials wasted on things like mailing labels. And, that's not to forget the wear and tear on the poor soul that has to lug those hundreds of bulletins down to the post office.

For example, we currently print and mail some 360 bulletins per issue at an average cost of \$570 (the foreign destinations average \$80 of that). That comes out to a cost of about \$1.58 per bulletin per issue. There are currently 98 members receiving their bulletins via the internet, which means that 353 members are still receiving hard copies. If we could get just 100 more members to switch to e-bulletins, that would result in an annual savings in printing and mailing costs to RMS of \$948.

I've gone over the advantages of e-bulletins a number of times before, but, for the members, it means clean, clear, crisp bulletins in blazing color, delivered straight to their computers on the 1st of every issue month—no more bulletins delivered late by the post office, no more bulletins arriving in a tattered condition, no more bulletins that have been printed too dark or too light.

And, for those who can't read the smaller print (say, on a photo's manumark), or just have trouble reading the bulletin's normal 12-pt text, e-bulletin pages can be enlarged (judging from my own computer) up to 6400%!

Members receiving e-bulletins are also no longer troubled about what to do with the hard copies after their having been read. Toss them in the garbage? Put them in yet another box destined for storage in the closet or garage? You can store over 100 years' worth of *RMS Bulletins* on a single thumb drive, which is as small as your...thumb! Or, of course, (and it pains me to say this), they can simply be deleted from the member's computer.

There will always be a few of don't have computers, but RMS should begin a concerted effort to get most members to switch to e-bulletins.