

December 31, 1969

Professor Hubert C. Skinner  
c/o Geology Department  
Tulane University  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Hubert:

The visit with you was a great pleasure, and it is always stimulating to talk to a bibliophile expert.

I have checked my library for Oscar M. Ball's professional paper "A contribution to the paleobotany of the Eocene of Texas", published by A. & M. College, on May 1, 1931. There are 3 copies, one of which is signed and dedicated by O.M. Ball to Dr. H.B. Stenzel. In his professional paper, on p. 1, he expressed thanks to me for my help, but the fig. 3 on p. 6 is not specifically credited to me, although I constructed it from my knowledge of the local stratigraphy and it contains the new ideas and information. Freddie Plummer knew about my authorship of this figure, reproduced it with changes and credited it to me (see Univ. Texas Bull. 3232, p. 528, fig. 29). When O.M. Ball saw Plummer's work he was quite upset about not having been credited by Plummer for this figure. By that time Ball had already forgotten when the figure really originated.

Before sending you a copy of Ball's professional paper, I want to know whether you have a copy of the preprint (1952) of "Living Nautilus" by H.B. Stenzel; the preprint is very rare, only about 50 copies were printed, and differs in some ways from the final version incorporated in the Nautiloidea Volume of the Treatise.

With my warmest wishes for "1970",

Sincerely, yours,

H.B. Stenzel  
Consulting Professor

HBS:bv