LITTERATURA SERPENTIUM

English Edition

VOL. 5, NO. 6 - DEC. 1985

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SOCIETY NEWS

REPORT ON THE THIRD ASSOCIATION YEAR (1 APRIL 1983 TO 31 MARCH 1984).

The Dutch Snake Society kept growing steadily in 1983; membership rose to 412 (297 Dutch and 115 foreign). Jaap Kooij succeeded Ruud Verbeek as Secretary; Ruud became too busy with his studies to be able to continue.
After a trial-period during the later parts of the second volume, in which articles in Litteratura Serpentium were published in Dutch and English in one volume, the growing number of foreign members necessitated the publication of a full separate English edition in addition to the full Dutch edition. The purpose of this was three fold:

1. Both Dutch and foreign members had to be satisfied. The former thought that there was too much English in the magazine and the latter thought that there was not enough English in it.
2. In response to the dual publication the number of members would grow so there would be more money available for the improvement of the production quality of the publications.
3. The most important reason was that the number of articles, coming from the Netherlands and Belgium, became scarce. By means of an English edition the editorship hoped to get more articles from other countries.

The third volume of Litteratura Serpentium contained 252 pages of Dutch and 228 pages of English text, and also a supplement of 25 pages with a list of the snakes that were kept and bred by the members. The number of colour photographs rose from 16 to 26.

The offset-press that the Society bought in 1982 was very useful, but had to be overhauled halfway the volume. Printing the magazine "in house" was considerably cheaper. For the benefit of the editorship team we bought a second electronic typewriter.
The editorship team was enlarged with some new people: Ed Prüst took care of the column 'Literature', Jaqueline Donkers the column 'Breeding results' and Astrid Gomes took care of the greater part of the typing work for the magazine. David Gales had to stop his work for the English edition due to pressure of work; Ken Welch had to edit the English edition alone for the time being. Due to the increase in work in connection with the English edition and the fact that we were unable to use the offset-press for some months, we could not make up the arrears of the publication of the magazine. There was even a double issue (No. 2/3) published in an attempt to catch up.
On 15 October 1983, the third Snakeday was held. This was a great success: attended by almost 300 visitors from nine countries! Because of the international company, the lectures were held in the German language. Speakers included Paul Heinrich Stettler from Switzerland and Ulf Olsen from Denmark. Prof. Dr. L.D. Brongersma was elected as honorary member of the Society for his special work for herpetology. Anton van Woerkom was re-elected as Editor for a period of three years.
The only contact with the Terrarium Society 'Lacerta' was a meeting with a board delegation. Agreements were made about the organising of Meetings and the exchange of colour lithographs for 50% of the price. However, further experiences showed that there was no need for contact.
Our member Theo van der Poel started to draw up the constitutional rules applying to the Society. Pieter Stoel and Anton van Woerkom served on the Committee for Health and Welfare of Domestic

Animals as representatives of the Dutch Snake Society. This Committee has to advise the Government on new legislation on keeping domestic animals.

Anton van Woerkom,
5 February 1986.

STATEMENT OF REVENUES COLLECTED AND EXPENSES PAID
IN DUTCH GUILDERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1984

Revenues Collected		Expenses Paid	
Membership dues	ƒ 8195.26	Printing costs of Magazine	ƒ 5164.38
Donations	- 115.--	Expenses of editorial board	- 391.81
Grant-in-aid "Lacerta"	- 337.50	Postage of Magazine	- 1835.90
Advertisements	- 504.89	Expenses of society board	- 507.90
Sale of single issues	- 482.--	Depreciation on typewriter I	- 335.--
Sale of back volumes	- 583.50	Depreciation on typewriter II	- 222.50
Sale of stickers, etc.	- 14.40	Depreciation on offset press	- 550.--
Interest	- 44.86	Depreciation on seal apparat. plus use of plastic bags	- 199.74
Proceeds of the Meeting	- 429.38	Maintenance costs on equipment	- 142.31
Surplus in cash	- 81.13	Net Income	- 1438.38
	ƒ 10787.92		ƒ 10787.92

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON 31 MARCH 1984
(IN DUTCH GUILDERS)

Current Assets		Current Liabilities	
In cash	ƒ 187.45	Prepaid membership dues	ƒ 4352.52
Cash in Postal account	- 4138.62	Accounts payable	- 1856.15
Cash in Postal savings account	- 2603.12	Fund Balance	- 1573.02
Accounts receivable	- 202.50		
Electr. typewriter I	- 330.--		
Electr. typewriter II	- 220.--		
Offset press	- -.--		
Seal apparatus	- 100.--		
	ƒ 7781.69		ƒ 7781.69

REPORT ON THE FOURTH ASSOCIATION YEAR (1 APRIL 1984 TO 31 MARCH 1985).

The fourth association year of the Dutch Snake Society was probably the hardest in its history. The number of members increased to 450, but the number of pages published decreased to 212 in the Dutch edition and 200 in the English edition. There was also a Dutch supplement published, containing a review of the provisions of the law concerning the trade in treatened snake-species. The number of colour photographs was the same as in the third volume, namely 26.
The editorship team was reorganised in connection with the two editions: Piet Schiereck became Editor of the Dutch edition and Ken Welch stayed Editor of the English edition. Through this Anton van Woerkom got more time as Editor-in-chief to enlist articles, to correct them, and to design the lay-out of the magazine, etc. In spite of the publishing of two double issues (No. 3/4 and No. 5/6), we did not make up the arrears, because there were not enough people available for the printing, collating, stapling and the shipment. We do not have yet enough income to put this work out to contract.
On 20 October 1984, the fourth Snakeday was held. Unfortunately two of the speakers (from Germany and the U.S.A.) could not come at the last moment on account of ill-health. Fortunately we found two substitutes at the last moment. The lectures were held in Dutch and were simultaneously translated into English for the many foreign visitors. There were about 300 visitors. There were also surprisingly many stands where snakes, books, plants, terrarium equipment, vermiculite, mice, rats, mice-cages, etc. were sold.

At the Annual General Meeting (26 May 1984) the constitutional rules of the Society were approved. Pieter Stoel and Anton van Woerkom made them official at a notary's office on 12 December 1984. Pieter Stoel and Edith den Ouden due to retire as members of the board and were immediately re-elected for a further period of three years. Our members in Tilburg (The Netherlands) came into conflict with the local police, who wanted to enlarge the by-law for keeping dangerous animals. The keeping of Boas and Pythons longer than 2 m, and of all venomous snakes (opistoglyph, proteroglyph, and solenoglyph) was to be forbidden except by special license. On behalf of the Dutch Snake Society, Anton van Woerkom and Pieter Stoel advised that the keeping of Boas and Pythons and opistoglyph snakes (except *Dispholidus typus* and *Thelotornis kirtlandii*) should be permitted without a licence. They were backed by a judicial sentence (County-court Breda, 7 October 1985) that a *Python sebae* of 4 m should not be seen as dangerous. The counter-proposals that are presented by the Dutch Snake Society are published in Litteratura Serpentium (1985), Vol. 5 (3): 82-87 / Dutch edition: 86-91. The municipality of Tilburg did not dare to make a decision until now and has postponed it.

Anton van Woerkom,
6 February 1986.

STATEMENT OF REVENUES COLLECTED AND EXPENSES PAID
IN DUTCH GUILDERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1985

Revenues Collected		Expenses Paid	
Membership dues	ƒ 9250.75	Printing costs of Magazine	ƒ 7773.80
Donations	- 25.--	Expenses of editorial board	- 467.79
Advertisements	- 898.15	Postage of Magazine	- 1674.60
Sale of single issues	- 103.50	Expenses of society board	- 513.25
Sale of back issues	- 2485.16	Shortage in cash	- 6.30
Sale of sweaters, etc.	- 209.53	Notary (concerning Rules of the Society)	- 425.--
Interest	- 206.28	Chamber of Commerce	- 60.--
Proceeds of the Meeting	- 441.32	Depreciation on typewriter I	- 330.--
		Depreciation on typewriter II	- 220.--
		Depreciation on seal apparat.	- 100.--
		Maintenance costs on equipment	- 498.18
		Net Income	- 1550.77
	ƒ 13619.69		ƒ 13619.69

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON 31 MARCH 1985
(IN DUTCH GUILDERS)

Current Assets		Current Liabilities	
In cash	ƒ 62.35	Prepaid membership dues	ƒ 475.--
Cash in Postal account	- 183.90	Accounts payable	- 1010.50
Cash in Postal savings account	- 3199.94	Fund Balance	- 3123.79
Cash in Bank	- 105.60		
Accounts receivable	- 37.50		
Sweaters in stock	- 960.--		
Guaranty for postal services	- 60.--		
2 Electr. typewriters	- -.--		
Offset press	- -.--		
Seal apparatus	- -.--		
	ƒ 4609.29		ƒ 4609.29