

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S CORNER

BIOLOGY UNIT ANNUAL MEETING

There was a crowd of 13 members and three guests at the Biology Unit's annual meeting held at the National Topical Stamp Show in St. Louis on Saturday, 28 June 2014, at 10:00 AM. President Alan Hanks called the meeting to order and welcomed all attendees. Jack Congrove had prepared 25-year membership certificates for Mary Pomfret and Paul Freytag. As they were not in attendance, Secretary Chris Dahle was asked to mail them out.

The Secretary reported that there are currently 145 members. Membership forms have been supplied to ATA ambassadors for recruiting at shows. Fred Skvara, working as an ATA ambassador, has been getting extra copies of *Biophilately* to give to prospective members. Editor Jack Congrove, has entered *Biophilately* in all three literature contests during the past year, as well as the in-house ATA literature contest, which was held for the first time at this show. The ATA contest was suggested by Fred Skvara to provide a way for ATA members to see what the various study units are publishing. There used to be a table at the ATA's show where the journals were displayed.

Alan Hanks noted that in the early days many articles in *Biophilately* were submitted by academics, which rarely happens now. Discussion followed about how a literature contest should be structured, with the ATA coming up with criteria that are different from the APS Manual of Judging, mainly because the journal needs to be fun and interesting to members. ATA Board members in attendance said they would bring this up at the Monday morning review of the show.

Dick Roman noted that the new database is on line and is a wonderful resource that Biology collectors should use.

Jack Congrove noted that in compiling the Unit history he found many comments about articles in the journal that were not pertinent. He had a solution for that, which applies to today as it did back then. Let this be an invitation to write your own article!

There was a question about which philatelic libraries are getting *Biophilately*. Jack said the journals submitted for competition are donated to APRL and the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library. Chris noted that the Postal History Foundation's Peggy Slusser Library is the only one that has a membership in the Biology Unit. It was suggested that the Unit send complimentary copies to all philatelic libraries.

Jack Congrove made a motion that the Biology Unit sponsor the publication of the next Insects Handbook, edited by Don Wright. The cost will be around \$1200. The motion passed unanimously.

Eight of the members at the meeting had an exhibit on the floor at this show. In all, there were 14 exhibits with a Biology connection, which made for stiff competition for the Biology Unit award. Dawn Hamman thanked members of the Unit who have helped her find material for her exhibits. Van Siegling, seeing all the different Biology exhibits, wondered if we could arrange to have an exhibit for each level of the food chain, making sure they were mounted in the correct order. It was noted that thematic exhibits often get downgraded at WSP shows, in spite of restructuring the judging criteria. European judges who evaluate thematic exhibits are expected to have exhibited thematically. This is not the case in the U.S.

Dick Roman thanked the editors for all the work they do for each issue of the journal. Barbara Herbert also commended the editors for their assistance.

Lois Herrmann wondered if more notice could be given for overseas exhibitions like Birdpex. The editor noted that the notice was posted in *Biophilately* as soon as it was available.

Having taken up the entire allotted hour, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Attendees: Bruce Anderson (visitor-IL), Jack Congrove (WA), Larry Davidson (ON), Chris Dahle (IA), Janice Erbach (visitor-KY), Dawn Hamman (FL), Alan Hanks (ON), Jeff Hayward (NY), Barbara Herbert (CA), Lois Herrmann (NM), Susan Jones (IL), Jeff Loush (visitor-KS), Dick Roman (MO), Laurie Ryan (OH), Van Siegling (OH), and Fred Skvara (NJ).



Biology Unit Annual Meeting, St Louis, June 2014

L-R: Van Siegling, Janice Erbach, Larry Davidson, Dawn Hamman, Bruce Anderson (obscured), Dick Roman, Laurie Ryan, Lois Herrmann, Barbara Herbert, Fred Skvara, Susan Jones, Jeff Loush

DROPPED MEMBERS

1806	Barclay Brown, Santa Cruz, CA	1829	Nicholas Richter, Lake Forest, CA
1336	Jose I.R. Collado, Chico, CA	1828	Richard W. Shevlin, New York, NY
1814	Beth Collins, Cottonwood, MN	1816	Gayle Snider, Oklahoma City, OK
1594	Dr. Charles V. Covell, Gainesville, FL	1649	Peg M. Spaete, Stevens Point, WI
1811	Daniel K. Farmer, Attica, MI	1722	Raymond J. Sullivan, Wauwatosa, WI
636	George Griffenhagen, Woodbridge, VA	1826	Steven W. Winegardner, Washington, DC
1523	Mary Pomfret, Hamilton, ON		

NEW MEMBERS

The Biology Unit welcomes the following new members:

1858	Michael Vincent, Oxford, OH	botany (2)
1859	Rebecca Mohr, Manchester, TN	invertebrates, cacti, fungi (2, 7, 9)
1860	Asher B. Davis, Northhampton, MA	reptiles, amphibians (4)