

NEWS OF NOTE
WORD OF THE DAY

Our Publisher, Dick Roman, sent in this Word of the Day he received from Wordnik (www.wordnik.com), an on-line English dictionary.

biophilia: the love of nature and all living things

“But the best feeling is this biophilia that E.O. Wilson talks about, where humans have this sense of awe and wonder in front of untamed nature, of raw nature.” —Enric Sala

(http://www.ted.com/talks/enric_sala/transcript?language=en)

“The term biophilia, coined by Wilson, describes the human affinity for life, which according to Wilson, engenders both a human-to-human connection and a human connection to all other living species.” —Serendip’s Exchange

(<http://serendip.brynmawr.edu/exchange/node/7341>)

“As though we did not know that Wilson has raised awareness about biodiversity and why it matters, coined the term biophilia to describe our intrinsic connection to and love for animals and other organisms, and profoundly altered our understanding of social behavior.” —Critical Mass

(http://bookcritics.org/blog/archive/nbcc_featured_review_donna_seaman_on_anthill_by_e.o._wilson/)

“It’s called biophilia—an oddly scary term for an interesting idea: we are genetically programmed to interact with nature.” —Dr. Peggy Drexler: Stuart and Polly: Is There Anything Else We Can Get You?

(http://www.huffingtonpost.com/peggy-drexler/stuart-and-polly-is-there_b_1107942.html)

The word ‘biophilia’ comes from ‘bio-’ (life) + ‘-philia’ (attraction to).

TOPICAL COLLECTION FOR SALE

We have received a request from a former Unit member who is disbursing his collections. Dr. Charles I. Cerney (BU683) joined the Biology Unit in 1969, and contributed ten articles relating to John J. Audubon in Volumes 34 through 39.

I am a previous member of the organization and had contributed articles. I am now at the end of my collecting years and have many stamps to dispose of. I had given my Medical History collection to a medical library and my extensive birds on stamps to a University Biology department.

I now have my Mammals collection of 3,736 different stamps in that collection. In addition I have pages of reptiles and flowers and an album of medicinal herbs and flowers on stamps, which I have not counted the number.... I would like to sell my collection all in one piece. I have the stamps for the most part in an index file sorted by species, sometime subspecies.... All of my stamps predate 1995 when I stopped accumulating this hoard of material.

If interested, please contact Dr. Cerney at: 454 Karl Drive, Zanesville, OH 43701 (cicerney@columbus.rr.com)

TOPICAL COLLECTING DAY AT WSS-NY 2016

Saturday, 4 June has been officially designated as Topical Collecting Day at the World Stamp Show-NY 2016.

The ATA will have unique cacheted covers for sale at their super booth (#1276–1278) for receiving the show cancel.

On Friday, 3 June there will be an informal gathering of members of worldwide thematic associations at 11:00 AM, followed by the ATA Annual Meeting at 1:00 PM.

At 3:00 PM, Dr. Damian Läge, a champion European thematic exhibitor, will lead a walk-through of thematic exhibits.



CRASH COVER

In response to my editorial comments in the last edition, Cathie Stumpenhous sent in a photo of the envelope in which her copy of the journal arrived.

“Just read your editorial in the March 2016 edition of *Biophilately*. Your mention of the discount postage used to mail the journal caught my attention. I love seeing all the biology related stamps on the cover. Too bad that USPS cancelled them with a felt tip marker. Photo attached. I am keeping the cover as a conversation piece.”

As newsletter editor for the Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs, I receive the newsletters from many of our 35 member organizations in both Canada and the US and quite often these arrive franked with interesting and collectible stamps from both countries.

Canada Post is very good in applying postmarks that are neat and never detract from the appearance of the cover.

However, more often than not, oversize mail from the US arrives either without any cancellation at all, or in a state similar to the one shown here.

In fact, I just received a similar flat this week shown here graphically cropped. When I picked it up, even the postal clerk noticed the mark-up of the stamps and lamented with me how they were devalued for collection.

I suppose it is all postal history in one way or another.

