

a refereed journal. A big effort was made to improve our ability to accurately handle new memberships.

There were a few tough times where we actually worried about the ICPS going bankrupt. One year we got behind in Carnivorous Plant Newsletter publishing and only published 3 issues. California has a law saying that a club journal is only non-taxable if it is published 4 or more times in a year. Since we published just 3, we were liable for sales tax on all the journals for that year. Since Carnivorous Plant Newsletter had always been run hand-to-mouth, this caused us a huge amount of grief before we were finally able to settle back taxes.

My happiest time as President was attending the first ICPS International Conference in 1997 at Atlanta Botanical Gardens in Georgia. Meeting so many members from around the world was thrilling. The French carnivorous plants society gave me a little plaque of postage stamps depicting carnivorous plants from around the world signed by their members who attended the '97 conference.

**ICPS:** What other things would you like people to know about you or what would you like to say?

**Rick:** I've really enjoyed everyone I've ever met through the ICPS and my interest in carnivorous plants. It supports my idea that the world would be nicer place if we all did more gardening. Receiving a VFT as a first grader really impacted my life, and I hope my contributions have helped others to enjoy carnivorous plants too.

I encourage everyone to help reduce our footprint on the planet. Carnivorous plants, like most other non-human organisms, are in dramatic decline planet-wide. The only way forward that I can see is for us to reduce all of our energy and resource usage by at least 10:1. As an engineer, I'm putting a lot of thought into how to do this. Everyone needs to help wherever they can. We can all support appropriate legislation and efficiency improvements as they become available. Please continue to share the wonder of the natural world through carnivorous plants, and help everyone to see that nature is worth saving.

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## LITERATURE REVIEWS

By John Brittnacher and Jan Schlauer

Kurata, S. 2008. *Nepenthes peltata* (Nepenthaceae), a new species of pitcher plant from the Philippines. *Journal of the Insectivorous Plant Society (Japan)* 59: 12-17 (2008).

The new species, originally found in the Mt. Hamiguitan Range, Mindanao, has peltate leaf apices, ovoid pitchers, and a basal crest and unusually large nectar glands on the interior lid surface. This combination of characters distinguishes *N. peltata* from similar species but makes precise placement in the genus difficult. The author considers it a member of the *N. villosa* group as defined by Jebb & Cheek (*Flora Malesiana* 15, 2001). (JS)

Walter, R.C., and Merritts, D.J. 2008. Natural Streams and the Legacy of Water-Powered Mills. *Science* 319: 299-304.

This article does not mention carnivorous plants or any particular plants. But it does present research about what the upland habitats of the Atlantic states of the USA were like before Europeans descended on North America. Today typical valleys in the Appalachians and adjacent uplands are characterized by deep, relatively dry, alluvial soils with meandering stream cuts to bedrock or gravel. In the 17th through 19th century, colonists from Europe built more than 65,000 dams to provide water power for mills. Walter and Merritts documented that alluvial soils in many of the valleys are less than 300 years old and result from silting of the millponds behind the dams. They found the ancestral conditions were wetlands with minimal soil but what soil was there was composed of relatively high levels of peat and mosses. The implications of this are that before European settlement and the damming of the streams, carnivorous plants could have been much more widespread in the USA Atlantic states. (JB)