

NEWS OF NOTE

BIOPHILATELY WINS LITERATURE AWARD

Your editor entered two exhibits in the Philatelic Literature competition sponsored by the Chicago Philatelic Society and held at Chicagopex on 21–23 November 2014. The first exhibit was a set of the latest four volumes of our Unit journal, *Biophilately*, and the second was the index of the past Unit journals and Unit history published last year as *The Mother of All Indexes*.

The Literature Jury was chaired by Patrick A. Walters, and included Stephen Schumann and Guy Dillaway.

I am proud to announce that *The Mother of All Indexes* received a Silver medal and *Biophilately* received a Vermeil medal in this exhibition. The Vermeil award for *Biophilately* is the highest level it has ever received in its 63 years of publication.

The jury was complimentary of the journal's format and the increased amount of informative articles. They recommended that we send copies to scientific organizations in the biology field, which we are considering. They also recommended that we provide copies to the major philatelic libraries for use as a reference. We already do the latter indirectly. We must submit multiple copies for the judging and we always opt for them to be donated to philatelic libraries rather than returned.

The jury also offered advice for improving the journal and here is where all of our members can help. We want to add more features and news from the members. I am certain that each member has at least a couple items that they could write two or three paragraphs about. Maybe it is the first or only stamp to show a particular species. Maybe you have a personal story about the topic depicted, or how you acquired it. Please send the text of your article to the editor at the address given on the inside cover of this issue.



NEW ON ATA WEBSITE

The ATA website, www.americantopicalassn.org, has updated information on the National Topical Stamp Show being held this summer in Clackamas, Oregon, a suburb of Portland, from 31 July to 2 August. You can find the exhibit prospectus and entry forms there. See more about the show on page 16.

Beginning with the January issue of *Topical Time*, all ATA members can access issues of our journal online. This is a new membership service being offered by ATA. Members will receive an email every two months, when a new issue of the journal is posted, to let you know how to access it. Issues of *Topical Time* beginning from January 2013 will always be available online.

The Checklist dATAbase has been updated. As of February, the listings include a total of 628,616 items. There were 4,127 items added for January and 7,421 for February, including all the new stamps in the *Linn's* New Issue listings for the month. One new checklist has been added: **Sun Yat-Sen (President, China)**, with 72 items. Take advantage of winter—order some checklists now to enrich your collecting. They only cost a penny per list entry.