

President's Message

George Lazarovits

On this, my last "Mot du président" I take the opportunity to thank the society for the great honour that was bestowed upon me being selected as President of the Canadian Phytopathological Society. I want to convey a special thanks to the very capable members of the CPS Board and the numerous volunteer chairs and participants of committees who helped me in the decision making required to carry out our daily business. Only as I commenced organizing all my correspondence and emails did I come to appreciate the level of activity that occurred over the year within the Society. To those individuals who commented to me about articles that I wrote in the *CPS-SCP News*, I thank you for taking the time to do this.

A large part of my decision for selecting plant pathology as a career was based on the fact that I really appreciated the people that work in it. For the majority of plant pathologists the work is not only a job, but also a hobby, and a spiritual base. I relish our common love for nature, for knowledge, and for discovery, all inherent to the persona of the members of this organization. Furthermore, I believe that plant pathologists are vital to the security of Canada and the world. We, the CPS society, must



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provide to our members the support, encouragement, appreciation, and recognition they deserve for the highly valuable enterprise they pursue.

Attending several regional meetings as part of my duties this year, I discovered the Society to be vibrant and energized. The warm hospitality I received was much appreciated. Special thanks to Bruce Gossen and Sue Boyetchko for organizing the very successful joint meeting of the Saskatchewan Branch of CPS and the Plant Pathology Society of Alberta in Lloydminster. It

was one of the most exciting regional meetings that I ever attended. It was made even more memorable in that I was able to present two certificates of appreciation to Karen Bai-

ley for her work as Director of the Board and Chairman of the Marketing Committee for DFCC and to Lorne Duczek, my classmate, for the many years he served as membership secretary. I thank Andrew Frowd for organizing the meeting of the Eastern Ontario Region of CPS and EECCO held on February 7th in Ottawa. Andrew left almost the next day for a three-year stint as Senior Country Project Officer of FAO-RAFR in Accra, Ghana. We all wish Andrew a very successful stay. This meeting was of particular note as we honored the retirements of Winston Johnston, a long time member of CPS and of Lloyd Seaman, the technical editor of the *Canadian Journal of Plant Pathology* for over two decades. I also had the chance to thank Connie Bowerman for her work at editing the Journal for almost as many years as Lloyd. Lloyd and Connie, we can never thank you enough for your dedication to this organization. Dr. Diane Cuppels organized the Western Ontario Regional CPS meetings in London this May. It was a great meeting with two very exciting seminars by Sheng Yang He (Michigan State University) and Verna Higgins. Verna's review of 65 years

“... my decision for selecting plant pathology as a career was based on the fact that I really appreciated the people that work in it. For the majority of plant pathologists the work is not only a job, but also a hobby, and a spiritual base.”

of research on tomato leaf mold (carried out as a model system at the University of Toronto) reiterated that we are lucky if in a career we can put one or two good quality bricks on this house of knowledge.

The CPS Board has taken a pro-active step in ensuring the continuing development of our journal by assigning publication to the National Research Council. Zamir Punja and the Journal Improvement Committee deserve our gratitude for their efforts. NRC publishes a series of journals that are recognized for excellence in transmitting re-

search. It is therefore fitting that we attach the flag of our Society to this organization. It is, however, unlikely that this is the last change that we will need to make to ensure the success

and survival of *CJPP*. Greg Boland sent me an article by T.J. Walker (<http://www.amsci.org/amsci/articles/98articles/walker.html>), *American Scientist* 1998, Sept.-Oct., pp. 463-471, that details how small societies such as ours can publish an electronic journal on the Internet, provide it free to all users, and yet make a profit. Electronic articles can be downloaded from the Net in a format identical to that used by our journal. Color photos, or even video clips, can be included at no extra cost. Libraries would save millions in reduced shelf space alone. Publication and storage costs are about \$3 per page. If the society retains the \$45 page charge a very significant profit can be realized. At \$45, we lose money in the hard copy format. The revenue generated can then be used to foster other Society activities.

We are well on the way to improving the electronic communications with our membership thanks to Vikram Bisht. In the long run such a service will save the Society money and will allow for more rapid and convenient communications. Over the year we received several requests from compa-



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nies interested in obtaining the mailing list of our members for use to advertise books or to solicit Journal subscriptions. The Board implemented a policy to provide this list for a single use for a fee, on a case-by-case basis. We realize that this may impose on some members. If you do not want solicitation, we will gladly remove your name at your request.

I have initiated a request to the Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, as well as the senior managers, to consider implementing an American-Canadian Agricultural Research and Development Agreement that will fund collaborative research between scientists of the two countries. The American Phytopathological Society agreed to support this initiative from the US side. Carol Windels, president of APS, has sent out the same letter to the Secretary of Agriculture and other senior managers. The US and Israel have had such an agreement in place for over twenty five years. There is a great need for a research program that will enhance research on shared US-Canadian plant pathology problems. To get such an agreement implemented we will need some aggressive lobbying and this can only come from individuals, as well as grower and industry groups. If you need a copy of this letter just ask me. I will try to see if I can post a copy of it on our website. I ask you to forward that letter to any interested

party and ask them to send a letter of support to the DM or to their MP. If they hear from enough people we may have a chance of getting this program off the ground.

I hope to see all of you in Montreal where we meet with APS for the first time in a decade. Tim Paulitz, the APS staff, and members of both societies have worked very hard to provide us all with a joint program that will enhance the exchange of knowledge across our borders. We have a very exciting plenary program planned. This year we will have the Glenn Anderson lecture, in honour of the Canadian scientist who, hand-in-hand with Norman Borlaugh, made miraculous improvements in the world's food supply. The lecture will be presented by Dr. Per Pinstrup-Anderson who is the Director General of the International Food Policy Research Institute. This is a Washington, D.C.-based, internationally funded organization established in 1975 to identify and analyse policies for meeting the food needs of the developing world. We hope you will enjoy and benefit from this and all the other great programs planned.

Wishing all of you a safe trip.

George Lazarovits

Mot du président

George Lazarovits

Le message d'adieu de George.

Je profite de l'occasion que m'offre ce dernier « Mot du président » pour remercier la Société du grand honneur qui m'a été fait en m'élisant président de la Société Canadienne de Phytopathologie. Je veux particulièrement remercier les très compétents membres du Conseil de la SCP et les nombreux présidents et membres bénévoles des comités qui m'ont aidé à prendre les décisions requises à la bonne conduite des affaires courantes. Ce n'est que lorsque j'ai commencé à mettre de l'ordre dans mon courrier, tant papier qu'électronique, que j'ai pu me rendre compte de toute l'activité qui se produit au sein de la Société au cours d'une année. Je remercie tous ceux qui ont pris le temps de m'envoyer leurs commentaires à propos des articles que j'ai écrits dans le *CPS-SCP News*.

Mon choix de carrière comme phytopathologiste a été largement influencé par l'estime que j'ai des gens qui travaillent en phytopathologie. Pour la plupart de ces gens, la phytopathologie n'est pas qu'un travail, c'est aussi un divertissement et une inspiration spirituelle. Je réfère à l'amour pour la nature, la connaissance et la découverte, un sentiment commun aux personnes de cette organisation. De plus, je crois que les phytopathologistes sont essentiels à la sécurité du Canada et du monde. Nous, de la SCP, devons procurer à nos membres le soutien, l'encouragement, l'estime et la reconnaissance qu'ils méritent pour la précieuse entreprise qu'ils mènent.

Cette année, lors de ma participation à plusieurs réunions régionales dans le cadre de ma charge, j'ai découvert que la Société était vivante et vigoureuse. J'ai apprécié le chaud accueil que j'ai reçu partout. Je remercie en particulier Bruce Gossen et Sue Boyetchko pour

l'organisation, à Lloydminster, de la très réussie réunion conjointe de la région de la Saskatchewan de la SCP et de la Plant Pathology Society of Alberta. Ce fut une des réunions régionales les plus intéressantes auxquelles j'ai assisté dans ma vie. J'en garde un souvenir d'autant plus vif que j'ai pu y présenter deux certificats de reconnaissance : un à Karen Bailey pour son travail comme directrice du Conseil et présidente du Comité de marketing pour le volume DFCC, et un autre à Lorne Duczek, mon compagnon de classe, pour les nombreuses années de service comme secrétaire du Service aux membres. Je remercie Andrew Frowd pour l'organisation de la réunion de la région de l'est de l'Ontario de la SCP, et de l'EECCO, tenue le 7 février à Ottawa. Andrew est pratiquement parti le jour suivant pour une assignation de 3 ans à Accra, au Ghana, comme responsable principal de projet pour la FAO-RAFR. Nous souhaitons tous à Andrew un séjour des plus réussis. Cette réunion avait un accent particulier puisque nous avons souligné les retraites de Winston Johnson, un membre de longue date de la SCP, et de Lloyd Seaman, directeur de la *Revue canadienne de phytopathologie* durant plus de deux décennies. J'ai aussi eu la chance de remercier Connie Bowerman pour son travail de correction-révision à la Revue durant presque aussi longtemps que Lloyd. Lloyd et Connie, nous ne pourrons jamais assez vous remercier de votre dévouement envers cette organisation. Le Dr Diane Cuppels a organisé à London, en mai dernier, la réunion de la région de l'ouest de l'Ontario de la SCP. Ce fut une magnifique réunion avec deux présentations très intéressantes par Sheng Yang He (Michigan State University) et Verna Higgins. Le compte rendu de Verna sur 65 ans de recherche sur la moisissure olive de la tomate (utilisée comme modèle d'étude à l'Université de Toronto) nous a rappelé que nous pouvons nous considérer chanceux si nous pouvons ajouter une ou deux briques de qualité à l'édifice de la connaissance.

Le Conseil de la SCP a proactivement franchi une étape afin d'assurer le développement continu de notre revue en accordant sa publication au Conseil national de recherches du Canada. Zamir Punja et le Comité d'amélioration de la revue méritent notre gratitude pour leurs efforts. Le CNRC publie une collection de journaux reconnus pour leur excellence dans la communication de la recherche. Il était alors approprié que nous hissions l'étandard de notre Société au côté de celui de cette organisation. Par contre, il est peu probable que ce soit le d e r n i e r c h a n g e m e n t nécessaire pour assurer le succès et la survie de la RCP. Greg Boland

m'a transmis un article de T.J. Walker (<http://amsci.org./amsci/articles/98articles/walker.html>, *American Scientist* 1998, Sept-Oct, pp 463-471) qui détaille comment de petites sociétés comme la nôtre peuvent publier un journal électronique sur Internet, le laisser en accès libre, et faire un profit malgré tout. Les articles électroniques peuvent être téléchargés du net dans un format identique à celui utilisé dans notre revue. Des photos en couleurs, et même des séquences vidéo, peuvent être incluses sans coût supplémentaire. Les bibliothèques sauveraient des millions juste en espace de rangement économisé. Les coûts de publication et d'hébergement sont d'environ 3 \$ par page. Si la Société conserve ses coûts par page à 45 \$, un important profit pourrait être réalisé. À 45 \$, nous perdons de l'argent en publiant sur support de papier. Les revenus générés pourraient être investis à développer d'autres activités de la Société.

Nous sommes sur le point d'améliorer les communications électroniques avec nos membres grâce à Vikram Bisht. À long terme, un service comme celui proposé permettra à la Société d'économiser de l'argent et rendra les communications plus

rapides et plus efficaces. Au cours de l'année, nous avons reçu plusieurs demandes de la part de compagnies désireuses d'obtenir la liste d'envoi de nos membres dans le but de faire de la publicité pour des livres ou pour solliciter des abonnements à des journaux. Le Conseil a instauré une politique qui vise à fournir, contre paiement, cette liste pour un usage unique, chaque demande devant être analysée séparément. Nous réalisons que certains de nos membres peuvent être

indisposés. Si vous ne voulez pas être sollicités, nous allons volontiers retirer votre nom sur demande.

J'ai pris l'initiative de

faire une demande au sous-ministre de l'Agriculture et de l'Agroalimentaire du Canada, et auprès de gestionnaires haut placés, afin qu'ils envisagent la signature d'une Entente Canado-Américaine de Recherche et de Développement en Agriculture qui permettrait le financement de la recherche en collaboration entre des scientifiques des deux pays. Du côté américain, l'American Phytopathological Society a accepté d'appuyer cette initiative. Carol Windels, présidente de l'APS, a envoyé une lettre identique au Secrétaire à l'agriculture et à d'autres gestionnaires haut placés. Les États-Unis et Israël ont une telle entente depuis plus de vingt-cinq ans. Il y a un important besoin pour un programme de recherche visant à améliorer la recherche canado-américaine sur des problèmes communs de phytopathologie. Pour qu'une telle entente soit signée, nous aurons besoin d'un lobby agressif qui ne pourra venir que d'individus et de groupes de producteurs ou de l'industrie. Si vous avez besoin d'une copie de cette lettre, demandez-la moi. Je vais essayer de voir si je peux la mettre sur notre site web. Je vous demande de transmettre cette lettre à toutes les personnes impliquées et de leur demander

« Mon choix de carrière comme phytopathologiste a été largement influencé par l'estime que j'ai des gens qui travaillent en phytopathologie. Pour la plupart de ces gens, la phytopathologie n'est pas qu'un travail, c'est aussi un divertissement et une inspiration spirituelle. »

d'écrire une lettre d'appui au sous-ministre ou à leur représentant au parlement. S'ils sont sollicités par suffisamment de personnes, nous avons une chance de faire décoller ce programme. J'espère vous rencontrer tous à Montréal où nous nous réunirons avec l'APS pour la première fois de la décennie. Tim Paulitz, le personnel de l'APS et les membres des deux sociétés ont travaillé dur pour nous présenter un programme commun qui va améliorer les échanges de connaissance entre les deux côtés de la frontière. Une assemblée plénière avec un programme excitant a été préparée. Cette année, nous aurons la conférence Glenn Anderson, en honneur du scientifique canadien qui, de concert avec Norman Borlaugh, a apporté de miraculeuses améliorations à la production alimentaire mondiale. La conférence sera présentée par le Dr Per Pinstrup-Anderson, directeur général de l'International Food Policy Research Institute. Installée à Washington D.C. et créée en 1975, cette organisation dont le financement est international vise à identifier et analyser les politiques destinées à combler les besoins alimentaires des pays en développement. Nous espérons que vous allez apprécier et tirer grand profit de cet événement et des autres magnifiques activités prévues.

Je vous souhaite bon voyage.

George Lazarovits

Committee (and Other) Reports

Local Arrangements Committee for the 2000 Meeting in Victoria, BC

Our committee has plans well in hand for the Victoria meeting from June 18-21 when the Canadian Phytopathological Society will meet with the Pacific Division of the American Phytopathological Society. Our meeting will be held at the Victoria Conference Centre in downtown Victoria and arrangements have been made with two nearby hotels for accommodation. Our banquet will be held at Sooke and is sure to include a salmon barbecue. Our next task is to finalize the program. For future details on registration, accommodation and other matters, check out our website at:

www.uvcs.uvic.ca/conf/cps_aps/

Submitted by Jack Sutherland

London, ON 2001

Lethbridge, AB 2002

Ad Hoc Committee on International Cooperation

It was not possible to meet as a full committee this year. However, I am able to report on several interesting and promising developments in the area of international cooperation.

One of the mandates of this Ad Hoc Committee is to "foster contacts between CPS and other plant pathology societies." Hence, contacts were made with the Plant Pathology Society in India through Professor A. Varma to discuss possible liaison between scientists in these two countries. It was decided to prepare short announcements for this purpose from both parties and publish them in the journal *Indian Phytopathology* and in the *CPS-SCP News*. An announcement to this effect is being prepared and will soon be sent to Professor Varma for publication. Professor Varma is also the Vice-President of the International Society of Plant Pathology. Contacts were also established with Professor Tang Wenhua of the Chinese Society of Plant Pathology regarding collaborations between scientists from our two countries. Professor Wenhua has also expressed interest in this area and I plan to pursue this

further when I visit P.R. China later this year. Dr. Lu Piening has an active collaborative research program in P.R. China and introduced me to a scientist from Inner Mongolia. This scientist has now applied for funding from the China Scholarship Council, Beijing and if successful, may be able to come to Canada later this year. CPS members with interest in research collaborations with scientists from P.R. China may like to explore funding their visits through this agency. In fact, I have presently a scientist from P.R. China sponsored through this agency working in my group for one year. In the very near future, I will be visiting the Czech University of Agriculture in Prague, Czech Republic. The Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics, University of Alberta has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with this University in Prague and during my visit there I will explore areas of cooperation with their Plant Pathology Society.

Another mandate of this committee is "promoting exchanges of scientists and students." Funds for such activities from international sources have been shrinking fast for several years. There is a need to discuss alternative strategies to overcome this funding shortage for this very worthwhile activity. As a result of the Free Trade Agreements with some Latin American countries and more perhaps to follow, this part of the world is fast becoming a focus of activity and deserves the attention of our Society. Being Chair of our Faculty's International Programs Committee and especially focusing on Latin America, I have been able to establish close contacts with many plant pathologists in that region. I am inviting anyone in the CPS with interest in developing contacts in that region to get in touch with me for further details.

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Please note the change in my area code.

Information Products Marketing

This relatively new committee has met by conference call since the inaugural meeting in Fredericton last June.

There are two major issues that the committee is currently dealing with. The first is how to best publish and market any of the information products that the CPS now has or will produce in the future. At present this is all done on a volunteer basis with the exception of the book *Diseases and Pests of Vegetable Crops in Canada*, which is handled by the Canadian Entomological Society. A subcommittee, under the direction of Marilyn Dykstra (Lab Services Division, University of Guelph) is looking at alternative means of publishing, marketing and/or distributing these products.

A second major issue, closely tied to the first, is the development of an Intellectual Property Policy for the CPS. Bruce Gossen (AAFC, Saskatoon) is chairing the subcommittee that will draft a policy for presentation to the Board.

Another general topic that the committee will look at on an ongoing basis is the demand and potential for future projects such as slide sets, or CD-ROMs of existing publications or new material. Any suggestions or volunteers to work on a new project will be warmly welcomed.

In the meantime, marketing and sales continue. A poster advertising all of the CPS publications was on display at the International Congress of Plant Pathology in Edinburgh last year and also found its way to some international meetings held in the United States. Karen Bailey (AAFC, Saskatoon) reports that *Diseases of Field Crops in Canada* continues to sell briskly thanks, in part, to a dedicated sales team of CPS members in the west. As of January 1999, there were 1469 soft cover English copies of *Diseases and Pests of Vegetable Crops in Canada* remaining and 712 French language copies. There were 132 copies of the English language version sold in the past year. Another aim of this committee is to sell the remaining copies of

the first printing quickly, to relieve the financial stress on the CPS and on the co-publisher, the ESC.

The CPS publications *Diseases of Field Crops in Canada* and *Diseases and Pests of Vegetable Crops in Canada* will be on sale at the CPS booth at the joint CPS/APS Meetings in Montreal.

Submitted by:

Mary Ruth McDonald, Chair

Diseases of Field Crops in Canada

Book sales of *Diseases of Field Crops in Canada* have been relatively high for a number of years as interest in plant diseases has increased. For the period of January 1 to December 31, the number of books shipped from the MOM Printing warehouse have been as follows: 494 books in 1994, 1097 books in 1995, 1195 books in 1996, 1019 in 1997, and 1744 in 1998. The large increase in sales in 1998 was due to a one-time order of 1240 books by a single company. Since the start of 1999 (January 1 to April 30, there have been 160 books shipped from the stock. My projection for sales for 1999 is down to 600-800 books. We have 2935 books left in the inventory.

Respectfully submitted by,

K.L. Bailey

CPS Website Report

<http://res.agr.ca/lond/pmrc/cps/cps/home.html>

The purposes of the CPS website are to provide information to members in a timely manner and to assist in promoting the Society to the public at large. The website resides on server space provided by the Southern Crop Protection and Food Research Centre of AAFC. Web usage statistics collected during Jan-May 1999 show that the CPS home page receives an average of 85 hits per week; the "jobs available" page receives about 44 hits per week. Revisions to the website over the past year have included the addition in mid-April

(1999) of research abstracts of the 1999 annual meeting, minor changes to some graphic elements, and new pages for CPS committees. The continued support of Bruce Bowman and AAFC in maintaining this site is gratefully acknowledged. CPS members who want to comment on the site or who have specific suggestions for the site may email me at:

reelederR@em.agr.ca

Canadian Journal of Plant Pathology

Volume 20 (1998) was printed as four issues with a total of 445 pages plus 20 pages of index and other information to authors. Three issues contained articles dealing with a general mix of pathological articles, while the December issue contained papers from the Third International Workshop on Tan Spot of Wheat, held in 1997. The volume carried 58 articles including symposium and workshop papers. The manuscripts were mainly from Canada (41), USA (11) and one each from Australia, Brazil, the Czech Republic, India, Israel and the Netherlands. Abstracts from the regional meetings held in Alberta (6), British Columbia (25), Manitoba (6), Western Ontario (10) and of the annual meetings held in 1997 in Winnipeg (63 abstracts) and in 1998 in Fredericton (46 abstracts) were published during the year. The editorial staff processed 75 manuscripts during the year including symposia and workshop papers, of which 60 were accepted and 6 rejected or withdrawn, and 11 were being revised when this report was prepared. The volume 20 (4) was distributed in Canada (356), USA (177) and 31 other countries (167) for a total 700. The year 1998 was significant in that the Journal Improvement Committee and the CPS Board approved the change of publisher from M.O.M. printing to NRC Press. It is hoped that under the professional management of NRC Press, *CJPP* publication would be timely and rapid.

The Editor-in-Chief was assisted by Technical Editor Lloyd Seaman, Copy Editor Connie Bowerman, Journal Accounts Manager Bob Hall, nine Section Editors, Les Traductions PaRi (abstract translations), reviewers of manuscripts and Andrea Dilworth (Editorial Assistant). The Editor-in-Chief would like to thank these hard working people, the authors who supported the journal by submitting manuscripts, and the sustaining associates.

Submitted by

Rudra P. Singh, Editor-in-chief, *CJPP*

CPS-SCP News

Prior to the 1998 AGM in Fredericton, the CPS Board, much to my delight, increased the budget allocation for the newsletter by 25%. That welcome infusion allowed me to obtain a cable internet connection and a dedicated email address for correspondence pertaining to my desktop publication (>90% of the items in the newsletter arrive by email). Another change that should be evident to readers of the last two issues is "direct from zip-disk to printer" production which makes for vastly improved photo reproduction. I urge all submitters and correspondents to consider how much better their items would appear with an appropriate picture or graphic. We have also made a financial agreement with PaRi for continued translation of the President's Message. Si vous desirez utiliser le services de traduction pour vos documents (submissions), we should be able to foot the bill.

The cost of production for the last four issues (June, Sept. and Dec. '98, and March '99) amounted to \$4,452.44.

One improvement that I plan to adopt before we meet in Montreal is the conversion of the *CPS-SCP News* to a format that Rick Reeleder can post on the CPS website. PDF may be the route for the near future - html at some later point.

Submitted by

David Kaminski, Editor *CPS-SCP News*

CPS Regional Reports

British Columbia

The 1998 annual meeting of the B.C. Regional Group was held in Abbotsford on October 22 and 23 and was organized by the B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Food. A complete report on this regional meeting can be found in the December 1998 issue of *CPS-SCP News*. The next meeting will be organized by the Pacific Agri-Food Research Centre of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Summerland, and will start the afternoon of October 19th, following immediately the 1999 Western Forum in Penticton. Guus Bakkeren is the contact person (BakkerenG@em.agr.ca) for this meeting. Victoria, B.C., will be hosting the year 2000 joint meeting of the Canadian Phytopathological Society and the Pacific Division of The American Phytopathological Society from June 18 to 21. Please check the web page: www.uvcs.uvic.ca/conf/cps_aps/ and help the organizers by filling out the "Level of Interest Survey."

Submitted by

C. André Lévesque, B.C. rep 1997/99.

Western Ontario

The annual meeting of the Western Ontario division of CPS was held at the Southern Crop Protection and Food Research Centre (SCPFRC)(AAFC) in London, Ontario, on May 7, 1999 (3-8 pm). The theme of this year's meeting, attended by 63 scientists from various universities and research centres throughout the region, was molecular plant-microbe interactions. Regional chair Dr. Diane Cuppels and CPS President, Dr. George Lazarovits welcomed attendees. The two invited speakers were Dr. Sheng Yang He ('Molecular Biology of Plant - *Pseudomonas syringae* Interactions'), Plant Pathology Department, Michigan State University, and Dr. Verna Higgins ('Leaf Mould of Tomato: Sixty-Five Years as a Model System'), Botany Department, University of Toronto. Immediately following these two very interesting talks, **Dr. Blair MacNeill** (Emeritus, University

of Guelph) gave a moving tribute to the recently deceased **Dr. Wilbert McKeen**. At the short business meeting preceding the buffet supper, attention was drawn to the CPS display table (prepared by **Mario Tenuta**) which included CPS books, the Canadian Journal of Plant Pathology, the most recent Plant Disease Survey and membership brochures. Students who presently are not CPS members were encouraged to take home one of the brochures. Western Ontario CPS members were reminded that CPS national meeting will be held in London in the year 2001 and that the local organizing committee is in need of volunteers to help prepare for this event. The new regional rep for Western Ontario is **Dr. Annette Nassuth**; next year's meeting will be held at the University of Guelph.

Sincere appreciation goes to all those who helped us prepare for this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Cuppels, Western Ontario Representative

Membership Secretary's Report

In 1999, twenty-five new people joined CPS as individual members. Geographical distribution was as follows: Ontario - 9, Manitoba - 6, British Columbia - 4, Saskatchewan - 2, Alberta - 2, Quebec - 1, Uruguay - 1.

Dr. ABBASI, Pervaiz A. (Ontario)

BAKKEREN, Guus (British Columbia)

Dr. DE LA BASTIDE, Paul Y. (British Columbia)

DEWDNEY, Megan (Quebec)

DOWNING-ARYEETAY, Joanne (Saskatchewan)

FOULDS, Inge Viiia (Ontario)

GAMBA, Fernanda M. (Uruguay)

JURKEMIKOVA, Claudie (British Columbia)

KERS, Johan (Ontario)

LIU, Yiqiang (Manitoba)

MADARIAGA, Alfredo (Ontario)

Dr. MARTIN, Philip M.D. (Ontario)

Dr. McCALLUM, Brent (Manitoba)

Dr. MCLAREN, Debbie (Manitoba)

MELLERSH, Denny Graham (Ontario)

Dr. MILLER, S. Shea (Ontario)

Dr. MPOFU, Simangaliphi I. (Manitoba)

OVERY, David (Ontario)

PRADHAN, Manika (Manitoba)

TURNBULL, Gary (Manitoba)

TURNBULL, George (Alberta)

Dr. UZUNOVIC, Adnan (British Columbia)

WANG, Heping (Alberta)

WEST, L. Jeanine A. (Ontario)

ZHU, Bin (Saskatchewan)

Sustaining Associate Members

Nineteen companies have become sustaining associate members; *those in bold are new in 1999.*

AGDIA INC. - Attn: Baziel Vrient

AGRICULTURAL CERTIFICATION SERVICES INC. - Attn: **Dr. Mathuresh Singh**

AGREVO CANADA INC. - Attn: D. Trottier

AG-QUEST INC. - Attn: **Dr. Vikram Bisht**

AG-WEST BIOTECH INC. - Attn: Mr. Peter McCann

BAYER INC. - Attn: Dr. V. M. Sorensen

CYANAMID CROP PROTECTION - Attn: Ron S. Pidskalny

DOW AGROSCIENCES CANADA INC. - Attn: Dr. Peter Desai / Brenda Harris

DUPONT CANADA AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS - Attn: Dr. Brenda Walsh

GRIFFIN L.L.C. - Attn: Dr. Bond McInnes

PHILOM BIOS INC. - Attn: Dr. Mary Leggett

PHYTO DIAGNOSTICS CO. LTD. - Attn: **Peter J. Ellis**

PIONEER HI-BRED PRODUCTION LIMITED - Attn: Igor Falak

PLANT PRODUCTS CO. LTD. - Attn: Jennifer Hale

ROHM AND HAAS CANADA INC. - Attn: A. G. McFadden

ROY LEGUMEX INC. - Attn: Mr. Florent Beaudette

SVALOF WEIBULL SEED LTD. - Attn: Dr. Howard K. Love

UNITED AGRI PRODUCTS - Attn: **Irwin Schmidt**

ZENECA AGRO - Attn: Brad Smith

Employment & Scholarships

MSc Graduate Assistantships (2 positions):

Available September, 1999. University of Manitoba, Department of Plant Science.

■ We are seeking a highly qualified and motivated individual to conduct research on the blackleg disease of canola. The project will involve field and lab work, to understand the distribution and population biology of the fungus including the genetic characterization of isolates using molecular tools. Students interested in plant pathology/molecular biology/microbiology are encouraged to apply.

■ Graduate research assistantship to examine the epidemiology and population dynamics of the blackleg fungus of canola, in relation to environmental conditions and cropping practices in the prairies. Students interested in plant pathology/agronomy/agroecology or related fields are encouraged to apply.

Send resume to Dr. Dilantha Fernando, Department of Plant Science, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2

E-mail: D_Fernando@UManitoba.ca

Graduate Studies in Molecular Biology

Exciting opportunities are available for graduate studies on genes involved in the interaction between plants and microbial plant pathogens. Funding is available through the NSERC Industrial Postgraduate Scholarship Program. Students must have an A- or better average and some undergraduate course work in molecular biology. Research will be conducted at both the University of Guelph and a research laboratory in Copenhagen, Denmark. The laboratory in Copenhagen is English-speaking and no foreign language skills are required. For more information about the cooperating institution, please check www.crc.dk/phys. The stipend is \$19,300 per year. Over 80% of the students applying for this type of award are successful.

If interested, please contact:

Dr. Paul Goodwin
Department of Environmental Biology
University of Guelph
Guelph, ON N1G 2W1

Phone: (519) 824-4120 Ext. 2754

Fax: (519) 837-0442

E-mail: pgoodwin@uoguelph.ca

People

Simangaliphi I. Mpofu (Sima) recently completed her Ph.D. at the University of Guelph under the supervision of **Robert Hall**. The thesis title was "Population biology and management of *Verticillium dahliae* in potato fields in Ontario." Sima currently holds a Canadian Laboratories Visiting Fellowship at AAFC, Morden Research Centre in Manitoba. She is working on Fusarium wilt of flax in collaboration with **Khalid Rashid**.

Contact the Editor

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Saskatoon, SK S7N 1E5

I am more than a little disappointed that no one took me up on my offer to print their favorite mispronunciations of plant diseases and causal organisms. Could it be that no one reads this tiny corner of the newsletter? Sigh. It wouldn't be the first time that all the angst I pour into regurgitating other people's words is all for naught.

I choose to look on the bright side though and imagine that there is ONE person out there who finds and enjoys these ramblings. We had a summer solstice party here the other night (45 people including about 30 children, aged 1 to 13) for no other reason than to celebrate the longest day of the year. There were two ripping thunderstorms but this did not undermine our enjoyment of food, drink, comradery and the hit of the night - "glow sticks." I did notice that most of the neighborhood was in bed, light out, before 10 (week night and all) but . . . their loss. Here's to life!

Ed.

Coming Events

The annual meeting of the **Canadian Forum for Biological Control** will be held in Saskatoon on Thursday, September 30, 1999. This meeting is to follow the Entomological Society of Canada conference. A symposium on the topic of "Mass-production, Fermentation and Delivery" has been organized and the list of speakers is being finalized. Also, a tour of the Saskatchewan Research Council Fermentation Pilot Plant has been planned. A scientific program in the form of posters is also being coordinated.

For those wishing to attend and bring posters, *submission of a title and authors will be required by August 31, 1999* in order to arrange for sufficient poster boards. Those who wish to participate in the tour of the fermentation pilot plant should notify Sue Boyetchko of your intent to facilitate coordination of the tour.

For more information, please contact:

Susan Boyetchko
Saskatoon Research Centre
107 Science Place
Saskatoon, SK S7N 0X2
Phone: (306) 956-7619
Fax: (306) 956-7247
E-mail: BoyetchkoS@em.agr.ca

The **Plant Pathology Society of Alberta** is holding its 20th annual meeting in Jasper on November 8-10, 1999. The meeting will be held at the beautiful Sawridge Hotel starting with a wine and cheese reception on Monday evening. The world-renowned naturalist and author of Handbook of the Canadian Rockies, Ben Gadd will be the guest speaker at the banquet on Tuesday evening. Bring your copy for an autograph or this is your opportunity to acquire this excellent book. More information regarding details of the meeting and a call for papers and posters will be sent out to members in the few weeks.

For more information contact:

Lorraine Harrison
President, PPSA
Phone: (780) 354-5153
E-mail: lorraine.harrison@agric.gov.ab.ca

Tom Staples
Registration Committee member
Phone: (780) 837-2211
E-mail: tom.staples@agric.gov.ab.ca

Dutch Elm Disease in Alberta

Janet Feddes-Calpas

AAFRD DED Program Coordinator

The lab analysis of a sample taken from a dying elm tree in Wainwright, Alberta on June 25, 1998 has confirmed that the Dutch elm disease fungus *Ophiostoma nova-ulmi* was the cause of its demise. An employee of STOPDED reported the tree while completing the elm inventory in Wainwright. The culture was inspected by Dr. Tewari at the U of A, and confirmed on March 31, 1999 by Professor Clive Brasier at the Forestry Authority Research Station, U.K. Professor Brasier was the one who first described the new virulent strain of Dutch elm disease, *O. nova-ulmi*.

DED is a deadly fungus that can affect any elm tree. Two beetle vectors, the smaller European elm bark beetle (SEEBB) and the native elm bark beetle (NEBB), primarily spread the disease from one elm tree to another. Since the introduction of the disease from Europe in 1930, it has destroyed millions of American elm trees across North America. DED is prevalent in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Montana.

The infected tree was removed and burned at the Wainwright dump on July 28, 1998. The tree was treated as having DED although the results were not final at that time. Additional pheromone traps were placed throughout the municipality but no beetles were found. It is still unknown which vector was present. All the remaining elm trees were surveyed for DED on three separate occasions but no other samples tested positive for DED. It is believed that firewood brought into the province from a DED-infested area was the source of the infection.

This season monitoring for the beetles, surveillance of the elm trees and public awareness in Wainwright and the surrounding area will be increased. The town of Wainwright parks department is in the process of removing all the old dead elm trees that were identified in the elm inventory. Pruning of the dead wood in the healthy elms will be done between October 1, 1999 - March 31, 2000. It is not recommended to prune elms between April 1 and September 30 when the beetles are active and would be attracted to pruning wounds.

The Society to Prevent Dutch Elm Disease (STOPDED) along with AAFRD has made a commitment to keep Alberta's elms free of the disease. In March of 1997, STOPDED received a Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC) Transitional Job Fund grant of 1.37 million dollars. These funds were match by the larger municipalities and AAFRD and within the last two years, approximately 2.8 million dollars have been spent on the Province-Wide DED Prevention Program. This program includes several components: elm inventory, public awareness, firewood control, tree sanitation (removal of dead wood), beetle monitoring and surveillance for the disease.

March 31, 1999, STOPDED completed an elm inventory in every Alberta municipality. It is now known that a total of 205,000 elms valued at \$500 million grow in Alberta urban areas. The condition and size of each elm tree were recorded. This information identifies areas where more intensive surveillance is necessary due to the number and/or condition of the elm trees. A complete elm inventory supplies the basic information necessary for an effective prevention program should DED appear in Alberta. AAFRD oversaw the design of a user-friendly computerized elm tree inventory program, which will allow each community to use the data as a management tool for the care of its elms. Along with a CD-ROM or hard copy of the inventory data, each community will receive recommendations on how to set up their own DED prevention program.

Municipal plantings of elms range from 10-50% of the overall tree plantings. Alberta cannot afford to lose a resource that provides so many environmental benefits. In Alberta landscaping, there is a very limited choice of trees, none of which approach the aesthetic beauty or suitability of the elm. Without an ongoing continuous prevention program the entire population of elms in a community can easily be lost within a few short years. **Alberta is still DED free.**

For more information on Dutch elm disease or the DED prevention program call the Provincial hotline by dialling 310-0000 (toll free within Alberta) and ask for 362-1300.

The following article is the first in a series solicited by Jim Menzies, associate editor of *CPS-SCP News*. The intent of the solicitation was to give 'managers' of plant pathologists a forum to express their views on the future role of plant pathology. In this instance, managers refers to people who influence the decision making processes which ultimately determines the scope and nature of the work conducted by plant pathologists. The influence may be direct, as supervisors, or indirect, through consultations with plant pathologists and their supervisors. Requests for submissions were made mostly to those working within Canada, but some requests were also tendered to people outside of Canada. They were given the freedom to discuss the issues that they felt were important, or with which they felt comfortable. They were also encouraged to give us their own opinions rather the policies of the organization they worked for, addressing the issues from as broad or as narrow a perspective as they wished. We appreciate their efforts and encourage you readers to use these articles as food for thought.

'Joined-up' Plant Health

The experience of teaching sometimes obliges the teacher to step back from the detail of everyday occupations and take a longer look. 'Getting back to basics' can be stimulating but at the same time rather daunting. It is this experience which periodically prompts me to re-examine the strategies by which plants are kept in good health. The fact that the term 'plant health' traditionally has a statutory connotation and conversely, 'plant protection' implies use of agro-chemicals, gives cause for thought as to how 'joined up' is our approach to the problem of combating pests and diseases. Ideally, to counter the threat they pose to the world's plant population, whether crops, amenity subjects or wild plants, a co-ordinated or 'joined up' approach is essential. International strategies based on agreements which take account of the science of plant health are a

vital first base. However, such agreements achieved on the basis of advice from a 'plant health' perspective must be recognised and supported by both the extension pathologist and the researcher. An assembly of the participants for planning the battle might see the plant health practitioner with the legislation to hand and an inspector close by, the extension pathologist with his muddy boots and pest disease guide and the research scientist, stereo typically with an unworldly appearance and probably looking under a stone to see what is there! In a general sense, of necessity, the efforts of these representative scientists are combined, but it is interesting to speculate to what extent this 'war' against pests and diseases might be won more effectively if there was greater interaction.

In discussing the general concept of maintaining healthy plants in a teaching context, the first hurdle is often to reassert the value of strategies such as avoidance, eradication or containment. The concepts of legal empowerment, of international consultation and agreement and pursuance of common standards seem however, to get lost under the false impression of dusty legal approaches and political constraint. The use of pesticides still appears to be the more popular choice, even when (or perhaps sometimes because) the opportunity for their deployment is constrained by modern environmental concerns. Perhaps more popular these days is to envisage the universal solution to be plants rendered unassailable by genetic-modification. This narrow vision may not be wholly confined to undergraduate students and may in part be the consequence of many different influences.

The concept of 'joined-up' plant health is perhaps most achievable on a regional, national or international scale, although its consequences have relevance at the lowest level. It is however, this requirement to 'fit the bigger picture' which contrarily imposes limits on the execution of the co-operation which is desirable. The quest for 'joined-up' plant health is often constrained by a number of factors, none

of which are related to the scientific concepts involved. Political concerns inevitably alter the perception of the plant health scientist who will be expected to balance risks in the context of the majority or the national or international crop community, to the probable detriment of the individual or small group. This approach is anathema to the extension pathologist. By contrast a 'commercial' approach where overall profit may modify the strategy for plant health is not difficult to postulate and this is particularly evident where ownership and exploitation of intellectual property may be a factor. Such considerations have immediate relevance to the researcher, not simply in terms of the practical value of the research but also of its publication and wider access to the rest of the scientific community. Increasingly as scientific establishments are 'tipped-out' of the government funding pool and forced to seek funding competitively, the freedom of information and the propensity to interact becomes more and more limited.

All these difficulties are set against a tide of increase in the size of the job to be done. The increasing volume of world and regional trade, its speed and diversity brings an increasing number of new plants and new pests to threaten them. Crop plants are more regularly grown in unfamiliar environments, made to develop earlier or bigger or by genetic modification to develop new traits. All these provide an opportunity for novel pest invasion. The range of plant genera that can be called crops increases steadily but at the same time the nature of plants which merit protection or concern is extending. Amenity and wild plants are of increasing relevance. Thus there is ever greater need for all the available strategies for the pursuance of plant health to be available for use. More than ever before there is a need for 'joined-up' plant health.

Having cited political involvement as a potential constraint, it must be recognised that some international political events have effectively encouraged 'joined-up' plant health. The World Trade Organisa-

tion Sanitary and Phytosanitary agreement has proved highly effective in concentrating attention on pest and disease studies by ensuring that pest risk assessment provides the basis for justifying restraints in trade. Such risk assessment demands that full account be taken of relevant pests and diseases in terms of their occurrence and potential impact in the importing country. Thus the plant health specialist must interact with the extension practitioner and the researcher. From a European perspective there is greater pressure to encourage interaction of scientists from each of the exemplified sectors to collaborate to provide holistic solutions. Such integration is again easier to envisage on a multi-national scale than with smaller communities. Similarly beneficial in this context is the activity of the so-called Regional Plant Protection Organisations such as the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation and its North American counterpart. These and similar groupings have provided for an integrated discussion and development of strategies for plant health for many years. Whilst again, inevitably working from the international perspective, these organisations have developed solutions to plant health problems which extend beyond the limits of international trade and involve cure as well as avoidance.

In practice, the component scientists necessary to contribute to a 'joined-up' plant health strategy often work in different establishments. Research institutes, quarantine stations, extension organisations rarely exist side-by-side. The ideal of 'joined-up' plant health is perhaps therefore unachievable. However, perhaps one may hope that as distances and differences are reduced by the ever increasing ease of communication and the facility to share information electronically around the world, this physical constraint may be overcome. Whilst endeavouring to enthuse students with the thrills of avoidance through statutory controls may remain an uphill struggle, it may be that increasing exposure to world plant health concerns

through modern communications may gradually engender a realisation of the importance of the holistic approach of 'joined up' plant health.

The Central Science Laboratory houses the Plant Health Group which traditionally advises the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food (MAFF) of England and Wales on matters of Plant Health. As a consequence, many of its staff have a plant health perspective and consultancy in support of legislative controls for the UK and the European Union is a significant responsibility. Equally supportive within the Group are those involved with the laboratory support for the Plant Health and Seeds Inspectors who monitor and enforce the legislative control of plant pests and diseases. In recent years the Group has engendered a significant research programme with staff expertise geared specifically to advise consultants and diagnosticians in their support for MAFF. As a consequence there is increasing in-house research expertise in aspects of pest biology and in diagnostic techniques. Recent political pressure has encouraged efforts to seek alternative funding to reduce reliance on government. This has had the effect of stimulating greater involvement with commercial interests both inside the country and in Europe and further afield. Research focus has widened to encompass industry needs and the requirement to transfer technology effectively to the end-user. Thus from a traditional base of statutory scientific support the Group has grown to espouse research and extension interests. Interaction between the staff within the Group, stimulated by the ever present need to win financial support, engenders a 'joined-up' plant health approach. Researchers take advice on profitable topics for financial prospecting from those involved in statutory advice, the diagnosticians and those providing services and solutions to industry. The diagnosticians benefit from a research base and communicate effectively with those advising on statutory aspects of avoidance and control. Statutory controls can be integrated with

those driven more directly by commercial concerns.

Thus it seems possible to achieve a partly integrated approach to plant health on a limited scale, but the problem, if such it is, becomes greater on a larger scale. Interaction between scientists, particularly within a country seems likely to be made more difficult by the ever more common pressure to compete for limited funding. The increasingly imposed reliance on commercial sources of funding seems likely to encourage insularity and introspection. It is to be hoped that the counter pressure of our increased ability to communicate and share information worldwide will restrain this tendency. If it is to be successful in the battle against pests and diseases the world needs 'joined-up' plant health.

Prof. Stephen Hill
Head of Plant Health Group
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England

Books Available

Attention Readers:

I wish to donate six Russian texts (3 mycological, 1 virological, 1 horticultural [potato]) and an illustrated Hungarian textbook on tree fruit diseases to any plant pathologist who is willing to pay the postage charges. The three mycological texts (volumes 1-3 of a series) appear to deal with diseases of cereal grains, field crops and fruit crops, respectively, and contain black and white drawings; each text contains about 200 pages. They were published in Kiev from 1989-1991. The virological text is a treatise on virological investigations in the far east of Russia; it is subdivided into two sections, viruses and virus diseases of man and animals, and viruses and virus diseases of plants. It was published in 1969. The horticultural text is entitled "The Best Varieties of Potatoes" and was written by Zaicev, Maksimova and

Chernikova (1975, Moscow). It describes over 100 cultivars, each of which is beautifully illustrated by color paintings of flowers, leaves and tubers. I also have a book written by Douglas R. Knott (*The Wheat Rusts - Breeding for Resistance*, 1989) published as No. 12 in the Monographs on Theoretical and Applied Genetics.

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CPS Pins Available

Are you looking for the official CPS pins? If you are, Jim Menzies is now the "Keeper of the Pins." Andy Tekauz has handed the pins over to Jim after years of keeping track of them. Andy's service in this regard has certainly been appreciated. If you need a pin, or are interested in having them on sale at a meeting you will be attending, you can contact Jim Menzies at the Cereal Research Centre, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, 195 Dafoe Road, Winnipeg, MB R3P 2G8

Phone: (204) 983-5714
Fax: (204) 983-4604
E-mail: jmenzies@em.agr.ca.

Did you know what the CPS logo symbolizes? I thought I did, but after talking to Dr. Lloyd Seaman, it became apparent that I did not. The following is a brief history of the CPS logo and its symbolism.

The logo was chosen by a committee chaired by Dr. Ralph Estay during the mid-to late 1970's (before the first edition of the *Canadian Journal of Plant Pathology*). Dr. Estay and Art Skolko (at the time, the coordinator for plant pathology for Research Branch, Agriculture Canada) chose the winning design from dozens of candidate designs. The designer of the winning entry was Carl Halchuk, the chief graphic artist for Research Branch in Ottawa. The design represents a green healthy leaf (in the background) supporting mankind, as symbolized by the hand. The hand (mankind as plant pathologists) supports a leaf, the upper half being injured or diseased and the lower half being healthy. The logo symbolizes the interdependence of mankind with plants, indicating the role of plant pathology in supporting plant health. The green and gold colours also represent the symptoms or appearance of the healthy and unhealthy conditions. Mr. Halchuk also designed the original cover of the *Canadian Journal of Plant Pathology*.

I thank Lloyd for providing me with this information. If anyone else knows a little more about the history or symbolism of the logo or any other matter pertaining to CPS, I would be happy to receive it and pass it on to the readers of the newsletter.

Jim Menzies, Associate Editor

Montréal 1999

The 1999 annual meeting of CPS will be held jointly with the American Phytopathological Society in Montréal Aug. 7-11 at the Palais des Congrès. The theme is "Plant Health: Meeting the Challenges." We are expecting an attendance of 1700 members. There will be 546 poster presentations and 158 oral presentations. CPS members submitted fifty-eight abstracts. Registration materials should have been sent to all members, and information is available on the CPS web site and the APS site (www.scisoc.org). Many events are planned, including workshops, tours, discussion sessions, receptions, breakfast, awards ceremonies, and university socials. Over 40 technical sessions are planned. CPS will also have a booth to advertise and sell books in the exhibition area.

CPS will be co-sponsoring six symposia, organized by the CPS Program Chair **Zamir Punja** and the APS Program Chair **Neal Van Alfen**. These are:

"Moving plant disease detection from the ivory towers to the real world"

"Bridging scales in disease concepts for managing Canadian/American forests of the 21st century"

"Molecular techniques in ecological studies of soil microbial communities"

"Application of biotechnology to biocontrol of weeds"

"Harmonization of pesticide registration in the U.S. and Canada" and

"Understanding fusarium scab to develop disease control strategies"

The **Outgoing Board** meeting will be held on Saturday, Aug. 7 from 9am to 5pm. The **AGM** for CPS will be held on Tues., Aug. 10 at 5:30pm at the McGill Faculty Club. The **banquet** will follow at 7:30pm. Banquet tickets are available through the APS registration. The *Incoming Board* will meet on Wed., Aug. 11 from 1-5pm.

For more information please contact:

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FAX: (514) 398-7897

E-mail: paulitz@nrs.mcgill.ca

Important Reminder

The Annual General Meeting and Banquet of CPS will be held on Tues., Aug. 10 at the McGill Faculty Club. Tickets for the banquet are \$35 CDN or \$23 US, and can be purchased through the APS registration package. The main course will be breast of chicken - California style with sun-dried tomatoes/peppers and fresh coriander. Vegetarian lasagna is also available - please contact Tim Paulitz if you prefer the vegetarian dinner. *Please purchase banquet tickets before the meeting, since we need exact numbers by Aug. 5.* Information about the meeting, programs and abstracts are available on the APS website - www.scisoc.org, and at the CPS website. For additional information, contact Tim Paulitz, Local Arrangements Chair.

*Bring your copy of this issue to the
1999 Annual General Meeting*