

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

This issue completes Volume 64, and the journal editions for another year. The end-of-year holidays are here and I wish all of our members a happy holiday season and a safe and prosperous new year.

This is also the time to remind everyone to send in their membership dues for next year to the Secretary, Chris Dahle, at this address: 1401 Linmar Dr. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402. You will find the rates listed below. You can also find membership forms under the "Membership" tab on the Unit website: www.biophilately.org.

Speaking of membership, we are always looking to recruit new members. We do not seek them for their dues money, but to provide them with the information and expertise available from our other members and from this publication. New members also help us keep the organization vibrant with new ideas and fresh outlooks.

During this past year, we have published several articles submitted by new members, including three in this issue.

Certainly there are folks in your local club or friends you know from stamp shows who could benefit from becoming a member of the Biology Unit. Print out a few membership forms and take them to your next club meeting along with a copy of this journal. Maybe you can recruit someone else to share our topical interests.

You will note that this issue is about 50 percent larger than normal. Part of the reason for this is that in September, the Scott Catalogue finally assigned numbers to more than 550 stamp issues by the Solomon Islands released in 2013 and 2014. Almost all of these were multiple-stamp miniature sheets and souvenir sheets and many of them depicted biological subjects. So, you all have a big edition to curl up with by the fire during the holidays.

You will also find some important news and reports on recent and upcoming philatelic events. Additionally, we again have Ichthyology and Herpetology columns that have been missing from several recent editions.

There is a Chinese proverb attributed to Confucius that states, "The beginning of wisdom is to call things by their right names." This philosophy fits perfectly with one of the purposes of this publication and I hope that we continue to abide by it. In that regard I have a pet peeve to air. Too often I see the term "imperforated" to describe a stamp or sheet that does not include any perforations or die cuts enabling it to be separated from its neighboring items.

This term is aggravatingly incorrect and probably results from trying to describe something that is the opposite of "perforated." A perforated stamp is one that has perforations on one or more sides. A stamp lacking perforations is "imperforate." Let us all encourage the proper use of this term.

Jack R. Congrove



DUES RATES (US\$)

Regular membership (US & Canada)	\$20
Overseas membership	\$25
Overseas airmail (add)	\$10
On-line membership	\$15

ADVERTISING RATES

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

Please see the Biology Unit website (www.biophilately.org) for membership applications. Several payment options are available. Send applications and payments payable to the Biology Unit of ATA to: Chris Dahle, 1401 Linmar Drive NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402