

EDITOR'S PAGE

PUBLICATIONS SCHEDULE

You will note that this January, 1988 issue of the journal is being published in June. This was dictated by the need to include the manuscripts of papers presented at the 4th International Conference. The July, 1988 issue, which will contain more of these papers will be released as soon as possible, probably in August or September.

CONFERENCE REPORT

Those of you who managed to attend the 4th International Conference on Plastination will probably agree that it was something of a success. Aside from the outstanding quality of the papers, the hit of the whole event was Dr Gunther von Hagens' "body," a man cut into 85 sheet-plastinated slices. It was certainly the first time anything like that had been seen in Macon. Other specimen collections attracted almost as much attention. In fact, the exhibit was the center of activity, at least for the non-official visitors. Total registered attendance was about 75, with delegates from 12 countries (including Freistaat Bayern).

The first business meeting of the International Society for Plastination went very smoothly and, thanks to our resolve to avoid too much structure, a lot of very important decisions were made. I will report them here, rather than in a separate document, so that we will know where to find a summary when the time comes to act on them.

1. The next meeting will be held in Heidelberg, probably in July, 1990. Exact dates will be chosen and published as soon as possible. An individual (to be designated) at the University of Heidelberg will serve as

Organizer. Gunther von Hagens will be Conference Director. Karine Oostrom will be European Conference Coordinator and Harmon Bickley will be North American Conference Coordinator. (Editor's note: We need Coordinators for other continents -- like Australia.)

Thereafter, the conference location will alternate between Europe and North America, until a significant membership develops on some other continent. It was considered preferable to hold future conferences in July, if possible.

2. Whatever component of the membership is present at a business meeting will be considered a quorum.
3. The Executive Director of the Society will be elected. The term of office will be two fiscal years, July to July. The Director may succeed him/herself. Transition will occur at the end of the year following the International Conference. The outgoing director will serve as Advisor for an additional 2 years. The institution with which the Executive Director is affiliated will be considered the Headquarters of the Society.
4. Harmon Bickley was elected Director for a three-year period. A Nominating Committee will be appointed between now and the next conference and elections will be held as part of the business meeting in Heidelberg.
5. The Editor of the Journal of the International Society for Plastination will be elected. The term of office will be two fiscal years, July to July. The Editor may succeed him/herself.

Transition will occur at the end of the year following the International Conference. The outgoing editor will serve as a member of the Editorial Board for an additional two years.

6. Bob Henry was elected to be the next editor. His term will commence in July of 1989.

A financial statement will be prepared and included with this mailing.

THE ABIDING PROBLEM OF MANUSCRIPTS

Take it from me, being editor is no fun if you don't have manuscripts to publish. The papers in this and the following issue are based on those presented at the conference. But more are urgently needed. Those of you who have an item of information you would like to share with your fellow plastinators are urged to submit it for publication.