

LITTERATURA SERPENTIUM

English Edition

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SOCIETY NEWS

On Saturday morning 27 February 1988 our member John van der Pols died in a very tragic way. For the people who knew him this news was a real shock. We can, however, only respect his choice, that he did not want to live any more.

John was one of the founders of the Dutch Snake Society, the first Treasurer, he started the Newsletter, was the author of a great number of articles, and everybody who had problems with his snakes could ask John for advice. In a speech at the funeral Pieter Stoel expressed this sentiment: "John was an example for many; more than he realised himself". This is the way in which John will live on in our memories. However, the Board of the Society feels that we must do something more to keep the memory of John alive: we have decided that the last issue of this volume will be a special memorial issue for him. After a short introduction about who John van der Pols was, two new articles from his hand will be published. Furthermore, everybody who feels the need, is encouraged to write an article (about snakes) specially for this memorial issue. I can only say: "I hope that this will become a very thick issue". When you have an idea for writing an article, please contact me, so that I will have an insight into what and how many articles I can expect for the memorial issue. Probably it is best to say that the promised articles must have reached the Editor by the end of July.

Anton van Woerkom.

Erwin Emond and his girl friend Henny Kok have for about one year now functioned as the Treasurers of the Dutch Snake Society. The Board regrets it

very much that they both have to step down because of their respective studies. Henny and Erwin, thank you very much for the work that you have done for the Society during the last year. We are happy to inform you that we already found a new

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Ron is a well known snake keeper in The Netherlands and we wish him good luck with his new function.

It is pleasing to mention that our past Treasurer Edith den Ouden still is in active service for the Society: she faithfully takes care of the mailing and sorting out of *Litteratura Serpentina* every two months. Thanks, Edith, stick at it!

The Snake Day will be organised this year on Saturday 15 October. The locality is not yet known but we will inform you about that soon. If you want to give a talk on a special theme, please contact the Secretary Jaap Kooij as soon as possible.

The number of members of the Dutch Snake Society rises quickly at the moment; we even hope to pass the number of 600 members this year. Do you know snake keepers who are not yet members? Help us and ensure that they join the Society. The membership dues remain only Hfl. 35.00 (including postage, excluding extra bank charges) per year.

As you could see Litteratura Serpentina contained 300 pages in 1987 and together with the supplement and index was 346 pages. The thickest volume of the English Edition we ever published! Whether the Editorial Board can guarantee this again in 1988 depends on you: the more articles you write, the thicker the magazine!

The Board of the Society is considering reprinting Volumes I (1980/81) and II (1982) of Litteratura Serpentina. Both volumes are in Dutch with English summaries. We urgently ask members who are interested in purchasing one or both volumes, to send a note to the (new) Treasurer (address see above), so that we know how great the interest is.

Jaap Kooij and Anton van Woerkom.