

EDITOR'S CORNER

The past year has indeed been a busy one filled with accomplishments to advance the stature of CPN, but there have also been problems. We have been informed that all mailings, especially to places outside the USA, must now be wrapped--that is, enclosed in some sort of cover other than the type we have used for so many years. It is with this in mind, as well as the possibility of putting out a more professional looking newsletter with an added bonus--COLOR--that the following is proposed.

The present looseleaf 8-1/2 x 11 inch format would be changed to a 6 x 9 inch booklet such as used by the Begonia Society and the Los Angeles International Fern Society (LAIFS). We would be working with Kandid Litho Company which specializes in this type of newsletter. The booklet would have a *color cover* with occasional bonus color in the inside pages. Typeset would be double column "journal style" in 10 point type. For example, under the new format, Larry Mellichamp's Botanist's Corner in the June issue would take one page without the logo. There would be 24 inside pages plus the three sides of the cover, but since we would have to print all the covers at once, only non-timely information would be on these pages--probably black and white pictures with a caption of a few paragraphs. Upon examining a sample copy of CPN, the typesetter said that 24 inside pages would be sufficient with room for a few pictures. Weightwise, in an envelope, the whole package comes to well under two ounces, which we use as a standard mailing weight since the airmail rates we use for overseas come in two ounce increments.

The present format now costs about \$400 per issue for 1000 copies. The proposed format would cost about \$610 per issue for 1000 copies. Therefore, rates would have to be raised about \$2 to cover the increased printing costs. Now, the decision will have to be made as to whether the increase be applied across the board or should the domestic subscribers, which comprise the bulk of the total membership, partially subsidize the overseas subscribers? Due to currency and cost of living differences, overseas subscribers are in effect paying double the posted rates. In conversing with other societies, such as the Los Angeles International Fern Society, we find this is essentially the case; that is, they have only one subscription price with the idea that since the domestic subscribers far outnumber the overseas subscribers, the differences in postal rates, cost of living, etc., balance out.

We solicit your opinions. Please use the enclosed ballot and mail as soon as possible, as the results will have to be announced in the December issue along with the rates for the following year. The present format has been cut one sheet to cover the weight of the envelope, which results in the loss of one page of text since the Want Ads must now be incorporated into the paginated section of CPN.

SEED BANK

As announced in the last issue of CPN, the Seed Bank will be handled by Patrick Dwyer, Director, St. Michael's Episcopal Church Gardens and Arboretum, 49 Killiean Park, Albany, N.Y. 12205. Contributions and orders should be addressed to him.

To send seed: Please remove seed from the seed capsules and place it in small envelopes (preferably paper so that they dry out enough to prevent mold). Label with the origin and date of collection, including habitat if it is exotic. Fold the envelope over once or twice before taping so that the seeds don't stick to the tape. After the seed is received it will be placed in smaller packets; donors will be informed of how many packets they have donated. A donation of 10-19 packets earns one free seed packet of comparable rarity, with one free for each additional 10 packets.

Do not ask to trade for seed from the bank. Everyone will have to buy all but their free packets. When you send seed, indicate whether it is for the seed bank, for Patrick's seed project or for a personal trade. The seed bank is separate from his collection.

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