

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I just returned from the StampShow/NTSS in Omaha, Nebraska. I arrived early so I could visit the Henry Doorly Zoo. Tuesday morning I drove down to the zoo, which is in the top tier of the United States. With more than 160 acres, the exhibits are fantastic.

Each exhibit is laid out as a region or environment. These include the Himalayans, Jungles of Africa and Asia, African Veldt, Deserts of the World, The Nocturnal World, and a large Aquarium.

Each exhibit depicts the scenery of the region, both natural and manmade. I love how each is set up to show how scientists study the environment, both flora and fauna, with research stations, data postings, etc. This certainly is an innovative approach. One highlight for me was to see Muki the gorilla again. I watched her grow up at the Cincinnati Zoo.



Our Biology Study Unit met Saturday morning, an hour later than usual. We had 12 people in attendance. As usual, we opened with introductions from the attendees. We discussed the journal and membership numbers. Please consider writing an article for *Biophilately*. We are, thankfully, in quite good shape.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the American Topical Association. We had a delicious cake at the President's Reception, an historical retrospective, and beautiful commemorative pins, all to honor Jerry Husak's great vision in the creation of this organization. Oh, and I also found two more Hedgehogs on stamps!

Laurie Ryan

### NEW TOPICS FROM ATA

The hardworking checklist coordinators continue to add all new issues, as well as new topics to the dATABase. Fall is a perfect time to update your checklist, or add a new one. Perhaps one of these new lists appeals to you: **Game of Thrones**, **Duchess Meghan**, **scented stamps**, **the Beatles**, **US National Parks**, **Charles Schultz-Peanuts**, **French horns**, **propaganda**, **all-terrain vehicles**, and **jet skis**. ATA now has more than 1300 checklists by topic, and can also custom search for any topic you dream up. Contact the ATA office to order your next topic! 618-985-5100, or [americantopical@msn.com](mailto:americantopical@msn.com).