



Forum Botanicum

Newsletter of the South African Association of Botanists
Nuusbrief van die Suid-Afrikaanse Genootskap van Plantkundiges

Volume 37:1

ISSN 0015-847X

2000

Forum Botanicum, P O Box 3268, Matieland, 7602

e-mail: forsaab@rweb.co.za

Presidential Report for the period January to December 1999

Frikkie Botha, SAAB president

Council

The council for the above mentioned period consisted of:

Professor FC Botha (President)
Professor JU Grobbelaar (Vice President)
Dr K Esler
Dr J Farrant
Professor GF Smith
Mr F Weitz
Ms R Williams
Dr E Witkowski

The two ex officio members who were appointed to serve on Council and the executive Committee are:

Dr MD Cramer - Honorary Treasurer
Dr EM Marais - Honorary Secretary

Dr Marianna Smith took up the position of permanent secretary at the beginning of January 1999.

Council met on June 3, 1999 at the University of Stellenbosch for the mid-year meeting. The following important matters were dealt with:

Auditing of SAAB accounts

It was decided to appoint Loubser & Du Plessis, in Stellenbosch as auditors for 1997 and 1998 the years for which there were not auditors' reports. In addition, it was decided that Professor Rudi Verhoeven (the previous honorary treasurer) would check these statements, as he was responsible for the period under review. These auditors' reports have since been received and found to be in order.

Election of new council members

This issue was discussed in detail and Council expressed its concern about the fact that with the exception of the president and two members who potentially can be re-elected, rest of the

council will be replaced in 2000. This makes it very difficult for council to function in a coherent way. A call for nominations for council was distributed to members through *Forum Botanicum*.

SAAB meetings for 2000 and 2001

It was noted that the second circular for the SAAB meeting for January 2000 has been sent out. Council also took note of the withdrawal of the Phycological Society of Southern Africa from the conference.

The meeting in 2001 will be hosted by RAU under the auspices of Prof. Ben-Erik van Wyk. It will take place from 14 to 17 January 2001.

SAAB posters

Five big laminated posters and a 1000 A4 size SAAB posters were made. The big posters will move to different centres, or may be used at travelling exhibitions. The secretary will keep track of who has the posters. The smaller posters were sent to each head of Botany Departments throughout the country and is available to everyone for general display.

Forum Botanicum

Gavin Hellstrom gave up the editorship of Forum Botanicum. Marianna Smith took over this function in April 1999. Council took note of the editor's intentions to publish three issues during the year.

Financial status of SAAB

The financial issues of SAAB were discussed in great detail. It was noted that expenses occurred, and the previous secretary made payments, till the end of March and that there are some of these expenses which needed to be verified. The secretary and honorary treasurer

were given instruction to follow up on these.

Additional SAAB prizes

Prof. Hannes van Staden wrote to council and pledged money for two additional prizes: best oral papers by a M.Sc. and best Ph.D. student at the SAAB conference. This does not affect the best young scientist prize, which will remain an open competition under the same rules as before. The money received from Professor van Staden was into the SAAB goldsave account. These prizes will be awarded for the first at the 2000 conference in Potchefstroom. The Local Organising Committee will do the adjudication.

SAAB Trust

This matter is still not satisfactorily resolved. It was decided to urgently refer this matter to Professor Snowy Baijnath who was appointed to ensure the resolving of the Trust.

SAJB

Professor GF Smith informed the council of the change in editorship under the new system. They are Prof. Smith, Bredenkamp and van Staden. Council took note of the current thinking of the government, which could lead to only one funded scientific journal in future.

Regional branches

Council is very concerned about the apparent sluggish functioning of the SAAB regional branches. This is reflected in the very low attendance of the limited meetings in the regions and receipt of annual reports by regions. It was decided that regional subsidies would only be paid if an annual report has been received and

from that council can judge that the branch is still active.

Discrepancies in membership fees

The secretary reported that several members claimed their membership fees are paid up, but the records received proved otherwise. In most of these cases members could provide proof of payment.

Secretary's salary

Since there has been no increase in the salary of the secretary for the last two years council decided to increase the salary from R890 to R1000 per month

Membership

Three of our members, Dr LEW Codd and Mr. HB Nicholson, Dr H Taylor, passed away during the year. SAAB acknowledges their contributions to Botany and our deepest sympathy to their respective families. We also acknowledge the donation of his complete set of *Forum Botanicum* to SAAB by his family.

The declining trend in our membership continued during 1999. Our current membership is 440 which is approximately a 15% decline in comparison to the figure of 1996. More than a hundred of these members have not paid their dues for 1999 and some even for 1998. A first reminder was sent out in July and a final reminder to 102 members in December. In response to this five members paid and two resigned. In accordance to the constitution council will have to soon terminate the membership of those who have failed to pay their dues.

Finances

The honorary secretary will deal with the financial statement in detail. However, it

is evident that we are at the moment not recovering costs. SAAB has succeeded in retaining a favourable balance because we have made a 'profit' from the annual conferences in certain years. The two most noteworthy of these are the conferences in Stellenbosch and Cape Town. I believe that we should move to a system where we have a budget in which our income from dues balances our expenditures. Our honorary treasurer will handle this matter in detail.

The main costs to SAAB are the journal, the salary of our secretary and travelling costs. I think we should seriously reconsider whether we can afford to have a mid-year council meeting. With the ease of communication through the electronic media I believe that with frequent EXCO meetings and continuous contact between council members that a single council meeting that coincide with the annual conference is adequate.

Awards

It is a pleasure for me to announce that the SAAB silver medal for Botany will be awarded this year to Professor JU Grobbelaar and the bronze medal to Dr Peter Hare.

My heartiest congratulations to the recipients and my thanks to the group under Professor Braam Pieterse at the University of Potchefstroom who did the adjudication of the bronze medal.

General

The South African Journal of Botany appeared at the normal regular intervals thanks to the hard work and dedication of the new editorial panel. I have heard many positive comments and the rapid reviewing process.

It was a mammoth task to transfer all the administration, assets and banking

accounts to Stellenbosch during 1999. Although the process was initiated early in January and the first shipment arrived on 8 February it was only at the end of March that all the files, correspondence and accounts were eventually completely transferred to Stellenbosch.

Marianna's hard work and dedication and the assistance from Dr Mike Cramer resulted in a well-organized and smooth working administration of SAAB matters at the moment. Due to this effort we have our membership records up to date and this also includes an electronic mailing list.

Two botanist received the NRF presidents award during 1999 namely Drs Nigel Baker and Steve Johnson. In addition, Prof. Richard Cowling received an A - rating from the NRF (FRD). On behalf of SAAB I would like to congratulate these botanists.

It remains a main concern that SAAB members seem to have adopted a very cold and neutral attitude towards the association. This is reflected in the activity of our branches and other issues such as nomination of council members, nominations for SAAB awards and payment of dues. I would like to reiterate my invitation of earlier in *Forum Botanicum* to members to actively participate in SAAB and general Botany matters and to use *Forum* as a proper association newsletter for this purpose. Council can only respond to matters if the members bring things to our attention.

To date council has received no reports from any of the regional branches.

The conference if 2001 will be housed at RAU. The organisers have proposed a three-day conference in which all attempts will be made to reduce the cost to a bare minimum. I think we should applaud them

for this. The continually escalating costs to attend our annual meeting have resulted that many groups can no longer afford to attend the SAAB meeting. I believe we should strive to always ensure that our young people, especially our students, could attend the annual SAAB meeting.

Council for 2000

Professor FC Botha (president)
Professor Hannes van Staden (vice president)
Professor CEJ Botha
Dr Nigel Baker
Dr S du Plessis
Mr C Willis

Professor GF Smith (NBI nominee)

Dr B Marais Honorary secretary
Dr MD Cramer honorary treasurer

Acknowledgement

I would like to thank Council members for their support during 1999. A word of special thanks to Professor JU Grobbelaar, who as vice president was a tremendous help and support for me. After a period of five years on Council he is now stepping down. My thanks also go to Karin Esler, Rose Williams, Jill Farant, Ed Witkowski and Frans Weitz who have come to the end of their term. A word of very thanks to the EXCO members, Drs. Mike Cramer, Bettie Marais and especially to our secretary Marianna Smith for the hard work and dedication to SAAB matters.

Lastly, many thanks to the LOC of the University of Potchefstroom, and especially Professor Braam Pieterse, for the very efficient and professional organisation of the 2000 conference.

Membership structure for 2000

The SAAB membership structure was reviewed at the annual meeting in Potchefstroom in January 2000. Membership will be as follows:

Retired membership	R35
Student membership (SAJB),	R50 (excl. R80 (inc. SAJB))
Affiliate membership	R100
Ordinary membership	R125
Family membership (R60)	R185 (R125 + R60)
Institutional membership	R500
Life membership	R2500

Letters to the editor

DIE S.A. TYDSKRIF VIR PLANTKUNDE

In die onlangse verlede was daar intense nie-gedokumenteerde kritiek teenoor die *S.A. Tydskrif vir Plantkunde*. Ek wil nie nou ingaan op die meriete van, of redes vir, hierdie kritiek nie; maar eerder kyk na die bestaansreg van die *Tydskrif*. Wat wel waar is, is dat die staatsbydrae tot die koste en produksie van die *Tydskrif* opgedroog het sodat ons nou self die redigeerwerk moet doen asook vir alles moet betaal, maar met 'n ledetal van meer as 400 dink ek ons kan dit hanteer. Nie lank gelede nie is lede van die S.A.G.P. ook gevra om 'n vraelys oor die *Tydskrif* in te vul, waarvan die laaste vraag was of "SAJB behoort op te hou bestaan".

Sektore van die Suid-Afrikaanse plantkundige gemeenskap wat snyvlak-tipe navorsing doen, hou nie van die *Tydskrif* nie omdat dit na hulle mening onvoldoende sirkulering en internasionale sitasie, en dus lae [internasionale] aansien, geniet. In die lig

hiervan wil ek graag die noodigheid en bestaansreg van so 'n tydskrif bespreek.

In 'n vorige uitgawe van *Forum botanicum* het ek en Braam van Wyk geskryf oor die redes waarom Plantkunde nie by studente gewild is nie. Een van die sake wat ons aangevoer het, is dat daar te min klem gelê word op inheemse plante. Sedertdien het baie mense vir ons gesê dat hulle ons siening deel. Wat dit eintlik beteken, is dat ons 'n aantal heeltemal verskillende en onverenigbare wetenskappe saamgroeppeer onder die benaming *plantkunde*, tot niemand se voordeel nie. *Plantfisiologie*, soos dit in Suid-Afrika meestal praktiseer word, is 'n landboukundige vak wat in meeste gevalle ten doel het om die produksie van landbouprodukte te verbeter, en behoort dus eerder saam met landbouwetenskappe te resorteer. Plantfisiologiese navorsing wat identies is aan wat gedoen word by plantkunde-departemente by universiteite, word inderdaad uitgevoer by landbou-fakulteite en biochemie-departemente by universiteite, en by landbou-navorsingsinrigtings buite universiteite. Sulke plantfisiologiese navorsingsresultate sal veel meer toeganklik wees vir die teikenleserskring indien dit in landboukundige tydskrifte verskyn. *Biotegnologie* se mandaat is genetiese manipulerings, en m.i. is dit 'n vak wat op sy eie behoort te staan of saam met Genetika te resorteer, watter tipe organisme ookal manipuleer word. Die navorsingsresultate behels tot 'n groot mate universele beginsels en metodes, en as sulks behoort dit in internasionale spesialis tydskrifte te verskyn waar dit maklik toeganklik is vir mense wat daardie soort van navorsing doen. Wat oorbly, is taksonomie en ekologie in al hulle vertakings, wat onder die vaandel van *algemene plantkunde* kan staan. In die lig van die groot aantal inheemse plantsoorte wat nog nie behoorlik dokumenteer is nie, asook die werklikhede van navorsingsfondse, is *algemene plantkunde* in Suid-Afrika grootliks beperk tot inheemse plantsoorte. Dit sou

sinneloos wees om hierdie navorsingsresultate te publiseer in buitelandse of internasionale tydskrifte, eerstens omdat die lesers van sulke tydskrifte waarskynlik nie belangstel in (vir hulle) onbekende Suid-Afrikaanse plantsoorte nie, en tweedens omdat sulke tydskrifte nie gereedelik beskikbaar is vir die breë Suid-Afrikaanse publiek wat intens belangstel in inheemse plante nie. Dit is vir *algemene plantkunde* dat ons 'n plaaslike tydskrif nodig het. Ons het 'n fout gemaak deur 'n aantal jare gelede die naam van die *Tydskrif* te verander: *S.A. Tydskrif vir Plantkunde* skep die indruk dat dit handel oor die soort plantkunde wat in Suid-Afrika bedryf word, m.a.w. dit is (of is nie) 'n vertoonvenster vir Suid-Afrikaanse plantkundiges. As sulks is ek nie so seker dat dit bestaansreg het nie, omdat mens waarskynlik 'n veel meer suksesvolle vertoon kan lewer in 'n buitelandse of internasionale tydskrif deurdat die internasionale gemeenskap waarskynlik nie geïnteresseerd is in wat in Suid-Afrika aangaan nie en dus nie Suid-Afrikaanse tydskrifte lees nie. Aan die ander kant beteken *Tydskrif vir Suid-Afrikaanse Plantkunde* dat dit handel oor die studie van Suid-Afrikaanse plante. As sulks kan daar geen argument wees oor sy bestaansreg nie omdat dit na aan 'n eenstop inligtingsbron is oor Suid-Afrikaanse plante vir ons kliënte, die belastingbetalende publiek.

Wat van kompetisie? Die enigste ander tydskrif wat ter sprake is, is *Bothalia*. Inderdaad dek dit tot 'n groot mate dieselfde veld as die *Tydskrif* wat ek voorstel, met die verskil dat dit die Nasionale Botaniese Instituut se huistydskrif is en as sulks altyd onder beheer van die Instituut sal wees, eerder as van die S.A.G.P. Die Suid-Afrikaanse plantkundige gemeenskap sien op na die N.B.I. vir leierskap, maar kan nie verwag dat daardie inligting al ons laste moet dra nie.

Ek sien die *Tydskrif* dus as 'n noodsaaklike kommunikasiemedium wat primêr ten doel het om inligting oor alle aspekte van Suid-

Afrikaanse plante oor te dra. Vir my maak dit nie saak as dit gladnie in die buiteland gelees of siteer word nie. Vir my maak dit ook nie saak as mense sou sê dat hierdie soort plantkunde nie wetenskap is nie. Wat wel van belang is, is dat ons die plaaslike plantsoorte en plantegroei moet kan dokumenteer op so 'n manier dat die inligting maklik beskikbaar is vir almal in Suid-Afrika (of ook elders) wat hierdie soort van inligting benodig. Ons kan vergeet van 'n tydskrif wat alles vir almal probeer wees - daarvoor is ons vakgebiede te uiteenlopend.

P. VORSTER,
Departement Plantkunde,
Universiteit van Stellenbosch,
Privaatsak X1,
7602 Matieland.
E-pos: pjvor@land.sun.ac.za

*Beste Dr. Vorster,
Baie dankie vir u bydrae. Dit is belangrik om die gevoel van die lede te toets voordat enige besluite geneem word. Die laaste vraag op die vraelys het verskyn na aanleiding van baie lede (en voornemende lede) se versoek om nie SATP te ontvang saam met lidmaatskap nie. Daar is dus nie sin in om 'n tydskrif te publiseer wat die lede nie wil hê nie. Dit is slegs 'n meningspeiling, en nie 'n dreigement nie. Ons nooi ander SAGP lede uit om ook hul mening te lug oor die S.A. Tydskrif vir Plantkunde.
Redakteur.*

Dear Sir/Madam,
I would like to respectfully request any assistance you may be able to afford me in the following matter.

I have entered my third year of study with the University of South Africa and will graduate

with a B.Sc. in Botany and Zoology at the end of 2000. I have gathered a wealth of practical experience over some years whilst working as a guide in some of the private nature reserves of South Africa (Timbavati Private Nature Reserve, Phinda Resource Reserve, Makalali Private Nature Reserve).

I have been studying full-time since 1998 when I left the bush primarily to gain a better scientific perspective and understanding of Botany, Zoology and biodiversity. I made this decision in order to supplement my practical knowledge and experience of veld management once I have graduated. Furthermore, I would like to enter into post-graduate studies in ecology (possibly with the University of Potchefstroom for CHE).

I would sincerely appreciate it if you could furnish me, if at all possible, with names or contact addressed/details of any organisations or individuals you may know of, including any

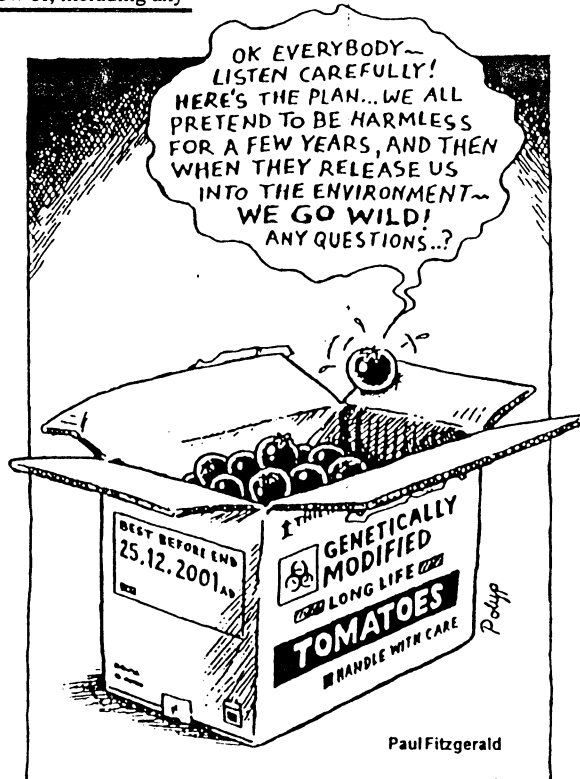
of your own subsidiaries within southern Africa in need of experienced field personnel, that it may assist me in securing future employment or post-graduate study opportunities.

Thanking you in advance for your kind support.

Yours sincerely
Steven M Roskelly

PO Box15
BALGOWAN
3275
0827493225
033-2344022 (FAX)

*Is there anybody who might be able to help Steven?
Ed.*



SAAB awards Silver Medal for Botany to Professor Johan Grobbelaar

January 2000, Potchefstroom



Johan U. Grobbelaar

**Professor and Head of the Department of Botany and Genetics, D.Sc., (1974),
University of the Orange Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa.**

The silver Medal for Botany may be awarded to any botanist. It may be awarded on the grounds of outstanding research and/or other contributions to the advancement of Botany in South Africa. Nominations for this medal should be made to the Council, and they will vote on this. Only one person in a given calendar year may receive this award. Professor Johan Grobbelaar, Head of Botany and Genetics at the Orange Free State University, was the worthy recipient of the Silver Medal this award this year. He served for six consecutive years on the Council of SAAB, and was the president for two of these years.

A short Curriculum Vitae of Professor Grobbelaar shows why he was nominated for this prestigious award.

Johan Grobbelaar started his scientific career as leader of two research teams, doing research on the freshwaters of the Sub-Antarctic Marion Island. This was the first of many research trips abroad. On nine occasions he spend longer periods abroad, which included:

- a post-doc with the Max-Planck-Institute for Limnology in Plön Germany (that included three months in the Amazon),
- the Institute of Biotechnology of the KFA, Jülich, Germany,
- the Technicon, Department of Environmental Engineering, at Haifa in Israel,
- the Marine Research Institute, Bremerhaven, Germany,
- the Institute for Autotrophic Microbial Research, Trebon, Czech Republic,
- the Institute for Geosphere Research, Jülich, Germany, and
- the Marine Biotechnology Institute, Kamaishi, Japan.

Professor Grobbelaar is a member of several national and international committees and holds a B evaluation (*Definition: Researchers who enjoy considerable international recognition as independent researchers of high quality*) in the core program of the Foundation for Research and Development.

- He has published more than 80 scientific papers and has delivered 125 scientific papers at conferences, 27 of which at international meetings.
- He serves on the editorial boards of *Hydrobiologia*, *Journal of Applied Phycology* and *S.A. J. of Botany* (till 1996).

- He is a board member of the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions and a former board member of the National Botanical Institute.
- He is external examiner for botany at other Universities, South Africa's representative on the International Society for Limnology (SIL) and a former President of the South African Association of Botanists.

It is not all work and no play for Professor Johan Grobbelaar. He is a council member for the city of Bloemfontein, actively involved in wine tasting, enjoys music, plays squash and golf and spending time with his friends and family.

Other SAAB awards made at the 26th Annual SAAB meeting at Potchefstroom

The Junior Medal for Botany

This Bronze medal was awarded to Dr Peter Derek Hare for his Ph.D thesis. Dr Hare graduated at the University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg. The title of his thesis is: "A Regulatory role for Proline Metabolism in *Arabidopsis thaliana* (L.) Heynh.

1. Compton Prize

This prize, for the best article published in *South African Journal of Botany* in a calendar year, was awarded to the publication by Van der Bank, Vorster and Van der Bank, 1998.

2. Best oral papers by young scientists

First prize: Thilani du Plessis

Du Plessis, F and Bredenkamp, G.J. The need for compatible floristic data in comprehensive syntaxonomical synthesis with special reference to Mopane veld in Africa.

Second prize: Suzanne Hoepfner

Hoepfner, SA & Botha, FC. Fructokinase activity in the sugarcane culm: expression pattern and kinetic properties.

Third prize: Stefan Siebert

Siebert, SJ, Van Wyk AE & Bredenkamp GJ. Ultramafic vegetation of Sekhukhuneland, South Africa: communities endemics and conservation.

3. Best posters

Best Taxonomy poster:

Venter AM, Venter HJT & Verhoeven, RL. Fluctuations of nitrate reductase in the blue-green alga *Oscillatoria simplicissima* grown under artificial conditions.

Best Ecology poster:

Putter J, Cilliers SS & Kellner K. A preliminary investigation on reconciliation between urban nature conservation and urban agriculture in the North West Province.

Best Physiology poster:

Shafer W & Botha FC. Possible membrane association of sucrose synthase (SuSy, EC 2.4.1.13) in sugarcane internodal tissue.

1. The Hannes van Staden Prizes

Best oral presentation by a Ph.D. student:

Janse van Vuuren S & Pieterse AJHP. Occurrence of phytoplankton in the turbid, polluted Vaal River system.

Best oral presentation by a M.Sc. student:

Meets M & Boucher C. The determination of the concentration of aqueous smoke solutions used in restoration projects.

Contact addresses for Council members, Executive committee and Editors of SAJB

Prof. Frikkie Botha (President)

fcg@land.sun.ac.za

Prof. Hannes van Staden (Vice-president)

vanstadenj@botany.sun.ac.za

Prof. Ted Botha

t.botha@ru.ac.za

Dr Nigel Barker

barker@rrobot.ru.ac.za

Dr Sandra du Plessis

plbsd@puknet.puk.ac.za

Mr Chris Willis

ckw@nbipre.nbi.ac.za

Prof. Gideon Smith

gfs@nbipre.nbi.ac.za

The executive committee consists of:

Dr Mike Cramer (Honorary treasurer)

mdc@land.sun.ac.za

Dr Bettie Marais (Honorary secretary)

emm@land.sun.ac.za

Permanent secretary

Dr Marianna Smith

forsaab@mweb.co.za

The SAJB editors are:

Professors Gideon Smith, Hannes van Staden and George Bredenkamp.

gbredenk@scientia.up.ac.za

Survey:

South African Journal of Botany

Globally, and especially in South Africa we are experiencing a time of change. Systems and structures do not function the way they used to simply because it was done that way for many years. The world around us is changing and therefore we cannot sit back and let things proceed in the way it happen 10 years ago. Because of this volatile situation, fast changing world, new policies on funding and where science is becoming more and more like a business; the editors were forced to review the situation of **South African Journal of Botany**. However, they do not want to do this on their own, and need the opinion of the SAAB members. Many thanks to the members who sent their forms back to the secretariat. In the next *Forum Botanicum* (June issue) feedback will be given on the way the members feel about the journal and how they see the future of the journal. In the meantime it was decided on the SAAB Annual General Meeting (14 January 2000) that the only 4 issues (instead of 6) per year would appear. This will save a considerable amount, in printing as well as postage. To the three editors: Keep up the good work, and the overwhelming majority of members responded so far is strongly in favour of SAJB.

Forum Botanicum donated to SAAB secretariat

When Dr Hugh Taylor passed away last year his wife donated his near complete set of *Forums* to the secretariat. We are grateful for this kind gesture. Many thanks to the Taylor family.

Due to the fact that SAAB does not have a permanent office, stationed at the same venue, and often moved during the past few years, the association lost their set of newsletters. This valuable part of the organisation's history would have been lost if it were not for people, like Dr Taylor, who religiously kept these documents. To date there are about three complete sets left in the South African Botanical fraternity.

The situation is not likely to change, and SAAB will move office many times in future. Thought must be given to establishing an archive somewhere to have these documents stored and preserved for the future.

Did you know?

Forum Botanicum was started completely independently by Drs Ted Oliver and John Jessop, in 1962. They started off by sending it to interested persons, and later it was introduced as the official newsletter of SAAB.

The newsletter was done on a typewriter and wax sheet then put through a roneo machine, to get the amount of copies required. This process left many of the o's and a's filled in. Drawings appearing in the newsletter were done by hand. The editors were not paid, but did it for the love of the matter. Wonderful to know our members were, and still are so dedicated.

Something makes one think people had less stress and more time on hand than in 2000. All this sounds very romantic, but I still prefer *copy, cut, and paste!* QED.

Annual SAAB Meeting

The 26th Annual SAAB congress was held in Potchefstroom in January 2000. It was very well presented and many thanks to Professor Braam Pieterse and the Local Organising Committee for their hospitality.

Professor Ben-Erik van Wyk and his team will host the next congress. It will be held from 14 to 17 January 2001 at the Rand Afrikaans University. They have already sent the first announcement to members. It promises to be interesting and will focus on Ecology, Systematics, Ethnobotany and Physiology.

The organisers can be contacted at:

mts@na.rau.ac.za,

Fax: 011- 4892411

Tel: 011- 4892436, or visit the website at

<http://www.rau.ac.za/conf/saab2001>

Arid Zone Ecology Forum

14 – 17 August 2000
Kliprand Recreational Hall,
Kakamas.

Themes:

1. Alternative (tenure systems) to non-sustainable pastoralism:
 - Subsidised destocking
 - Conservation
 - Agriculture and ecotourism
 - Specialist agriculture
2. Water in the arid zone:
Effects of water extraction (alien plants, tree survival, pans, animals, etc.)
 - Effects of water addition (watering points, overgrazing, etc.)
 - Water quality
 - Fauna
 - Nomadism
 - Biogeography

Call for posters/papers:

Poster/paper titles should reach Bettie de Beer by 25 April 2000. A short abstract (not more than 350 words) should follow, preferably by e-mail and reach Bettie not later than 26 July 2000.

Ms Bettie de Beer

Tel: (012) 481-4034

Fax: (012) 481-4005

e-mail: Bettie@NRF.ac.za

Dr Klaus Keller

Tel: (021) 481-4034

Fax: (021) 481-4005

e-mail: PLBKK@puknet.puk.ac.za