

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR: MORE CHANGES

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I am excited to announce that the International Carnivorous Plant Society has ventured onto the world wide web with our own domain name! To see what is on the site already, direct your web browser to

<http://www.carnivorousplants.org>

and look around. At the time of this writing I have posted information about the Society and how to join, news items, instructions for submitting articles to Carnivorous Plant Newsletter, and links to related web sites. The site has generated so many new members that the costs of maintaining it have already been paid for. If you have any suggestions for things we should include there, please tell me! Incidentally, the three letters at the end of our web site, "org," reflect our approaching status of being a nonprofit organization. There is a website with the name www.carnivorousplants.com (Note "com" instead of "org") which is a different site owned by carnivorous plant enthusiast Jeff Gold. Do not worry if you do not have access to the world wide web—the web site will never be a replacement for Carnivorous Plant Newsletter.

Cultivars are being mentioned more frequently in Carnivorous Plant Newsletter. A cultivar name is a designation given to a plant that is of interest to horticulturists, but is not significant to taxonomists. Unfortunately, we carnivorous plant growers have not been very good about registering our cultivar names! To fix this problem, I have been recruiting plant growers to write cultivar articles on plants we already grow with not-yet established cultivar names. We are working on plants such as various *Drosera capensis* strains (red-blushed, or wide- and narrow-leaved forms), interesting *Sarracenia* varieties (such as giant forms or uncommon flower-color sports), and some *Utricularia*. If you are interested in establishing a cultivar name for us and have some plant in mind, contact me and I will tell you if someone else is already working on it. I can also give you some pointers on how to proceed. I am most interested in having descriptions named for tried-and-true plants that are popular with horticulturists. Time to get to work!

Finally, you may be wondering about the results of the ICPS election and logo contest. Since the Newsletter has advanced its printing schedule (did you notice you received your September and December issues on time?) the election and logo contests results were not ready in time for this issue. So you will have to wait for the March issue to find out the news...unless of course, you visit the web site!

LOOKING BACK: CPN 25 YEARS AGO

Jim Forrest wrote about volcanism extirpating *Utricularia* in New Zealand: "There used to be six species of *Utricularia* in our locality but one species was destroyed in the eruption of Mt. Tarawera in 1886. During three hours, the volcano opened a chasm nine miles long as a tear. Towards the end it opened under Lake Rotamahaua and a tremendous explosion took place wiping out the famous pink and white terraces, the lake, and all plants in it. The whole countryside for some distance was showered with mud and rainstorms soon after, producing gutters in the mud which can be seen today. The *Utricularia* that was lost in this explosion was *U. mairii*, and to the best of my knowledge it has never been found there or in any other lake since." (Fans of *Utricularia* need not lament: "*U. mairii*" is an invalid name for *U. australis* which is still alive in many places!)