

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S CORNER

ANNUAL BIOLOGY UNIT MEETING

[Note: In the absence of the Secretary-Treasurer, Director Jack Congrove recorded notes from the meeting.]

The annual meeting of the Biology Unit was called to order by Vice-President Larry Davidson at 10:05 AM on Saturday, 1 August in the Sandy Room of the Monarch Hotel and Conference Center in Clackamas, Oregon. The meeting was held in conjunction with the ATA 2015 National Topical Stamp Show. Officers in attendance were Larry Davidson, Vice-President; Donald Wright, Director; and Jack Congrove, Director.

A total of 16 members were present: Jack Congrove, Larry Davidson, Carol and Keith Edholm, Vic Eichler, Dawn Hamman, Jeffrey Hayward, Barbara Herbert, Susan B. Jones, Ellen Kritzman, Dick Roman, Laurie Ryan, Cathie Stumpfenhaus, Roger van Laere, Beatrice Vogel, and Donald Wright. Roger van Laere from Antwerp, Belgium traveled farthest. After an introduction by Vice-President Davidson, each person present introduced themselves and mentioned their collecting interests.

Vice-President Davidson described the special aspects of this year's NTSS pertaining to the Biology Unit. The Unit was the featured study unit at the show and would be the sponsor of the Awards Banquet. The Distinguished Topical Philatelist Award recipient this year also would be Unit member Donald Wright. In addition, the Unit was manning a booth at the show floor to recruit new members.

Because neither President Hanks, nor Secretary-Treasurer Dahle were able to attend the show, Vice-President Davidson gave an informal secretary-treasurer's report, including that the treasury contains more than \$17,500 and that the major expenses during the last year included a donation of \$1,286.42 to print the *Insects on Stamps* handbook (HB164) by Donald Wright, and \$1,000 to sponsor the NTSS banquet.

Currently, the Unit has 142 members. Fifty-two of them are web-only subscribers and 33 are overseas members.

Jack Congrove displayed the prizes for the three Biology Unit awards to be presented at the show. He also mentioned that the Unit journal had received a Vermeil award at Chicagopex last year and was entered this year in both the NTSS Study Unit literature competition and the APS Stamp Show.

Jack Congrove also explained that for recruiting at the Biology Unit booth, the Unit would be offering a special deal. For the cost of a one-year membership, the new member would receive the remaining two editions of this year's journal plus all of next year. In addition, they would receive a free copy of the latest June edition as well as a copy of *The Mother of All Indexes*, which contains the index of all issues from Volumes 1-62 and Unit history. So, in fact, new members would be receiving one and three-quarters years' worth of editions for their dues.

Barbara Herbert asked when the scans of all back issues would be available on the website. Congrove explained that the more recent editions are available on the website now and that many of the earlier editions have been scanned, but not yet posted due to an issue with the file sizes. He said he would work on updating the scans and coordinate with the webmaster to get an archive created.

Laurie Ryan mentioned that she needed the password to open the current edition. Congrove said that he would coordinate with the webmaster after the meeting to get out the password to the members.

Davidson and Congrove both mentioned that the Unit was planning to share and assist at the ATA booth at the NY-2016 international show and invited members to volunteer to help with this. The members present who were planning to attend the show were: Jeffrey Hayward, Dawn Hamman, Susan Jones, Laurie Ryan, Larry Davidson, Donald Wright, Jack Congrove, and possibly Barbara Herbert.

Dick Roman suggested that the Unit add more associate editors to broaden the quantity of topics available. Congrove mentioned that he is still looking for an associate editor for Herpetology.

Barbara Herbert suggested that the Unit offer presentations at each meeting. The Board members welcomed this suggestion and offered her the first opportunity. Jean Stout said that she had a presentation on the lesser known penguins of New Zealand that she would like to present.

Dawn Hamman, representing the ATA Board, gave a short presentation on the benefits of being an ATA member and the important contributions that the ATA makes to the hobby.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 AM.

NEW MEMBERS

The Biology topic is immensely popular. It is likely that someone in your local club is a collector of something related to zoology or botany. Sign them up. The Biology Unit welcomes the following new members:

1867	Jerald Zimmermann, Waxahachie, Texas	unk
1868	Karen McKee, Port Townsend, Washington	cactus, snowdrops, banaquits (2)
1869	Jim Bogart, Vancouver, Washington	fish (6), marine life (9)
1870	Rob McGuinness, West Vancouver, BC, Canada	bobcat, lynx, muskox (8), loon (5)
1871	Vera Felts, Carterville, Illinois	spices, herbs, grains, vegetables (2)
1872	Anne Kahle, Castle Rock, Washington	birds (by species)(5)
1873	Joseph Morris, Portland, Oregon	weasels (8), ice hockey, Buddhist, malaria, Mideast

REINSTATEMENT

Welcome back:

1801	Jean C. Stout, Pearl, Mississippi	penguins (5), cockroaches (7), Halloween, Sherlock Holmes
------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------