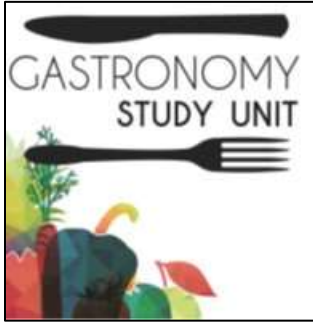


## NEWS OF NOTE

### GASTRONOMY STUDY UNIT



The American Topical Association (ATA) has recognized a new study unit. The Gastronomy on Stamps Study Unit was organized at the National Topical Stamp Show last year in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The purpose of the Study Unit is to encourage and further the collection and study of stamps and other philatelic material related to food, gastronomy, cooking, food ingredients, food science, and associated areas.

These topics are very closely related to our own Biology subject and perhaps many of our members will be interested in also joining this study unit.

They publish a quarterly journal, *The Philatelic Gourmet*, which contains news and interesting articles about food and cooking and listings of related new stamp issues.

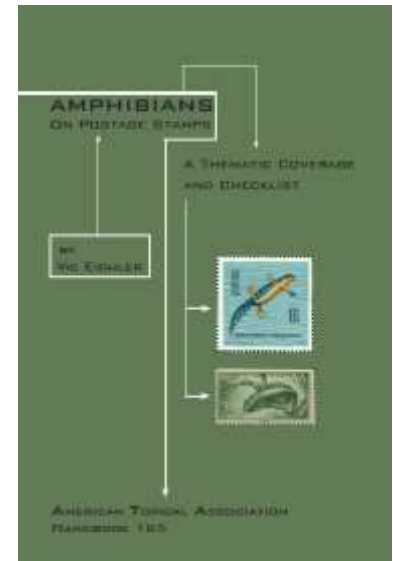
Annual membership dues are \$20 (US), \$24 (Canada), and \$28 elsewhere for hard copy delivery of the journal. Electronic delivery (PDF) via e-mail is \$5 worldwide. Membership applications are available at their website: [www.gastronomystamps.org](http://www.gastronomystamps.org).

### NEW ATA HANDBOOK

The ATA is in the process of publishing a new handbook by one of our Biology Unit members. Dr. Vic Eichler has written *Amphibians on Stamps* (HB 165) to list the many hundreds of stamps depicting the three orders of the Class Amphibia: Anura (frogs and toads), Urodela (salamanders), and Apoda (caecilians). This publication has been delayed for almost two years due to difficulties the ATA has had obtaining permission from the parent organization of Scott Publishing Company for the use of the Scott catalog numbers. This is also why there have been no other new ATA handbooks during that period.

Eichler, from Three Rivers, Michigan, is the author of several other books including *Charlevoix Stones & Other Beachcomber Treasures of Northern Michigan* (2013) and *Morel Mushrooms in Michigan And Other Great Lakes States* (2010). He is a retired professor of Biological Sciences.

The Biology Unit contributed funds to cover half the cost of publication. The HB is offered in both printed and DVD versions. The cost for the printed HB is \$35 and for the DVD \$25. There is a \$5 discount for ATA members. If you are not an ATA member, you can get \$10 off if you purchase the book and join at the time.



### YET ANOTHER NEW ATA HANDBOOK



Solar storms that cause bright auroras can also affect people and technology in space and on Earth. The development of the scientific understanding of that Sun-Earth relationship is examined in *Space Weather—A Philatelic Journey*, a new philatelic handbook published in DVD format by the American Topical Association.

Written by meteorologists Garry Toth and Don Hillger, it contains descriptive text, stamp, and cover images, and an extensive and up-to-date checklist. More than 200 pages of detailed information are in PDF format. The checklist appendices in Excel format are also included.

The handbook will be of interest to collectors of numerous space and weather-related topics.

The cost for the DVD is \$35, or \$30 for ATA members, plus \$1.50 postage in the U.S. and Canada, or \$3 elsewhere. Order from American Topical Association, P.O. Box 8, Carterville, IL 62918-0008 ([americantopical@msn.com](mailto:americantopical@msn.com)). Preorders will be taken for a printed book version until 31 March 2018.