

## EDITOR BIOGRAPHIES

This section completes our series of biographical information about our Officers and Editors that we began in the Volume 62, Number 1.

### Dick Roman

[*Ed. Note: Dick Roman joined the Biology Unit in 1978. He became our Publisher in 2011. The Publisher's duties include reproducing the hard copies of the master electronic file for mailing to our members who want a printed version. He must then prepare them for mailing and mail them to the members. This is a laborious job and the Governing Board greatly appreciates his effort.*]

Dick has been a stamp collector since age eight, starting with worldwide at the time when that seemed possible. Over the years, he sold his worldwide material one continent at a time. A semi-postal collection captured his attention for several years, then it also was sold.

In the 1970s, he joined APS and ATA and, most importantly, the Biology Unit when mammals became his primary collection. Work as a database consultant interfered with his philatelic pursuits. After retiring, his interest expanded to Birds, Mammals, Reptiles, and Amphibians. He says he flirts with fish as well. He keeps a database of all binomial names for Birds and Mammals. His album pages contain either one genus or, for popular species a single species. He says that none of his collecting would be possible without the editors and contributors to Biophilately.

“When the position of Publisher opened up, I thought I would be one of many applicants. Luckily for me, I was the only one. I've enjoyed getting to know the editors and other members. The officers of the club are encouraging us all to exhibit. When it happens, the exhibit will include display items, especially my photographs of species that also grace my albums.”

### Fred Skvara

[*Ed. Note: Dr. Frederick C. Skvara joined the Biology Unit in 1992. He was elected to the Unit Governing Board as a Director in 1998.*]

Physician and philatelist Frederick C. Skvara of Bridgewater, New Jersey, was a member of the ATA Board of Directors from 2006 until his retirement this year. He was the ATA Director of Chapters, including author of the *Topical Time* “Chapter Chatter” column between 2006 and 2010. He has served since 2004 as editor of *Scalpel & Tongs*, the quarterly journal of the ATA Medical Subjects Unit, of which he is also the Secretary-Treasurer.

Since January 2010, he has been the editor of the *Americana Philatelic News*, the quarterly journal of the ATA Americana Unit. For several years, he also edited and published programs for the National Topical Stamp Show. In 2012, he received the ATA's Distinguished Topical Philatelist award, the highest honor bestowed by the ATA.

In 2008, Dr. Skvara published an article in *Topical Time* based on his many years of experience in promoting the ATA at the American Stamp Dealers Association Spring and Fall Mega Event shows in New York City. This article became the genesis of the ATA Ambassadors program. Dr. Skvara's other contributions as an author include writing a column since 1998 titled “Philatelic Sketches in Medicine,” for the newsletter of the Medical History Society of New Jersey, and as editor since 2008 of *The Westfield Philatelist*, published by the Westfield Stamp Club.

Dr. Skvara was born April 7, 1941, in Somerville, New Jersey. He married Margie Kelemen in 1968, and received his M.D. degree in 1970 from Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. After completing an internship, residency, and fellowship, he began to practice as an attending pathologist at the JFK Medical Center in Edison, New Jersey, and as associate professor of pathology at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in Piscataway. He retired from both positions in 2005, but continues to serve as the medical director of the Department of Medical Laboratory Technology at the Middlesex County College in Edison.

Fred Skvara has collected worldwide stamps since childhood. As he developed an interest in a wide variety of topics, he joined more than a dozen different ATA study units. His keen interest in the literature of philately led him to compile a fairly large personal library. He is an avid gardener and gives talks to garden clubs, some illustrated with stamp images. His interest in photography has evolved into a medical photomicrography business, with his images used in books, magazines and wall decor.