

# **Farewell Co-Editor... ...Hello Ordinary Member!**

by  
Don Schnell

At the turn of the new year 1996 a few months ago, I thought I would check to see what volume we were starting for 1996 CPN. Volume 25. Volume 25! The number 25 -- 25 years, that is --suddenly weighed in on me and I guess feelings and thoughts accumulating over time aggregated into the realization that 25 years is a good round number. Time to pass the baton. Just time for a change, not only for me, but for that one part of the co-editorship team. I will retire as co-editor at the conclusion of this volume 25. I will, of course continue my very avid interest in and activities with CP, but I will have the pleasure of being an ordinary member of ICPS, enjoying CPN, and perhaps submitting the occasional contribution for editorial consideration.

Things were a lot different 25 years ago. There were no PC's, no net, just typewriters. Joe and I had been writing each other and many others as well, and we realized that we were often saying the same thing over and over again to different people. The idea of some sort of newsletter as a central collection point was born. People often ragged us later about such a fine bulletin existing without an organization behind it, kind of the cart before the horse, but we were frankly tired of typing the same thing over and over so many times--It was that simple!

Joe has been a fine and steadfast co-editor over those 25 years; we have become fast friends and it always amazed me how we were able to work out many questions and problems so agreeably. The times were bitter-sweet, many problems, but many rewards and accomplishments, much fine information exchanged, 25 years of a superb accumulative encyclopedic archive of great information and some history. I wonder if anyone else will ever look at it all together.

The first six volumes were printed by a xerographic offset method crude by today's standards but very useful then, and we could afford to do it for a very nominal subscription fee. We thought in terms of a four-pager. The very first issue was 15 pages (!) of pica-type 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper. My long suffering secretary at work volunteered (honestly!) to type all the master copies and Ritchie Bell had the printing done through the UNC print shop which mainly handled schedules, class handouts and exams. It worked, and we even tried some crude black and white photos.

When Leo came aboard as third co-editor, he was instrumental in converting us to the slick-papered magazine format we now use, first with nice black and white photos only, and then color! That was a super milestone. Leo handled all the assembly, printing, subscriber records, money and mailing--Quite a load! When the strain began to tell in too much time consumed, Steve Baker came in and has successfully "made the trains run on time". Using his Mac, he now actually composes each page of CPN as it will look and the printer uses these to print the issues, and Steve handles the mailing.

In betwixt, Larry Mellichamp was with us all too briefly, acting as our botanical conscience, keeping us accurate in those respects, and writing a nice set of columns imparting botany in a very enjoyable way to non-botanically inclined readers. He did a great job.

After finally organizing a society -- ICPS -- some years back, we tried to hold an election but nobody came. We really needed officers to go with the organization and co-editors could only act as de facto officers for so long. Finally, two years ago we held another election, and it took!



As members of ICPS, we have an energetic set of officers with many plans, and they deserve our cooperation. As they say in politics, once you have elected officials, work with them--You can always vote the rascals out next election! I say this in jest, of course, but there are many problems for our officers to solve and we really should work with them.

Overall, the thoughts of the 25 years leave a warm feeling. There were naturally down times, times when we thought the whole thing would fold, that the direction was wrong, but it all worked out and CPN is finer than ever. Articles are now listed in the Index of American Botanical Literature published with each issue of the prestigious Bulletin of the Turrey Botanical Club. Professional botanical scientists are among those who write for us, and recently for the first time using CPN as a vehicle for official publication of new taxa by ICBN rules. Some may think CPN has lost its simplicity, but we have always had a policy of selecting material from what was sent in--Sometimes it was more technical because that was what we got; sometimes the material from which to select was less technical. You members have to support CPN by writing for it. Alas, in all those years, in spite of the ubiquitous term papers to which every high school or higher graduate has been exposed, I do not think I ever got the concept of "typed or wordprocessed double space" across. Private co-editorial aside!

It has been fun. I learned a lot; working with Joe particularly and so consistently all these years has been great, and I hope I helped a little. Now move over in the gallery--You've got another ordinary member coming in!

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## News & Views

**Mário Paniago**, Rua 1124 Quadra 225 Lote 11, Casa 2 Setor Marista,  
Goiania-Goiás CEP 74 175-080 Brazil

My name is Mário Paniago and I want to exchange letters about CP with anyone around the world. I'm also looking for a strain of the plant *Dionaea muscipula* which tolerates high temperatures between 20-35 degrees C. Please write to the above address.

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## Attention!Attention!Attention!

### 3rd Annual Southeastern CP Workshop

Hosted this year by Ron Gardner and the NC Botanical Garden in Chapel Hill. Oct. 4, 5, 6 are the dates this year and we are LIMITED to 75. So please register early to be apart of this years workshop.

We hope to have a social Friday night and talks, auctions, and business meeting on Saturday. This will leave Sunday for a field trip to The Green Swamp. If their is enough interest. If you are interested in speaking at this workshop please let Rob Gardner know ASAP. If you need more information on this workshop or the field trip please Phone at 919-962-0522 or write Ron Gardner at the following address:

NCBG  
CB#3375  
Totten Center  
UNC-CH  
Chapel Hill NC 27599-3375



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