

# EDITORIAL

JAN SCHLAUER

Dear fellow carnivorous plant enthusiasts,

An international community like the ICPS requires international actions and events. The year 1997 witnessed the birth of a most remarkable and promising initiative—to change ICPS members from mere recipients of Carnivorous Plant Newsletter into active participants of a convention, the first Conference of the International Carnivorous Plant Society hosted by the Atlanta Botanical Garden, USA. The attendees to this conference were so enthusiastic about its success that they decided *ad hoc* to repeat this meeting as soon as possible. After some thought and negotiation, Europe was chosen to host the next ICPS conference. Thus, it is a particular pleasure for me to invite you, dear members, to participate in:

The Second Conference of the International Carnivorous Plant Society

May 30 - June 1, 1998

Botanic Garden Bonn, Germany

This forthcoming event will be organized in cooperation with the German carnivorous plant society (GFP), and the Botanic Garden of the University of Bonn. The program will include: the Fourth International Carnivorous Plant Exhibition in continuation of a tradition originally established in Gent, Belgium, with an awarding of the best plants in the show; twenty lectures by internationally renowned carnivorous plant experts; and poster presentations by those who want to share their experiences with other participants. But the most important goal of the conference will of course be the opportunity to meet many other people interested in the various aspects of carnivorous plants from around the globe. Instructions will be provided on how to visit the finest carnivorous plant habitats and collections in Germany and Europe.

All interested in participating in the conference should complete the registration form appended to this issue of Carnivorous Plant Newsletter and send it to:

Frank Gallep

Zweibrückenstr. 31

40625 Düsseldorf

Germany

I hope to see you in Bonn soon!

Another, less pleasant issue is that the March and June issues of Carnivorous Plant Newsletter arrived unacceptably late (if at all!) to some of our members. This happened because of a most unlikely and therefore the more regrettable series of organisational and technical failures—including a change of officers after the renewals had been received, and a computer hard-drive crash which led to a temporary inability to access our membership database! Our new Secretary/Treasurer, Ken Cusson has performed an enormous task during the past months in order to reconstruct the membership database, and we hope that the status quo is regained now. These lines are written at about the time when the September 1997 issue of Carnivorous Plant Newsletter is about to be sent to its readers, and we believe the missing issues were sent to our patient readers. All those responsible for a smooth production and distribution of Carnivorous Plant Newsletter apologize for any inconvenience that may have occurred during the first half of 1997, and we hope that it has been made good in the meanwhile. Appropriate measures have been taken to prevent a similar irregularity in the future. Thank you very much for your patience.