

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Welcome to another volume of *Biophilately*. Doubtless the first thing you will notice about this issue is our new cover format. Theresa A. Cummins is the designer. She is a professional illustrator and graphic artist whose work includes design and art for several role playing games and for many corporate publications.

With this edition you will also find a copy of your **annual dues notice**. The Secretary has asked that all members, including Life Members, complete the form and submit it to him in order to update our membership data. Also, please consider adding a donation to you dues. These funds go solely to supporting the Biology Unit, including the production and distribution of the journal and the Biology Unit exhibiting awards.

Additionally, you will find a **membership application form** included. For those of you who belong to a local club, you might consider taking a copy to your next meeting. Also, if you do not save your copies of *Biophilately*, please consider donating them, including the application form, to your club library or local civic library.

The annual National Topical Stamp Show occurs 17–19 May this year in Rochester, New York. That is a month earlier than usual. The Biology Unit will be holding its annual meeting at this show on Saturday at 10:00 AM. I hope many of you can attend and I look forward to seeing you there. We will discuss nominations for Unit Officers at the meeting and follow up with a mail-in vote. See page 11 for more information.

You will find a complete listing of current Biology Unit members on page 74. Note if you elected not to share your snail mail or e-mail address for publication, it has been withheld from the list. I understand the concern many collectors have about publishing their physical address. However, since part of the mission of our organization is the sharing and diffusion of knowledge as well as the forging of friendships and relationships among members with common interests, I wish those of you who have e-mail addresses would reconsider and notify the Secretary about sharing your contact information.

I have lately been working on an index for Volumes 1 through 60 of the Biology Unit journal (further described on page 58) for publication later this year. It appears that our library has several gaps in its holdings of early issues. I hope there are some members who can help in this area by loaning copies of editions that are missing. I have listed the volumes and editions that I need on page 58. If you have one (or more) of these, and can let me borrow it, please contact me by e-mail or letter at the addresses on the inside cover to work out the details.

This edition contains our usual array of new issue listings. Unfortunately, we are without updates for Mammals and Ichthyology. However, it seems it must be flocking season for the birds because we have many new issues listed and there is a much expanded section for “New Birds in the Philatelic Aviary.” This section includes descriptions that missed the last issue as well as the ones for this edition.

Larry Davidson has contributed an interesting article on “nature’s engineers” starting on page 14. The listing of biology reference web sites starting on page 70 contains several new entries.

The Associate Editors and I have been striving to make this publication better with each successive issue. I hope you find the contents helpful and the design and appearance pleasing. I welcome any and all comments.

Jack Congrove

DUES RATES (US\$)

Regular membership (US & Canada)	\$20
Overseas membership	\$25
Overseas airmail (add)	\$10

ADVERTISING RATES

Full page insertion	\$20
Half page insertion	\$10
Quarter page insertion	\$5

Please see the Biology Unit web site (www.biophilately.org) for membership applications. Several payment options are available. Send applications and payments payable to the Biology Unit of ATA to:
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