

## LETTERS

[*Ed. Note: We will continue this feature as long as we receive publishable correspondence. This means you have to send us some.*]

A thank you letter from the American Philatelic Research Library dated 20 August 2013.

“Thank you for your donation of the following to the APRL from the APS StampShow 2013 literature exhibition: *Biophilately*, Volume 61, numbers 2, 3, and 4 and Volume 62, number 1 (2 copies).

“Acknowledgement of your donation will appear in *The Philatelic Literature Review*....

“We appreciate your generosity and continued support of the APRL. If we can be of assistance to you, please feel free to contact us.” —Tara E. Murray, Director of Information Services/Librarian

*Our journal received a Silver award in this literature exhibition.* —Ed.

A suggestion from a member.

“I think the expiration date (of when our membership is up and dues are due) should be part of the address label as a constant reminder of when we should send our checks to stay current.” —T.L. Jordan

*This note provides a great reminder that our annual dues follow the fiscal year designated in accordance with Article 2 of the Unit By-Laws to start on 1 January. This means that for members who have not paid ahead, or who joined at a pro-rated schedule in the last year, dues are payable shortly after you receive this edition. This suggestion is a simple one to implement and our Secretary will take on the task. This may also provide a bonus effect in helping to reduce the mailing of separate reminders.* —Ed.

### IN MEMORIAM: ALAN L. STEFFEN

by Jack R. Congrove

I am sad to report that Alan L. Steffen (LM16) has passed away. Although I never got to meet him, we shared the same interest in the topic of butterflies on stamps and we corresponded over a checklist that I published. He died on 26 March 2013 at Autumn Oaks Caring Center, in Mountain Grove, Missouri.

Alan was born 27 February 1927, and raised in the small community of Versailles, Ohio. He was preceded in death by his parents, Henry and Maude Steffen, and by his only sister, Carol Steffen. Also preceding him in death was his first wife, Ginny.

Alan attended Ohio State University and then served as an enlisted man in the U.S. Army in 1945-46. Following his discharge, he received an M.S. degree in Entomology from Ohio State University in 1949. He was an entomologist and a retired U.S. Foreign Service Officer, serving 29 years, mostly abroad. He joined the Biology Unit in 1955, and was a frequent contributor to *Biophilately* on a wide variety of topics.

He is survived by his wife, Doris, of 23 years, two stepchildren, three step-grandchildren, and eight step-great grandchildren.