

# BIOPHILATELY

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE BIOLOGY UNIT OF ATA

DECEMBER 2013

VOLUMES 1-62

## The Mother of All Indexes

## Biophilately Volumes 1-62

with

**Unit History**  
**Jack R. Congrove**



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The Biology Unit, founded in 1951, is a study unit of the American Topical Association dedicated to the international cooperative study of biological postage stamps and related material.

Back copies of *Biophilately* are available from the Librarian. Copies of separate articles are available at a charge six cents per page. Please contact the individual associate editors if you have queries about the content of their columns.

Send membership enquiries and change of address notices to the Secretary, Chris Dahle, (319) 364-4999. See last page for membership application.

The purpose of the journal is to provide members with informative articles dealing with biological topics and to publish listings covering the new **zoological** and **botanical** issues of the world, identified and classified to the best of our ability.

Please send letters, comments on the journal, articles, or new material to the Editor (data above). The Publisher will handle requests for issues from the current year. Contact the Librarian (address above) for copies of all other issues.

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## FOREWARD

This document started out as an effort to provide an index to all issues of *Biophilately: The Official Journal of the Biology Unit of the ATA* in order to serve as a reference for researchers and to assist Unit members with locating past articles of interest and checklists relating to their particular collecting topic. My original intent was to consolidate the listings from previous indexes and update them with entries for the more recent journal editions.

However, while obtaining and reviewing past versions of indexes, it became immediately apparent to me that they were inadequate and not comprehensive enough to be of much use for research or reference purposes. I do not mean this statement to denigrate the efforts of past indexers, as they often focused on a different purpose for their listings, and these documents do provide valuable starting points for listing articles and authors. Also, as I soon discovered, our Unit Library had some serious gaps in its holdings, these listings helped fill in gaps where the original journal was not on hand, or had missing pages.

Some of the previous indexes merely listed the titles of the articles and few gave any indication of the identity of the authors. Often the titles had no relation to the actual subject of the article. Some used cutesy phrases and others only provided a portion of what the entire article was about. For example, how was one to know that the article titled “Answers to Mrs. Anne Delfeld’s Questions” dealt with the difference between sapodilla and sapote, which are two very different fruits? Or that an article titled “Fancy Meeting You Here” was actually a checklist of Saturniid moths on stamps?

Thus, it became necessary for me to go to the actual journal edition and look at each article.

I mention this neither to complain nor boast, because this effort actually afforded me the chance to read some very interesting and informative writing from decades ago that I otherwise would never have encountered. It also provided me with an appreciation for all the struggles that the Unit and its members have faced and all of the successes it has achieved over its 62-year history.

The mention of history brings me to the other aspect of this document. As I was browsing through each edition, I often became distracted and found myself reading entire articles that piqued my interest. This is a temptation that I (and I am sure other researchers) often succumb to when performing their investigations. I start out looking up a bird species and the next thing I know, I am perusing an article about Napoleon.

While reading about the undertakings of the Unit during its early years, it struck me that few of our current members and probably no one from outside the Unit were aware of these activities, including how the Unit started and its labor to reach its 63rd anniversary. So, since I would be looking through each edition anyway, I wondered to myself why not extract any interesting historical information, and include a section containing a brief history of the Unit along with the index data?

Thus, like Topsy, it “grow’d.”

I found it fascinating to note the influence of the Editor on the style and content of each volume of the publication. Simon Becker, the first assigned editor, apparently merely accumulated whatever information the members sent him and placed it in the issue without much “editing.” Dr. Willard Stanley took over when Father Becker resigned and he was an editor truly worthy of the title, for he thoroughly organized, researched, and edited each article entered in the journal and also provided scholarly scientific articles and much commentary of his own. Under his guidance, the journal grew into an extensive and professional publication.

Following Dr. Stanley’s 15-year long service were some more-or-less interim editors, who lacked his scientific expertise. As a result, the quantity of science-oriented articles declined and the journal began to include more checklists. Then Gus Eglajs took over followed by George Ball and, while these editors also did not have the scientific credentials of Dr. Stanley, they were quite expert in their own fields and were able to provide a variety of articles to appeal across the entire field of biology. Under these editors, the current familiar departments took shape including long-running columns such as “New Birds in the Philatelic Aviary” and others. The journal also began to accumulate awards in philatelic literature competitions.

Next under Alan Hanks’s editorship the journal became more devoted to checklists of new issues. This focus was in accordance with the desires of most Unit members and occurred during the time when stamp issuing authorities

began producing large quantities of topical issues, especially ones showing biological subjects. Dr. Bruce Cruickshank lamented this situation in two separate articles titled, "Too Many Bird Stamps?" But, as the new issues became more numerous, this meant less space for articles and other biophilatelic news items. Hanks went on to serve as Editor for a record 19 years finally passing the job on to me.

This project has been absorbing as it enabled me to read fascinating articles from the past. I found that one theme has continued throughout the span of publication and that is the requests by the Editor for input from Unit members. Many issues have been filled with articles and commentary from the journal editor with little input from other contributors. When the editors have been articulate and informed, this has provided interesting reading despite the lack of variety. When editors have been less erudite, the content has suffered.

It is common that many members do not contribute anything other than their dues to the organizations to which they belong. What is concerning is that the members of our organization all possess knowledge that would be at least useful and more likely informative and educational to the rest of the Unit. As Editor, but also as a reader, I urge each of you to put together two or three paragraphs on whatever topic that interests you and submit it for publication in the journal. Then you will be able to see your name in the next version of the Index.

The members of the Biology Unit can justly be proud of its achievements and I think you will find here some interesting information about the Unit and its past members that you did not even suspect.

Jack R. Congrove  
Fort Lewis, Washington  
December 2013

## HISTORY OF THE BIOLOGY UNIT

**Jack R. Congrove, BU1424**

### GENESIS

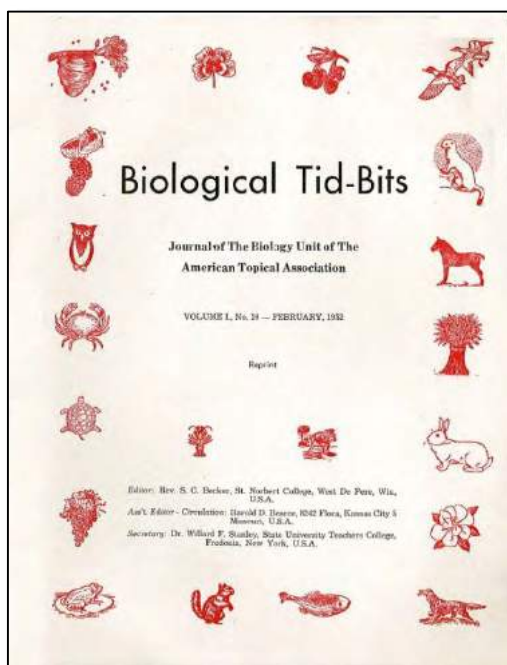
In 1949, Jerome Husak established the American Topical Association in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The ATA has grown since then to become the largest organization in the world devoted to topical stamp collecting, with more than 6,000 members in over 90 countries. Two years later a group of topical collectors formed the Biology Study Unit dedicated to the study of postage stamps and related material depicting biological subjects. Other than perhaps the very general topic of persons on stamps, biological themes form the largest category of topical postage stamp issues. The Biology Unit has the distinction of being the second oldest study unit in the ATA, with the Casey Jones Railroad Unit being the first. The first notice to Unit members was a letter from Homer L. Jones dated 22 May 1951, listing seven members. This letter constitutes Volume 1, Number 1, of the Biology Unit journal.

The seven founding members of the Biology Unit were: Floyd D. Bailey (Oregon), Harold D. Bearce (Missouri), Ray Fillingham (New York), John H. Groet (Indiana), Homer L. Jones (Pennsylvania), John R. Spannuth (Pennsylvania), and Willard F. Stanley (New York). This quantity was below the required number of members to become a study unit, but the ATA national organization waived the requirement apparently with the anticipation that the biology topic was popular enough that the unit would have no problem quickly gaining sufficient members to qualify.

On 13 June 1951, Jones published a second newsletter titled *Leaves and Petals: Newssheet of the Biological Unit of the American Topical Association*, to update the unit members. It provided the results of the first election of officers. Homer Jones was elected President and Dr. Willard Stanley was elected Secretary.



Homer L. Jones (BU1)  
Biology Unit Founder  
First President and Editor



*Biological Tid-Bits* Cover Design  
Volumes 1-4

The next edition on 15 July 1951 was titled *Philatelic Leaves and Petals*, and this monthly newsletter continued until 15 November 1951, when the name changed again to *Biological Tid-Bits*, in order to encompass the entire biological spectrum. The purpose of this journal was to inform the members about new issues related to zoological and botanical themes and to provide articles regarding the science of biology as it relates to philately. Within the period of one year encompassing the first Volume, the study unit membership had increased from the seven founding members to a total of 49.

During this first year, the study unit began publishing listings of new issues in the newsletter. These listings have continued throughout successive volumes and have become a primary aspect of the current publication. The Unit members were also busy developing by-laws for the operation of the unit and setting the amount of annual dues. In Volume 1, Number 4, dues were established at 50 cents per year.

The members adopted the initial Unit By-Laws consisting of four articles on 1 October 1951. These added the officer positions of Vice-President and two Unit Directors and changed the Secretary position to that of Secretary-Treasurer. Mrs. S. S. Kimball was appointed as Vice-President, and Harold Bearce and John Spannuth were appointed as Directors to serve until the next election scheduled for the ATA Convention in June 1952.

In addition to his duties as Unit President, Homer Jones also served as the editor of *Biological Tid-Bits* during the Unit's first year through Volume 1, Number 10, when Harold Bearce took over the position temporarily. During that period, the newsletter had grown from a single page to as many as eight. In Volume 1, Number 11, of March 1952, Jones named the first group of Assistant Editors to concentrate on specialized topics: Mrs. S. S. Kimball (New Issues), Floyd D. Bailey (Trees), Willard F. Stanley and Dwight Whitcomb (Mammals), C. Russell Mason (Birds), and F. Eugene Gonzales (Insects). These were the predecessors of our current Associate Editors. Starting with Volume 1, Number 12, Father Simon C. Becker took the reins as editor.

From the very beginning of the Biology Unit, its members were involved with the production of topical listings. The Unit has the distinction of having supported more ATA Handbooks than any other starting with HB1-2, *Biology Philately*, by Homer L. Jones. Over its existence, Unit members have participated in producing three handbooks on Horses, six on Flowers and Plants, five on Birds, three on Insects with a new one in the works, two on Fish, two on Pharmacy, and four on various Mammals including Bats and Bears.

## EARLY YEARS

The Biology Unit held its second annual meeting at the First ATA National Convention and Exhibition, then known as TOPEX, in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, on Sunday morning, 22 June 1952. Seven of the total 76 Unit members were in attendance. At that time, the Biology Unit was the largest study unit in the ATA and the only one to hold a meeting at the show. All the unit officers were re-elected. In addition to serving as the Unit President, Homer Jones was at the time also the ATA President.

The other main business at this meeting involved recommending an increase in the annual dues to \$1.00 in order to pay costs that the newsletter editor and others were covering out of their own funds. The membership later that year voted on this and other amendments to the Unit Constitution via mail-in ballot and the dues increase passed by an overwhelming margin.

The Biology Unit also set another precedent by presenting awards at TOPEX in the name of the Unit for the best exhibits with a Biological theme. The first place award went to William Howell of Ohio for his exhibit on Birds, which also took the Reserve Grand Award. The second award went to Johanna E. Rich of New Jersey for her Insects on Stamps exhibit. John H. Groet of Indiana received the third award for his Flowers exhibit.

To help understand the significance of these activities, it is important to know that TOPEX '52 was only the second international topical exhibition to have ever been held worldwide. It received extensive media coverage and was such a great success that this topical stamp show has been an annual event ever since.

Even in the second year of its publication, *Biological Tid-Bits* was receiving lots of publicity and esteem in the philatelic press including *Linn's Weekly Stamp News* and *Stamps*. During the second year, the Biology Unit gained its first international members from Canada, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, and England.

Officers of the Biology Unit were also very active in organizing and running the early TOPEX conventions serving as members of various committees. The Unit also began a project to produce slide show series on Biology topics. The first series in 1953 was about flowers on stamps.

In the final edition of Volume 2 in April 1953, Dr. Willard F. Stanley published his analysis of the results of a survey on the topics collected by the 125 members of the Biology Unit (see Table 1).

Dr. Stanley's conclusion was that with 59 of the members collecting stamps that show anything biological and an additional 25 members collecting beyond the limits of the central theme, there could be little doubt that the published checklists should be as inclusive as possible.

Starting with Volume 3, the officers of the Biology Unit decided not to issue the journal in the months of July and August reducing the quantity of annual issues to ten. This decision apparently was driven by the fact that the Editor, several Associate Editors, and the Secretary-Treasurer were all faculty members at various educational institutions and this period was taken up with additional summer duties and travel.



Table 1. Collecting Areas of Interest 1953

General		Botany/Science		Zoology	
Central theme only	41	All plants	54	All animals	44
Central theme chiefly	25	Flowers	87	All wild animals	68
Anything biological	59	Trees	62	Birds	92
Collecting one group	20	Fruits	59	Fish	72
Collecting two groups	7	Agriculture	23	Insects	71
Plants only	7	Biologists	18	Reptiles	70
Animals only	11	All scientists	16	Dogs	52
		Medicine	17	Horses	49
		Anthropology (natives)	7	Cattle	46
				Swine	44
				Sheep	44
				Camels	44

The postponement of the journal publication was a symptom of the growing pains of the young organization. In Volume 3, Number 3, both President, Homer L. Jones, and the Secretary, Dr. Willard F. Stanley, published open letters complaining about the lack of participation by the general membership and the increased workload placed on the unit officers to manage the 180-member unit and also publish *Biological Tid-Bits* in a timely manner.

### Annual Meetings

The Biology Unit continued to hold their annual meetings at the ATA Convention. The third meeting took place at the Miami Hotel in Dayton, Ohio, following the convention banquet on Saturday, 19 June 1954. Eleven members attended along with five guests.

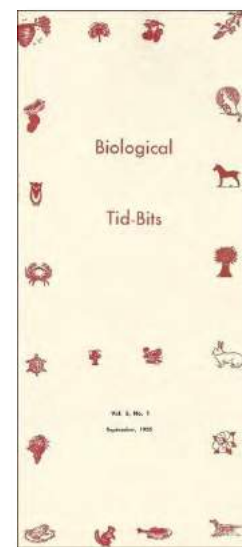
At this show, Unit member Edgar W. Spurgeon won the Biology Unit Award for his exhibit, *Life of Christ on Stamps*, which also received the Grand Award in the open exhibit competition. The Unit made plans to add other awards and ultimately members donated three awards for the best exhibits featuring birds, mammals, and flowers on stamps.

By the third year of its existence, the Biology Unit had established several enviable standards in the area of topical collection. The Biology Unit was the largest of all ATA study units in membership and had instituted a recurring award for philatelic exhibiting. In addition, members of the Unit created and published some of the first ATA Handbooks including one for *Horses on Stamps* (HB8), by Dr. Willard F. Stanley and Ray Fillingham. Members also created lectures with slide shows for *Birds on Stamps* and *Flowers on Stamps* and continued work on another checklist featuring *Mammals on Stamps*.

Notwithstanding these successes, the officers continued to encounter difficulties in expanding participation of members in Unit activities and specifically in the production of the Unit journal beyond a small core of very active contributors.

The *Biological Tid-Bits* journal had begun to coalesce into a forerunner of the current publication with the stated purpose of providing topical checklists and new issue listings for the membership. For Volume 5, Father Becker tried out a new pamphlet format for the journal. The typesetting was much cleaner than the previous typewritten publication. I suspect that this also reduced mailing costs, but the production method was more time-consuming.

The March-April 1955 edition of *Topical Time*, the journal of the ATA, devoted an issue to the Biology topic and asked the Biology Unit to provide articles and images for publication. The members of the Unit stepped up to the challenge and the resulting edition received many compliments in the philatelic press.



Cover Design  
Volume 5



In addition, members of the Biology Unit also served in leadership positions in the ATA during this period. President Homer L. Jones held the office of ATA President and John H. Groet served as the ATA Second Vice-President.

At TOPEX in 1955, Unit member Allyn H. Wright was elected as the new ATA President and Dr. Willard F. Stanley became the ATA First Vice President.

Major W. D. Gooley, (left), Decatur Stamp Club President, reviewing the TOPEX '55 show program with ATA President-elect Allyn H. Wright (center) and ATA First Vice-President-elect, Willard F. Stanley (right).

At the fourth annual meeting of the Biology Unit held at the Hotel Orlando in Decatur, Illinois in June 1955, the Unit nominated a new slate of officers. During the following months, the Unit conducted a mail-in vote with the results that Sidney R. Esten (Indiana) was elected as President and Edgar W. Spurgeon (Ontario, Canada) became Vice-President and the first international Unit officer. Willard Stanley remained in the office of Secretary-Treasurer and two new Directors, John H. Groet (Indiana) and John R. Spannuth (Pennsylvania), were elected. All new officers took office effective 1 October 1955, which at that time was the start of the Unit's fiscal year.

Sidney R. Esten (1894–1965) was a retired teacher and a graduate of Saint Lawrence and Indiana Universities. He was a long time science teacher at Broad Ripple High School (Indianapolis) and taught evening classes in zoology at Butler University. He was the author of the *Birds of the World on Stamps* handbook (HB10), and the lead editor of the *Flowers and Botanical Subjects on Stamps* handbook (HB30). He and his wife, Mable Henniger Esten, also a teacher, were both members of the Indiana Academy of Science. Mr. Esten was Chief Naturalist for the Indiana Department of Conservation. He received the ATA Distinguished Philatelist award in 1957.

The Biology Unit held its fifth annual meeting at the Tuller Hotel in Detroit on 15 June 1956, as part of TOPEX '56 with ten members in attendance. The sitting officers were re-elected and the Unit Constitution was amended to add a third director to the Board. The meeting unanimously adopted a resolution conferring "The Founder's Life Membership" and title of President-Emeritus on Homer L. Jones.

The resolution also recognized the 13 Charter Members of the Unit: Homer L. Jones (BU1), Harold D. Bearce (BU2), Dr. John R. Spannuth (BU3), Ray Fillingham (BU4), John H. Groet (BU5), Willard F. Stanley (BU6), Floyd D. Bailey (BU7), L. J. Pearson (BU8), Fannie S. Kimball (BU9), Frank Carson (BU10), M. L. Silberstein (BU11), Mrs. F. W. Becker (BU12), and Mrs. Lansing R. Kilmer (BU13).



Sidney R. Esten  
Second President



## Expansion

In August 1956, the Unit made many changes to the journal. Father Simon Becker, who had been editor-publisher for four years, could no longer continue due to his duties at St. Norbert College. These conflicts had also affected the release of the journal resulting in some significant delays. However, the Board noted that the rapid growth as a study unit and the prestige gained in the philatelic world was due in great part to his work in editing and publishing the newsletter.

Dr. Willard F. Stanley volunteered to take over in the interim and the name of the journal was shortened to *Biology Tid-Bits*. The format also returned to the letter sheet size published using the Multilith printing and duplication process. Dr. Stanley received permission to appoint assistant editors Melvin J. Andrews and Dr. Jack C. von Bloeker.

The editors had been having difficulty acquiring enough articles and input from the Unit members and other contributors to fill ten issues per year and get them published in a timely manner, so the Board decided to reduce the number of annual editions to six, published on a bi-monthly basis. The editors also expanded the quantity of pages in each edition to more than double those of the previous volumes.

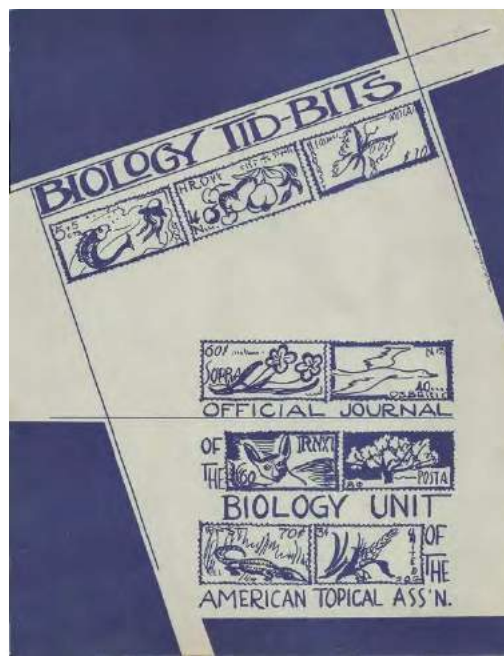
An interesting topic of discussion developed during this period concerning the inclusion in the journal articles and listings of unofficial issues and what today we would call “cinderella” items.

This matter is even today a subject of debate among collectors. In those earlier times, it seems the attitude was very rigid among influential members of the philatelic community, who were used to the traditional approach, that such material had no place in “respectable” collections. Topical collecting and exhibiting was just beginning to receive widespread recognition. And many topical collectors were much more flexible regarding the items they chose to seek out. Some, such as Dr. Stanley, the Editor, even extended the items in his collecting area to include what he termed “supplementary materials.” These included pictures from magazines such as *National Geographic*, maximum cards, seals, propaganda items from “governments in exile,” and other unofficial items that even he himself termed “sucker bait.”

The decision to include “unofficial” issues in the journal listings ultimately rested on the view that collectors must decide for themselves which items they wish to include in their collections and that, so long as they know the type of item they are getting, this is the collector’s business alone. With that attitude in mind, the editors decided that they would continue to publish articles and listings that included such types of collateral items providing descriptions that indicated their “unofficial” nature, and leave the acquisition decision to the individual. The editorial policy established by Dr. Stanley and continued until present was that the journal welcomed differences of opinion and that one of its functions was to debate and publicize these differences.

Not only was the Biology Unit journal expanding during this time, but the Unit officers were making a concerted effort to expand the membership rolls. To this end, in early 1957, the Unit sent out nearly one hundred complimentary copies of *Biology Tid-Bits* to other ATA members with invitations to join the Biology Unit. They also went to some effort to encourage the existing members to recruit others. This membership drive led to the acquisition of 20 new members in the months of March and April.

The Biology Unit held its sixth annual meeting on 15 June 1957 in the Aviation Room of the Hamilton Hotel in Chicago, again in conjunction with the TOPEX convention. Fourteen members were present along with three guests. As a culmination of discussions over the course of two years and attempts at holding down costs, the Governing Board announced an increase in the annual membership dues from \$1.00 to \$2.00 and eliminated the \$1.00 new member initiation fee. In addition, the membership adopted a motion to amend the By-Laws to institute a Life Membership option at the cost of \$25.



*Biology Tid-Bits* Cover Design  
Volumes 6-9

To further reduce expenses, the membership also changed the policy of providing new members with free back issues of the journal and determined to make the dwindling supply of back issues available for purchase.

### “Stan”

In practical terms, the Biology Unit exists today largely through the efforts of one person: Dr. Willard Francis Stanley. A founding member of the Unit, Stan, as he was known to his friends and family, took on the position of Secretary (quickly combined with the office of Treasurer) from the very beginning of the Unit and held these positions until 1971, a record period of 20 years.

For the majority of Unit members, one thing connects them to the Biology Unit and that is its journal. Very few members attend any of the annual Unit meetings and there is little exchange of correspondence outside of the Unit journal itself. The journal provides the glue that holds the whole Unit together. This was even truer in the initial years of the Unit's existence when more rapid and convenient electronic communications were not yet available.

After its first five years of operation, the Unit faced a serious problem. Father Simon Becker, the journal editor, had become overwhelmed with his administrative duties at St. Norbert College in Wisconsin and this had caused delays in the publication of several journal editions. The entire Volume 5 consisted of only 43 pages in a reduced size. The Board had no control over the publication and many members were disgruntled and sending in their resignations.

No easy answers seemed forthcoming, so Dr. Stanley volunteered to try to pull the publication out of the hole. His original intention was to re-establish the journal on a sound basis and routine schedule and then turn over the editorship to someone with time and expertise to continue its production. He remained as editor for another 15 years. As we will see, the stress of this work combined with his “bread and butter job,” (as he liked to call it) had a detrimental impact on his health and led to serious physical difficulties.

Willard Francis Stanley was born on 11 May 1901 in Ames, Iowa. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from North Central College (Illinois) in 1927. He was awarded a Master of Arts in 1928 and his Ph.D. in Zoology from the University of Illinois in 1932. His first marriage in 1927 ended with the death of his wife during childbirth. He remarried in 1937 and had two more children. He worked as Professor of Biology at North Dakota State Teachers College between 1931 and 1935, and then became Professor of Biology and Head of the Science Department at the New York State Teachers College in Fredonia where he remained for 35 years. He was a member of numerous professional scientific organizations including the American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Ornithologists Union, American Association of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, American Society of Zoologists, Cooper Ornithological Club, and of course the American Topical Association.

In a fascinating editorial comment, Dr. Stanley, who at the time was a lecturer in Biology and Chairman of the Science Department at the State University of New York Teachers College in Fredonia, provided an indication of the significance this journal was accruing:

“The following is in response to a personal letter in which I had stated that I was pleased that some of my colleagues (at State University) were becoming interested in my venture as editor-publisher of *Biology Tid-Bits*, even considering it a professional contribution and of some credit to State University, though I had a feeling some others considered anything concerned with stamps as merely ‘kid’s stuff.’

*“...Kid’s stuff indeed! ...Do wish we could get a bit more philatelic knowledge in along with the brilliant write-up material. When was the stamp issued? Why? Why was the subject chosen, is it a native plant or animal, is it a major agricultural product, etc.? I may be alone, but I still believe that in order to exhibit, and in order to make your own collection interesting, you must include such information. Otherwise you merely use stamps for illustrations, and why use stamps? They are pretty poor for that purpose as a general rule.”*



Dr. Willard F. Stanley (BU6)  
(1901–1991)  
First Secretary-Treasurer  
Editor Emeritus

During the 1957–58 year, the Unit activities focused on the continuing publication of the *Biology Tid-Bits* journal under the editorship of Dr. Stanley, and work on the daunting project of assembling three new ATA handbooks on the topics of Botany, Mammals, and Agriculture on Stamps.

In July 1957, the Unit Governing Board (unbeknownst to him) elected Dr. Stanley to the title of Founder's Life Member Number 2. This was the Board's method to recognize the contributions of its perennial Secretary-Treasurer to the stability and viability of the Biology Unit and also to acknowledge his immense positive influence and professional performance as Editor-Publisher of *Biology Tid-Bits*.

A letter from a Unit member in the edition of October-November 1957 highlighted an issue of continuing importance and consideration concerning the listings in the Unit journal. This anonymous correspondent tendered his resignation from the Unit after a diatribe regarding the misidentification, in his view, of various fish species on several stamp issues included in some of the published listings. Editor Stanley provided a response, excerpted below, that is as valid and important today as it was then.

"This is a helpful and thought provoking contribution to our attempt to cooperatively study the biology on stamps. The disturbing thing is—here is a person apparently very much interested in fish and with a more than average knowledge of the group, **who is resigning**. But, why? We need him, and it is my honest conviction that he needs us. Where else can he find the same opportunity to exchange views with others also interested and eager to find the right answers.

"...Perhaps we should preface every identification with the statement, 'This is probably....' We do it often, perhaps not often enough. We even, on occasion, explain how we arrived at our conclusion.

"I am quite sure that Mr. X does not imply that we should remain silent until we are positive of our ground. If we did this, we wouldn't need to publish *Biology Tid-Bits* because there would be little to publish. A few pages two or three times a year would suffice. I am reminded of a nice elderly friend of mine who was a devout and conservative person, and who was disturbed by my decision to become one of those 'vain and conceited scientists.' He often said, 'You smart young whippersnappers think you have all the answers. You will be mighty surprised on resurrection morning (when ultimate truth is revealed).'

"The chief difference between us was that he was content to wait unit resurrection morning while I wanted to get the best answer I could **now**. Following the method of scientific investigation, we accept the best answer we can come up with, but only until we can find a better answer by further investigation.

"The purpose of our Unit is to exchange ideas to the end that we may come up with the best answers. If one person thinks we are dealing with a certain organism and someone else can show that he is wrong, haven't we made a bit of progress? Isn't that what we organized this Unit for? Isn't that why a handful of people (at considerable sacrifice of 'leisure time') keep this journal coming to you, and keep urging **you** to participate in its offerings?"

To Dr. Stanley's comments and as a fellow editor, I would like to add that we rely on our Associate Editors (and avidly desire input from all members) to acquire and organize the various listings of new issues. It should be entirely obvious that even though the editors possess extensive knowledge about their topics, no one can be 100 percent accurate in every instance. There are numerous reasons for this. The fact is that very many stamp representations are poorly, or even incorrectly, drawn and often misidentified by the issuing authority. In addition, taxonomic reorganizations are continually taking place as new scientific information becomes available just as Dr. Stanley indicated.

The Editors have always made an effort to ensure that spelling and grammar are correct in all of our articles and they check the spelling of all scientific and family names. Where they have access to additional sources, or other research, they have made adjustments, or inserted editorial comments in the articles and checklists published in the journal. When they have had a question about any entry, they tried to resolve it with the author. The Editors and Associate Editors have always avidly sought the input and correction from all our readers. Many times a checklist entry has been merely our best guess and often you may have noticed question marks or "unidentified" in the listings. Consider these entries to be your invitation to inform us what you think is the correct identification.

A letter from a reader in the February 1958 edition also pointed out an important consideration concerning the contents of the Unit journal and the stamp issue listings specifically.

“We must always remember that we are combining an Art and a Science and that the two are not always compatible. Those of us who emphasize the scientific angle want accuracy and truth, those interested in art look for artistic representation without the necessary correlation that art is completely representational.

“Collectors of both schools exist in our Unit and both must be catered to. It is incumbent (sic) on those of us who look for detailed representations that enable us to identify them down to species and varieties to admit that in many cases this is absolutely impossible.... When we are in doubt about a genus or species, or even a family, let us say so and write ‘probably’ or ‘possibly’ after our identification.”

This letter also included one of the first suggestions for having “new issues” editors for specific topical areas.

Dr. Stanley kept the journal and the Unit going in first class fashion in its early years, but unfortunately it was at the expense of his own health. He insisted on doing everything himself: Editor, Publisher, Secretary, and Treasurer. He justified being Publisher because he had access to the college facilities for printing at an inexpensive price and could hire lots of students to assemble the printed pages, again at a reduced rate. He justified being Treasurer because he needed rapid access to money when he had to pay his students for their work.

As head of the Science Department, he was responsible for the expansion of the curriculum as well as the construction of a new multi-million dollar science building in addition to his normal teaching duties. He gave over much of his vacation time to work on the publication of the journal and the stress of this effort led to failing health. What began for Dr. Stanley apparently as a labor of love in the end became such a burden that he openly complained about the onus of the job and what he seemed to feel was the insufficient level of cooperation from the membership in providing input and other assistance in the production of the journal. In fact, much of this he caused himself by taking on too many duties and failing to delegate responsibilities that others could easily, if perhaps not as thoroughly, have accomplished.

It seems evident from the journal contents that Stan pretty much held the Unit together in its early years. Nonetheless, the approach he adopted was not a good one. We need heroes, but only in extraordinary circumstances. If it takes heroic effort to perform routine work, then you are doing it wrong.

### **Growing Pains**

During this period, there continued to be much debate among the Unit members about the scope of items to include as subjects under the “biological subjects on stamps” definition of the Unit charter. Professor Jack von Bloeker, in a preface to his “Fish Stamp Checklist,” discussed the primary issue faced by all checklist authors and that is, how inclusive should it be? Some people collect issues that depict the subject only as the central theme. Whereas others collect anything that is any way associated with their topic.

His observation, which holds as true now as it did then, was that there is nothing wrong with either procedure, and that collectors can form interesting and educational collections using almost any criteria. It is simply a matter of the collector’s interests and desires.

“One of the most enjoyable aspects of topical collecting, and probably the main reason it is so popular, is that one is completely free to decide what is to be collected and to make one’s own rules for arranging and mounting the collection. It is a true medium of self-expression. One doesn’t have to take another’s advice about any topical subject, nor imitate another’s choice, in any manner.”

Despite this view, Professor von Bloeker also pointed out that it was difficult for biologists to conceive that mythological creatures and caricatures, or stylized animals in artistic designs had any direct bearing on the Biology topical field. Some viewed these items as relating more to the Art on Stamps Unit (now the Fine and Performing Arts Philatelists). Conceding that topics such as Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Veterinary Medicine, Forestry, Wildlife Conservation, Fishing, Hunting, and similar fields do have definite relations to Biology, he nonetheless warned that it is risky to extend inclusion far from the principal theme lest the unit become “hopelessly lost in a tangled jungle of irrelevant material.”

Editor Stanley pointed out (Volume 7, Number 4, page 157) that the Unit counted many professional biologists as members, but only a few had ever contributed to the “cooperative study of biological philately.” However, these contributions had been essential to the growth and continuing existence of the Biology Unit, for without them, the

Unit would have disbanded long before. He also made a very good observation that the professional biologist can “scare off” the lay biologist with the result that few are willing to put forth an article, or even a comment for publication lest they subject themselves to embarrassment, or some other criticism.

To this as the current Editor, I would add that I encourage everyone to contribute your views on any article or listing published in the journal, as well as to provide your own articles on subjects that interest you. We review all articles prior to publication and work with the authors to resolve any questions or possible discrepancies. No one should feel hesitant to submit an item for inclusion in the journal. I am quite certain that you know more about the subject of your collection than I or most other members of the Unit, and we would enjoy learning more about it.

There was some discussion regarding a change to the format of the journal to enable the readers to take it apart and file the various portions in notebooks. Responses from the readers were tepid. The editors found it difficult to envision a simple and cost effective way to accomplish this idea, so it was shelved.

During this time, topical exhibits on biological themes began to receive acceptance in the philatelic community. Three Unit members, Bessie Evans, Dr. Jack C. von Bloeker, and Dr. William H. Perkins, received invitations to exhibit wildlife stamps in the Court of Honor at the American Stamp Dealers Association National Postage Stamp Show held in New York City in November 1957.

Membership in the Unit continued to gradually increase. In May 1958, it stood at 218. Even with the increasing membership, expenses were outstripping income despite the dues increase and the implementation of the Life Membership program, which at that time cost \$25.00. Members offered several proposals to combat these losses including adding new members, reducing costs, and appealing for contributions or gifts. Unfortunately, each of these suggestions came with their own difficulties.

The Unit was having trouble recruiting new members because it had no publicity director or other person to take charge of the mission. Reducing cost was also problematic because the journal production method (which was the only expense) required hiring outside work. The Unit had no in-house publishing capability. The members discussed some alternatives to the journal format including reducing its size from 40 pages to a lesser number.

The suggestions on reducing size included: (1) Cut out chit chat. But many readers appreciated the editorial comments and letters to the editor; (2) Dispense with the expensive cover. But a cover was necessary and had received many positive comments. The cost was slightly less than three cents per document; (3) Stick strictly to stamps and drop write-up material. But most readers preferred the write-up material as it was educational and provided research information about the subject and the stamp production methods in one place; (4) Drop all collateral material. But each collector had their own preferences, and many were interested in collateral material.

The cost for publishing *Biology Tid-Bits* in 1957 averaged \$58.26 for the total run of copies per issue. This cost included materials and postage averaging \$28.83. The remainder was the cost of hired labor to operate the Multilith equipment and assemble the copies. The production amounted to about 12,000 pages per run. During this period, the journal experienced several publication delays due to conflicts with the Editor's professional duties at the university. There were also production problems resulting in faulty copies for some editions.

The survey responses from a little more than ten percent of the readers overwhelmingly indicated that they did not want significant changes in the journal. Most found the “chit chat” very interesting and informative and the write-ups on the various material were essential to keep the publication from devolving into merely a listing of stamps. It also seemed according to comments from many readers that, although each member had their own particular specialty area, they were also interested in the material dealing with other topics and enlightened by those articles.

During 1959, the Unit continued to publish *Biology Tid-Bits* on a bi-monthly basis. Each edition contained about 40 pages of articles, news, and checklists for the various biological topics. In addition, Unit members continued to work on compiling data and editing pages for three new ATA Handbooks on Agriculture, Botany, and Zoology. The membership as of the Secretary's annual report in June stood at 235. The increased dues, sales of back issues, and voluntary contributions had put the Unit back in the black. The journal even accepted a page of paid advertising. Nonetheless, forecasting increased expenses, the Secretary recommended to the Board a 50-cent increase in annual dues to \$2.50.

In Volume 6, the editor had begun publishing a column titled “Can You Tell Us” that listed questions from readers and editors mainly about the identification of biological depictions on various stamp issues. In the February-March 1959 edition, this was formalized as a recurring column. The editor provided a consolidated listing of the outstanding questions totaling 75 entries to which he appended 20 new questions. Of course, it was not much use to tally questions without also providing responses and the second part of this department included these under the title “They Could Tell Us,” which provided at least partial answers to 18 different previous questions. Associate Editor Donald P. Wright, Jr. was given responsibility to edit and organize this department.

A continuing theme from the Editor and Associate Editors was the request for help from the membership. These requests involved not only the quest for new material to publish, but also assistance in the manual production of checklists and handbooks. The Editor wanted assistance in typing pages for reproduction and publication in addition to research input. In our current age of automation, computerized word and image processing, and electronic communications and publication, we often forget how labor intensive and time-consuming the journal publication process was at that time. All pages had to be typewritten on master sheets and any extensive errors required starting over with a new page.

Up until this time, the Biology Unit accepted new members only if they also were members of the ATA. In view of the financial status, some members suggested offering subscriptions to libraries and other entities that had no affiliation with the ATA.

### Member Survey

In order to learn more about the needs and wishes of the Unit members, the officers sent out a questionnaire with the October-November 1958 edition of *Biology Tid-Bits*. Of the 200 questionnaires, the Unit received responses from 107 members. This rate of 53.5 percent was much below the 83 percent return rate for the survey sent the previous year. The analysis revealed some surprises including the fact that 106 of the 107 responders had access to the Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue. However, only about one quarter were using the most current edition. Slightly more than 40 percent also used catalogues other than Scott's.

The survey also asked about readership of other philatelic periodicals and specified the five most popular contemporary American publications for responses. Of the 96 respondents who read at least one publication, *Linn's Weekly Stamp News* at 77 was by far the most popular. The next most popular was *Western Stamp Collector* with 41. *Stamps: A Weekly Magazine of Philately* followed with 37 and *Weekly Philatelic Gossip* and *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* rounded out the survey with 32 and 29 readers, respectively. Eight of the members read all five. Interestingly, only *Linn's* and *Mekeel's* are still in publication.

Four of the respondents indicated that they in fact did not collect biological topics at all, but joined the Unit to help others interested in the Biology topic. Of the 103 biology collectors, 23 did not collect plant topics at all and 15 did not collect any animal topics. The other members collected across multiple topics and a large majority did not limit themselves to any specific category.

Another interesting aspect of the results was the number of members (about 40 percent) who collected, or at least were interested in collateral material such as postmarks, cachets, and un-cataloged stamps. At the time, there were some who held the belief that these sorts of items “had nothing to do with philately.” Of course, that view would be news to collectors today who specialize in postal history, illustrated mail, and cinderellas.

One aspect of *Biology Tid-Bits* under the editorship of Dr. Stanley was his ability to obtain input from many different Unit members for each edition of the journal. For example, Volume 8, Number 3 published in January 1959, contained a total of 44 pages, four and a half of which were taken up by the annual membership roster. Nonetheless, the issue contained articles, letters, and notes from no fewer than 18 different members, nine of whom contributed multiple items.



## Illustrations

Although Volume 2, Number 8 published in December 1952, included two special pages of reprinted photographs produced separately from the journal and showing reduced images of eight pages from Roger Henebry's award-winning youth exhibit on coffee production, the journal was not prepared to easily publish graphics. This was due to the limitations involved with the Multilith process and the expense of photo offset printing for such a small press run. The first illustration to appear in the journal was a manual line drawing presented in Volume 7, Number 1, issued in August 1957. This drawing by the editor showed front, rear, and side views of the plumage display of a lyrebird. Otherwise, the publication up until then had been entirely composed of typewritten text.

The first picture illustration, a reproduced black and white newspaper image of a notornis (an endangered bird species from New Zealand), appeared in the April-May 1959 edition (Volume 8, Number 5) on page 178. In that same issue, on page 180, the journal presented its first images of postage stamps representing several different stamp production methods as an experiment to determine how they would appear in print.

The image production used a new process called xerography. This was cutting-edge technology in 1959, actually predating the release of the first commercial copier, the Xerox 914, in 1960. The early application of this process was quite cumbersome involving several operator steps and, according to the description, it took a trained operator three to five minutes to prepare a master sheet using it. Unfortunately, the unidentified benefactor who provided access to this process decided to give up the Haloid-Xerox machine and so the image production capability was only temporary, with images eventually appearing in only three issues.

In Volume 11, Number 2, dated October-November 1961, but actually published in December of that year, the editor included a one-page addendum containing photographs of the nine current Unit officers. This page was produced by photo offset and financed from funds acquired as special gifts. Despite the success of this production, the editor determined to delay any repeat of this type of image production because of the extra expense.

The next attempt at including illustrations occurred in Volume 15, Number 5/6 once again using xerography to reproduce an image of an *Archaeopteryx* fossil and a Polish stamp with the same subject. The use of these types of images was rare until the editor tried a new procedure available through a university colleague.

In Volume 18, Number 2, the editor included two plates showing 61 and 64 stamps, respectively, depicting a variety of mammals together with several pages of text containing the key to the identity of each stamp and the animal it contained. These plates were prepared by Professor Salvatore J. Cudia (1931–2005) and two of his students from the SUNY Fredonia Biology Department using offset photography. The reproduced images were very sharp and clear.

The choice of subject and arrangement was complicated. The operators photographed the stamps against black velvet and to scale. Then they determined the print size based on the largest stamp on the 35mm film. This proportional reduction enabled them to place many more images on the page than would have resulted from mounting the stamps on a page and photographing them together much like the xerographic procedure before.

This project was an experiment and apparently treated partially as an educational teaching endeavor as there were no charges for the photography, but the printing costs for the total number of required pages amounted to \$28.

The journal employed the process again in Volume 19, Number 2 with two plates containing images of 42 and 45 amphibian and reptile stamps. Dr. Stanley was unsuccessful in his effort to use these experimental images to encourage more contributions of photographs from the Unit members for other topics and considering the added expense, he decided to discontinue this offset method.

The next illustrations did not appear until Volume 24, Number 1, when the editor began using xerographic images routinely. The initial illustrations were of a Falkland Islands bird stamp and the original image that served as the basis for its design used to illustrate the "Ornithological Notes" column. Thereafter, xerographic images of stamps appeared in all the journal editions, evolving eventually into the use of electronic imagery in the current issues.

## Establishing a Routine

The Biology Unit held its 1959 Annual Meeting at the Sheraton McAlpin Hotel in New York City on 20 June with ten members in attendance. President Esten and Secretary Stanley were unable to attend, but sent written greetings that were read to the members. One of the “hot” issues discussed involved the labor performed by several Unit members to produce handbooks sold by the ATA, but for which the Unit received no compensation or share in the profits. A motion from the floor carried to “...recommend to the Governing Board to take up with ATA officials a plan by which royalties shall be paid to a Unit,” that produced one of the handbooks. The meeting recognized two members present: Homer Jones and Edgar Spurgeon, who had attended every annual meeting of the Unit to date.

The members also took up the issue of dues increase and recommended adopting Dr. Stanley’s suggestion to increase the regular dues to \$2.50 and to add two voluntary membership levels, Contributing at \$3.00 and Supporting at \$5.00, to help defray the production and distribution cost of the Unit journal. These additional levels did not include any special advantages over the regular membership, but were implemented to enable those with the means to provide greater support the organization. The members also passed a motion to offer Junior memberships to those under the age of 17 at a rate of \$1.50 per year.

In the summer of 1959, Heinz Heiter suggested setting up a stamp exchange plan for the Unit and submitted a set of proposed rules for comment by the members and approval by the Board. Response by the membership was extremely light and so this effort never got off the ground.

At the end of 1959, Dr. Stanley reported on the progress the committee had been making on the production of the Botany Handbook. This was in response to some impatient inquiries from a few Unit members. The editor had been publishing excerpts from parts of the book in several issues of the journal. Producing the comprehensive publication was a tremendous undertaking. The handbook was not just a simple checklist of stamps with botanical themes. It included scholarly descriptions of each family, organized in taxonomic order, along with listings of stamp subjects identified by species. This work, accomplished entirely by volunteer Unit members, represented in Dr. Stanley’s words, “...something that would require thousands of dollars to buy in the way of trained professional services.”

The ATA published the Botany Handbook (HB30) in the fall of 1960, culminating a five-year long project. At the time, it was the largest and most costly research and publishing endeavor by the ATA and sold for \$6.00. Dr. Shirley C. Tucker of the University of Minnesota, and Mrs. Claude Weber of the Harvard University Arboretum were the compilers. Sidney R. Esten, the Biology Unit President, served as the editor. Merida Wilde produced the index and cross referencing and Gayle Allan Foster provided the photography.

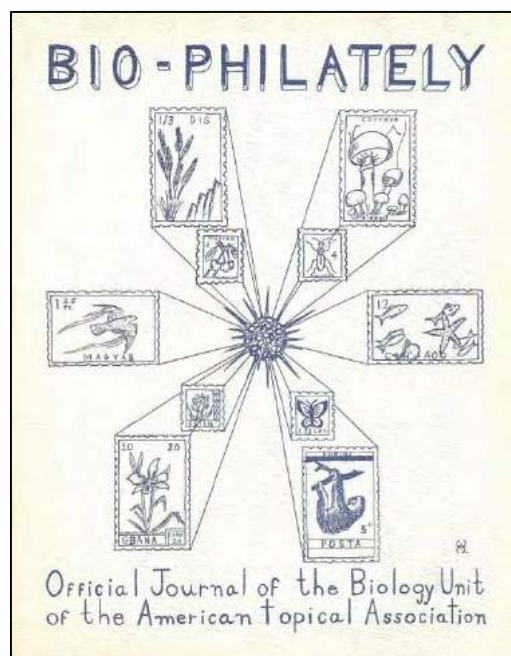
The Biology Unit was able to offer a limited number of handbooks for sale at the pre-publication price of \$5.00, with the proceeds going to a special fund to finance the publication of *Biology Tid-Bits* and provide additional research in the area of biological philately. This work was of such scholarly quality, that the ATA promoted its sale to libraries and educational institutions. Researchers can still find this popular publication for sale on several publication web sites.

As of 31 May 1960, the Unit counted 242 persons as members. During the preceding year, in addition to completing the Botany Handbook, the Unit had completed another handbook on Agriculture, which the ATA refused for publication, and continued work on the production of a Zoology handbook.

The Unit held its annual meeting on 16 June 1960 in the Miller Room of the Hotel Dykman in Minneapolis, Minnesota with Vice-President Edgar W. Spurgeon presiding in the absence of President Esten, who was engaged in teaching summer classes at his school. Ten members and six guests were present. Two additional members, Dessie Bodamer and Homer L. Jones, were not at the meeting because they were busy with inspecting and judging the TOPEX exhibits.

The members again brought up the idea of the Unit receiving royalties for the Biology handbooks produced by the Unit and its members. ATA founder, Jerry Husak, provided an explanation that these royalties would be impossible to manage and would “snowball” with payments to contributors, which would then drive up costs, with the result that more members drop out and in the end the entire organization would be in worse condition. This explanation satisfied the meeting attendees.

The most significant topic of discussion involved changing the name of *Biology Tid-Bits*. The members all agreed that the publication had long ago passed the stage of offering “tid-bits” of information. Suggestions provided by the members included *Biological Philately* and *Philatelic Biology*. Eventually, the group decided to submit the titles to the journal editor and allow him to make the decision.



*Bio-Philately* Cover Design  
Volumes 10-28

Starting with Volume 10, Number 1, published in September 1960, the Dr. Stanley, after checking with the other Board members, changed the name of the journal to *Bio-Philately*. He chose this shorter name in order to reflect the philatelic aspect of the publication and also to acknowledge that the journal had grown into more than just a small newsletter. In fact, Dr. Stanley and the associate editors had been publishing scholarly articles on many different aspects of both philately and biology.

The editor chose a new cover design created by Warren MacDowell, a senior sciences student at Fredonia State, who also worked part time as a student assistant in the Science Department. MacDowell prepared the cover while working a twelve-hour shift at a canning factory during the summer between classes.

This remained the cover design for nineteen years.

Many readers sent letters to the editor seeking identification of the subjects on various stamp issues, sometimes claiming that the stamp catalogue said one thing, but the journal said another. In a reply to one such inquiry in the February-March 1961 edition, the editor neatly summed up the main purpose of the publication.

“It is partly because of catalogue and philatelic newspaper errors like this that the Biology Unit of the ATA was formed. We have our critics who moan (and scream) that we are giving out misinformation.... We can understand how misinformation creeps into the weekly philatelic newspapers. New is news chiefly when it is new news. Such a paper cannot hold back information until the biologists...are agreed.”

The Unit conducted another reader survey during 1960–61 and received 115 replies to 250 questionnaires that it sent to members. Among the interesting results, 15 reported that they only collected one subject. Thirty respondents indicated that they collected ten subjects, or more. Animals were more popular than plants as collection topics and 45 respondents indicated that they collected all animal types. Thirty-nine respondents collected all plant types.

Among animal collectors, birds (46) was the most popular topic. Most of the plant collectors (37) collected flowers. Sixty-six percent of the respondents indicated that they collected various collateral materials in addition to, or instead of catalogue-listed stamp issues.

### **Institutional Cooperation**

In its first eleven years, the Biology Unit had attained many achievements including the continual publication of the Unit journal, which had received praise in the philatelic press. Of the more than 30 handbooks published by the ATA up until then, ten had been written or edited by Unit members. Eleven of the 22 recipients of the Distinguished Topical Philatelist award, the highest honor bestowed by the ATA, had been members of the Biology Unit. At TOPEX '61, Unit member John Groet was installed as the ATA President.

The eleventh annual meeting of the Unit was held in the Masonic Temple, Valley Pike, Johnstown, Pennsylvania, on 17 June 1961, with 16 members and five guests in attendance. ATA Founder, Jerry Husak, seemed to make a point of attending each of the annual meetings even though he was not a Unit member, and at this meeting offered to reprint an article on biological topic collecting by President Esten in the ATA journal, *Topical Time*.

The members passed an amendment to the Unit Constitution to increase the number of directors from three to five in order to spread out responsibilities among more personnel. The Unit also decided to set aside funds collected for the payment of Life memberships into a special interest bearing account to serve as an emergency reserve. The Unit had also received \$73 from the sale of the new Botany Handbook and the members, at the suggestion of the Treasurer, determined to place that money in the research fund as money that was not derived from dues. The Unit also agreed to retain the sliding scale of dues for another year.

In notable news, the General Manager of the nine-day long International Flower Show to be held in Chicago in March 1962, had offered the ATA 25,000 square feet of space to display stamps showing flowers, birds, and fish. The ATA office agreed that the Biology Unit was the logical choice to handle this matter and President Esten appointed Harvey Johnson and John Groet as co-chairmen to organize the effort.

Secretary Stanley announced that Unit member George Turner, Curator of Philately at the Smithsonian Institution, had approached him for the Unit to participate in preparing a permanent exhibition of representative topical album pages in the area of Biology. This was the first time that any Smithsonian philatelic space had ever been offered for a topical exhibition. Secretary Stanley was tasked with the mission to follow up on this matter.

The Secretary pursued this opportunity by attending a meeting with George Turner at the Smithsonian in October 1961, where they coordinated the details of the planned exhibits. In the next edition of *Bio-Philately*, Secretary Stanley solicited donations of stamps from the Unit members to fulfill the exhibit requirements. The Biology Unit was awarded eight pages consisting of one each for Birds, Fish, Insects, Mammals, Other Animals, Flowers, Other Botanicals, and Conservation. Each page was designed to contain 20 stamps selected to depict a variety of subjects, taxonomic groups, and issuing countries. The Unit supplied the taxonomic information and other identifications and the Smithsonian staff created and arranged the display of each page.

Sixteen members provided stamps for this project amounting to hundreds of examples. Dr. Stanley selected a range of species and representative issuing countries from these items to submit 40 examples for each display page to enable the Smithsonian staff multiple options for preparing the permanent exhibit.

Another area of cooperation also opened during this period. The journal contributors had from the beginning provided identifications for the subjects of each stamp issue reported. And that procedure continues to this day. It should be no surprise to current readers that the stamp subjects were often misidentified by the issuing authority, or not identified at all. This naturally caused difficulties for biology topical collectors, but they were not the only ones who suffered from this problem. The Scott Catalogue editors faced an even greater challenge because they were tasked with identifying stamp subjects across every facet of collecting, not just biological topics.

Some years before, Dr. Stanley had made an offer to Scott Publishing to provide assistance from the Unit in correcting erroneous identifications listed in the catalogue or the monthly *Chronicle of New Issues*. But, he had never received any reply. In September 1961, he once again wrote to the Scott Publishing editors to draw attention to some recent errors and repeated the offer of assistance:

“My second purpose in writing this letter is to offer you, if you are interested, the resources of the Biology Unit of the American Topical Association in correcting similar ‘errors.’ I do this in all modesty, but, as editor-publisher of *Bio-Philately*, I am in touch with many professional biologists who collect the various biological groups of stamps....”

A few days later Dr. Stanley received this reply from James B. Hatcher thanking him for the corrections and accepting the assistance of the Unit:

“We indeed welcome the help of yourself and the Biology Unit in correctly identifying the various flora and fauna. We are constantly trying to improve and correct our data on these subjects, and to be accurate in the names....”

“I did not see your letter of some years ago, offering to help us, but, I assure you I would have been strongly in favor of taking you up.”

Dr. Stanley proceeded to set up a special card file (remember personal computers were still more than 20 years in the future) to accomplish the tracking of these discrepancies and solicited the help of all members to submit their corrections and comments.

The 1962 annual meeting took place at the TOPEX '62 convention in Colorado Springs on 15 June. The only board member able to attend was Merida Wilde, who arranged a luncheon meeting for the five members and ten guests. Members of the Unit gained several exhibit awards including Dorothy Perrin who received the Grand Award for her exhibit on insects.

## ADOLESCENT YEARS

The mid-1960s to mid-1970s were trying times for the Biology Unit. Health problems and work conflicts began to affect Dr. Stanley and he lobbied for relief from his Board and Editor positions. When at last the Unit could no longer avoid the decision, the transfer of responsibilities did not go as smoothly as desired. The editorship was in continual turnover for several years between Dr. Stanley, Zannie Davis, Donald Wright, Davis again, and finally Gus Eglajs before it stabilized. Financial difficulties caused by the cost of journal production added more complications.

The philosophical basis of the Biology Unit has been that of a cooperative study unit devoted to providing its members with a means of communications concerning biological philatelic topics. Technically, there was and still is no "subscription" to the Unit journal. It serves as the communications vehicle, and the membership dues are the method used to finance its productions and distribution.

In the early 1960s, it cost more than the standard dues amount per member to produce the yearly editions. Because the Governing Board did not want to raise the dues to a point where some members could no longer afford them and drop out as a result, they "invented" a sliding scale where those who could afford to do so, contributed higher amounts. Many members generously responded to this option.

It was during this period that the pressures of his regular work combined with a series of serious health issues began to adversely affect Dr. Stanley's ability to maintain the publication schedule of the journal.

During 1963, Unit members continued work on completing several checklists and compiling data for the publication of handbooks and handbook supplements for topics including Zoology, Botany, Birds, and Horses. The Unit also continued its cooperation with Scott Publishing Company to provide identifications for biological stamp subjects.

The Biology Unit had garnered some significant accomplishments during its first twelve years. Three of the six ATA Presidents up to that time were also members of the Unit: Homer L. Jones, Harvey E. Johnson, and John H. Groet. During that time, the membership of the Unit had grown from 13 to 259. The Unit journal had set a high standard of excellence and developed into an excellent reference publication for the membership.

Up until this time, eleven of the twenty-eight persons who had received the Distinguished Topical Philatelist award, the highest honor bestowed by the American Topical Association, were members of the Biology Unit. See page 53 for a listing of all Biology Unit members who have received this award. Clearly the Unit continued to be a leader among all the ATA study units.

In Volume 13, Number 3 of January 1964, two members submitted resignation letters to the secretary with the same complaint, namely that the journal articles were all too technical for persons who were not biology professionals to understand. The editor responded with perplexity at this notion because the editors and contributors tried to provide all known information at a variety of levels. He felt that readers should be able to find whatever information they sought and disregard any details that were extraneous to their needs.

An exchange of a series of letters between one of the Unit members and the Editor (Volume 14, Number 1) highlighted some dissatisfaction with the balance between the botanical and zoological material being published with the weight apparently tilted toward zoological items. The writer faulted the Editor and Associate Editors for this imbalance. Dr. Stanley pointed out in reply that during the entire period of his editorship he had bemoaned the fact that so few persons had been interested in sharing their interests in botanical subjects. As for equal space, he suggested that the writer compare the quantity of stamps issued with botanical subjects to the quantity issued with zoological subjects there being many more of the latter.

The Biology Unit held their annual meeting at the Walt Whitman Hotel in Camden, New Jersey on 20 June 1964, with 13 members and 12 guests. Dr. Stanley chaired the informal meeting and introduced the new slate of Unit

officers. Dr. William H. Perkins replaced Sidney R. Esten, who had served as President for nine years. Miss Merida Wilde became the new Vice-President while Dr. Willard F. Stanley continued in the office of Secretary-Treasurer. Two new Directors joined the Board: Dr. Robert E. Gordon from Notre Dame University and Dr. Kenneth P. Pruess from the University of Nebraska.

Dr. William Harvey Perkins (1894–1967) was a physician and former Dean of Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. After receiving his medical degree in 1917, he had served with the U.S. Army Medical Corps in France during World War I. Following the war, he worked in Siam as a medical missionary and teacher where the King of Siam awarded him the Order of the White Elephant, one of the country's highest honors, for his meritorious service to the government. He became dean of his alma mater in 1941, serving until November 1950 when he resigned for health reasons, though he continued in his position as Professor of Preventive Medicine. The prize for Preventive Medicine given by the College of Physicians of Philadelphia is named in his honor.



Dr. William H. Perkins  
Third President

While there had been slight delays in the publication of some editions of the Unit journal, real problems began in the summer of 1964. This was the period when Dr. Stanley's health problems began to manifest themselves. These problems, coupled with the conflicts and demands of his professorship, led to severe delays in the publication of the Unit journal. (See the publication charts starting on page 64.)

Dr. Willard F. Stanley retired from the chairmanship of Biology Department at Fredonia State in June 1966, a position he had held for 31 years. But, he remained at the school as a full-time Professor of Biology.

Dr. Stanley, despite his ill health, was the driving force in the continuing preparation of two separate handbooks: one on Birds of the World on Stamps and the other a more ambitious Zoology Handbook.

The Unit held its annual meeting with six members and four guests on 25 June 1966. As customary, the meeting took place during the TOPEX convention held that year at the Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum in Weston, Massachusetts. Mrs. Dorothy Perrin chaired the meeting in the absence of the Unit officers. She read a note from President Perkins who was too ill to attend and the Annual Report of Secretary-Treasurer Stanley, who was engaged in completing Volume 15, Number 5-6 of *Bio-Philately* under deadline of his university schedule.

The Unit elected a new slate of officers in 1966. Dr. James P. Kramer of Washington, DC became President and Dr. Shirley C. Tucker from Louisiana took the office of Vice-President.

James P. Kramer (1928–2011) received his B.S. degree from Beloit College (1950), M.S. from the University of Missouri (1952), and his Ph.D. in entomology from the University of Illinois (1961). From 1957, he worked as a research entomologist in the Entomology Research Branch of the United States Department of Agriculture, located in the United States National Museum. Dr. Kramer remained with the USDA until his retirement in 1987, studying the Homoptera suborder Auchenorrhyncha, with special emphasis on New World leafhoppers (Cicadellidae) and planthoppers (Fulgoroidea). He published several scholarly papers on these insects and was the identifier and author of several species of *Oecleus* (planthoppers). He also was co-editor of the *Animals on Stamps* handbook (HB62) with Dr. Willard F. Stanley.

In January 1967, President Kramer, announced the first call for a volunteer to take over editorship of *Bio-Philately* from Dr. Stanley. Dr. Kramer proposed the possibility of changing the publication from a bimonthly to a quarterly production schedule in order to allow more time for editing. As an alternative to a volunteer editor, the Board considered hiring a professional typist and a commercial concern to assemble the journal. This would demand a dues increase.

Dr. Stanley in Volume 16, Number 5 reiterated his desire for relief from the editorship and an effort to decentralize these duties. However, whether because no one else stepped up to take on the task, or because Dr. Stanley seemed to believe no one else would be able to maintain the quality level, no change occurred.



In 1967, the Unit had 278 members. Helen F. Demond made an analysis of the demographics and discovered the following: 226 members resided in 36 of the United States. Fifty-two members were residents of 23 overseas countries. Seven eastern states accounted for 128 (57 percent) of the U.S. members with New York (35) being the most populous. Canada (13) had the largest number of international members. These figures align well with the overall historical demographics of the organization. See the demographics summary on page 54.

### Naming Conventions

Dr. Stanley had instituted a policy concerning the use of sub-specific, or trinomial, naming in the journal listings. Basically, he was against this usage unless there was proof that the species depicted on the listed stamp actually was the designated subspecies. One acceptable method of proof was to identify the original source used by the artist or designer to produce the stamp illustration. If the design could be traced to a scientific source that showed the subject, even if the stamp portrait did not show the diagnostic characteristic of the subspecies, then the editors could accept this identification.

Another aspect of sub-specific identification worthy of consideration involves the usage of the subspecies category in conservation lists. Gippoliti and Amori (2007) note that the scientific and political communities often include sub-specific identifications based on uneven taxonomic knowledge that can produce a biased picture of species endangerment worldwide.

In later years, many countries have issued stamps depicting species that have never occurred within their borders. They have done this through carelessness, or for economic reasons to increase sales to collectors. But in these earlier times, most stamp issuing entities produced designs that showed local flora and fauna. It was easy to determine if the subspecies in fact occurred locally, but the question was, did the stamp actually show it, or was the design inspired or lifted from a source that did **not** show the subspecies, even if it was so labeled.

This is an interesting consideration. Sometimes one can become **less** scientific by assuming the depiction is a subspecies simply because that is what the stamp caption reads, or because you can find the subspecies in the issuing country. The current editorial policy is to include the subspecies name unless clear reasons exist to exclude it.

The next annual meeting of the Biology Unit took place on 25 June 1967, at the Manger Hotel in Rochester, New York with 15 attendees. The Unit Secretary, Dr. Stanley, convened the meeting in the absence of the President and Vice-President. A prime discussion topic was the need for a new journal Editor-Publisher and delegation of tasks in the interim period. Unfortunately, no new editor was forthcoming, but the attendees did provide some suggestions and one solution to reducing the workload was to appoint a Corresponding Secretary to handle incoming correspondence in order to relieve Dr. Stanley of this responsibility.

Another suggestion under serious consideration was to reduce the publication schedule from bi-monthly to quarterly with the understanding that the total number of pages would remain the same.

Regarding the Associate Editors, Dr. Stanley mentioned that some did not send in enough material or provide it in a form that enabled easy direct transfer to the master sheets. This was true also for other contributors. Often the editor received only some notes that required time-consuming checking and amplification. Also mentioned was the lack of Associate Editors for Fish, Mammals, and Invertebrates. This adversely affected the availability of information on new issues, which the editor desired to publish in every edition.

The members discussed the option of separating the offices of Treasurer and Secretary, but Dr. Stanley replied that as long as he was Editor-Publisher, it was imperative that he have ready access to funds in order to pay his student and staff help immediately. The members discussed the possibility of establishing a working fund for this, but the group came to no decision.

## Membership Survey

The Unit conducted another membership survey between October 1967 and March 1968, and received 140 responses from the 278 total members. President Kramer published a summary of the results in Volume 17, Number 4. The only demographics data concerned member occupations, with the largest segment (20 percent) citing business fields. Teachers composed about 14 percent, scientists and engineers about 13 percent, biologists about 12 percent, and health and healing arts about seven percent. About 39 percent of the members had made some contribution to the information published in *Bio-Philately*. This is much greater than the current percentage.

The main purpose of the survey was to determine the opinions of the membership concerning three key issues. The first issue was the proposal to change publication of *Bio-Philately* from a bi-monthly to a quarterly schedule. Eighty-nine percent of the respondents indicated they had no objection to this. The second issue concerned the requirement for membership in the ATA as a prerequisite for Unit membership. Eighty-seven percent indicated that they had no objection to dropping this requirement. The third issue was to determine if the members were in favor of a proposed increase in the annual dues and 91 percent were agreeable.

Regarding topical collecting interests, Birds continued to lead the way with Flowers and Mammals close behind in second and third places. The results contained lavish praise for *Bio-Philately*, though several expressed concern that it was too much a one-man show. Very few complained about the failure to maintain a publication schedule.

The effort to find a replacement for Dr. Stanley as Editor-Publisher continued to be unsuccessful. Several members offered their assistance, but none had the time or ability to take on the entire job. Also, despite his protestations about the work load and his admission that it was not realistic for one person to have the responsibility, Dr. Stanley proved reluctant to divest himself of lesser tasks seemingly because he felt he could complete them more easily himself rather than rely on another person. He also seemed unwilling to accept that the editor and publisher duties could be separated apparently under the belief that the method he was using was the most efficient.

The Biology Unit held its annual meeting on 22 June 1968 at the Sheraton Schroeder Hotel in Milwaukee, Wisconsin presided by Helen F. Demond in the absence of the Unit officers. Eleven members and guests were present. Ms. Demond gave a summary of the accomplishments by the Unit and its members over the previous two years. Highlights included publication of ATA HB61, *Flowers on Stamps*, authored by Doris C. Patterson and sponsorship of ATA HB62, *Animals on Stamps*, edited by Dr. James Kramer and Dr. Willard Stanley.

The attendees also discussed some of the issues relating to the publication of *Bio-Philately* and the experiment toward publishing four issues per year instead of six. Ms. Demond requested that each member seriously consider how they could contribute to the continued success of the Unit. Jerry Husak suggested that the Unit make use of local chapters to find help because they would better know the talents of their members.

The Unit elected a new slate of officers in 1968. Vice-President Shirley C. Tucker won election to the President position and Donald P. Wright, Jr. became Vice-President.

Shirley Cotter Tucker (1927– ) was born in Minnesota. Her interest in the botanical world began with visits to her father's greenhouse on the University of Minnesota campus, where he was Professor of Plant Pathology. She received a B.A. in Botany in 1949 and M.S. in 1951 at the University of Minnesota and completed her Ph. D. at the University of California at Davis in 1956. She has taught in the Botany Departments at the University of Minnesota, Louisiana State University, and UC-Santa Barbara. She retired from LSU in 1995 as an emeritus Boyd Professor of botany, the university's highest professorial rank.

Dr. Tucker has published more than 140 papers on floral morphology, plant systematics, and the lichens of California. She has even studied the anatomy of plants grown in the zero gravity environment of the space shuttle.

It is a significant measure of the importance of her work that she was supported by the National Science Foundation nearly continuously from 1957 to 2000. Among her notable achievements, she was President of both the Botanical Society of America and



Dr. Shirley C. Tucker  
Fifth President

the American Society of Plant Taxonomists. She is a Fellow of the Linnaean Society, and has received numerous awards recognizing her scientific contributions.

### Quarterly Journal

With Volume 18, the Unit moved from a bi-monthly publication schedule to a quarterly schedule. The editor made the first attempt at photo-offset illustrations in Volume 18, Number 2 with two plates showing mammals on stamps. Professor Salvatore J. Cudia and two of his students, Harry L. Love and R. Dennis O'Leary, of the Biology Department at the State University College at Fredonia performed the photography and produced the plates. They photographed the individual stamps against black velvet to scale. They then reduced the image size based on the largest stamp on the 35mm film. This enabled the inclusion of many more stamps on each page than would result from mounting the stamps on a page for photographing as had been done in Volume 15, Number 3.

Editor Stanley solicited comments from the membership regarding these illustrations considering the cost and the need for assistance with the production. However, in Volume 19, Number 1, he lamented the fact that only five people had commented, and no one had stepped forward to do any of the work involved.

The Unit held its annual meeting during TOPEX '69 at the Sheraton-Chicago Hotel on Saturday, 28 June 1969. Dr. Willard Stanley presided over the meeting in the absence of President Tucker and Vice-President Wright. Ten members were present—the small turn out due to others busy with convention activities. Dr. Stanley summarized the important needs of the Unit for its successful operation during the coming year. These included: (1) three or four Associate Editors for specific biological sub-topics, (2) a corresponding secretary to handle non-scientific correspondence independent of the journal editor, and (3) a committee to follow-up and consider the best implementation of the questionnaire results.

The two main subjects for committee consideration were removal of the requirement for ATA membership to become a Unit member and the split of the Secretary and Treasurer into two separate offices.

Dr. Stanley reported that the Unit membership stood at approximately 275 and this included several overseas member carried temporarily because they had no way to pay dues in the U.S. due to political conditions. He suggested launching a campaign to find volunteers to sponsor some of these members.

The last issue of Volume 18, scheduled for release in June 1969, was not published until January 1970. This severe delay was the result of Dr. Stanley's poor health combined with his heavy university duties. He indicated in an editorial that he must retire from the university at age 70, which would occur in June 1971. Unless he retired as professor emeritus, he no longer would have a legal relationship with the university that would enable him to obtain special postage rates and access to printing facilities for *Bio-Philately*. In any case, his intention was to relinquish the Editor's position in order to spend his retirement travelling and pursuing other interests. He stated that perhaps he would be able to contribute as an associate editor.

Volume 19, Number 2 included two more photo-offset illustration plates produced by Professor Cudia and Norman H. Ditchik showing amphibians and reptiles on stamps. Dr. Stanley in an editorial once again bemoaned the lack of photographic illustration submissions from the Unit membership and requested photos of other subjects on stamps including botany, insects, and fish.

Later in an article for Volume 20, Number 2, Professor Cudia detailed the procedures he had developed for photographing and reproduction of stamp images. He provided tips on illumination, choice of background, selection of equipment and film, and the technical processes involved including exposure, printing, and scale.

A new slate of officers assumed office in 1970. Donald P. Wright, Jr., who had been the previous Vice-President, became the Unit President and Zannie E. Davis occupied the Vice-Presidency. Dr. Stanley continued in what was to be his last term as Secretary-Treasurer. Donald Wright, in his initial President's Message to the Unit, acknowledged that the office had previously been largely honorary, with little to do except preside over the annual meetings. However, due to the changes in the Unit leadership and the production of *Bio-Philately* resulting from the retirement of Dr. Stanley, the new officers would need to make some serious decisions and put forth additional effort in the operation of the Unit and specifically in the publication of the Unit journal. President Wright praised

Dr. Stanley for his hard work and recognized him for making the Unit and the journal into a first class operation and appointed him to the newly created position of Editor Emeritus.

Donald P. Wright, Jr. (1928– ) graduated from the University of Connecticut in 1950, receiving a BA with Distinction in Zoology-Entomology. He was employed for 39 years by American Cyanamid Company in Princeton, New Jersey (now Pfizer Company) as Senior Research Entomologist and retired in 1991. He holds more than 100 U.S. and foreign patents and was the discoverer of 24 insecticides that were commercialized. He also was discoverer of a new chemical class of insecticides—the pyrolyl nitriles. He received the Scientific Achievement Award for distinguished research and is the author of numerous scientific papers. He introduced the concept, and coined the term antifeedants, for insect control.

Mr. Wright was a member of the Entomological Society of America for 50 years until his retirement and was a founding member of the Insect Rearing Group of the ESA. He served in the U.S. Army in France during the Korean War period with a Preventive Medicine Control Detachment doing insect and rodent control and surveys of insects of medical importance.



Donald P. Wright, Jr.  
Sixth President

Mr. Wright has served the Unit as Editor, Publisher, or Entomology Editor for *Biophilately* for the past 56 years and has authored three ATA handbooks: *Insects on Stamps of the World, Volumes I–III* with Volume IV due out in 2014. He has served on the board of directors in various capacities for the Biology Unit for more than 50 years. He was also the co-founder and president of the late Philatelic Lepidopterists of America, an international society of collectors of butterflies on stamps.

In Volume 19, Number 4, Dr. Stanley published a discussion of the proposal to change the membership eligibility prerequisite regarding ATA membership. Sixty-one percent of survey respondents had favored dropping the requirement because they felt that the only thing they got for their dues was *Topical Time*, and they found little of interest in it.

Vice-President Davis contributed a well-considered argument in favor of retaining the requirement for ATA membership. Her first point was that the ATA was the organization that had given birth to the Biology Unit and had provided initial support in getting it organized and operating as well as serving as a source for new members. The Unit also received intangible benefits from advertising by the ATA. She refuted the argument that breaking the tie would enable increasing Unit membership arguing that the ATA had many members whose collecting interests paralleled those of the Unit who were not yet members. In summary, she submitted that the ATA continued to provide valuable assistance to the Unit by publishing handbooks created by Unit members and by sponsoring annual exhibitions at TOPEX where many Unit members participated.

Secretary Stanley also provided some background information of which many members probably were unaware. For the entire 19 years of the Unit's existence, there had been a close relationship between the ATA office in Milwaukee and the office of the Biology Unit. The ATA had forwarded the names and addresses of every new member indicating an interest in any phase of biophilately. They also forwarded to the Editor numerous items of biological interest. From time to time, the editor had been able to reciprocate by checking articles for *Topical Time*, or by providing illustrations for various ATA publications. He also quoted excerpts of a letter from another study unit about this same topic:

"I have received your thoughts regarding the value of your ATA membership considering that you only collect [topic] on stamps. One should, however, regard this membership in its proper perspective. Without the ATA there would be no [Topic] on Stamps Unit, or those for other topics, and there would be no organization to which beginners could turn for help.

"Admittedly, *Topical Time* offers a limited amount of specific information for the collector of [Topic] on Stamps—there would be more if our members would submit articles for publication. However, *Topical Time* does serve as a liaison between various Units and also collectors; also, keeping you informed about new ideas in topical collecting. Then too, the efforts of the ATA have changed 'Topical' from a dirty word to one that

is recognized as a most interesting field of stamp collecting. TOPEX has served to raise the standards of topical exhibits and they are now recognized at almost all Exhibitions.”

Allowing that he was a supporter of retaining the ATA membership requirement, Dr. Stanley did conduct some investigation and determined that the Medical Subjects Unit had provisions for an associate membership that was acceptable to the ATA. He suggested that the Board consider submitting an amendment similar to the one used by the Medical Subjects Unit to permit associate memberships, if that was the will of the membership.

## MATURITY

In Volume 20, Number 1, Doris C. Patterson and Zannie E. Davis reported on the progress the Unit was making in reorganizing the editorial staff for *Bio-Philately* as well as the assumption of Dr. Stanley's duties as Publisher and Secretary-Treasurer due to his announced retirement on 30 June 1971. At that point, Dr. Stanley would have served as Editor-Publisher for a span of 15 years. He had received the honor of being the first designated Professor Emeritus at the State University College at Fredonia. This position gave him all the privileges of a professorship and made it possible for him to continue to provide assistance to the Unit. However, he expected to be away for long periods, so he would be unable to continue serving in his previous capacities.

In anticipation of these changes, President Wright had appointed Doris C. Patterson as Corresponding Secretary to handle the Unit correspondence and Zannie E. Davis as Unit Coordinator to facilitate the transition of responsibilities for the Unit journal.

The Unit also had a multitude of projects in the works. These included preparation of a Rice Checklist by Alberta Remington, Ursula Stahl, Toke de Jongh, and Dr. Shirley C. Tucker; preparation of a Cotton Checklist by Ursula Stahl; articles on biological eponyms and biographies by Dr. Bruce Cruickshank; updates to the Fish Checklist by Edwin O. Bookwalter; and other checklists on various topics including Agricultural Machinery, Domestic Animals, and Oenology.

The biggest project involved the preparation of a new handbook on Botany employing the efforts of more than a half-dozen Unit members.

The Biology Unit held its 20th annual meeting during TOPEX '71 on Saturday, 19 June at the Onondaga County War Memorial in Syracuse, New York. This was one of the most important Unit meetings ever held because it dealt with the great changes to the organization and to the publication of the Unit journal due to the retirement of Dr. Stanley. In addition, the members debated the proposed changes in the Unit Constitution and By-Laws to revise the membership requirements and to modify the officer positions and the structure and duties of the Governing Board. President Wright had encouraged every member who could possibly make the trip to attend the meeting in order to provide input and guidance on these important matters.

Fourteen members and six guests were present when President Wright called the meeting to order. President Wright announced that due to Dr. Stanley's retirement, he, Zannie Davis, and Doris Patterson would serve as a team to keep *Bio-Philately* in publication until appointment of a permanent editor. He also announced his intent to appoint Dr. Stanley in his capacity as Editor Emeritus to a position on the Governing Board in order to draw on his lengthy experience.

Charles S. Diamant, ATA Chairman of the Junior Activities Committee, requested the floor to announce that, after years of effort, he had succeeded in obtaining an agreement from the American Museum of Natural History to provide space and facilities for a rotating stamp exhibit. These exhibits would be limited to the areas of Biology and Medicine with the first edition to be Dorothy Perrin's award winning exhibit on Insects. He pleaded for the support of the Unit to keep this project flourishing. Unfortunately, Mr. Diamant passed away in 1972 before he could carry out the exhibit project.

The meeting then took up the issue of the proposed changes to the Constitution and By-Laws. The first topic was the retention of the requirement for ATA membership for eligibility as a Unit member. After a lengthy discussion, the members reached a consensus that the Unit should strongly encourage ATA membership, but that it would make an Associate Membership available to those who desired only to join the Biology Unit. The committee changed the wording of the proposed amendment to the Constitution to reflect this decision. The question naturally arose as to

difference between Full and Associate Membership levels and the Secretary pointed out that Associate Members would not be allowed to vote for officers or on Constitutional Amendments. Associate Members also would not be eligible for the introductory dues, but would pay the full annual dues of \$4.00.

The only other proposed change that came up for discussion was a request for clarification on the proposed article dealing with Committees. The practice of standing committees had not functioned in the past and the proposal was to eliminate them and implement a provision for the President to appoint ad hoc committees as needed. The Unit ultimately adopted and implemented this proposal.

The Unit members completely surprised Dr. Stanley at TOPEX by presenting him with a beautifully constructed and engraved plaque to commemorate his 20 years of service as Secretary-Treasurer and 15 years of service as Editor of *Bio-Philately*. In addition, under the organization by Doris Patterson and Zannie Davis, the Unit collected 203 member signatures for a framed scroll done in gold leaf, that the officers presented to Dr. Stanley at the annual awards banquet along with a cashier's check for \$200 to cover his show expenses.

TOPEX '71 offered only a few exhibits with biological themes. Unit member Carl H. Spitzer received a Silver Medal for his exhibit titled, *Vanishing Point Insects*, which contained stamps showing insects less than five millimeters in size accompanied by photographic enlargements for the viewer. The Biology Unit Award (an engraved silver tray) went to Mary Ann Owens for her exhibit titled, *E is for Elephant*.



Some Specimens from the Dr. Willard F. Stanley Biology Museum at SUNY Fredonia

Dr. Stanley reported that, in addition to his appointment as Professor Emeritus at Fredonia State, he received the honor of being appointed Curator of the College Museum, which features the fauna of Western New York—the majority of which he had collected as a field biologist over a period of 36 years. The college dedicated it as the “Willard F. Stanley Museum” and he had moved his office to the museum preparation room.

The Board announced that they would raise the cost of Introductory and Retiree dues from \$2.50 to \$3.00. Regular dues remained at \$4.00, but the Unit also continued the higher voluntary contribution levels for those members willing and able to provide extra support.

The new fiscal year of 1972 began with a new temporary Editor as well as two separate replacements for Dr. Stanley as Secretary and Treasurer. The Unit split the office into two positions with Doris C. Patterson taking over the Secretarial duties and Charles William Alber taking the responsibilities as Treasurer. Zannie E. Davis assumed the position as Editor of *Bio-Philately* temporarily with the plan that Donald Wright would be able to free up his work schedule in order to take over permanently.

President Wright informed the membership that the Board intended to change the policy of carrying unpaid members on the roll for an extra year as a cost cutting measure. Anyone unpaid as of December of the year within the U.S. would no longer receive *Bio-Philately*. Overseas members were to have a longer grace period due to the slowness of international mail and issues involving political considerations.

An analysis of costs revealed that Unit expenses were running at slightly more than four dollars per year per member. As a result, the President recommended to the Board raising the dues to \$5.00 for Regular members, \$6.00 for Associate (non-ATA) members, and \$60.00 for Life membership. The Board duly enacted these new rates to take effect on 1 October 1972.



The Unit held its next annual meeting on 24 June 1972 at the Junior-Senior High School in Falmouth, Maine, with ten members and six guests attending. Vice-President Zannie E. Davis presided in the absence of President Wright. Secretary Doris Patterson announced that the Unit had obtained 56 new members in the preceding year and in fact one of the guests had signed up as a member at the meeting.

The members devoted much of the meeting to discussion on ways and means by which members could assist the Unit. Some useful recommendations to the Board resulted from these discussions including a suggestion to increase the cost of Life Memberships to 20 times the annual dues in order to be in accord with those of other Units. Another recommendation was to change the Unit's operational year, which began on 1 October, to conform to the fiscal year (1 July) or the calendar year.

In 1973, the ATA published Handbook Number 79, *Mammals of the World on Stamps*, by Unit members R. Wagner and Willard F. Stanley, culminating a 20-year research effort.

Donald P. Wright, Jr. and Zannie E. Davis swapped jobs at the end of 1972. Wright became Editor-Publisher of *Bio-Philately* with Volume 22, Number 1, published in October 1972. And Davis was elected to the position as the Unit President. The effort to locate a new printer and acquire the necessary supplies and other resources necessary to produce the journal resulted in a slight delay in the publication schedule. Unfortunately, the demands of the editorship combined with his other responsibilities resulted in several publication delays and Wright was unable to continue as Editor after his initial year.

Zannie E. Davis (1921–2000) was born in Grandin, Missouri, and resided there until entering the Women's Army Corps in 1943. During WWII, she served in the Asiatic Pacific Theater as a Technician Fifth Grade with the WAC. After the war, she worked as an accountant for informatics and continued to work as a stamp dealer after retiring.

With the lifting of the restriction involving ATA membership, President Davis instituted a drive to recruit new members into the Biology Unit. Among the promotions were efforts to publicize the Unit and its goals among local stamp clubs and to try to get biophilatelic articles into magazines, local newsletters, and other publications.

In 1973, the Board, acceding to the will of the membership, decided to change the Unit's fiscal year to match the calendar year and align the publication schedule of *Bio-Philately* accordingly. This change would make the jobs of the Secretary and Treasurer easier and would also make it easier for members to remember to pay their dues.

The Unit held its annual meeting as usual in conjunction with TOPEX on 23 June 1973, at the Hotel Hilton in Denver, Colorado attended by 15 members and guests. The members praised the reorganization of the New Zoological Issues listings in *Bio-Philately* that separated the entries by topic.

At the urging of Helen Demond, one of the guests, Mel Garabrant, an ATA and American Philatelic Society accredited judge, spoke about biological exhibits. He pointed out that it was not sufficient to just present flora and fauna by their scientific names and taxonomic order regardless of the amount of research involved. Instead, exhibitors should be selective and indicate specifically why they chose the philatelic item for the exhibit. For example, an assembly of pretty scientifically named roses with no further descriptions or explanations would not receive a high award. He suggested highlighting the research by indicating why the exhibitor selected this particular rose, where did it grow, what was unusual about it, was it the only stamp of this species, was there a story about the choice of this particular design, and so forth.

As of January 1974, the membership rolls stood at an all-time record total of 379.

### Staff Changes

Zannie E. Davis resumed the position of Editor-Publisher with Volume 23, Number 1, but her health failed and she was able to complete only two editions. Gustavs E. Eglajs volunteered to assume the editorship starting with Volume 24. It took a joint effort to produce the last edition of Volume 23, which resulted in a combined Number 3 and Number 4.

Gustavs Eglajs (1912–1990) was born in Riga, Latvia. He studied economics and business administration, majoring in accounting at the University of Latvia and University of Wisconsin. He worked in various accounting positions and retired in 1974. His other hobbies included ornithology and outdoor life. He was deeply involved in Boy Scouting having served in different positions at troop and district levels and as the Deputy Chief Scout for Latvian Boy Scouts and District Commissioner with BSA.



Gustavs E. Eglajs  
Editor (1975–82)

The Editor position was not the only staff change. Edwin O. Bookwalter, who had served several years as the Associate Editor for Ichthyology, had to resign due to poor health. He turned his editorship over to Ursula Stahl, who had been working with him for a couple years. Anne W. Jones also joined the staff as the Associate Editor for Mammals. Finally, Duke H. Schirmer accepted the duties as Unit Librarian replacing Doris C. Patterson.

The ATA published Handbook Number 82, *Birds of the World on Stamps*, by Willard F. Stanley, Beverly S. Ridgely, and Gustavs E. Eglajs in early 1974. This book was a serious scholarly publication that took almost 20 years of research to produce.

Dr. Beverly S. Ridgely, who was a Professor of French at Brown University, reported in 1999 that he never personally met either of his co-authors. They handled all their coordination through correspondence and occasional telephone conversations and got to know each other very well through these methods. It is interesting to note that many of his correspondents assumed he was a woman due to his name, though it was a popular boy's name when he was young.

The ATA held its 25th Anniversary TOPEX on 21–23 June 1974, in Rochester, New York. The ATA Board had decided to hold a joint show with the Rochester Philatelic Exposition (ROPEX). The Biology Unit continued its tradition of supplying leadership within the topical collecting community providing both the ATA President, Henry (Hank) Peterson, and the ATA Secretary, Dorothy F. Smith. Homer L. Jones, Life Founder Number 1 of the Biology Unit, opened the annual Unit meeting on 22 June at the Flagship Hotel in Rochester with twelve members and nine guests in attendance.

The Unit received many compliments for its contributions to topical collecting. Jerry Husak, ATA Founder, commended the Unit for producing so many handbooks. George Griffenhagen congratulated the Unit on its longevity and accomplishments. The Unit members formulated plans for participation in INTERPHIL '76 planned for 28 May through 6 June 1976 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, with ATA meetings scheduled for the final three days.

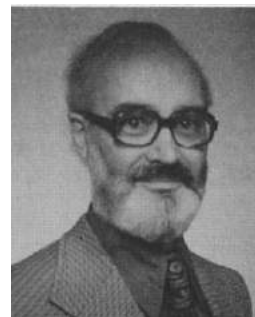
In 1975, the turmoil involving officer and editor turnover adversely affected the membership rolls. In addition, rising costs of materials and services caused some financial difficulties. It cost about \$8.00 per set to produce four editions of the journal per year, but the annual dues were only \$5.00. The balance in the operating account stood at only \$102.41 at mid-year. The Unit did maintain reserve funds of \$2,177 from Life Member fees and research funds, but these were held for extraordinary use.

Gustavs E. Eglajs began illustrating the journal using Xerographic images when he took over as Editor-Publisher at Volume 24, Number 1. The images included designs for a Falkland Islands bird stamp and illustrations for his "Ornithological Notes" column.

Unit members continued work on more zoology handbooks including one on *Fishes, Amphibia, and Reptiles* (HB91) and another on *Insects and Other Invertebrates* (HB98).

The Unit elected its first international President, Dr. Bruce Cruickshank, who had joined while living in Rhodesia, but at the time of his election was residing in Ontario, Canada.

Bruce Cruickshank (1920– ) was born in Edinburgh, Scotland. He received his M.D. degree from the University of Edinburgh in 1943 and later a Ph.D. from the same institution. He was a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow and had worked as a pathologist and professor at a series of universities in Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Rhodesia-Nyasaland. At the time of his election as President of the Biology Unit, he was the Chief Pathologist at Sunnybrook Hospital and Professor of Pathology at the University of Toronto. He is the author or co-author of several medical articles and publications including *Atlas of Haematology*. His other hobbies include ornithology, nature photography, hiking, and conservation.



Dr. Bruce Cruickshank  
Eighth President

The Unit held its annual meeting on Saturday 28 June 1975, at the TOPEX show at the Radisson Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln, Nebraska. President Emeritus Homer L. Jones presided over the meeting attended by 12 members from eight different states. How to gain more publicity for the Unit and preparations for INTERPHIL '76 led the discussion topics.

The year 1976 was a big one for the organization. The Biology Unit marked its 25th anniversary year with mixed sentiments. It had celebrated a series of successful undertakings including the continuous publication of the Unit journal throughout many challenges, the authoring and publication of many ATA handbooks on biological subjects, and the growth of the membership into the 300-member level.

*Bio-Philately*, under the editorship of Gustavs E. Eglajs, competing in its first philatelic literature competition had received a Silver-Bronze award from the Chicago Philatelic Society. And in September, the jury at Ninth Annual APS Literature Competition in Memphis, Tennessee, awarded *Bio-Philately* a Silver medal.

However, these achievements were tempered by the passing of Doris C. Patterson, long-time Unit officer, Associate Editor, and author of ATA Handbook Number 61, *Flowers on Stamps*, who died in January at the age of 63. Doris was so well loved and respected by the other members that the Unit dedicated the first edition of Volume 25 to her memory and established the Doris C. Patterson Memorial Fund to help fulfill her dream of publishing a Botany Handbook.

Inflation also caught up with the Unit making it necessary for the Governing Board to raise the annual dues to \$8.00. To further defray costs, the Board agreed to begin seeking paid advertising in the journal.

As anticipated, the Unit held its annual meeting at INTERPHIL '76, the first time the ATA did not hold its own separate exhibition. President Cruickshank presided at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The turnout of only 12 members was a disappointment and possibly due to the lateness of the meeting hour as some members had departed the show earlier in the day.

Discussion related to the efficiency of the Governing Board with the consensus being that the Editor should also be a Board member. The Unit formed a nominating committee for new Unit officers and also discussed the possibility of forming a Unit Library to hold copies of its own publications and other journals and publications received regularly by the Unit.

In 1977, the ATA published another handbook written by members of the Biology Unit: HB91, *Lower Vertebrates: Fishes, Amphibia, and Reptiles*, by George A. Bearnse, Willard F. Stanley, Maynard S. Raasch, Ursula Stahl, E. O. Bookwalter, Robert E. Gordon, and Malvin L. Skaroff.

This same year, former Vice-President, Director, and Associate Editor Merida Wilde passed away. The Unit also experienced significant changes in the composition of the Governing Board. Margaret M. Wurtz was elected as Vice-President to fill the vacancy left by the death of Doris Patterson. But, there were concerns about the Board.

The Constitution specified that the Unit officers consisted of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, five Directors, the Presidents Emeriti, and the Editors Emeriti. Each former President automatically became a President Emeritus, so this resulted in a very large Governing Board. In fact, the Board had become too unwieldy to function efficiently given that it had to conduct all business at that time via the mail.

To remedy this, President Cruickshank, under the provisions of Article Seven of the Constitution and Article Three of the By-Laws, appointed an Executive Committee composed of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Editor of the journal to make recommendations regarding the management of the Unit to the Board and membership.

Through the efforts of Anne Delfeld and Alice W. Sents and with the help of donations from the Doris Patterson Memorial Fund, the ATA received the manuscript and began the process to publish Handbook Number 94, *Plants on Stamps: Volume I*, listing all the plants ever identified on stamps issued from 1840 to 1959. The editors also planned to produce follow-on Volumes II and III to cover subsequent ten year periods.

The Unit held its 1978 annual meeting at Motel Ocean One in Atlantic City, New Jersey, on Saturday 24 June with Vice-President Margaret Wurtz presiding. The discussion centered on increasing Unit member attendance and exhibiting at TOPEX. To stimulate these activities, the meeting voted to publish notices of planned Unit activities in each edition of the journal, establish 10:00 AM on Saturday as the definite meeting time for the Unit at each show, and present the Biology Unit Award at each TOPEX that included at least three biological exhibits.

Members reported on the status of two future handbook publications, one dealing with Insects and the other involving the follow-on volumes to the Plants Handbook.

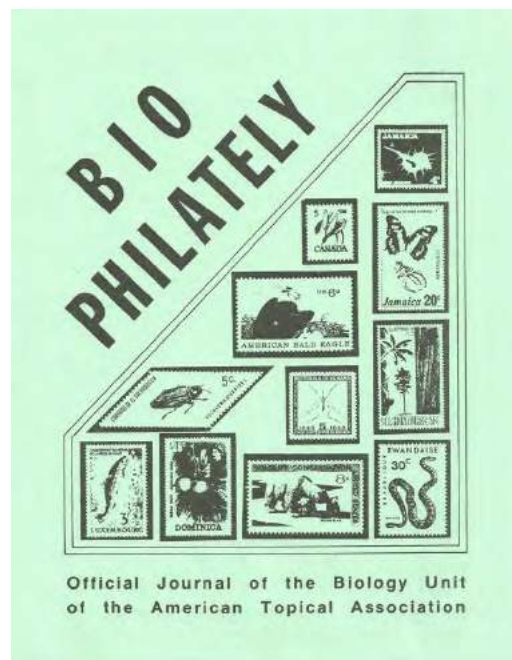
The 1978 Unit Elections resulted in a completely new set of Unit officers. Margaret M. Wurtz was elected as the ninth President and taking her old position as Vice-President was Kenneth L. Reid. Helen F. Demond replaced Dona Jaquet as Secretary, and Alan J. Hanks from Ontario became the first Treasurer from outside the U.S. The election of a non-US resident as Treasurer caused some concern due to the complications of banking across international boundaries. Hanks reassured the membership by maintaining the Unit accounts in the U.S. funds that enabled issuing and depositing checks in U.S. currency.

Margaret M. Wurtz (1922–2007) was a Life Member of both the ATA and the Biology Unit holding the distinction of being Life Member Number 1 (LM1) of the Biology Unit. She was a recipient of the 1974 ATA Distinguished Topical Philatelist award as well as the Southeastern Pennsylvania and Delaware (SEPAD) Local Merit Award for outstanding philatelic achievement.

*Bio-Philately* received another Silver award at the 11th National Philatelic Literature Exhibition in Indianapolis, Indiana. For the year, the Unit had produced a total of 350 sets of the journal with each set containing 280 pages at a cost of \$2,371.23, or about \$1.69 per copy.

During the year, Gustavs Eglajs instituted a cover design contest for *Bio-Philately* among the membership. The winner was to receive free membership in the Unit for two years and the runner-up, free membership for one year. From the eight submissions, the Unit members at the annual meeting selected the winning design, which was created by Alan J. Hanks. The Unit would also use this design as a Unit logo for many years.

In 1979, the ATA finally released HB94, *Plants on Stamps, Volume I*, by Doris C. Patterson, Anne Delfeld, and Alice W. Sents culminating a nearly two-decade long effort.



*Bio-Philately* Cover Design  
Volumes 29-48



Biology Unit Officers 1979  
(L-to-R) Alan J. Hanks, Helen F. Demond, Margaret M. Wurtz, Kenneth L. Reid, Gustavs E. Eglajs

The membership roll continued to recover and the Unit ended the year with 282 Regular Members and 41 Life Members for a total of 323. The Unit held its annual meeting during TOPEX at the Ridpath Hotel in Spokane, Washington, on 23 June 1979. For the first time in the history of the Unit, **all** of the elected officers were together at one place at the same time. A total of eighteen members and five guests were in attendance.

Unit members continued to be successful exhibitors at TOPEX. Dr. Garland T. Riegel received a Vermeil medal for his *Bugs in the Postmark* exhibit. Donald W. Berkley received a Bronze medal for *Shakespeare's Flowers*, which also won the People's Choice Trophy for the most popular exhibit. Morris Ruskin, a former member, won the Biology Unit Award for *Dogmanity*, an exhibit about the relationship between dogs and man.

The ATA reported a request started by a non-Unit member to form a separate study unit on Birds. The requesting person had stated that he had no need for other portions of *Bio-Philately*. Subsequently, the ATA had received eight endorsements for such a unit. Biology Unit members voiced their opinions that the ATA ought not to encourage fragmentation of the Unit. However, Unit member George Griffenhagen, who was serving as ATA President, stated that the ATA required at least ten endorsements, and if the requesters achieved that and insisted, the ATA was obliged to let them create a unit. In the end, nothing came of this request and no separate unit was formed.

## Turmoil

Inflation and the cost of producing and mailing the Unit journal once again rose to become an issue in 1980. An analysis by Treasurer Alan J. Hanks revealed that the cost per copy for materials, printing, collating, and mailing *Bio-Philately* amounted to \$2.36. This for four issues per year, the total cost was \$9.44 per set. At that time, the Regular membership dues were \$8.00, which resulted in a net loss. Compounding the problem was the fact that about 100 members from the previous year were in arrears with their dues payments. Sending out reminders to these members cost additional funds. Hanks indicated that the Governing Board would consider several options regarding the dues structure at the next meeting.

This issue was among those discussed at the annual Unit meeting held on Saturday, 21 June 1980 at The Holiday Inn in Portland, Maine. Nine members were present along with six guests. Alan Hanks, the lone Unit officer present, presided. Hanks reported that the membership roster stood at 327 members including 48 Life Members.

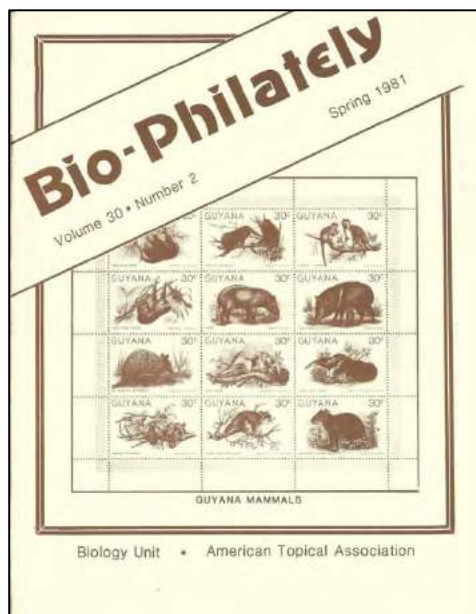
Because of dues collections, the Unit treasury was in better shape with \$3,584.43 in the savings account and \$1,710.15 in the operations checking account. Nonetheless, the members voted to increase the Regular membership dues to \$9.00 (\$10.00 non-ATA) and the Life Member fee to \$150.00.

There was general discussion about the Unit journal with regard to size and two members offered their services as publishers. All sitting Unit officers were elected to another term. However, the composition of the Board underwent some dramatic changes almost immediately.

In the fall of 1980, Unit President Margaret M. Wurtz resigned for personal reasons. This was the first time the Unit was faced with such a vacancy. In accordance with the Unit Constitution, Vice-President Kenneth L. Reid assumed the vacated office leaving office of Vice-President vacant. At about the same time, Unit Secretary, Helen F. Demond became seriously ill and resigned her duties. The Governing Board appointed Betty Rutherford to take the critical Secretary position, which the Unit could not afford to leave vacant.

Kenneth L. Reid (1923–2007) graduated from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and from the University of San Francisco. He worked for the Shell Oil Company for more than 30 years. He served as President of the Houston Philatelic Society and was also a member of the Society of Philatelic Americans.

The officer realignment was not the only alteration to affect the Unit. *Bio-Philately* experienced some chaotic adjustments as well that involved changes not only in personnel, but also in design and print production.



*Bio-Philately* Cover Design  
Volume 30, Number 2

Gustavs E. Eglajs resigned as Editor-Publisher effective with the release of Volume 30, Number 2 in April 1981, although he continued to perform as the Editor in the following edition. He had suffered a heart attack in March 1981 and his doctors ordered him to take a long rest from stressful activities.

James R. D. Yeaw, a Unit member and owner of Educative Services, Inc., of South Pasadena, California, assumed the challenge of publishing the Unit journal. The first edition produced by Educative Services was Volume 30, Numbers 2, which implemented a completely new design under the direction of Marilyn J. Martin.

However, the relatively small number of copies for *Bio-Philately* made it economically unfeasible for production by their high-end publishing equipment. Instead, it they produced it on an Alpha Micro computer system that enabled more sophisticated formatting, easy incorporation of high-quality images, and faster printing than past methods. Almost all Unit members expressed their admiration for the new format.

Unfortunately, this arrangement lasted for only one more edition. The new publisher produced Volume 30, Number 3 during the summer of 1981, but was unable to complete Number 4 for reasons that they

never made known to the Unit. As a result, the Unit cancelled its agreement with them and, in 1982, turned to one of its other members, Dr. Thomas E. Beall, Jr., to be Publisher. Another member, George A. Ball, volunteered to take over the Editor duties.

Despite these disruptive events, *Bio-Philately* was able to garner its highest award ever, a Vermeil, for its 1980 volume at a philatelic literature exhibition.

The Biology Unit annual meeting took place on 26 June 1981 at the Palmer House in Chicago, Illinois with eleven members and two guests in attendance. The new Secretary, Betty Rutherford, reported that the Unit had gained 39 new members since November 1980. These included twenty from the U.S. and the remainder from nine other countries. However, 41 members did not renew their memberships. The total membership at that time stood at 319 including 49 Life Members.

To compensate for the lack of a fourth edition of the journal in 1981, the Unit published a double issue for the first edition of 1982 containing 100 pages.

The turnover of personnel continued in 1982. President Reid appointed Alan J. Hanks to the vacant Vice-President office and former Treasurer Charles W. Alber replaced Hanks in the Treasurer position. The President also appointed Mary T. Glenn to be the new Librarian to fill the vacancy left by the untimely death of Duke H. Schirmer. This circumstance also caused great disarray with the Unit Library. The Unit had lost contact with Mr. Schirmer and his family during his illness and before regaining it, his family had disposed of the library volumes. This meant that Ms. Glenn and the Unit had to reconstitute the Library from scratch.

Turnover involving *Bio-Philately* was also a disruption. In addition to a new Editor, the Board appointed Dr. Roy W. Rings Associate Editor for Ichthyology and welcomed back Dr. Thomas E. Beall, Jr., as Associate Editor for Mammalia. As the new officers and editors became established in their positions, the turmoil caused by these changes finally began to calm a bit.

TOPEX '82 planned for Anaheim, California, was cancelled due to the poor economy. Consequently, the Biology Unit did not hold its formal annual meeting that year. However, the ATA did hold their annual meeting at BALPEX in Hunt Valley, Maryland on 5 September, and the Biology Unit members had an informal gathering there.



Due to the cancellation of the formal annual meeting, the Unit conducted its election of officers via mail and citing the lack of any objection, the proposed slate of officers were duly installed. Alan J. Hanks became the new President and Dr. Garland T. Riegel, the Vice-President. Betty Rutherford and Charles W. Alber retained their positions as Secretary and Treasurer, respectively.

Alan J. Hanks (1930– ) was born in Woodford, Essex, England and emigrated to Canada in 1957. He has been a life-long stamp collector. He is a member of the Lepidopterists' Society and the Toronto Entomologists Association where he served as Secretary, Treasurer, and editor of its Lepidoptera seasonal summary publication. He is author of *Butterflies and Moths on Stamps* and co-author of *The Ontario Butterfly Atlas*. Mr. Hanks is a recipient of the Norman Criddle Award from the Entomological Society of Canada to recognize the contribution of an outstanding non-professional entomologist to the furtherance of entomology in Canada.

In addition to later serving as Editor of *Biophilately* and in several Board positions in the Biology Unit, Mr. Hanks was a founding member of the Philatelic Lepidopterists of America. He has also served as President of the American Topical Association and President of The Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa. He is the recipient of the 1985 Distinguished Topical Philatelist award from the ATA.



Alan J. Hanks  
Eleventh President

Expenses continued to be a serious concern for the Unit. In 1985, the Board raised the Regular membership dues to \$10.00 and Associate membership dues to \$12.00 to help defray journal production and mailing costs.

Editor George Ball for the first time made the proposal to sell Unit memberships in pro-rated increments. The Board thought this action could result in some savings in costs of mailing and reproduction of copies.

Throughout the entire existence of the Unit, the largest operational expense by many orders of magnitude has been the printing and publication of the Unit journal. All of the persons directly involved in its production including the Editor, Publisher, Associate Editors, and contributors are volunteers who provide their efforts and services without any monetary compensation. Unit members have proposed many and various schemes for reducing the costs involved with this publication. Few have proved useful. Some proposals have involved separating the journal into special sections for delivery to those only interested in that particular part. The problem with this idea is that any cost savings in mailing charges are quickly consumed by the additional effort, time, and complications required in implementation. After considering these various proposals, the most effective arrangement has resulted from the distribution of electronic copies via the Unit web site for those members who wish to obtain only part of the publication. One bonus effect of this is that these sections are available to members more rapidly.

The Unit held its 1983 annual meeting on Saturday, 18 June at the Four Seasons Hotel in San Antonio, Texas, presided over by President Hanks. Only seven members and one guest were present. There was much discussion about the procedures for membership renewals and applications and the meeting decided to have the Secretary serve as the point of contact in order to keep the address listing up-to-date. Some administrative details would be included in the journal. The Board assigned additional duties to Ms. Glenn, the Librarian, to produce a "table of contents" listing of back issues and provide back issues for sale to members.

Also during this year, the ATA announced the release of Handbook Number 106, *Birds of the World in Philately*, by Unit members Dr. Beverly S. Ridgely and Gustavs E. Eglajs.

In 1984, President Alan Hanks was elected as the President of the ATA continuing the long tradition of Unit support to the ATA and its leadership.

The next annual Unit meeting took place at LINPEX-TOPEX on Saturday, 16 June 1984, in the Hotel Hilton in Lincoln, Nebraska. Unit members were quite active in the operation of the ATA. In addition to President Hanks, Dr. Kenneth P. Pruess served as the general chairman of the TOPEX show.

In 1984, the Unit elected Dr. Garland T. Riegel as the new President and Dr. Kenneth P. Pruess as the Vice-President. Betty Rutherford and Charles W. Alber again retained their positions as Secretary and Treasurer.

Dr. Garland Tavner Riegel (1914–2007) was born in Bowling Green, Missouri. He married in 1941 and he and his wife, Ruth, had four children. He did all of his undergraduate and graduate work at the University of Illinois, receiving his Bachelor of Science in 1938, his Master of Science in 1940, and his Ph.D. in Entomology in 1947. He worked with the Illinois Natural History Survey between 1937 and 1942 at which time he went into the U.S. Army where he served in North Africa and Italy involved with malaria survey and control. He retired from the Army Reserves as a Lieutenant Colonel.

Following WWII, he joined the University of Illinois and eventually became Professor of Zoology in 1960 serving as department head between 1963 and 1976. Later he moved to Eastern Illinois University where he ultimately became Emeritus Professor of Zoology. He was the author of several scientific books and papers and member of many scientific organizations including the Entomology Society of America and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.



Dr. Garland T. Riegel  
Twelfth President

Out-going President, Alan J. Hanks, appealed to the members for some articles on biological stamps for inclusion in a special edition of *Topical Time* that would feature the Biology Unit and provide publicity for the Unit. Hanks also made the suggestion that the ATA subsequently implemented in full force, to prepare short checklists on small sub-topics in order to provide a service for collectors that are only interested in these narrow subjects.

Unit members have continually devoted much time and effort to the production of handbooks and checklists on various biological stamp topics. In 1985, Jeane Gould and Alice W. Sents worked to publish a sequel to the *Plants on Stamps* handbook (HB94) to cover the years 1960 through 1975.

### Financial Concerns

The annual Unit membership meeting was in the Pioneer Theater meeting room in Reno, Nevada, on Saturday 22 June 1985, with ten members and three guests. Finances were tight at that time with only enough money available in the operations account to pay for the publication of three issues of *Bio-Philately*. The hope of the Board was to obtain new members and dues from members in arrears in order to pay for the final annual issue. The Unit had lost several international members due to the economy and unfavorable monetary exchange rates. To help alleviate the financial difficulties, the Editor reduced the number of pages in the final edition of Volume 34.

President Riegel in response to these financial troubles did not want to raise the annual dues, because many members were living on fixed incomes. Instead, he suggested the Unit be more active in soliciting contributions from members, including Life members, in addition to seeking new members. He called attention to the fact that many Regular members had contributed more to the financial well-being of the Unit than had some Life members.

In 1986, the Board named a new Publicity Director. Dr. James F. Cornell, Jr., took over the vacant position and brought some enthusiastic ideas for growing the Unit membership as well as promoting Unit activities. He suggested that the Unit be the first group to organize a library containing copies of prize-winning exhibit pages for loan to members in order to assist them with developing their own exhibits. There is no record of what happened to this library, but Dr. Cornell implemented it partially according to subsequent messages in the journal.

Dr. Cornell also suggested several money saving ideas including sponsorship of articles and charity auctions to benefit the Unit. The Editor limited the size of each edition of *Bio-Philately* to no more than 64 pages to keep costs low. The Board placed emphasis on membership renewals, not only to secure increased funds, but also to take advantage of the minimum 200 copies needed to qualify for bulk mailing rates. In addition, the printing firm was kind enough to give the Unit a discount on their services.

President Riegel proposed that the Unit change the name of the journal from *Bio-Philately* to *Biophilately* to give the publication a smoother, more sophisticated appearance. The Board adopted this proposal, but the cover design with the older name did not change until 1999.

Another proposal involved a change to the Unit Constitution. It came up again that the Constitution specified that Presidents Emeriti and Editors Emeriti were members of the Governing Board. In early years, this was not an issue, but by this time there were eight living Presidents Emeriti. President Riegel also counted the four former Editors not realizing that the Board had originally reserved the title of Editor Emeritus solely for Dr. Stanley. Nonetheless, the large number required by the Constitution was considered excessive. President Riegel also apparently was unaware that former President Cruickshank in 1977, had appointed an Executive Committee to deal with this issue. He proposed a change that would make the Emeritus individuals honorary members of the Board and solicited views from the membership.

The Unit officers had begun planning for the 1986 annual meeting the year before, because this meeting again coincided with the once-in-a-decade international show held in the United States. In 1986, this show was AMERIPEX, held in Chicago, Illinois. The Unit held their meeting on 31 May at the Ramada O'Hare Hotel presided over by President Riegel. Seventeen members and guests attended. The ballots received unanimously elected the nominated officers for the upcoming year. The only new member elected was Dr. Greg Herbert to be President.

The members discussed cost cutting ideas due to the continuing precarious financial status. President Riegel brought up his suggestions for the journal name change and the revision to the Constitution and the members decided hold a vote using a ballot in the next edition of the journal.

Dr. Greg Herbert is a practicing veterinarian and was one of the younger members of the Unit at the time of his election. He is a life-long stamp collector and an award-winning exhibitor. He also served as Secretary of the Butterfly and Moth Stamp Society. He and his wife Susi, an elementary school teacher, have two sons.

Three of the members present at the annual meeting had won exhibiting awards at AMERIPEX, all with entomological topics: James F. Cornell, Jr., a Silver award for *Beetles and Stamps*; Vincent P. Lucas, a Large Silver for *A Lepidopteran Love Affair*; and Greg Herbert, a Vermeil for *The Pursuit of Butterflies*.

During this period, Unit members continued to work on the creation of biological handbooks. Alice W. Sents and Jeane Gould created a supplement for the handbook on Plants, and Dr. Thomas E. Beall, Jr., and David Meixner worked on a supplement to the handbook on Mammals.

Volume 35, Number 4 of *Biophilately* included a tribute to Dr. Willard F. Stanley and in conjunction with this, the Board named him as Honorary President Emeritus of the Biology Unit.

Finances continued to be a troublesome problem in 1987. According to the Editor, it cost about \$1000 per issue, or \$4000 for each complete volume, to publish the journal, but the Unit only received about \$3000 in annual dues payments. This left it short the amount of money needed to publish the fourth edition each year. Some members had answered the low-key appeal for donations, but these were insufficient to pay all the operational costs.

Stability among the journal editors provided some continuity. Dr. Robert E. Gordon had suffered a heart attack, which put him out of action for a time, but he recovered to continue his Associate Editorship for Herpetology.

Editor George A. Ball published some instructions for preparing typewritten pages for inclusion in the journal. In the current times, when almost everyone has access to a personal computer with word processing applications, it is interesting to note and recall the additional effort required in those days to prepare listings and articles for publication. All of the pages had to be printed out and then reproduced. Because the contributors produced these pages using a variety of methods, fonts, and styles, the resulting publication lacked a consistent appearance.

His instructions concentrated on formatting. This was very important because the publisher typically took the original submitted pages and had them reproduced directly using copiers. It was very time-consuming and wasteful to have the editor retype the submissions to get them into a useable format. His instructions included the following: "Eliminate double spacing. Start typing on line five. Allow ten spaces on each side of the page."



Dr. Greg Herbert  
Thirteenth President

Our modern software handles all of these and furthermore enables us to change them at any time without the need to re-type all the text. We are indeed fortunate to be able to eliminate these difficulties. When one considers the progress that we have made in easing the production of the journal since its beginning, it is interesting to speculate on what procedures will be in use 60 years from now.

In 1987, the annual meeting took place on Saturday, 27 June at the Radisson Hotel in Columbia, South Carolina, the site of the TOPEX convention, with fourteen members and guests. President Herbert announced that the ATA would be featuring the Biology Unit in the March-April 1988 issue of *Topical Time*, and urged the members to provide articles to him for submission and inclusion.

Members discussed the possibility of producing a slide show about the Unit and Dr. Cornell, the Publicity Director, took this as a task to work on. Dr. Cornell also suggested that the Unit seek affiliation with the American Philatelic Society in order to get notices about the Unit into APS publications. President Herbert followed up on this by submitting the required application paperwork.

Once again Unit members did very well with their exhibits at TOPEX. Carl H. Spitzer received a Gold award for his insect exhibit titled, *Buzz*. James Cornell (beetles), Morris Raskin (dogs), and Kenneth Norton (giraffes) won Vermeil awards.

The year 1988 brought much good news to the Biology Unit. On 9 April, the American Philatelic Society issued a certificate naming the Biology Unit as Affiliate Number 172 in response to the Unit's petition. Among many advantages to this recognition was the opportunity for greater exposure to the philatelic community and the potential to increase the Unit membership.

The March-April 1988 issue of *Topical Time* featured the Biology Unit. Dr. Garland T. Riegel wrote an article on the history of the Biology Unit. Other articles featured giraffes, whales, ladybugs, and insects.

President Herbert reported on a noticeable shift in the way dealers were presenting topical material. Previously, collectors had to ask to see topical items and typically encountered grumbling. However, at INTERPEX many dealers were prominently displaying boxes of topical/thematic items including postal stationery often segregated by topic.

The Unit held its first annual meeting outside the U.S. at the Sheraton Centre Hotel in Toronto, Canada on Saturday, 18 June 1988, with 20 members and guests. Past-President and Director, Garland Riegel presided over the meeting in place of President Herbert who was unable to attend. Topics for discussion included creation of a biology slide show, a new logo for the Unit, and creation of a one-frame biology exhibit for World Stamp Expo '89 in Washington, DC. The members voted against a proposal to change the cover design of *Biophilately* because most were pleased with the design in use that Alan Hanks had created.

The financial status of the Unit remained a concern. The reported balance in the operating account was only \$3,003 and the cost of printing the journal was running at about \$1,100 per issue plus the mailing charges. The Treasurer had to take funds from the reserve account to cover these expenses. As a result, the Board recommended another increase in the Regular membership dues to \$12.50. In addition, the Editor reduced the number of pages in each issue to save money on postage charges.

It is interesting to compare the rise in dues over the years to the effect of inflation on the consumer price index. When you start with the 50 cent dues in 1951, you will find that the increased amount in 1988 was more than five times the regular inflation rate. However, when you compare the 1988 dues with the dues today, you will find that they are completely even in terms of buying power. Perhaps this means that the initial dues in 1951 were too low.

Several Unit members again received awards for their exhibits including Vincent P. Lucas, who won the Grand Award and the Biology Unit Award for his exhibit titled, *The Lepidoptera*. Carl H. Spitzer won the Reserve Grand Award for his exhibit on bees titled, *Buzz*. Other members who received awards were E. Kenneth Norton, a Vermeil for *Wild Horned Mammals of Africa*; Alan J. Hanks, a Silver for *Insects and Man*; and Bruce Cruickshank, a Bronze for *Which Bird is That?*

At the end of 1988, the update to Handbook Number 94 on Plants was almost ready for publication and work continued on the Mammals Handbook.

Charles W. Alber, the Unit Treasurer, indicated his desire to retire and the Board actively began seeking a replacement. Also, Editor George A. Ball notified the Board that he wanted to step down due to ill health and he appealed to the Unit for someone to volunteer as a replacement.

The Unit elections saw changes in three of the four officer positions. Dr. James F. Cornell, Jr., became the new President and two former Presidents, Donald P. Wright, Jr., and Dr. Garland T. Riegel took over as Vice-President and Treasurer, respectively.

Dr. James Fraser Cornell, Jr. (1940–2012) was born in Charlotte, North Carolina. He graduated from UNC Chapel Hill with a degree in Geology, and then achieved a Master's Degree at NC State in Entomology and a Ph.D. at Oregon State in Entomology with minor in both Geology and Paleontology. He was a member of the Chancellor's Club at NC State University and the Entomological Society. He was a two-time Fulbright Scholar and went to both India and Kenya in his studies. He taught at Appalachian State University, Lees-McRae College, and North Carolina State University until he began a career teaching at high school level at Independence and East Mecklenburg High School in the International Baccalaureate Program. His philatelic exhibits won awards at national and international exhibitions.

He was an avid naturalist who discovered many new species of beetles, six of which were named after his family and himself. His collections are in museums around the world and he was known primarily for his work on Staphylinidae (rove beetles). He was also a philanthropist who helped to create small businesses in Africa.



Dr. James F. Cornell, Jr.  
Fourteenth President

President Cornell started off a new feature in *Biophilately* in 1989 that showed sample pages and write-ups from exhibits prepared by Unit members. That same year, the ATA published *Plants on Stamps: Volume II* (HB112) by Unit members Jeane Gould and Alice W. Sents.

President Cornell, with assistance of other Unit members produced a one-frame exhibit about the Biology Unit for publicity at World Stamp Expo '89. The editor reproduced images of all 16 exhibit pages in Volume 38, Number 3 of *Biophilately*. Dr. Cornell and Saul A. Friess also worked to prepare a projector slide show to advertise the interests of the Unit and try to gain new members.

The Unit meeting for 1989 took place at the Ridpath Hotel in Spokane, Washington, on Saturday, 17 June. In the absence of President Cornell, Past President Garland Riegel presided. Nineteen members and guests were in attendance. Finance issues were again a topic of discussion. Editor George Ball reported on the expenses for the latest issue of *Biophilately*. The cost for printing was \$857.59, U.S. postage cost \$62.50, and overseas postage was \$86.53, for a total of \$977.60. This was a reduction from the amount for some years in the recent past. Carl Spitzer announced a trial money-making project involving the sale of caps with the ATA logo and T-shirts with various philatelic designs. Some were available at the TOPEX show and others were available via mail. This project only resulted in a small amount of income.

Former President Alan J. Hanks volunteered to assume the duties of Editor from George Ball, who desired to retire from the job. Mr. Hanks took over the job effective with Volume 39, Number 1. However, since he resided in Ontario where postal rates were more expensive, there was a need for someone in the U.S. to serve as the Publisher. Mrs. Frances M. Hammond from Utah volunteered to perform this role.

## TRANSITIONS

Former Editor and long-time Unit Director, Gustavs E. Eglajs passed away in early 1990. In 1976, Eglajs had started the longest running column in the history of the journal, "New Birds in the Philatelic Aviary," which under other authors continues to the present day.

The 1990 Unit meeting was on Saturday 2 June at the Omni Biltmore Hotel in Providence, Rhode Island. Only nine members were able to attend. The Biology Unit did not present its award at the TOPEX show apparently due to oversight on the part of the Unit officers. There was little discussion of Unit business.



During this time, the Unit treasury started to become healthier. The Treasurer reported a balance of \$4,199 in the Reserve account and \$5,784.50 in the operating account. Much of the increase was due to contributions, either in cash donations by some members, or donation in kind by the Officers, Editors, and Publisher. The Treasurer published a listing of donors in *Biophilately* and thanked them for their contributions.

In 1991, the Biology Unit lost one of its most honored and significant members. Dr. Willard F. Stanley died on 14 February. In tribute, the Unit dedicated Volume 40, Number 1 to his memory.

The Unit held its annual meeting at the Radisson Hotel in Aurora, Colorado on Saturday, 22 June 1991. Past President Garland Riegel called the meeting to order and asked the fifteen members and guests to introduce themselves and tell their collecting interests. Dr. Riegel passed along greetings from Founder Life Member 1, Homer Jones, and informed the members of the passing of Founder Life Member 2, Dr. Willard F. Stanley.

Past President, Bruce Cruickshank, was an honored guest at the first day of issue ceremony for the U.S. 30-cent cardinal stamp. The featured speaker and Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee member, Mary Ann Owens, presented him with a portfolio of the new birds issue for his work in preparing special pamphlets about the three birds depicted. Other members again garnered exhibiting awards at TOPEX including another Grand Award for *Buzz* by Carl H. Spitzer.

Former *Biophilately* Editor, George A. Ball, received the 1991 Distinguished Topical Philatelist award for his work as Editor-Publisher of the journal and ATA handbooks.

The journal at last moved fully into the computer age with the Editor and Associate Editors producing all issue pages on personal computers. Editor Hanks began revamping the format moving the editorial and general information to the front of each edition followed by the Botany and Zoology sections. The journal welcomed a new Associate Editor for Ichthyology. Dr. Lawrence M. Dill took over this section from the retiring Dr. Roy W. Rings.

Dr. James F. Cornell, Jr. resigned as President in May 1992 for personal reasons. Vice-President Donald P. Wright, Jr., who had previously served as the sixth Unit President, assumed the office again in accordance with the Unit Constitution. The Vice-President position remained vacant until the 1993 election. Before he resigned, Dr. Cornell appointed a committee chaired by Unit Treasurer, Dr. Garland T. Riegel, to solve two financial issues. The first was the cost of Life memberships, since these were deemed to be too low relative to the cost of Regular membership dues. The second was development of rules governing the use of the Reserve, or Permanent fund.

Dr. Stanley, the first Secretary-Treasurer had initially established the Reserve fund from fees charged for Life memberships and from other donations. The basis for this idea was that the Unit should be able to fund its normal operations from the Regular membership fees because these were funds that the Treasurer could count on as flowing in consistently. However, after Life members had paid their fees, the Unit would no longer be able to rely on income from these members (and recall that the Life membership fees in the early years were comparatively very low). The Board set aside these Life membership fees and the interest they were drawing to serve as both a Reserve in case of emergency need and to pay for handbook and other research projects in excess of normal operations.

Considering that the Regular dues had increased to \$15 per year, the committee recommended increasing the Life membership fee from \$150 to \$300. In a mail-in poll, the membership voted 53 to 18 to raise this fee to the recommended amount.

The ATA held its 1992 convention at the World Columbian Stamp Exposition in Rosemont, Illinois, in lieu of the usual TOPEX. Dr. Garland T. Riegel received the Distinguished Topical Philatelist award at this meeting for his contributions as a leader in the topical community and as a renowned philatelic exhibitor.

The Unit held its annual meeting on 30 May at the Radisson Suite Hotel with ten members and guests. An important item of discussion involved the resignations of President Cornell and Unit Librarian Mary T. Glenn. Vice-President Wright had automatically assumed the President's office and Carl H. Spitzer volunteered to take over the Librarian position. This was doubly convenient since he also resided in Tucson, the same city as Mary Glenn, and he served as a librarian at the Postal History Foundation and thus had experience in the position. Another item discussed was the possibility of adding a "Sales/Trades/Wants" column to the journal for use by the members.



A trial at reviving the “Questions and Answers” column foundered due to the lack of query submissions.

Editor Hanks entered *Biophilately* in the literature competition at GENOVA '92, where it achieved a Bronze medal award. The Editor pleaded with the Unit members for more articles and letters to balance the increased volume of new issue checklists as this was one of the significant criticisms from the literature judges.

In October, Donald Wright submitted his manuscript for HB123, *Insects on Stamps of the World*, for publication by the ATA. This handbook was an update to HB98 on *Insects and Other Invertebrates*, but limited to just Insects due to the large quantity of new issues. It was the first ATA handbook to contain image plates in color.

The Unit installed new officers in 1993, but all were familiar names. Carl H. Spitzer, who had been serving as the Unit Librarian and who was the author of numerous journal articles became President. Donald P. Wright, Jr., returned to his previous post as Vice-President and Betty Rutherford and Garland T. Riegel retained their positions as Secretary and Treasurer.

Carl Henry Spitzer (1923–2009) was born in San Francisco. He served in the U.S Army in World War II as a Surgical Technician and received a Combat Medical Badge for actions in the Philippines. He received a direct commission as an entomologist during the Korean War and remained in the Army Reserve, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. He worked as an entomologist and plant quarantine inspector on the Arizona border with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He received B.S. and M.S. degrees in Entomology from the University of California, Berkeley.



Carl H. Spitzer  
Sixteenth President

Mr. Spitzer volunteered for many years as the librarian at the Postal History Foundation, was a member of the Arizona Philatelic Rangers, Tucson Stamp Club, and American Helvetia Philatelic Society. He also served as a 4H Leader. He and his wife, Sylvia R. Spitzer, were married for 60 years and had five sons and a daughter. He was an award winning national and international philatelic exhibitor and received the 1995 ATA Distinguished Topical Philatelist award.

The journal took on a new look as Editor Hanks redesigned and began standardizing the formatting courtesy of a new laser printer. The journal also added a new Associate Editor for Paleontology, Saul A. Friess.

In the spring of 1993, the Ad Hoc Financial Committee presented its report to the Governing Board and membership. The President had appointed this committee to provide suggestions on the use of the Reserve (Permanent) Fund and determine the cost of Life membership fees. The members of the committee were Dr. Garland T. Riegel (Chairman), Charles W. Alber, Jeane Gould, Alan J. Hanks, and Dr. James F. Cornell, Jr. The proposal to raise the Life membership fees had passed by a three-to-one margin the previous year. The committee indicated that they appreciated the many suggestions and various views from the membership. The consensus was to keep the Reserve fund monies for emergency use, but the committee also passed along some suggestions for consideration including the use of the fund to help defray exhibit costs to encourage first-time exhibitors and to pay the membership fee for the author of the best article submitted to *Biophilately* each year. It seems, however, that Board never implemented any of these suggestions.

The Biology Unit held its annual meeting at the Grand Milwaukee Hotel in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on Saturday, 26 June 1993. In a rare occurrence, all of the Unit officers as well as the Editor and Publisher of *Biophilately* were in attendance together with an all-time record crowd of 29 members and guests. President Spitzer presented a certificate of appreciation to Vice-President Donald P. Wright, Jr., for his performance as interim President following the resignation of President Cornell. The Unit was in good financial condition with a total balance of \$14,131.15 among all accounts. The members also complimented Editor Hanks on the new look of the journal.

Unit members did well at the TOPEX exhibits. Ann M. Triggles won a Gold medal and the Biology Unit Award for her *Ichthyology* exhibit. Margaret Stanchfield, Alan Hanks, and Carl Spitzer also won exhibiting awards.

In correspondence exchanges published in the journal during 1994, some members took exception with the inclusion of cartoon animals such as Disney characters in some of the listings. There was also discussion about so-called spurious issues from various “countries” where it appeared some unscrupulous elements were trying to take

advantage of both collectors and the postal administrations involved. As noted earlier, these concerns were nothing new. But some associate editors accordingly adjusted their listings to place such items in a separate section.

The Unit held its annual meeting on Saturday 18 June 1994, at the Holiday Inn Central in Omaha, Nebraska. Twenty-two members and guests attended including two members from Canada and one from Israel. At the meeting, President Spitzer presented special certificates recognizing 40-year memberships in the Biology Unit to Dr. Samuel M. Bluefarb, Sydney Feldman, Norma M. Opheim, Dr. Beverly Ridgely, Virgil Winkler, and Margaret M. Wurtz.

Margaret Stanchfield won the Biology Unit Award for her exhibit *Apiary*, which also received a Gold medal and the Reserve Grand Award. Other biology-related exhibits included *The World of Owls* by Fred Ziemann (Gold), *The Owl* by Sarah Murphy (Silver), *Whales and Whaling* by Betty Rutherford (Silver), and *Dragons and Fair Damsels* by Garland Riegel (Bronze).

During 1994, the Associate Editor for Ichthyology, Dr. Lawrence M. Dill, submitted his resignation because he was going on sabbatical leave. In addition, George A. Ball, the Botany Associate Editor indicated his desire to retire. Fortunately, two members, Kris P. Lindstrom and Christopher E. Dahle, who continue as our current Associate Editors, volunteered right away to take over the Ichthyology and Botany positions.

The Publisher, Fran Hammond, reported that the Unit was experiencing a problem with mail delivery delays. She tried to investigate this, but was unable to determine the cause.

Biology Unit Founder and first President Homer L. Jones passed away on 13 May 1995, in Baltimore, Maryland, at the age of 82. He was a life-long collector and served in a variety of important philatelic offices including President of the ATA (1954–55) and TOPEX Chairman (1952 and 1961) and was the founder of the Johnstown (Pennsylvania) Stamp Club.

In addition to Kris Lindstrom and Chris Dahle, Norma L. McCumber joined *Biophilately* as the new Associate Editor for Fungi. Editor Hanks formalized the policy of providing free advertising and notices for Unit members.

In 1995, the Biology Unit held the annual meeting at the Peppermill Hotel in Reno, Nevada, with 18 members and guests in attendance. The meeting occurred at 2:00 PM on Friday, 7 July instead of the traditional Saturday 10:00 AM slot in order to accommodate a first day ceremony for the Peach and Pear booklet stamps. The Secretary reported that as of 1 July 1995, the Unit had 261 members including 54 Life members.

President Spitzer continued with presentations of special certificate recognizing 40-year memberships in the Biology Unit to Roland E. Langlois, Wesley R. Nowell, Maynard Raasch, and Alan L. Steffen.

Also in 1995, the ATA published two new handbooks on Bats (HB128) and Fishes (HB129) authored by and with the help of Unit members.

Alan Hanks reported on the events at CAPEX '96 in Toronto, Canada. Several Unit members received awards for biology themed exhibits. Editor Hanks had entered *Biophilately* in the philatelic literature competition where it received a Silver-Bronze award.

Unit Secretary Betty Rutherford took over as Acting Treasurer from Dr. Garland T. Riegel in the spring of 1996.

The next annual Unit meeting took place in the Ebony Room of the Medallion Hotel in Dallas, Texas, on Friday, 12 July 1996, with 16 members and guests attending. President Spitzer displayed the certificates for presentation to Dr. Garland T. Riegel, Dr. Gilbert C. Toone, and Donald P. Wright, Jr., to mark their 40 years of membership. Biological subjects were well represented in the TOPEX exhibits. Four of the nine Gold medal winners were on biology themes. David Piercey won the Biology Unit Award for *Fisheries of the North Atlantic*. Three more open exhibits and five youth exhibits also used biology themes.

The Unit conducted the 1996 election of officers by mail. John Luong became the new Unit President and Norma McCumber, the Vice-President. Betty Rutherford continued in the positions of Secretary and Treasurer.

John Trinh Luong was a young and very new member of the Unit having joined only the year before. He had been an officer in the Junior Philatelists of America and the International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors as well as a member of the APS, ATA, Bureau Issues Association, and several other philatelic societies.

Unit Director Dr. Robert E. Gordon, long-time Associate Editor for Herpetology, passed away in June 1996. Saul A. Friess volunteered to take over the Herpetology column and a new member, Ralph E. Chapman, volunteered to carry on Friess's work as Associate Editor for Paleontology.

The ATA did not have its own national topical show in 1997. Instead, it took advantage of the PACIFIC '97 International Exhibition held in San Francisco, California, to hold its annual convention. The Biology Unit as usual held its own meeting at this event at the Moscone Center on Friday, 6 June with 19 members and guests attending. Although these meetings were supposed to be primarily social in nature, the members did take the opportunity to conduct some limited business. The Board authorized the Librarian to raise the charges for copying articles from back issues to six cents per page.

This same year, the Editor went on-line with his own e-mail address for the first time. In Volume 46, Number 2, the Editor made the first mention of a bio-philatelic web site, this one dealing with turtles on stamps, and added his hopes that more listings would come on line in the future.

Although the Unit gained 17 new members during the period between July 1996 and July 1997, the actual membership count went down to 250 including 51 Life members. This was due to mainly to dropping a number of members for non-payment of dues.

The treasury stood in good shape with a balance of more than \$13,000, but expenses had exceeded income by more than \$800 for the year.

There was discussion concerning the expense of running stamp exhibitions in light of the excessive money loss resulting from the operation of PACIFIC '97. Plans were underway for the first National Topical Stamp Show, the ATA's first independent national show.

In 1998, George A. Bearse, the Associate Editor for Marine Invertebrates, retired and Ian Hunter took over the editorship of that column. President John Luong also resigned due to the pressure of work and school. As a result, Vice-President Norma McCumber automatically assumed the office in accordance with the Unit Constitution. She appointed Frances M. Hammond as interim Vice-President.

Norma Lee (Hawkins) McCumber (1920–2007) was born in Southern California and attended UCLA majoring in Business Administration. She served 31 months in the U.S. Marine Corps and then went to work for the Department of the Navy. She was a renowned historian and was President of the Conference of California Historical Societies and Chairman of the Historical Sites Board for San Diego County. She received the R. Coke Wood Award for outstanding contributions to the history of California and the Key to the City of San Diego for her work on the history of the city. She was the author of numerous articles on postal history and served as the Universal Postal Union representative for both the APS and the ATA.



Norma L. McCumber  
Eighteenth President

This was the first year that the ATA ran their own national stamp show without the cooperation of another club or society to host the event. The NTSS became the successor to TOPEX and has remained a highly successful national show ever since. It is one of the annual World Series of Philately shows recognized by the APS. Thomas Lera won the Biology Unit Award and the Grand Award for his exhibit titled *Masters of the Night* on the topic of bats.

The Biology Unit held its annual meeting in conjunction with the NTSS at the Fairview Park Marriott Hotel in Falls Church, Virginia on Saturday, 18 July 1998, with 19 members and guests. One of the key points under discussion concerned finances again. The Treasurer pointed out that the cost of producing the journal continued to exceed the amount the Unit was receiving in dues by several hundred dollars. The Unit was slowly losing members mostly through non-payment of dues. As of 30 June 1998, the Unit had 238 members including 48 Life members. No solutions were forthcoming from the members, despite all the concern. The Governing Board focused on recruiting more members and began the process to update the Unit By-Laws, which had become out of date with the actual operational activities of the Unit.

## Routine Operations

Beginning just before the new millennium, the Unit had evolved into a settled, steady organization. Stability in the manning of the Governing Board and the staff of the journal was mainly responsible for establishing a routine in the Unit operations.

In order to help publicize the Unit, President McCumber called on volunteers to create some short articles on biological subjects to place in some of the major philatelic publications.

In an effort to reduce the overall mailing weight in order to keep it within a postal limit step, Volume 48, Number 3 debuted a new cover design—the first redesign in 18 years—printed on regular paper instead of card stock.

The ATA celebrated its 50th anniversary during the NTSS at its birthplace in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 30 July through 1 August 1999. The ATA honored its Charter Members at the Friday evening ceremony, among them Biology Unit Life Members Dr. Beverly S. Ridgely and Alan L. Steffen. Unit Treasurer and former Secretary, Betty Rutherford also was honored as recipient of the Distinguished Topical Philatelist award.

The Unit held its annual meeting on Saturday, 31 July at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel with 20 members and guests including international members from Canada and Germany and a guest from Belgium. President McCumber presented certificates to Carl H. Spitzer, Dr. Kenneth P. Pruess, Patricia E. Byrnes, and Dr. Maynard S. Raasch to mark their 40-year membership anniversaries.

Exhibits with biological connections were plentiful at the NTSS totaling 14 altogether. Ann M. Triggler received a Gold medal for *Ichthyology: A Treatise on Fishes*. This exhibit also won the Reserve Grand award and the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation award. The Biology Unit award went to Frederick S. Ziemann for *The World of Owls*, which also received a Gold medal. The American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Creativity Award went to *My Travels in the Land of Succulentia* by Dasa Metzler, which also received a Vermeil medal.

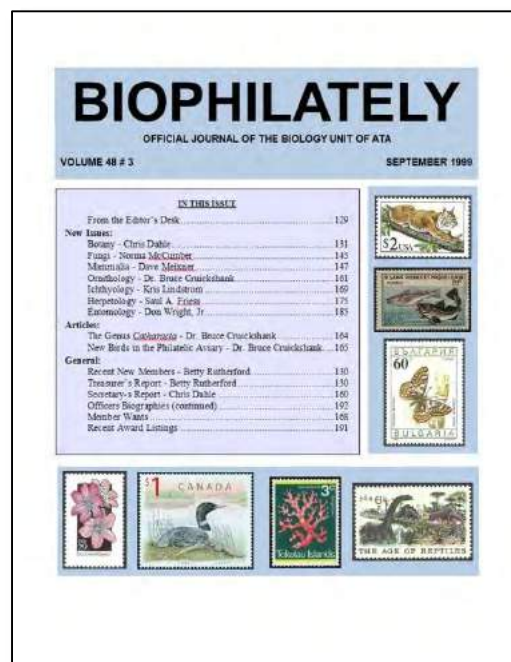
The Unit membership as of 1 July stood at 238 including 51 Life members. Expenses for the year again outstripped income by \$876. Fran Hammond reported on a survey of the collecting interests of the membership in shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Collecting Areas of Interest 1999

Code	Topic	Members	Code	Topic	Members
0	Paleontology	23	5	Birds	60
1	Flora and Fauna	25	6	Fish	22
2	Botany	48	7	Insects	57
3	Zoology	38	8	Mammals	58
4	Amphibians & Reptiles	N/A	9	Marine Invertebrates	22

Dr. Bruce Cruickshank retired as Associate Editor for Ornithology effective with the final edition of 1999. Randall L. Shore assumed his Associate Editor job and Charles E. Braun took over the New Birds column in the first edition of 2000.

Unit members continued work on ATA handbooks including HB137, *Plants on Stamps: Volume III*.



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The Unit held its next annual meeting on Saturday, 17 June 2000, during NTSS-2000 in Buffalo, New York. Fourteen members and guests were present. Discussion ranged over the usual subjects of declining membership and upcoming publications. Sadly noted was the fact that the Unit had recently lost two of its Life members: Ernest M. Petscher, and Peter Willmann. Donald Wright had drafted a revision to the Unit Constitution and By-Laws and presented it for consideration by the membership.

During the year 2000, finances reversed their losing trend when the treasury saw a positive margin of \$750. Nonetheless, because of decreasing membership and increasing journal production costs, and considering the fact that it had been almost 12 years since the last raise, the Board decided to increase the amount of annual dues from \$15 to \$20 per year. The Unit also implemented the capability to make payments by credit card.

Editor Alan J. Hanks had served as the Exhibits Chairman for NTSS-2000 in Buffalo, New York. The additional duties required by this job led to postponement of the publication of the journal. To catch up the schedule, Hanks issued a combined edition for Numbers 3 and 4 of Volume 49.

The year 2001 marked the 50th anniversary of the Biology Unit. The 2000 election resulted in the retention of all sitting officers and directors. The proposal to amend the Unit Constitution and By-Laws also passed.

Perhaps due to the special nature of the anniversary year, Volume 50 set the record for the most pages with 312. This record fell with the publication of the current volume, which contained a total of 330 pages.

However, this was not exactly a year to celebrate. The journal lost three of its Associate Editors in 2001 causing a great scramble by the Editor to find replacements. Associate Editor for Paleontology, Ralph Chapman, requested to retire from his position because the American Museum of Natural History where he worked as a laboratory director was undergoing reorganization requiring all of his attention. Wallace L. Ashby volunteered to replace Dr. Chapman and his column began in the second edition of Volume 50.

Dave Meixner, the long-time Associate Editor for Mammals retired due to health issues. Michael Prince, who had been providing the *Mammals Biographical* column—the mammal equivalent to the *New Birds in the Philatelic Aviary* column—assumed the editorship for the new mammals issues. But this meant the loss of his other highly informative column.

In another complication, Randall Shore, the Ornithology Associate Editor, had to temporarily give up his column because he was relocating from Massachusetts to Virginia.

Saul A. Friess, the Herpetology Associate Editor, submitted what turned out to be his final column as he soon after resigned from the Unit for personal reasons. There were no further Herpetology columns until Dr. Roy. W. Rings began producing another in 2004.

The annual meeting was at the Sheraton Mesa Hotel and Convention Center in Mesa, Arizona on Saturday 23 June 2001. The Philatelic Lepidopterists of America, which shared many officers with the Biology Unit, held its meeting at the same time. One of the important discussion topics broached at this meeting was the possibility of instituting a Unit web site to acquire new members. The greatest concern was if a web site could attract enough members to offset the annual cost.

The Unit experienced its most drastic decline in membership in a single year period with a loss of 40 members, possibly due in part to the increase in dues. Expenses also rose by about 40 percent over the comparable period from the previous year.

### Collection Survey

Donald Wright submitted a reader survey to poll members on their collecting interests and received 84 responses. It was interesting to note that 94 percent of the respondents indicated they collected se-tenant sheets in addition to individual stamps. But in addition to stamps, 60 percent also collected other philatelic material such as covers, cachets, and commemorative postmarks. Fifty-eight percent indicated they collected non-philatelic material such as labels, locals, and other “cinderella” items.

Every respondent collected stamps that showed their topic as a realistic major subject, but 62 percent also collected stylized depictions and 42 percent collected items when they appeared only in the margins. When items showed a



variety of topics, 35 percent of those that collected them had no problem with breaking them apart to obtain the ones they wanted. These results were consistent with those of similar surveys conducted throughout the existence of the Unit. One thing to consider regarding these results is the importance of including a broad list of items in checklists that feature the various topics. These include stylized and other collateral items, since these appeal to a large percentage of the Unit members.

The method of placing material in albums was evenly split between storing by country and storing by taxonomic order. Members used a variety of publications and listings to keep up with new issues with *Biophilately* naturally being by far the most common, followed by the *Scott Stamp Monthly* and *Linn's Stamp News*, each used by more than half of the respondents.

Surprisingly, Mammals overtook Birds as the most popular collecting topic by 52 to 39 percent. Botany was in second place with 45 percent.

## CURRENT ORGANIZATION

Only seven persons attended the annual Unit meeting held at the Orlando Expo Centre on Saturday, 22 June 2002. The NTSS that year had fewer biology related exhibits, but Vincent P. Lucas won the Reserve Grand Award with *Tobacco: Cash Crop or Vile Weed*. Secretary Dahle reported that the Unit membership roster stood at 210 members including 49 Life members. Treasurer Rutherford thanked the members who gave a total of \$625 in donations during the year. Taking advantage of lower postal rates, Editor Hanks began mailing the journal to international members from his home in Ontario. This saved more than \$300 in postage per issue and as a result, the treasury gained slightly in its balance.

More changes occurred in the Unit leadership. Norma L. McCumber resigned as President in June 2002. Vice-President Frances M. Hammond assumed the office in accordance with the Unit Constitution. In the journal, Dr. Paul A. Mistretta took over as Associate Editor of the Fungi column from Norma McCumber.

Frances Marie (Miller) Hammond (1924–2011) was born to a farming family in Dayton, Ohio. She attended college in Miamisburg, Ohio, and occupational therapy school in Philadelphia. Upon completion, she followed her spirit of adventure and moved to New Orleans where she met her husband, Dean Hammond. They lived in Kentucky, Wisconsin, Nebraska, and Colorado as Dean served in the U.S. Army and traveled through his career as a physician. They had one daughter and lived almost 40 years in Ogden, Utah before Dean passed away in 2000.

Fran Hammond was active in Girl Scouting and P.E.O. International and was an energetic community volunteer. Her topical interest was butterflies and, in addition to being the Publisher of *Biophilately*, she was a charter member and Treasurer of the Philatelic Lepidopterists of America.

Publisher and President Hammond moved from Utah to Colorado in the fall and this led to a delay in publishing Volume 51, Number 3. Part of the difficulty was in obtaining a new bulk permit for mailing as these were not transferrable between post offices.

The ATA held the NTSS-2003 in Aurora, Colorado, 27–29 June. This show allowed Thematic Display exhibits on a trial basis for the first time. Display exhibits differed from all others in that they permitted, and even encouraged, the exhibitor to include non-philatelic or so-called collateral material as long as it did not exceed 30 percent of the total items. Collateral material could include such things as coins and medallions, newspapers, picture postcards, autographs, maps, and other items that related to the theme. Dasa Metzler won the top Display award and the Most Popular award with *The Land of Baobawe*. The Biology Unit Award went to Vincent DeLuca for *The Olive: Oleo europea*.

The Biology Unit annual meeting was on Saturday, 28 June in the Holiday Inn Denver International Airport in Aurora, Colorado with President Hammond presiding and eight members and guests in attendance. A poll of the



Frances M. Hammond  
Nineteenth President



membership had determined that there was sufficient interest in the operation of a Unit web site to justify its creation and maintenance, and the use of this medium for on-line publication of the Unit journal was a prime topic of discussion. Secretary Christopher E. Dahle volunteered to assume responsibility for the web site.

At the time, postage for mailing hard copies of the journal was the largest expense to the Unit. The Publisher used bulk mailing to reduce this expense, but this required a minimum overall weight of 50 pounds. The Editor included a separate dues notice and form with the third edition of each volume and another warning notice in the final edition. One member suggested including a reply card to ask for feedback on why members did not renew. Treasurer Betty Rutherford reported that there was a net gain of \$33 in the operational funds for the past year. The balance in the treasury including the special projects fund stood at \$9,117.36.

As of the end of May 2003, the Unit had 184 active members including 46 Life members.

The ATA held NTSS-2004 at the Holiday Inn Select Memphis Airport in Memphis, Tennessee on 11-13 June. As usual, the Biology Unit had its meeting on Saturday, 12 June. President Hammond presided with seven members attending. Discussion featured the new web site and the potential for its use to promote the Unit and gain new members. The officers floated tentative plans for a Unit single frame exhibit for display at the Washington 2006 International Show.

The NTSS featured nine exhibits with biological themes. Frederick Ziemann won the Biology Unit Award and the APS Research Medal with his Gold medal exhibit titled, *Wolf*. Donna Trathen received the Chapter V Incentive Award for *Horse Breeds of the Continents*. Alan Hanks won the AAPE Creativity Medal and a Vermeil award for *Microcosmos*, an exhibit about insects.

Ian Hunter resigned as Associate Editor for Marine Invertebrates because he had married and begun working on a new house. Dr. Roy W. Rings began contributing columns for both Invertebrate Zoology and Herpetology.

Unit Secretary Christopher E. Dahle established the Biology Unit official web site ([www.biophilately.org](http://www.biophilately.org)) and it began operation enabling members to access the *Biophilately* journal on-line for the first time.

Betty Rutherford retired as Unit Treasurer in October 2004 to care for her ailing spouse. Laurie Ryan volunteered to take over the Treasurer duties in her place. In the Unit election, the members selected Alan J. Hanks to fill the vacant Vice-President position and Laurie Ryan won the Treasurer spot. Frances Hammond and Christopher Dahle retained their positions and Betty Rutherford was added to the Governing Board as a Director.

The ATA held NTSS-2005 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on 17-19 June 2005, at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel. The exhibits included nine with biology themes. Frederick Ziemann again won the Biology Unit Award with his *Wolf* Exhibit. Elizabeth Sharon Day won the Youth Grand Award with her exhibit titled, *Why I Love Horses*.

The Biology Unit annual meeting was on Saturday, 18 June. President Hammond presided and all of the Unit officers were present for the first time in several years. Eleven members and one guest were in attendance. Editor Alan Hanks spoke about getting more letters and articles for the journal. He also pointed out that *Biophilately* had not been receiving any high awards in literature competitions because it had become more of a series of lists instead of a true journal featuring a variety of articles.

The implementation of the Unit web site had helped tremendously in reducing financial costs due to printing and postage. The officers encouraged all members to consider using this option. The Webmaster, Chris Dahle, discussed several planned enhancements including advertising and e-mail contact information. The treasury showed a balance of \$16,613 with most of this in the special Permanent Fund. At that point, the income from dues was still short of covering the publication expenses, but the officers expected this to change with the advent of web delivery.

With the advent of the web site, the quantity of journal mailings for the U.S. fell below the 200 cutoff needed for bulk mail. For a short period, the Publisher tried mailing extra copies to prospective members in order to continue taking advantage of bulk mailing rates and to acquire new members, but this was not successful. The President encouraged members to take advantage of the web site access to the journal to reduce costs.

More associate editor turnover occurred with the resignation of Randall Shore in Ornithology and the retirement of Wallace Ashby in Paleontology. There were no immediate volunteers for replacements.

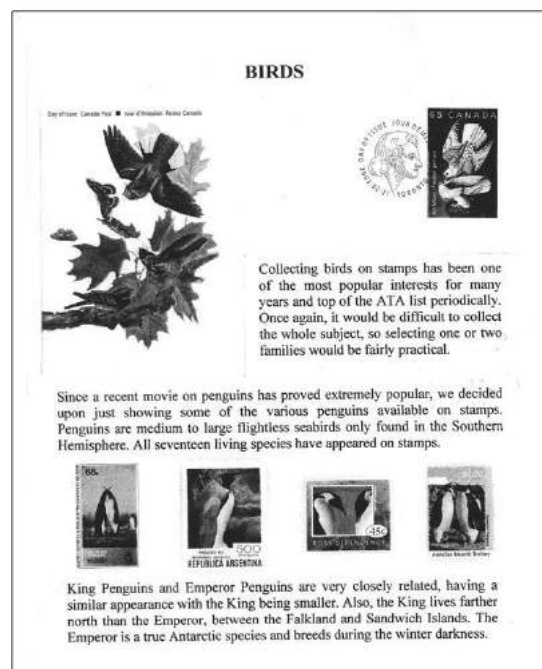
In 2006, the releases of *Biophilately* started to become delayed again due to the editor's commitments involving philatelic shows and family issues.

The Biology Unit held its meeting at the Washington 2006 Exhibition in the Washington DC Convention Center on 2 June with Vice-President Alan J. Hanks presiding. President Frances M. Hammond was unable to attend due to ill health. Eleven members and guests spent the time discussing their collecting interests. Alan Hanks reported on the status of the Unit journal and the need for some persons to fill empty associate editor positions.

The Unit produced a sixteen page promotional exhibit for display at the Washington 2006 Exhibition. The exhibit was the combined work of all the Biophilately editors. You can find an image of each page in Volume 55, Numbers 1 and 2. The ATA, in accordance with tradition, held their 2006 annual convention in conjunction with the international show in Washington.

More shuffling occurred involving the production of *Biophilately*. Wallace Ashby secured Dr. Hans-Peter Schultze for his replacement as Associate Editor for Paleontology. Until a replacement editor for Ornithology could be found, the editors arranged with the editor of the British publication *Flight* to use input from their listing of new bird issues. This arrangement lasted only one issue as Glenn G. Mertz volunteered to take over as the new Associate Editor for Ornithology.

No sooner had this problem been solved when Dr. Roy W. Rings, who had been editing both Herpetology and Invertebrates celebrated his 90th birthday and announced his retirement. A year went by before Ian Hunter returned to the position of Associate Editor for Invertebrates, but the journal as of the date of this publication still has not found a replacement for the Associate Editor of the Herpetology column.



Page from the Biology Unit Exhibit  
Washington 2006

In 2006, the ATA had released HB150, *Insects of the World on Stamps: Volume III*, by Unit member Donald P. Wright, Jr., the Associate Editor for Entomology. Wright at this time also implemented an updated taxonomic system for his listings based on scientific reorganizations resulting from modern genetic testing.

Editor Hanks underwent surgery to have both of his knees replaced in September 2006. He quickly recovered and was able to publish the final edition of the year, but there were delays in the publication of *Biophilately* during 2007 due to late submissions and family illnesses involving the Editor.

Other staff changes included the retirement of Carl H. Spitzer as Librarian. Mark Reineke of Saskatchewan volunteered to take over this position.

ATA Executive Director, Ray Cartier, asked the Unit to put together some exhibit pages showing philatelic items with birds and other animals found in Texas to display at the 2007 ATA Convention in Dallas. He planned to have some live native creatures on display including reptiles, amphibians, and mammals, and wanted to use this exhibit to augment the live display.

The ATA held its NTSS-2007 at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in Irving, Texas, on 15–17 June. The Biology Unit meeting was on Saturday, 16 June with only seven attendees. President Fran Hammond presided. Treasurer Laurie Ryan reported that the Unit treasury contained a balance of \$17,763.71. Suggestions and comments from the members involved changes to *Biophilately* to include more member wants and a membership directory with collecting interests included in order to facilitate correspondence and coordination among members.

Such interaction had always been one of the objectives of the Unit. However, modern legal concerns with privacy raised some problems with this idea. One factor was the requirement for member's permission to publish contact

information and several members had not granted this permission. Another difficulty was the fact that few members had provided information on their collecting interests.

The Unit had been steadily losing members over the preceding several years. Secretary Dahle reported that the membership roll listed 183 members including 43 Life members. But only 138 members were in good standing concerning up-to-date payment of dues. Eighteen members had not paid dues since 2005 and eleven more had not renewed for the current year. This led to some discussion about reducing the dues amount for members opting for web delivery of the journal.

Based on discussions at the annual meeting, the Board implemented several changes in the dues structure. They provided a five dollar reduction of membership dues for all members receiving web delivery starting with Volume 56, Number 3. Up until this time, the dues had been the same for all Regular members. However, with the increasing costs of international mail, the Board raised the dues for members residing outside the U.S. and Canada by five dollars to \$25. They also discontinued the offer of further Life memberships.

In other notable news involving Unit members, Vice-President and Editor Alan J. Hanks was elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada in 2007.

The ATA held NTSS-2008 at the Monarch Hotel in Clackamas, Oregon, a suburb of Portland, on 13–15 June. The Biology Unit had its traditional annual meeting there on Saturday, 14 June. All four Unit officers were there along with seven other members. As usual with these meetings, there was no formal agenda. The members discussed topics of interest including the format of the journal. All agreed they liked the focus on listings of new issues. There was a call for publishing a list of the membership.

Members also commented on exhibiting with some asking for more written guidelines, but others taking the position that there were too many rules, and these limitations kept some from participating. Many wanted to see the rules permit the showing of illustrated mail and postcards. Other discussion included ideas about disposing of collections and promoting crossover collecting with other hobbies, for example, flower stamps with gardening.

The NTSS had ten exhibits with biological connections. Phillip J. Stager won the One-frame Grand Award with *The Royal Palm*. Alan J. Hanks won the Biology Unit Award with *Microcosmos*. Other Gold Award winners were: Robert Mather for *The Donkey in Man's World*, Larry Davidson for *Beavers: Nature's Engineers*, and Phillip J. Stager for *Bamboo*. Vermeil winners included Vincent DeLuca for *The Olive: Olea europaea*, Terri Edwards for *Penguin Paradigms*, Greg Balagian for *Big Cats and Humans*, and Tim Bartsche for *The Rainbow Trout*. Donna Trathen won a Silver Award for *Evolution of Horse Breeds*.

The Editor transferred the job of mailing copies of the journal to Canadian and international members back to the Publisher in the United States because the Canadian mailing rates no longer offered any financial advantage.

The Secretary reported that the Unit had 123 members as of June 2008, with 33 others who had yet to pay their annual dues and were in danger of being dropped from the roll. The Unit web site was becoming increasingly popular with the number of monthly visits doubling since its inception to more than 600. Fifty-four members had elected to take advantage of web delivery of the journal.

NTSS-2009 was at the Dayton Convention Center in Dayton, Ohio on 12–14 June. The Unit held its meeting on Saturday, 13 June with President Hammond presiding. All four Unit officers were present along with six other members. The attendees discussed difficulties with finding newer issues in their topics and what to do about sets that only include one or two desired items. Modern taxonomic updates had also caused challenges in keeping collections organized and updated and members discussed ways of dealing with this problem.

Not for the first time there were inquiries about printing the journal in color. The main obstacle to this was the cost of commercial printing. Study Units with fewer members or smaller publications were able to produce color editions by printing in-house using personal equipment. Unfortunately, the situation with *Biophilately* was not compatible with these procedures. Each edition included more than 50 pages. Combining this with the quantity of hard copies needed made it unfeasible to use personal production methods.

The Secretary reported another decline in membership with 98 members in good standing regarding their dues payment and a further 56 members delinquent. The Unit had received only five new members within the previous

year. The ATA itself was experiencing similar problems and this was affecting funding for the annual show and their own publications. The ATA President, Jack Denys, formulated an organizational vision plan to address and start solving some of these problems.

For the first time, the NTSS used a new Unified Exhibit Evaluation Form for all exhibits. This form enabled the jury to provide written feedback to each exhibitor. There were five Open and four Youth Champion-of-Champion exhibits with biology themes. Robert Mather won the Biology Unit Award with *The Donkey in Man's World*.

Editor Hanks mentioned in an editorial the contrast between the journal from 30 years previously to the current version. He noted that each edition of the journal during the 1970s held many more pages. And these earlier issues were filled with articles and not just listings of new issues. Another fact that came to light during his review was the average attendance at the annual Unit meetings was around two dozen members whereas the latest meetings had averaged only about ten. He used these observations to urge more involvement in the Unit and to request submissions of articles for publication.

The Unit published fewer pages in the journal during this year. Part of this was due to the dearth of new issues having a biological theme. But also there were troubles with receiving the various columns electronically from some associate editors in a timely manner.

NTSS-2010 took place at the Crowne Plaza Denver International Airport Hotel in Denver, Colorado on 25–27 June. The Biology Unit annual meeting was on Saturday, 26 June at the traditional 10:00 AM time. President Hammond presided at what turned out to be her last meeting with nine members and guests attending. Secretary Chris Dahle reported that the Unit had gained eight new members during the past year and the current roll stood at 109 paid-up members including 42 Life members. Twenty-nine other members were delinquent with their dues.

Alan Hanks requested to retire as Editor and asked for someone new to replace him, but no one volunteered at that time. The members discussed possibilities for gaining membership including possibly sending out sample copies of the journal to prospective members. The expense precluded implementing this idea, but an alternative was the possibility of using single page flyers.

The NTSS exhibits included eight with biology themes. Phillip J. Stager won the Reserve Grand Award, the Biology Unit Award, and the American Philatelic Congress Award with *Coconuts* and the Single Frame Grand Award with *Pineapples*. Christopher Dahle won the Chapter V Incentive Award for *Phytoplankton*. The AAPE Creativity Award went to Robert Henak for *Horsing Around*, and Alan Hanks received the APS Research Medal for *Microcosmos*.

Laurie Ryan had decided not to stand for re-election for personal reasons and the office of Treasurer was combined with the office of Secretary again for the first time since 1971. The Unit added two new directors, Jack R. Congrove and Lois C. Herrmann. After the election in 2010, Frances M. Hammond resigned as President in July 2010 due to illness. Vice-President Hanks assumed the office in accordance with the Unit Constitution.

Regrettably, former President Frances Hammond passed away in January 2011 from lung cancer. With her passing, the Unit immediately needed to find a new Publisher and fortunately Richard A. Roman volunteered to take the job. There were some kinks to work out regarding distribution lists and addresses, but with the assistance of Secretary Dahle, these were overcome.

The NTSS-2011 convention was at the Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield Hotel in Brookfield, Wisconsin on 24–26 June. At the Biology Unit meeting on Saturday, the officers reached several decisions. The Philatelic Lepidopterists of America, which had been formed in 1992 as an offshoot of the Unit, with several officers filling the same roles in each organization, determined to disband due to declining membership and the loss of Fran Hammond, its Publisher and Treasurer. They decided to merge again with the Unit and transfer the remaining funds in their treasury to the Biology Unit.

Editor Alan Hanks had been seeking to retire from the position in order to be able to spend more time caring for his wife. Following the meeting, Jack R. Congrove volunteered to assume the editorship starting with Volume 60, Number 3. One of the things the new editor focused on was getting the publication back on its regular quarterly release schedule.

Secretary Chris Dahle reported that the Unit 138 members including 39 Life members. Several names had been removed from the rolls during the year for non-payment of dues in excess of one year. The treasury was healthy with a balance on \$18,636.78. The institution of web site delivery for many members was making a big difference in holding down expenses. Still, it cost about \$2000 per year to print and mail the Unit journal.

The ATA held NTSS-2012 at the Lancaster Host Resort and Conference Center in Lancaster, Pennsylvania on 22–24 June. Unit Director, Dr. Frederick C. Skvara, received the Distinguished Topical Philatelist Award for his contributions to topical collecting. In addition to his position with the Unit, Dr. Skvara also was a member of several other ATA study units including the Americana Unit and the Medical Subjects Unit for which he was also editor of their unit journals.

Exhibits with biological themes accounted for only 18 percent of the entries, but they won 40 percent of the special recognition awards. Greg Balagian won a Vermeil medal and the AAPE Creativity Award for *The Lion—Most Symbolic Animal of All*. Christopher Dahle won a Silver medal and the Women Exhibitors Sterling Achievement Award for *Exploring the Evolution of Plants: From Phytoplankton to Orchids*. In the Display Division, Larry Davidson won a Vermeil and the Biology Unit Award for *Beavers: Nature's Engineers*. Dawn Hamman, a first-time exhibitor, won a Silver medal and the ATA Chapter V Incentive Award, the AAPE Award of Excellence, and the AAPE Novice Award for *Manatees and Dugongs: The Story of Their Struggle to Survive*.

The Biology Unit annual meeting took place on Saturday, 23 June in accordance with tradition. The Unit had the largest turnout of members in many years with 17 persons in attendance. President Hanks presided and there was much useful discussion including suggestions for improving services to members via the Unit web site and *Biophilately*. One suggestion implemented in the very next issue was to provide listings and links to on-line resources for stamps with biological topics. The Editor suggested accessing the journal on-line as an alternative to color printing, which at the time was cost prohibitive given the size of the publication.

In 2012, the Unit had 133 members. During the previous year, the Unit gained nine new members, but lost 22 members, with the majority dropped because of non-payment of dues. Mainly as a result of reduced membership, the Unit experienced a net loss in finances. The balance for the fiscal year stood at \$17,800.62.

The Unit Webmaster, Christopher Dahle, gave the Unit web site ([www.biophilately.org](http://www.biophilately.org)) a complete makeover for the first time since it debuted in 2003. Forty-eight members were receiving on-line delivery of the Unit journal. The site was averaging around 200 hits per day with a spike of more than 1300 for one day in February.

The Editor entered *Biophilately* in the philatelic literature competition at the APS StampShow 2012. It received a Silver-Bronze medal. The jury singled out the “New Birds in the Philatelic Aviary” column by Charles E. Braun for special recognition and also provided many excellent suggestions for improvement during the feedback session. The most significant criticism continued to be the preponderance of lists as opposed to articles.

The ATA held NTSS-2013 as a combined show in conjunction with ROPEX at the Main Street Armory in Rochester, New York on 17–19 May. The annual meeting of the Biology Unit was on Saturday, 18 May at 10:00 AM with President Alan J. Hanks presiding. Nine members and two guests attended. Jack R. Congrove, the journal Editor, discussed the need for new articles and the on-going indexing project. Both the Editor and the Unit Webmaster, Christopher E. Dahle, asked the members for recommendations for improving both publications.

The Secretary reported that the Unit had 132 members including 32 Life members. The operating loss was cut in half from the previous year at \$416.86, but it was still a loss.

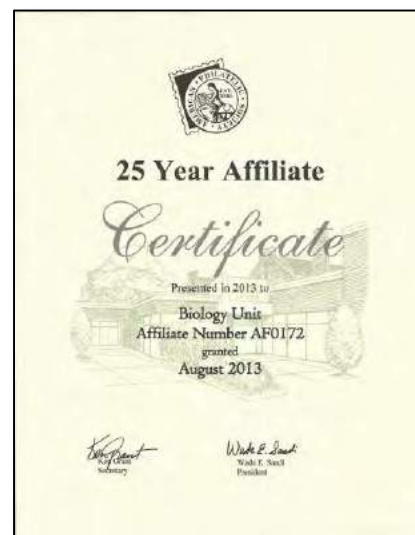
The Unit presented membership award certificates to those who had belonged to the Unit for 40, 50, and 60 years. Only Charles Vaughn and Alan Hanks were present at the meeting to receive theirs.

Several biology themed exhibits won special awards. Vincent DeLuca won the Reserve Grand Award for *The Olive: Olea europaea*. Dr. Edwin J. Andrews won the APS Research Medal for *Plague: The Story of the Most Infamous Bacterial Disease*. Greg Balagian won a Vermeil medal and the AAPE Award of Honor for *The Lion—Most Symbolic Animal of All*.

*How to Grow Tomatoes*, by Dawn R. Hamman, a one-frame display exhibit presenting step-by-step guide to selecting, growing, and harvesting your own delicious tomatoes received a Vermeil Award in its first ever showing,

and won the Mary Ann Owens One-Frame Grand Award, another of the top three prizes. This clever exhibit also won the Most Popular Exhibit award as well as the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors Creativity Award given for inventiveness, humor, or unusual subject matter.

At the APS StampShow in Milwaukee on 10 August 2013, the APS presented the Biology Unit with a certificate recognizing its 25th anniversary as an APS affiliate. During this show, *Biophilately* also received a Silver award in the Literature competition. The Unit web site received a Bronze medal award in the APS Chapter and Affiliates Web Site Competition.



In the 2013 Unit elections, the vacant Vice-President position was filled by Larry E. Davidson. Because the Unit could not get any other nominations for the other Board position, the sitting members all ran unopposed and were duly re-elected. The three Unit officers all were in attendance at the APS StampShow 2013.

Unit Officers at APS StampShow 2013  
(L to R): Christopher E. Dahle (Secretary-Treasurer), Alan J. Hanks (President), Larry E. Davidson (Vice-President)

## Summary

The Biology Unit, throughout its 62-year history, has been a leader in the field of topical philately. It was the first study unit to produce topical handbooks and its members have been responsible for the publication of more ATA handbooks than any other unit. It was the first to provide a special topical exhibit award. It has provided leaders not only to many other philatelic organizations, but to the scientific and educational communities as well. Its Unit journal is one of the oldest philatelic periodicals in continuous existence, and its members have received significant philatelic and academic honors too numerous to list.

Like every organization, the Unit has had its struggles and successes. But the latter far outweigh the former. Thanks to the efforts and dedication of so many members who have volunteered their time and energy to the leadership of the Unit and to the creation of *Biophilately*, the Unit has fashioned an enviable record of contributions to the hobby that all of us enjoy. The Members of the Biology Unit look forward with eager anticipation to continued involvement in biophilatelic interests and to the challenges and the opportunities to excel that the future will present.



## PRODUCTION METHODS

In the present time, with our access to copiers, electronic mail, and digitized files, it is easy to forget how difficult it was to produce earlier versions of the journal.

The editors produced the first volumes of the Unit journal using simple offset duplication of typed master copies run on hand-operated mimeograph machines. When Dr. Willard Stanley took over the editorship, he was able to make use of the more sophisticated Multilith machinery available at his university in Fredonia, New York.

### Multilith

The Multilith process also used the offset duplicating process that required preparing paper-like master copies by typing. It additionally enabled the user to make and reproduce simple line drawings. This process was convenient and economical for relatively small print runs. For very large runs, the master sheets would sometimes deteriorate or tear due to wear. Fortunately, the journal did not require print runs greater than 500 impressions per page.

The editor had to transfer all of the printed material to the Multilith master sheets by typing on them. Editor Stanley was able to hire some student typists, but apparently he accomplished most of the typing himself composing some columns as he went. It was possible to correct some small mistakes using a liquid eraser and sometimes inserting missing text between the lines. Extensive or complicated corrections required complete retyping. After the editor had all the sheets ready, he sent them to the Multilith operator to run the required number of copies. This process sometimes took several hours even with the relatively small quantity of pages. After completing the reproduction, the pages had to be collated into complete separate editions and stapled to keep them secure.

The editor received many requests for copies and reprints. But it was impossible to run the Multilith stencils again after only a few months had gone by because they had degraded in storage. This meant that the publisher would have had to reproduce each page entirely from scratch, retyping each stencil manually. Today, we casually make copies of whatever documents we wish and can even copy them to an electronic file for permanent storage and retrieval. But 50 years ago this capability was unavailable, and even 30 years ago it was uncommon.

Another limitation with this process was the inability to incorporate images. The only reasonable method for reproducing images in those times was by offset lithography. However, in order to be cost effective, this method required much greater print runs than those needed for the journal.

### Xerography

The editor began the first experiment with xerography in the April-May 1959 edition (Volume 8). This was before the actual release of the first commercial Xerox machine. The editor used this process, which was very cumbersome and time-consuming, to incorporate some stamp images as an experiment. The results were promising, but unfortunately the availability of the machine was short-lived.

Xerography combined photography with electrostatic printing to reproduce an image. It still required an original that the editor had to produce, but provided the capability to print picture images in addition to text. This method had many advantages over the Multilith procedures in that there was no need to prepare separate master sheets and the editor could reproduce new copies from the originals whenever necessary. It also enabled the editor to use original input directly from the associate editors or other contributors without having to transfer it to a master.

Nevertheless, the journal did not implement the complete routine use of xerography until Volume 24, Number 1. Thereafter, xerographic images of stamps appeared in all the journal editions, evolving eventually into the use of electronic word and image processing used in the current issues.

### Word Processing

The editor began employment of word processing and printing via personal computer with Volume 42, Number 1. Despite the effort at redesign, *Biophilately* still suffered from a lack of quality image reproduction. This was partly due to the limitation in the capability to publish the journal in color for financial reasons, but also the result of the lower quality xerographic reproduction of the original pages prepared for distribution. This limitation was most

evident in an article describing printing errors in bird stamps. Many of these errors were the result of color shifts or omissions that were obscure in the gray-scale reproductions.

The editors had always been desirous of the ability to include images to illustrate the articles in the journal as well as concerned about the quality of image reproduction. When the journal employed photocopy reproduction, it started with scanned black and white (or sometimes gray-scale) images from the associate editors. The editor copied these into the master version, which then went to the printer for photocopying. Thus the end result was often a third-hand reproduction.

There has always been a great desire to use color images, but in the early days, this was beyond the capability of the available resources. Later on, the Unit could not justify the photocopy or printing expense for color pages. The main reason for this is that the quantity of pages requiring reproduction is too great to perform using personal in-house printers, but not large enough to be economical for commercial printing.

Currently, the journal has implemented color printing for only the journal cover on print copies. However, the on-line files of the latest issues, accessible via the Unit web site, are all in color and these provide an alternate way for members to view and receive the portions of the journal that contain color imagery.

### **Future Methods**

Even though the trend seems to demand migration to electronic media, I suspect that there will continue to be a need to produce the journal in printed paper copies. For the immediate future, we have many members who choose not to use electronic media. Some members do not own or want to use electronic devices. For others it is more convenient to be able to refer to a printed copy at hand than to take the trouble to access electronic versions.

Nonetheless, my expectation is that very soon more members will opt for electronic versions than for printed ones. This will facilitate the ability to produce printed copies in color because with fewer copies, we will be able to use in-house printing instead of having to pay for commercial copying. Another factor that will facilitate this is that the quality and ruggedness of personal printers will continue to increase while their cost will continue to decline.

Sixty years from now our members will all receive the journal moments after the editor has spoken the "Publish" command. They will scan the sections that they desire using retina projection and filtered by thought command. Members will be able to immediately interact with the editors and authors and with each other to discuss any points of interest and resolve any questions or discrepancies.

Of course, skeptics might say that in 60 years, there will not be any new stamps to keep track of and write about. To them I say, "Nonsense." There will always be a need to transport items from one point on the map to another. These items may not be letters or packages as we know them today, but I suspect they will have many similarities. They may use "smart" stamps or other labels that employ automated drones to perform self-delivery. But whatever the descendent of our current postal system is, you can bet that someone will collect every aspect of it.

## UNIT OFFICERS

This table lists the persons who have occupied the Unit officer positions throughout the history of the organization. The listing is in chronological order. In principle, the term of office was for a two-year period. But the Unit sometimes scheduled elections out of cycle for various reasons. Additionally, there were circumstances involving resignations and deaths in office that necessitated appointments and other adjustments. The table only shows a new officer slate whenever there was a change in one or more positions.

<b>June–October 1951:</b> President: Homer L. Jones (Pennsylvania) Secretary: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York) Editor: Homer L. Jones (Pennsylvania)	
<b>October 1951–1952:</b> President: Homer L. Jones (Pennsylvania) Vice-President: Mrs. Fannie S. Kimball (New York) Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York) Director: Harold D. Bearce (Missouri) Director: John R. Spanuth (Pennsylvania) Editor: Homer L. Jones (Pennsylvania)	<b>1952–1954:</b> President: Homer L. Jones (Pennsylvania) Vice-President: Mrs. Fannie S. Kimball (New York) Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York) Director: Harold D. Bearce (Missouri) Director: John R. Spanuth (Pennsylvania) Editor: Simon C. Becker (Wisconsin)
<b>1954–1955:</b> President: Homer L. Jones (Pennsylvania) Vice-President: Dessie E. Bodamer (Illinois) Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York) Director: John H. Groet (Indiana) Director: John R. Spanuth (Pennsylvania) Editor: Rev. Simon C. Becker (Wisconsin)	<b>1955–1956:</b> President: : Sidney R. Esten (Indiana) Vice-President Edgar W. Spurgeon (Ontario) Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York) Director: John H. Groet (Indiana) Director: John R. Spanuth (Pennsylvania) Editor: Rev. Simon C. Becker (Wisconsin)
<b>1956–1959:</b> President: : Sidney R. Esten (Indiana) Vice-President Edgar W. Spurgeon (Ontario) Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York) Director: William Howell (Ohio) Director: Dr. Jack C. von Bloeker, Jr. (California) Director: Fred E. Carver (Washington) Editor: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York)	<b>1959–1961:</b> President: Sidney R. Esten (Indiana) Vice-President: Edgar W. Spurgeon (Ontario) Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York) Director: William Howell (Ohio) Director: Dr. Jack C. von Bloeker, Jr. (California) Director: Dr. Shirley C. Tucker (Minnesota) Editor: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York)
<b>1961–1962:</b> President: Sidney R. Esten (Indiana) Vice-President: Dr. Shirley C. Tucker (Illinois) Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York) Director: Dr. Jack C. von Bloeker, Jr. (California) Director: William Howell (Ohio) Director: Dr. William H. Perkins (Pennsylvania) Director: Edgar W. Spurgeon (Ontario) Director: Merida Wilde (Illinois) Editor: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York)	<b>1962–1964:</b> President: Sidney R. Esten (Indiana) Vice-President: Dr. Shirley C. Tucker (Illinois) Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York) Director: Dr. Jack C. von Bloeker, Jr. (California) Director: Dr. William H. Perkins (Pennsylvania) Director: Dr. Beverly S. Ridgely (Rhode Island) Director: Dr. Claude Weber (Mass./Switzerland) Director: Merida Wilde (Illinois) Editor: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York)
<b>1964–1966:</b> President: Dr. William H. Perkins (Pennsylvania) Vice-President: Merida Wilde (Illinois) Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York) Director: Dr. Robert E. Gordon (Indiana) Director: Dr. Kenneth P. Pruess (Nebraska) Director: Dr. Beverly S. Ridgely (Rhode Island) Director: Dr. Claude Weber (Switzerland) Director: Donald P. Wright, Jr. (New Jersey) Editor: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York)	<b>1966–1968:</b> President: Dr. James P. Kramer (DC) Vice-President: Dr. Shirley C. Tucker (Louisiana) Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York) Director: Dr. Robert E. Gordon (Indiana) Director: Dorothy Perrin (New York) Director: Dr. Claude Weber (Switzerland) Director: Merida Wilde (Florida) Director: Donald P. Wright, Jr. (New Jersey) Editor: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York)

<p><b>1968–1970:</b>  President: Dr. Shirley C. Tucker (Louisiana)  Vice-President: Donald P. Wright, Jr. (New Jersey)  Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York)  Director: Gustavs E. Eglajs (Minnesota)  Director: Dr. Robert E. Gordon (Indiana)  Director: Doris C. Patterson (New Jersey)  Director: Dorothy Perrin (New York)  Director: Merida Wilde (Florida)  Editor: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York)</p>	<p><b>1970–1971:</b>  President: Donald P. Wright, Jr. (New Jersey)  Vice-President: Zannie E. Davis (New Hampshire)  Secretary-Treasurer: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York)  Director: Charles W. Alber (Indiana)  Director: Gustavs E. Eglajs (Minnesota)  Director: Dr. Robert E. Gordon (Indiana)  Director: Doris C. Patterson (New Jersey)  Director: Dorothy Perrin (New York)  Editor: Dr. Willard F. Stanley (New York)</p>
<p><b>1971–1972:</b>  President: Donald P. Wright, Jr. (New Jersey)  Vice-President: Zannie E. Davis (New Hampshire)  Secretary: Doris C. Patterson (New Jersey)  Treasurer: Charles W. Alber (Indiana)  Director: Charles W. Alber (Indiana)  Director: Gustavs E. Eglajs (Minnesota)  Director: Dr. Robert E. Gordon (Indiana)  Director: Doris C. Patterson (New Jersey)  Director: Dorothy Perrin (New York)  Editor: Zannie E. Davis (New Hampshire)</p>	<p><b>1972–1973:</b>  President: Zannie E. Davis (California)  Vice-President: Dr. Bruce Cruickshank (Ontario)  Secretary: Doris C. Patterson (New Jersey)  Treasurer: Charles W. Alber (Indiana)  Director: Charles W. Alber (Indiana)  Director: Gustavs E. Eglajs (Minnesota)  Director: Doris C. Patterson (New Jersey)  Director: Dr. Kenneth P. Pruess (Nebraska)  Director: Malvin L. Skaroff (Pennsylvania)  Editor: Donald P. Wright, Jr. (New Jersey)</p>
<p><b>1973–1974:</b>  President: Zannie E. Davis (California)  Vice-President: Dr. Bruce Cruickshank (Ontario)  Secretary: Doris C. Patterson (New Jersey)  Treasurer: Charles W. Alber (Indiana)  Director: Charles W. Alber (Indiana)  Director: Gustavs E. Eglajs (Pennsylvania)  Director: Doris C. Patterson (New Jersey)  Director: Dr. Kenneth P. Pruess (Nebraska)  Director: Malvin L. Skaroff (Pennsylvania)  Editor: Zannie E. Davis (California)</p>	<p><b>1975–1977:</b>  President: Dr. Bruce Cruickshank (Ontario)  Vice-President: Doris C. Patterson (New Jersey)<sup>(1)</sup>  Secretary: Dona Jaquet (Illinois)  Treasurer: Charles W. Alber (Indiana)  Director: Charles W. Alber (Indiana)  Director: Dr. Frank O. Brasch (California)  Director: Gustavs E. Eglajs (Pennsylvania)  Director: Dr. Kenneth P. Pruess (Nebraska)  Director: Malvin L. Skaroff (Pennsylvania)  Editor: Gustavs E. Eglajs (Pennsylvania)</p>
<p><b>1977–1978:</b>  President: Dr. Bruce Cruickshank (Ontario)  Vice-President: Margaret M. Wurtz (Pennsylvania)  Secretary: Dona Jaquet (Illinois)  Treasurer: Charles W. Alber (Indiana)  Director: Charles W. Alber (Indiana)  Director: Dr. Frank O. Brasch (California)  Director: Gustavs E. Eglajs (Pennsylvania)  Director: Dr. Kenneth P. Pruess (Nebraska)  Director: Malvin L. Skaroff (Pennsylvania)  Editor: Gustavs E. Eglajs (Pennsylvania)</p>	<p><b>1979–1980:</b>  President: Margaret M. Wurtz (Pennsylvania)  Vice-President: Kenneth L. Reid (Texas)  Secretary: Helen F. Demond (California)  Treasurer: Alan J. Hanks (Ontario)  Director: Charles W. Alber (Indiana)  Director: Dr. Frank O. Brasch (California)  Director: Gustavs E. Eglajs (Idaho)  Director: Dr. Kenneth P. Pruess (Nebraska)  Director: Malvin L. Skaroff (Pennsylvania)  Editor: Gustavs E. Eglajs (Idaho)</p>
<p><b>1981–1982:</b>  President: Kenneth L. Reid (Texas)<sup>(2)</sup>  Vice-President: (vacant)<sup>(2)</sup>  Secretary: Betty Rutherford (Iowa)<sup>(3)</sup>  Treasurer: Alan J. Hanks (Ontario)  Director: Charles W. Alber (Indiana)  Director: Dr. Frank O. Brasch (California)  Director: Gustavs E. Eglajs (Pennsylvania)  Director: Dr. Kenneth P. Pruess (Nebraska)  Director: Malvin L. Skaroff (Pennsylvania)  Editor: Gustavs E. Eglajs (Pennsylvania)</p>	<p><b>1982–1983:</b>  President: Kenneth L. Reid (Texas)  Vice-President: Alan J. Hanks (Ontario)  Secretary: Betty Rutherford (Iowa)  Treasurer: Charles W. Alber (Indiana)  Director: Charles W. Alber (Indiana)  Director: Dr. Frank O. Brasch (California)  Director: Gustavs E. Eglajs (Pennsylvania)  Director: Dr. Kenneth P. Pruess (Nebraska)  Director: Malvin L. Skaroff (Pennsylvania)  Editor: George A. Ball (Nebraska)</p>

<p><b>1983–1984:</b>  President: Alan J. Hanks (Ontario)  Vice-President: Dr. Garland T. Riegel (Illinois)  Secretary: Betty Rutherford (Iowa)  Treasurer: Charles W. Alber (Indiana)  Director: John W. Arnold (England)  Director: Dr. Frank O. Brasch (California)  Director: Gustavs E. Eglajs (Pennsylvania)  Director: Dr. Kenneth P. Pruess (Nebraska)  Director: Malvin L. Skaroff (Pennsylvania)  Editor: George A. Ball (Nebraska)</p>	<p><b>1984–1985:</b>  President: Alan J. Hanks (Ontario)  Vice-President: Dr. Garland T. Riegel (Illinois)  Secretary: Betty Rutherford (Iowa)  Treasurer: Charles W. Alber (Indiana)  Director: Charles W. Alber (Indiana)  Director: John W. Arnold (England)  Director: Dr. Frank O. Brasch (California)  Director: Gustavs E. Eglajs (Pennsylvania)  Director: Dr. Kenneth P. Pruess (Nebraska)  Editor: George A. Ball (Nebraska)</p>
<p><b>1985–1987:</b>  President: Dr. Garland T. Riegel (Illinois)  Vice-President: Dr. Kenneth P. Pruess (Nebraska)  Secretary: Betty Rutherford (Iowa)  Treasurer: Charles W. Alber (Indiana)  Director: John W. Arnold (England)  Director: Dr. Frank O. Brasch (California)  Director: Gustavs E. Eglajs (Pennsylvania)  Director: Mary T. Glenn (Texas)  Director: Jeane Gould (California)  Editor: George A. Ball (Nebraska)</p>	<p><b>1987–1989:</b>  President: Dr. Greg A. Herbert (Maryland)  Vice-President: Dr. Kenneth P. Pruess (Nebraska)  Secretary: Betty Rutherford (Iowa)  Treasurer: Charles W. Alber (Indiana)  Director: Gustavs E. Eglajs (Pennsylvania)  Director: Mary T. Glenn (Texas)  Director: Jeane Gould (California)  Director: Alan J. Hanks (Ontario)  Director: Dr. Garland T. Riegel (Illinois)  Editor: George A. Ball (Nebraska)</p>
<p><b>1989–1992:</b>  President: Dr. James F. Cornell, Jr. (North Carolina)  Vice-President: Donald P. Wright (New Jersey)  Secretary: Betty Rutherford (Iowa)  Treasurer: Dr. Garland T. Riegel (Illinois)  Director: Gustavs E. Eglajs (Pennsylvania)<sup>(4)</sup>  Director: Mary T. Glenn (Texas)  Director: Jeane Gould (California)  Director: Dr. Greg A. Herbert (Maryland)  Director: Dr. Garland T. Riegel (Illinois)  Editor/Director: George A. Ball (Nebraska)<sup>(4)</sup>  Editor: Alan J. Hanks (Ontario)<sup>(1990)</sup><sup>(5)</sup></p>	<p><b>1992–1993:</b>  President: Donald P. Wright (New Jersey)<sup>(6)</sup>  Vice-President: (vacant)<sup>(6)</sup>  Secretary: Betty Rutherford (Iowa)  Treasurer: Dr. Garland T. Riegel (Illinois)  Director: George A. Ball (Nebraska)  Director: Mary T. Glenn (Texas)  Director: Jeane Gould (California)  Director: Dr. Greg A. Herbert (Maryland)  Director: Dr. Garland T. Riegel (Illinois)  Editor: Alan J. Hanks (Ontario)</p>
<p><b>1993–1996:</b>  President: Carl H. Spitzer (Arizona)  Vice-President: Donald P. Wright (New Jersey)  Secretary: Betty Rutherford (Iowa)  Treasurer: Dr. Garland T. Riegel (Illinois)  Director: George A. Ball (Nebraska)  Director: Dr. James F. Cornell, Jr. (North Carolina)<sup>(7)</sup>  Director: Dr. Bruce Cruickshank (Ontario)  Director: Dr. Robert E. Gordon (Georgia)<sup>(8)</sup>  Director: Dr. Greg A. Herbert (Maryland)<sup>(7)</sup>  Editor: Alan J. Hanks (Ontario)</p>	<p><b>1997–1998:</b>  President: John Luong (California)  Vice-President: Norma L. McCumber (California)  Secretary: Betty Rutherford (Iowa)  Treasurer: Betty Rutherford (Iowa)  Director: George A. Ball (Nebraska)<sup>(9)</sup>  Director: Dr. Bruce Cruickshank (Ontario)  Director: Carl H. Spitzer (Arizona)  Director: Donald P. Wright (New Jersey)  Editor: Alan J. Hanks (Ontario)</p>

<b>March–October 1998:</b> President: Norma L. McCumber (California) <sup>(10)</sup> Vice-President: Frances M. Hammond (Utah) <sup>(10)</sup> Secretary: Betty Rutherford (Iowa) Treasurer: Betty Rutherford (Iowa) Director: (vacant) <sup>(9)</sup> Director: Dr. Bruce Cruickshank (Ontario) Director: Carl H. Spitzer (Arizona) Director: Donald P. Wright (New Jersey) Editor: Alan J. Hanks (Ontario)	<b>1998–2002:</b> President: Norma L. McCumber (California) Vice-President: Frances M. Hammond (Utah) Secretary: Christopher E. Dahle (Iowa) Treasurer: Betty Rutherford (Iowa) Director: Dr. Bruce Cruickshank (Ontario) Director: Siwert Nilsson (Sweden) Director: Dr. Frederick C. Skvara (New Jersey) Director: Carl H. Spitzer (Arizona) Director: Donald P. Wright (New Jersey) Editor: Alan J. Hanks (Ontario)
<b>June–December 2002</b> President: Frances M. Hammond (Utah) <sup>(11)</sup> Vice-President: (vacant) <sup>(11)</sup> Secretary: Christopher E. Dahle (Iowa) Treasurer: Betty Rutherford (Iowa) Director: Dr. Bruce Cruickshank (Ontario) <sup>(12)</sup> Director: Vincent P. Lucas (Ohio) <sup>(13)</sup> Director: Dr. Frederick C. Skvara (New Jersey) Director: Carl H. Spitzer (Arizona) Director: Donald P. Wright (New Jersey) Editor: Alan J. Hanks (Ontario)	<b>2003–2004:</b> President: Frances M. Hammond (Utah) Vice-President: (vacant) Secretary: Christopher E. Dahle (Iowa) Treasurer: Betty Rutherford (Iowa) Director: Vincent P. Lucas (Ohio) Director: Dr. Frederick C. Skvara (New Jersey) Director: Carl H. Spitzer (Arizona) Director: Donald P. Wright (New Jersey) Editor: Alan J. Hanks (Ontario)
<b>2004–2010:</b> President: Frances M. Hammond (Utah) Vice-President: Alan J. Hanks (Ontario) Secretary: Christopher E. Dahle (Iowa) Treasurer: Laurie Ryan (Ohio) <sup>(14)</sup> Director: Vincent P. Lucas (Ohio) Director: Betty Rutherford (Iowa) <sup>(14)</sup> Director: Dr. Frederick C. Skvara (New Jersey) Director: Carl H. Spitzer (Arizona) <sup>(15)</sup> Director: Donald P. Wright (New Jersey) Editor: Alan J. Hanks (Ontario)	<b>2010–2011:</b> President: Alan J. Hanks (Ontario) <sup>(16)</sup> Vice-President: (vacant) <sup>(16)</sup> Secretary-Treasurer: Christopher E. Dahle (Iowa) Director: Jack R. Congrove (Washington) Director: Lois C. Herrmann (New Mexico) Director: Dr. Frederick C. Skvara (New Jersey) Director: Donald P. Wright (New Jersey) Editor: Alan J. Hanks (Ontario)
<b>2011–2013:</b> President: Alan J. Hanks (Ontario) Vice-President: (vacant) <sup>(16)</sup> Secretary-Treasurer: Christopher E. Dahle (Iowa) Director: Jack R. Congrove (Washington) Director: Lois C. Herrmann (New Mexico) Director: Dr. Frederick C. Skvara (New Jersey) Director: Donald P. Wright (New Jersey) Editor: Jack R. Congrove (Washington)	<b>2013–date:</b> President: Alan J. Hanks (Ontario) Vice-President: Larry Davidson (Ontario) Secretary-Treasurer: Christopher E. Dahle (Iowa) Director: Jack R. Congrove (Washington) Director: Lois C. Herrmann (New Mexico) Director: Dr. Frederick C. Skvara (New Jersey) Director: Donald P. Wright (New Jersey) Editor: Jack R. Congrove (Washington)
<b>End notes:</b> <sup>(1)</sup> Doris C. Patterson died in office in January 1976. The Vice-President position was vacant during 1976–77. <sup>(2)</sup> Margaret M. Wurtz resigned as President in 1980 for personal reasons. Vice-President Reid assumed the office in accordance with the Unit Constitution. The Vice-President position was vacant until 1982, when President Reid appointed Alan J. Hanks to the office. <sup>(3)</sup> Helen F. Demond resigned as Secretary in 1980 due to ill health. The Board appointed Betty Rutherford to fill her position. <sup>(4)</sup> Gustavs E. Eglajs died in office in August 1989. The Board appointed George A. Ball to replace him. <sup>(5)</sup> Alan J. Hanks assumed the editorship of <i>Biophilately</i> starting in 1990. <sup>(6)</sup> James F. Cornell, Jr. resigned as President in May 1992 for personal reasons. Vice-President Wright assumed the office in accordance with the Unit Constitution. The Vice-President position was vacant until 1993. <sup>(7)</sup> Greg A. Herbert resigned as Director in the Spring of 1993. The Board appointed James F. Cornell, Jr. as his replacement.	



- <sup>(8)</sup> Robert E. Gordon died in office in June 1996. This position remained vacant until the new President appointed a replacement in 1997.
- <sup>(9)</sup> George A. Ball died in office in May 1997. This position remained vacant until 1998
- <sup>(10)</sup> John Luong resigned as President in the Spring of 1998 due to pressures with his job and school. Vice-President McCumber assumed the office in accordance with the Unit Constitution. The new President appointed Frances M. Hammond as interim Vice-President in her place.
- <sup>(11)</sup> Norma L. McCumber resigned as President in June 2002. Vice-President Hammond assumed the office in accordance with the Unit Constitution. The Vice-President office remained vacant until 2004.
- <sup>(12)</sup> Bruce Cruickshank resigned as Director in the Fall of 2002 and was not replaced.
- <sup>(13)</sup> Siwert Nilsson died in office in the Fall of 2002 and was replaced by Vincent P. Lucas.
- <sup>(14)</sup> Betty Rutherford retired as Unit Treasurer in October 2004 to care for her ailing spouse. Laurie Ryan volunteered to take over the Treasurer duties and was duly elected in her place.
- <sup>(15)</sup> Carl H. Spitzer died in office in October 2009. Because he held this position ex officio as Past President, he was not replaced.
- <sup>(16)</sup> After the election in 2010, Frances M. Hammond resigned in July 2010 due to illness. Vice-President Hanks assumed the office in accordance with the Unit Constitution. The Vice-President position was vacant until 2013.

## DISTINGUISHED TOPICAL PHILATELISTS

The American Topical Association created the Distinguished Topical Philatelist Award in 1952 to recognize service to topical philately in general and to the ATA in particular. As of 2013, the ATA has designated 116 persons as Distinguished Topical Philatelists, the organization's most prestigious award and highest honor. Twenty-eight of these awardees (24 percent) are, or have been members of the Biology Unit.

Andrews, Dr. Melvin J. (1966)	Mather, Robert J. (2003)	Spurgeon, Edgar W. (1961)
Ball, George A. (1991)	McAllister, Clare (1957)	Stanley, Dr. Willard F. (1955)
Becker, Rev. Simon C. (1953)	Peterson, Henry (1966)	Stout, Jean C. (2013)
Campbell, Rev. Fred H. (1964)	Ranschaert, Cyril C. (1969)	Swanker, Dr. Wilson A. (1955)
Esten, Sidney R. (1957)	Riegel, Dr. Garland T. (1992)	Trigg, Ann, M. (2006)
Griffenhagen, Dr. George B. (1970)	Rutherford, Betty (1999)	Tucker, Dr. Shirley C. (1961)
Groet, John H. (1954)	Sieverts, Louis K. (1959)	Wright, Allyn, H. (1952)
Hanks, Alan J. (1985)	Skvara, Dr. Frederick C. (2012)	Wurtz, Margaret M. (1974)
Johnson, Harvey E. (1960)	Smith, Dorothy F. (1970)	
Jones, Homer L. (1952)	Spitzer, Carl H. (1995)	

## DEMOGRAPHICS

As of December 2013, the Biology Unit has recorded 1849 member identity numbers. This value is deceptive, because within the listing of these members are 43 cases where the recorder has assigned the same individual more than one identity number. Presumably this has happened most often when a member dropped out for a period before rejoining the organization at a later date.

We can attribute the fact that the recorder assigning numbers did not catch these duplications to two causes. The primary cause is that the Unit officer responsible for the assignment of membership identity numbers (usually the Secretary, but on occasion the Treasurer) did not maintain a master historical roster of all members. Sometimes the recorder mistakenly thought an application was for a new membership, when in fact it was for a membership renewal. The secondary cause is the confusion and lack of coordination that sometimes occurred during the transfer of duties between outgoing and incoming Unit officers.

There also are at least three instances where the recorder has assigned the same number to two different identities. In addition, five members apparently enrolled in the Unit directly as Life members and therefore did not receive a regular sequence identity number.

While compiling this index and unit history, I made an attempt to reconstruct a master historical roster from the New Member announcements published in *Biophilately* and from Membership Rosters produced periodically by the Unit Secretary or Treasurer. This effort was not completely successful. I encountered gaps in the identity number assignments where the editor omitted the publication of new member listings during certain periods. The membership rosters were not completely helpful in filling these gaps because in the intervening period between the publication of these rosters many new members had resigned, or had been dropped from the roll, and as a result their names failed to appear on any roster at all. Also, as mentioned above, the unit has not maintained a master record that I could use as a reference. Currently, the roster has 61 missing identifications.

In addition, sometimes the new member listing included only a name without an identity number assignment. In these cases, I tried to extrapolate the number based on the date the member joined and the available unassigned numbers for that period. These number assignments are only my best guess.

Table 3 shows a summary of the biophilatelic collecting interests indicated by the Unit members. The data in this table is not scientific because many members neglected to reveal their interests for whatever reason and some members collect topics (e.g., Darwin, medicine, conservation) that do not fit into these categories. The totals are deceptive also because many members collect several topics. Even so the figures do provide some relative data.

Table 3. Collecting Areas of Interest Summary

Code	Topic	Members	Code	Topic	Members
0	Paleontology	38	5	Birds	332
1	Flora and Fauna	101	6	Fish	135
2	Botany	311	7	Insects	201
3	Zoology	66	8	Mammals	265
4	Amphibians & Reptiles	119	9	Marine Life	110

The Biology Unit is today and historically has been a world-wide organization counting members from fifty-nine different countries including the USA and Canada. The bulk of the Unit roster has come from the United States totaling about 1324 members representing all 50 states and the District of Columbia plus two territories. Canada has provided the next largest group of members with 113 from seven different provinces. Among the international members, Australia has supplied the largest quantity with a total of 29, closely followed by England with 28. Table 4 shows a breakdown of the states, provinces, and countries of origin of the members based on their home of record at the time they joined the Unit.

Table 4. Member Origins

Location	Count	Location	Count	Location	Count	Location	Count
<b>United States</b>							
Alabama	7	Indiana	12	Nevada	3	South Dakota	2
Alaska	6	Iowa	9	New Hampshire	4	Tennessee	5
Arizona	22	Kansas	12	New Jersey	59	Texas	39
Arkansas	3	Kentucky	15	New Mexico	3	Utah	6
California	187	Louisiana	9	New York	170	Vermont	6
Colorado	25	Maine	7	North Carolina	14	Virgin Islands	1
Connecticut	26	Maryland	37	North Dakota	5	Virginia	25
District of Columbia	18	Massachusetts	58	Ohio	75	Washington	45
Delaware	11	Michigan	46	Oklahoma	13	West Virginia	1
Florida	48	Minnesota	19	Oregon	26	Wisconsin	30
Georgia	8	Mississippi	5	Pennsylvania	65	Wyoming	1
Hawaii	7	Missouri	17	Puerto Rico	5	(unidentified)	10
Idaho	1	Montana	3	Rhode Island	4		
Illinois	73	Nebraska	12	South Carolina	5		
<b>Canada</b>							
Alberta	9	Manitoba	4	Ontario	57	Saskatchewan	5
British Columbia	22	Nova Scotia	1	Quebec	15		
<b>International</b>							
Australia	29	England	28	Latvia	1	Russia	1
Austria	1	Fiji	2	Malaysia	2	Salvador	1
Azores	1	Finland	3	Mexico	2	Singapore	1
Belgium	7	France	15	Mongolia	1	South Africa	15
Bermuda	1	Germany	4	Mozambique	1	Spain	5
Brazil	9	Germany (East )	2	Namibia	1	Surinam	1
Canal Zone	1	Germany (West )	3	Nepal	1	Sweden	15
Central Africa	1	Great Britain	4	Netherlands	5	Switzerland	4
China P.R.	1	Hong Kong	2	New Zealand	14	Taiwan	5
Congo D.R.	1	India	5	Norway	7	Thailand	3
Croatia	1	Indonesia	1	Peru	1	Ukraine	1
Cuba	1	Israel	8	Philippines	1	Uruguay	1
Czechoslovakia	1	Italy	7	Poland	3	Venezuela	5
Czech Republic	3	Japan	17	Portugal	2		
Denmark	3	Korea	2	Rhodesia	3		

The following pages contain copies of the Unit Constitution and By-Laws that are in effect as of October 2013.

## CONSTITUTION OF THE BIOLOGY UNIT OF THE A.T.A.

### Article 1. Name

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Biology Unit of the American Topical Association (the Unit).

Section 2. The objectives of the Biology Unit shall be:

- (1) The study and collection of stamps and related material portraying the various aspects of biology or allied subjects.
- (2) The dissemination of this information to members of the Unit and to other philatelic enthusiasts.

### Article 2. Membership

Section 1. Membership is open to anyone interested in the objectives of the Unit.

Section 2. Application for membership shall be made in writing to the Secretary or to the President and shall be accompanied by the appropriate dues payment.

Section 3. The membership fee (annual dues) shall be determined by the Governing Board. (See By-Laws)

Section 4. In order for members to be in good standing with the Unit, they must have paid their dues in accordance with the schedule established by the Unit By-Laws.

### Article 3. Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Unit shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. The officers and four elected Directors shall constitute the Governing Board, which shall exercise general supervision and conduct the business of the Unit.

(1) Presidents and Editors Emeriti shall be honorary, non-voting members of the Governing Board, unless they are elected to another officer or Director position. Retiring Presidents and Editors in good standing shall automatically have Emeritus status.

(2) At the discretion of the Governing Board, the offices of the Secretary and Treasurer may be combined in one individual to facilitate the conduct of Unit business.

Section 2. The President shall have general charge of the business and affairs of the Unit, shall preside at all Unit meetings, shall appoint all standing committees, and shall be a member ex-officio of all committees. The President shall make a report of significant Unit activities each year to be published in *Biophilately*.

Section 3. The Vice-President shall preside at meetings of the Unit in the absence of the President, and shall succeed the President in the event of resignation, incapacitation, or death of that officer. In the event that neither officer can serve, the remaining members of the Governing Board shall appoint the necessary replacements.

Section 4. The Secretary shall conduct correspondence relative to the welfare and operation of the Unit and shall keep records of the meetings, membership rosters and records, and other business of the Unit and its Governing Board.

Section 5. The Treasurer shall take charge of all of the Unit funds and shall pay such bills as are due and approved by the Governing Board. The Treasurer shall make an annual report of the financial status of the Unit by publication in *Biophilately*.

Section 6. The Governing Board has the authority to take any action, required for the operation of the Unit, that is not specified by this Constitution or the By-Laws. The current edition of *Roberts Rules of Order* shall be the controlling authority in all cases, unless otherwise specified by this Constitution.

**Article 4. Nominations and Election of Officers**

- Section 1. Nomination of the officers shall be made by a Nominating Committee of three appointed by the President, or by any member sending nominations to the Nominating Committee by a date set by the President.
- Section 2. The report by the Nominating Committee together with any nominations from the membership shall be delivered to the President by the date established for the committee and shall be published in *Biophilately*.
- Section 3a. All officers and Directors, except Presidents and Editors Emeriti, shall be elected by mail ballots published in *Biophilately*, or distributed by special mailing, and returned to the designated person or committee for counting.
- Section 3b. All Unit members in good standing shall be qualified to vote in elections.
- Section 4. Necessary for election shall be a majority of the ballots cast and received by the date set by the President, but not earlier than 30 days after the date of publication of the nominations.
- Section 5. The term of officers and Directors shall be two years.
- Section 6. The fiscal year, which determines the year for dues and tenure of officers, shall be set by the Governing Board.

**Article 5. Meetings**

- Section 1. Meetings of the Unit shall be held annually at the Annual Meeting of the American Topical Association, at the place designated by the ATA. This meeting shall be primarily social in character. The Governing Board may use a portion of the meeting agenda to discuss urgent business. Otherwise, business is to be conducted by the Governing Board, or by membership via the mail.

**Article 6. Committees**

- Section 1. The President shall have the power to appoint such committees as that officer deems necessary. The President shall do this by appointing the chairman of the committee, who shall have the power to appoint the other committee members, subject to Presidential approval.

**Article 7. Amendments to the Constitution**

- Section 1. Amendments may be offered by any member by sending such amendments to the President who will submit same to the Editor for publication in *Biophilately*. The votes submitted shall constitute a quorum and the majority of votes cast shall determine adoption (or non-adoption) of the amendment.

## BY-LAWS OF THE BIOLOGY UNIT OF THE A.T.A.

### Article 1. Dues and Types of Membership

Section 1. Memberships and dues are as follows (2013):

Regular membership (US & Canada) .....	\$20.00
International membership .....	\$25.00
On-line membership.....	\$15.00

Section 2. An initiation fee may be set, if desired, by the Governing Board.

Section 3. All memberships shall be on an annual basis.

Section 4. The Governing Board may establish pro-rated payment methods for dues based on the point in the fiscal year when a new member joins the Unit.

### Article 2. Nominations and Elections

Section 1. The time when nomination and election reports are to be made is to be determined by the President and the Governing Board.

Section 2. The fiscal year shall be from January 1st through December 31st.

Section 3. The term of office of elected officers shall conform with the fiscal year.

### Article 3. Committees (Deleted in 2000)

### Article 4. Official Unit Publication

Section 1. The name of the official Unit journal shall be *Biophilately*.

Section 2. The Editor shall be appointed by the President. The Editor is empowered to appoint such Associate Editors as necessary.

Section 3. In so far as possible, *Biophilately* shall be published quarterly. There will be four issues each fiscal year.

Section 4. Material to be published shall be submitted by any member or other persons interested in biological philately to the Editor or appropriate Associate Editor. The Editor is empowered to edit, include, or exclude any material submitted.

### Article 5. Changing of By-Laws

Section 1. The By-Laws can be changed by a majority vote of the Governing Board, or the Board can determine that such change will be done by a vote of the membership after publication of the change in *Biophilately*. The ballots received shall constitute a quorum. A majority of the votes submitted shall determine adoption (or non-adoption) of the change(s).



## ABOUT THE INDEX

This publication, under the editorship of Homer L. Jones, Harold D. Bearce, Rev. Simon C. Becker, Dr. Willard F. Stanley, Zannie E. Davis, Gustavs E. Eglajs, Donald P. Wright Jr., George A. Ball, Alan J. Hanks, and currently your author, has been produced continuously since 1951, and is set to begin its sixty-third volume.

## Scholarly Record

Whether Unit members realize it or not, many people may consider our journal to be a scholarly publication. It contains original research as well as information and academic articles compiled and organized from many varied sources. Several of our contributors have been and are highly credentialed university professors, museum directors, and other academic professionals. All contributors have been talented researchers who possessed particular knowledge and expertise in their respective fields of interest.

The point is that our small journal, containing more than 60 years' worth of articles, has the potential to serve as a highly useful resource for researchers, not only in the topical philatelic area, but also in the area of general biology. This fact is one reason why judges of literature exhibits check that publications contain indexes and bibliographical references, because these elements are essential tools for persons doing research.

## Organization

The index is organized in four sections: Section 1 lists articles relating to Botanical subjects. Section 2 shows listings of articles pertaining to Zoological subjects, Section 3 records articles of a General nature, and Section 4 is an index of authors. The lists also contain many cross-references among the first three sections.

## Entry Format

Each Volume of the journal covers a particular year of issue. For most volumes, the journal has used continuous pagination across all the editions for a particular volume. That is, the page numbers start at one for Volume N, Edition 1 and pick up at the next available page number for Volume N, Edition 2. So, if the last page number of Edition 1 is 60, then the first page number of Edition 2 will be 61, and so on. This makes it simple to list the page numbers in the index. The entry **22:140** means that the article begins on page 140 of Volume 22.

In the very early volumes of the journal, the editors restarted the page numbering for each edition. Also, over the years, some anomalies have made their way into the publication. In Volumes 1 through 5, 39, and 40, the pagination is not continuous across the volumes. Instead, the page numbers restart at the number one for each edition. The index entries for these volumes include the edition number with the volume number. For example, the entry **39(4):9** indicates that the referenced article begins on page 9 of Volume 39, Edition 4.

To further complicate the matter, Volumes 1 through 5 were published on a monthly instead of quarterly basis. The entries for these volumes use the month as the edition number and take this form **4(9):1**, which indicates page 1 of Volume 4, Edition 9.

In rare cases, the editor mistakenly gave the same page number to different pages within the same volume. In these cases I have assigned a suffix letter to the second (duplicate) page. For example, **6:27a** is the second page numbered 27 in Volume 6. Some volumes also included indexes that the editor numbered independently so that members could remove them and file them separately. These pages use a prefix letter. For example, **18:I1** is the first page of the index for Volume 18.

In order to save space, I have excluded page spans from the reference when they are contiguous. It seems enough to indicate that the article starts on page **22:140** without having to indicate that it extends across pages 140–146. While such an entry is helpful to indicate the length of the article, researchers will just have to discover that when they go to the noted page.

## Entry Standardization

The entries in the listings are by subject. In many instances, they do not match the actual title of the original article. This is because authors sometimes use cutesy names or obscure references in their titles that are of little use to researchers trying to locate items that relate to their search effort.

When the word “Checklist” appears, it refers to a listing of stamps depicting that subject, not a listing of the subject itself. The list contains many entries for specific issues in a format like this: “Bird Stamps Congo 1963.” These entries indicate that the indexed article is not merely a simple listing of the stamp issue denomination and subject (like you will find under the “New Issues” entries), but actually contains comprehensive descriptions of the depicted species along with production details and other pertinent information.

Where the index contains a heading entry for New Issues, these pertain to the specific New Issues columns in the journal. I have organized these listings according to the titles of the current departments (Botany, Entomology, Fungi, Herpetology, Ichthyology, Mammalia, Marine Invertebrates, Ornithology, and Paleontology). Over the course of publication, the journal has used other titles for these departments.

Under a header designated by each current department name, I have listed these titles in chronological order, along with their editor’s name. For example, under the Ornithology New Issues index you will find the titles: “New Bird Stamps,” “New Philatelic Ornithology,” “Bird Stamps (Recent),” and “New Bird Issues,” which are the titles used in the journal before the Editor settled on the current title “Ornithology.”

The entries in these sections pertain strictly to listings of new issues published in the journal. Articles about specific issues or topics are listed separately under the appropriate subject. Thus in the new issues column, you would find merely the listing of the new bird stamps from San Marino. But in the article “Bird Stamps San Marino 1959,” you would find detailed descriptions of the species depicted on each stamp including such information as habitat and physical characteristics along with stamp production facts.

Some articles describe stamp issues that include multiple topics or subjects that cross over the boundaries of the index subject listings. For example, if an issue contains a dozen stamps that all depict various bird species, it is simple to list them under the “Birds” subject heading. But what if the issue contains a mixture of phyla or classes such as birds, fish, and mammals (as we aggravatingly continue to encounter from many issuing authorities)? In these cases, I decided to list them under a consolidated subject titled “Fauna.” The same is true for the Botany section. Where an issue contains a mixture of subjects, I have placed them under the title “Flora.” In cases where the issue described in the article includes both botanical and zoological subjects, I have listed them in Section 3 under the title “Biological New Issues.”

## CONTRIBUTORS

By my reckoning there have been 368 different contributors over the entire period of publication. The majority (80 percent) have been Unit members, but 75 non-members have also contributed articles that have seen publication.

## Associate Editors

From the very early years of the journal, the Editor has relied upon input and assistance from many other contributors. At first, these writers provided articles on various topics and eventually some of them began to specialize by augmenting the input to various sections and expanding their articles into continuing columns. The specialty departments evolved over the years and became formalized into the ten that exist today. During the production of the journal, some departments have gone by different names at different times. Table 5 pays tribute to the Associate Editors and provides a chronological listing of their assignments to these departments.

Table 5. Associate Editors

Column Title	Editor(s)	Volumes	Dates
<b>Botany</b>			
Flora	Homer L. Jones	1–4	1951–54
Botanical Notes	Shirley C. Tucker	7	1957
Of Things Botanical	Shirley C. Tucker	8–9	1958–59
Recent Plant Issues	Shirley C. Tucker	10–11	1960–61
New Botanical Issues	Shirley C. Tucker	12–28	1962–79
Botanical New Issues	George A. Ball & Donald W. Berkley	29	1980
Botanical New Issues	Shirley C. Tucker	30–31	1981–82
Botany	Shirley C. Tucker & George A. Ball	32–34	1983–85
Botany	Richard D. Holland & George A. Ball	34–40	1985–91
Botany	George A. Ball & Jeane Gould	41–43	1992–94
Botany	Christopher E. Dahle	44–date	1995–date
<b>Fungi</b>			
Fungi	Richard D. Holland & George A. Ball	38–40	1989–91
Fungi	George A. Ball & Norma L. McCumber	41–43	1992–94
Fungi	Norma L. McCumber	44–51	1995–2002
Fungi	Paul A. Mistretta	51–date	2002–date
<b>Mammalia</b>			
Mammals on Stamps	Jack C. von Bloeker	7–10	1957–60
Mammals New	Alan L. Steffen	12	1962
Mammals New	Anne Jones	23	1974
Mammals	Anton von Ziegesar	24	1975
Mammals	Bruce Cruickshank	24–29	1975–80
Mammals	Thomas E. Beall, Jr.	29–30	1980–81
Mammalia	David E. Meixner	32	1983
Mammalia	George A. Ball	33	1984
Mammalia	David E. Meixner	33–43	1984–94

Table 5. Associate Editors

Column Title	Editor(s)	Volumes	Dates
Mammalia	Michael J. Prince	44	1995
Mammalia	David E. Meixner	45–50	1996–2001
Mammalia	Michael J. Prince	50–date	2001–date
<b>Ornithology</b>			
New Bird Stamps	Sidney R. Esten	6–10	1956–60
New Bird Stamps	Daniel F. Thomas	10	1960
New Philatelic Ornithology	Sidney R. Esten, Beverly S. Ridgely & Willard F. Stanley	11	1961
Birds Stamps (Recent)	Gustavs E. Eglajs	16–30	1966–81
New Bird Issues	Bruce Cruickshank	30–31	1981–82
Ornithology	Bruce Cruickshank	32–48	1983–99
Ornithology	Randall L. Shore	49–54	2000–05
Ornithology	Glenn G. Mertz	55–date	2006–date
<b>New Birds</b>			
New Birds in Aviary	Gustavs E. Eglajs	25–34	1976–85
New Birds in Aviary	Bruce Cruickshank	35–48	1986–99
New Birds in Aviary	Charles E. Braun	49–date	2000–date
<b>Ichthyology</b>			
Fish	Edwin O. Bookwalter	21–23	1971–74
Fish	Ursula Stahl	23–29	1974–80
Fish	Alice W. Sents	29	1980
Ichthyology	George A. Bearse	30	1981
Ichthyology	Roy W. Rings & George A. Bearse	31–39	1982–90
Ichthyology	Lawrence M. Dill	40–43	1991–94
Ichthyology	Kris P. Lindstrom	43–date	1994–date
<b>Marine Invertebrates</b>			
Marine Invertebrates	Byron H. Bratlie	21–31	1971–82
Marine Invertebrates	George A. Bearse	32	1983
Marine Invertebrates	Byron H. Bratlie & George A. Bearse	32–35	1983–86
Marine Invertebrates	Byron H. Bratlie	36–38	1987–89
Marine Invertebrates	Byron H. Bratlie & George A. Bearse	39–41	1990–92
Marine Invertebrates	George A. Bearse	42–46	1993–97
Marine Invertebrates	Ian Hunter	47–53	1998–2004
Marine Invertebrates	Roy W. Rings	53–55	2004–06
Marine Invertebrates	Ian Hunter	56–date	2007–date
<b>Herpetology</b>			

Table 5. Associate Editors

Column Title	Editor(s)	Volumes	Dates
Reptiles and Amphibians	Robert E. Gordon	21–23	1971–74
Reptiles	Robert E. Gordon & Malvin L. Skaroff	24	1975
Reptiles and Amphibians	Robert E. Gordon	25–27	1976–78
Reptiles and Amphibians	Malvin L. Skaroff & Gustavs E. Eglajs	27	1978
Reptiles and Amphibians	Robert E. Gordon	28–31	1979–82
Herpetology	Robert E. Gordon	32–45	1983–96
Herpetology	Saul A. Friess	46–50	1997–2001
Herpetology	Gerard V. Lovell & Roy W. Rings	53	2004
Herpetology	Roy W. Rings	53–55	2004–06
Herpetology	Jack R. Congrove	62–date	2013–date
<b>Entomology</b>			
Insects/Entomology	Donald P. Wright, Jr.	19–date	1969–date
<b>Paleontology</b>			
Paleontology	Saul A. Friess	42–45	1993–96
Paleontology	Ralph E. Chapman	46–49	1997–2000
Paleontology	Wallace L. Ashby	50–55	2001–06
Paleontology	Hans-Peter Schultze	55–56	2006–07
Dinosaurs and Fossils	Ian Hunter	58	2009
Paleontology	Hans-Peter Schultze	59–date	2010–date

(3) Volume 5, Numbers 5 through 9 were all published simultaneously in May 1956.



Dr. Willard F. Stanley took over as the new editor in July 1956, and expanded the number of pages per each edition to an average of 60. In response to the increased size of each issue, the Governing Board agreed to change the publication schedule to bi-monthly.

Table 7. Bi-monthly Editions

Year	Dec-Jan	Feb-Mar	Apr-May	Jun-Jul	Aug-Sep	Oct-Nov
1956					6-1	6-2
1957	6-3	6-4	6-5	6-6	7-1	7-2
1958	7-3 (Jan)	7-4	7-5	7-6 (Jul)	8-1	8-2
1959	8-3 (Jan)	8-4	8-5	8-6 (Jul)	9-1	9-2 (Nov)
1960	9-3 (Jan)	9-4 (Mar)	9-5 (Jun)	9-6 (Aug)	10-1 (Sep)	10-2 (Jan 1961)
1961	10-3 (Mar)	10-4 (Apr)	10-5 (May)	10-6 (Jul)	11-1 (Sep)	11-2 (Dec)
1962	11-3 (Feb)	11-4 (Mar)	11-5 (Jun)	11-6 (Aug)	12-1 (Sep)	12-2 (Jan 1963)
1963	12-3 (Feb)	12-4 (Mar)	12-5 (Jun)	12-6	13-1 (Sep)	13-2 (Nov)
1964	13-3 (Jan)	13-4 (Apr)	13-5 (May)	13-6	14-1 (Nov)	14-2 (Dec)
1965	(1)	(1)	14-3/4 <sup>(2)</sup>	14-5/6 <sup>(2)</sup>	15-1 (Sep)	15-2 (Jan 1966)
1966	15-3 (Feb)	15-4 (May)	(3)	15-5/6 <sup>(2)</sup>	16-1 (Oct)	16-2 (Dec)
1967	16-3 (Jan)	16-4 (Mar)	16-5 (Jun)	16-6 (Aug)	17-1 (Nov)	17-2 (Feb 1968) <sup>(1)</sup>
1968	17-3 (Apr) <sup>(3)</sup>	17-4 (Jun) <sup>(3)</sup>	(3)	17-5/6 (Aug) <sup>(2)</sup>		

<sup>(1)</sup> Delayed due to editor's illness

<sup>(2)</sup> Combined Issue to overcome backlog

<sup>(3)</sup> Delayed due to backlog from previous edition

Because of production delays due to editor availability, in addition to the per issue expenses for materials and mailing, the Governing Board decided in 1968 to reduce the number of issues by changing from a bi-monthly schedule to a quarterly publishing schedule.

Table 8. Quarterly Editions (Split Year)

Year	Dec-Feb	Mar-May	Jun-Aug	Sep-Nov
1968				18-1 (Nov)
1969	18-2 (Feb)	18-3 (Jun) <sup>(1)</sup>	18-4 (Jan 1970) <sup>(1)</sup>	19-1 (Mar 1970) <sup>(1)(2)</sup>
1970	19-2 (24 May) <sup>(1)</sup>	19-3 (4 Nov) <sup>(1)</sup>	19-4 (Jan 1971) <sup>(1)</sup>	20-1 (Mar 1971) <sup>(1)(3)</sup>
1971	20-2 (May) <sup>(1)</sup>	20-3 (Sep) <sup>(1)</sup>	20-4 (Oct) <sup>(1)(4)</sup>	21-1 (Nov)
1972	21-2	21-3	21-4	22-1 (Oct)
1973	22-2 (Mar)	22-3 (Dec) <sup>(5)</sup>	22-4 (Jan 1974) <sup>(5)</sup>	

<sup>(1)</sup> Delayed due to editor's illness and conflicts with university duties

<sup>(2)</sup> Despite being dated "1969-1970," no Volume 19 editions were published in 1969

<sup>(3)</sup> Despite being dated "1970-1971," no Volume 20 editions were published in 1970

<sup>(4)</sup> Last issue under editorship of Dr. Willard F. Stanley

<sup>(5)</sup> Delayed due to editor availability

In 1973, the Board, acceding to the will of the membership, decided to change the Unit's fiscal year to match the calendar year and align the publication schedule of *Bio-Philately* accordingly.

Table 9. Quarterly Editions (Calendar Year - Beginning)

Year	Jan	Apr	Jul	Oct
1974	23-1 (Mar)	23-2 (Jun)	<sup>(1)</sup>	23-3/4 (Jan 1975) <sup>(2)</sup>
1975	24-1 (Mar)	24-2	24-3 (Aug)	24-4 (Dec)
1976	25-1 (Mar)	25-2	25-3 (Sep)	25-4 (Dec)
1977	26-1 (Mar)	26-2 (Jun)	26-3 (Sep)	26-4 (Nov)
1978	27-1 (Feb)	27-2 (May)	27-3 (Aug)	27-4 (Nov)
1979	28-1	28-2 (May)	28-3	28-4
1980	29-1 (Feb)	29-2	29-3	29-4
1981	30-1	30-2	30-3 (Oct)	<sup>(3)</sup>
1982	<sup>(4)</sup>	31-1/2 <sup>(5)</sup>	31-3 (Jun)	31-4
1983	32-1	32-2	32-3	32-4

<sup>(1)</sup> Delayed due to editor's health and publishing backlog  
<sup>(2)</sup> Combined Issue to overcome backlog  
<sup>(3)</sup> The Unit did not publish Volume 30-4 due to the inability of Educative Services to fit it into their schedule. The editor combined the material intended for this issue into a dual issue for Volume 31-1/2.  
<sup>(4)</sup> Delayed due to disruptions caused by change of editors and organizational turmoil.  
<sup>(5)</sup> Combined issue published April 1982

Starting in 1984, the Editor shifted the publication date to the last month of each quarter and this schedule continues to the current time.

Table 10. Quarterly Editions (Calendar Year - Ending)

Year	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec
1984	33-1	33-2	33-3	33-4
1985	34-1	34-2	34-3	34-4
1986	35-1 (Apr)	35-2	35-3	35-4
1987	36-1	36-2	36-3	36-4
1988	37-1	37-2	37-3	37-4 (Jan 1989)
1989	38-1	38-2	38-3	38-4
1990	39-1 (Apr)	39-2 (Jul)	39-3	39-4 (Jan 1991)
1991	40-1	40-2 (Jul)	40-3 (Oct)	40-4
1992	41-1	41-2 (Jul)	41-3 (Oct)	41-4
1993	42-1	42-2 (Jul)	42-3	42-4
1994	43-1	43-2 (Jul)	43-3	43-4 (Jan 1995)
1995	44-1	44-2	44-3	44-4
1996	45-1	45-2	45-3	45-4
1997	46-1	46-2 (Jul)	46-3 (Oct)	46-4 (Jan 1998)
1998	47-1 (Apr)	47-2 (Jul)	47-3 (Oct)	47-4 (Jan 1999)
1999	48-1	48-2	48-3	48-4
2000	49-1 (Apr)	49-2 (Aug) <sup>(1)</sup>	<sup>(2)</sup>	49-3/4 (Nov) <sup>(2)</sup>
2001	50-1 (Apr)	50-2 (Jul)	50-3	50-4
2002	51-1	51-2 (Jul)	51-3(Nov) <sup>(3)</sup>	51-4 (Jan 2003) <sup>(3)</sup>
2003	52-1	52-2 (Jul)	52-3 (Oct)	52-4 (Jan 2004)
2004	53-1	53-2 (Jul)	53-3 (Oct)	53-4 (Jan 2005)
2005	54-1	54-2 (Jul)	<sup>(4)</sup>	54-3/4 <sup>(4)</sup>
2006	55-1 (May)	55-2 (Jul)	55-3	55-4
2007	56-1 (Apr)	56-2 (Jul)	56-3 (Oct)	56-4 (Jan 2008)
2008	57-1	57-2 (Jul)	57-3	57-4
2009	58-1	58-2 (Jul)	58-3	58-4 (Jan 2010)
2010	59-1	59-2 (Jul)	59-3	59-4 (Jan 2011)
2011	60-1	60-2 (Jul)	60-3 (Oct)	60-4
2012	61-1	61-2	61-3	61-4
2013	62-1	62-2	62-3	62-4

<sup>(1)</sup> Delayed due to commitments with NTSS-2000

<sup>(2)</sup> Combined edition to compensate for schedule delays

<sup>(3)</sup> Delayed due to publisher's relocation

<sup>(4)</sup> Combined edition delayed due to editor's commitments

During the 62 years of publication, the journal editors have produced the impressive total of 13,878 pages. See Figure 1 for a chart showing the count of pages by volume number.

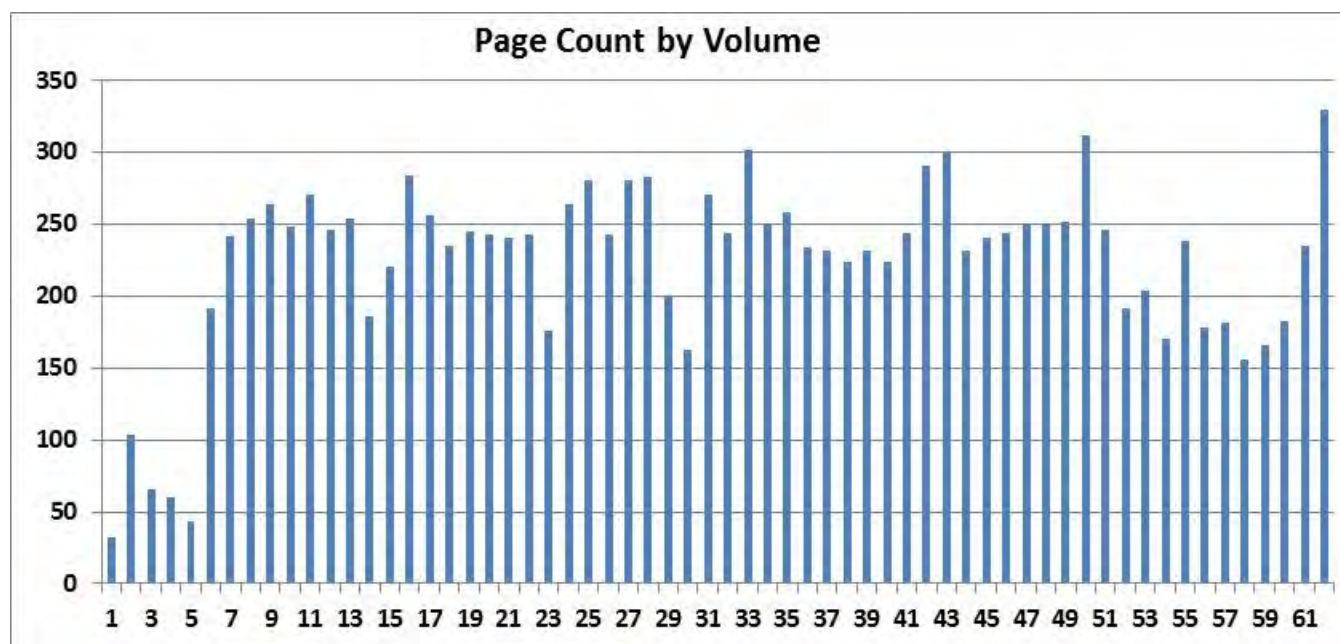


Figure 1. Page Count

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### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This index is the result of the efforts of several people. At the start of this project, the holdings of the Biology Unit Library contained numerous gaps, especially among the early volumes. Many other editions in the library were only partial copies, or were in poor condition. This situation was the result of personnel changes and relocations over the course of more than 60 years. At one point, the Unit Librarian, Duke H. Schirmer, passed away unexpectedly, and his family disposed of the library holdings before the Unit officers learned of the event. Other copies became lost or damaged during shipping between outgoing and incoming librarians.

As a result of these events, much of the library had to be reconstituted. This project has enabled us to prepare scanned electronic copies of each edition, so that they will be available to Unit members and to researchers for posterity. This part of the project is still underway.

It is appropriate to recognize the special contributions of several persons whose assistance has been essential to the successful completion of the index.

For the Unit History section, I am very grateful to former ATA President Donald W. Smith who provided several photographs from his collection detailing the history of the American Topical Association. I have tried to find as many photographs of the Unit officers as possible. Unfortunately, the quality of many is very poor because they came from scans of material that was already a copy (sometimes several iterations removed from) the original.

Mark Reineke, the Biology Unit Librarian, went to extraordinary effort to provide electronic scans of back issues in the Biology Unit library holdings to provide for my referral.

I have drawn heavily on topic indexes created by Donald P. Wright, Jr. and Merida Wilde starting with Volume 7.

John Bloor and Sergio Lugo from the Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library, Denver, Colorado, were very helpful in enabling me to borrow early copies of *Biological Tid-Bits*, *Biology Tid-Bits*, and *Bio-Philately* from their holdings.

Dr. Carl J. Bajema provided his accumulation of back issues that enabled me to fill in gaps in both the history and index sections.

Barbara Kittle, Special Collections Librarian at the Daniel A. Reed Library of the State University of New York at Fredonia, after discovering the whereabouts of the mis-shelved volumes, was kind enough to provide electronic copies of several back issues. In addition, during my visit to the library in May 2013, she gave me a personal tour of the Willard F. Stanley Biology Museum at SUNY Fredonia. This small museum contains hundreds of specimens in almost all phyla collected by Dr. Stanley during his many years as a professional biologist and is worthy of a visit if you find yourself in the area.

## SECTION 1: BOTANY

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BIOLOGY UNIT of the AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION  
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