

C ONTENTS



A RTICLES

- **FROM THE EDITORS** 34
Marcel van der Voort
- **METROPOLITAN PITVIPERS** 36
Bryan L. Starrett
- **A SNAKE-EATING CORN SNAKE?** 42
J.M.W. Mavromichalis
- **SNAKES, THE EVOLUTION OF MYSTERY IN NATURE** 50
Harry Greene
- **FOR A MOMENT I STOOD STAGGERED** 50
A. Wijnen
- **BREEDING REPORT: MORELIA SPILOTA IMBRICATA 1998** 53
Lucien Rooyendijk
- **BITIS NASICORNIS** 56
John en Marion Bakker



C OLMNS

- **ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING** 35
- **ANNOUNCEMENTS** 43
- **BREEDING RESULTS** 45
- **HERPETOLOGIA** 60
- **VITAMINS AND MEDICINES** 61
- **SUPPLY & DEMAND** 62



FROM THE EDITORS

Last year the Society Officers of the European Snake Society and the editors of *Litteratura Serpentina* promised a one year free membership for those who got a substantial contribution published in the *Litteratura Serpentina*. We keep our promise. The following members will have a free membership in 1999:

Peet Smetsers
Freek Gillisen
Jan van Tessel
J.Ramaker
Harmen Jan Platvoet
Johan Mavromichalis
Marcel van Engelen
Erik Nijhof
Fausto Starace
Keith Werb
Bruce Young
Gary Hesom

Why don't you take the challenge? Write an article for *LS* and if it gets published you've got yourself a free membership next year!

The editors of *Litteratura Serpentina* are pleased to inform you that the departure of René en Cécile van der Vlugt as Editors-in-chief won't have any

delay or other inconvenience in the publishing of *L.S.*. The new Editor-in chief is Gijs van Aken. From this number onwards he has taken over the Chief-editors work. Gijs keeps snakes for over 15 years. Pythons and Boa's are his favourites.

There will be also some changes in the Board of Society Officers: After 18,5 jaar, Pieter Stoel resigns as our chairman. During the next annual members meeting we will ask the members to accept the nomination of R. van der Bolt as the new chairman of the European Snake Society. Guido Gomes will also resign. Nominated for treasurer is H. van Rooden. J. Mout will take care of the members-administration. In the colophon you will find the adress and telephonenumber of all the new Officers and the new Chief-editor.

Our sincere gratitude goes to Pieter Stoel and Guido Gomes; for years they have been devoted to our society. They can be satisfied with their achievements over the years. We wish the new Officers and the new Chief-editor lots of success with their task. We trust that they can count on a constructive support from all members!

On behalf of the Editors of *LS*,
Marcel van der Voort.



ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING



The board of the European Snake Society invites its member to its annual members' meeting on Wednesday 19th May 1999. The following issues are on the agenda:

- opening by the chairman;
- report over 1998 by the secretary;
- financial report over 1998 by the treasurer;
- statutory resignation of the chairman, mr. P. Stoel. He is not eligible for re-election. Candidate is R. van der Bolt;
- statutory resignation of the treasurer, mr. G. Gomes. He is not eligible for re-election. Candidate is H. van Rooden;
- resignation of the chief editors mr. R. and mrs. C. van der Vlugt. Candidate is mr. G. van Aken.

Counter candidates should notify their candidacy with the board at least five days before the annual meeting. Their candidacy should be supported by at least five members.

- appointment of the cash-committee;
- any other business.

The meeting will start at 20.00 hours and will take place at W.A. Vultostraat 62 in Utrecht, The Netherlands. Telephone +31-30-2801115 (after 18.00 hrs.) Those willing to attend should inform the secretary at least seven days in advance. Since it will probably be difficult for most foreign members to come to Holland for this meeting we would like to invite you to write to us if you have any suggestions and/or ideas concerning the Society. We welcome comments on every aspect of the Society, *Litteratura Serpentina* and the Snake Day.

ANNOUNCEMENT



SNAKE DAY 1999

The European Snake Society will organise its annual Snake Day on Saturday 2nd October 1999. This event will take place at the Euretco Expo Center in Houten (5 km south of Utrecht) in the Netherlands. For more information, please contact the secretary:

**mr. Jan-Cor Jacobs,
W.A. Vultostraat 62,
NL-3523 TX Utrecht,
phone +31-30 2801115;
e-mail: ess-secretary@wxs.nl**

