

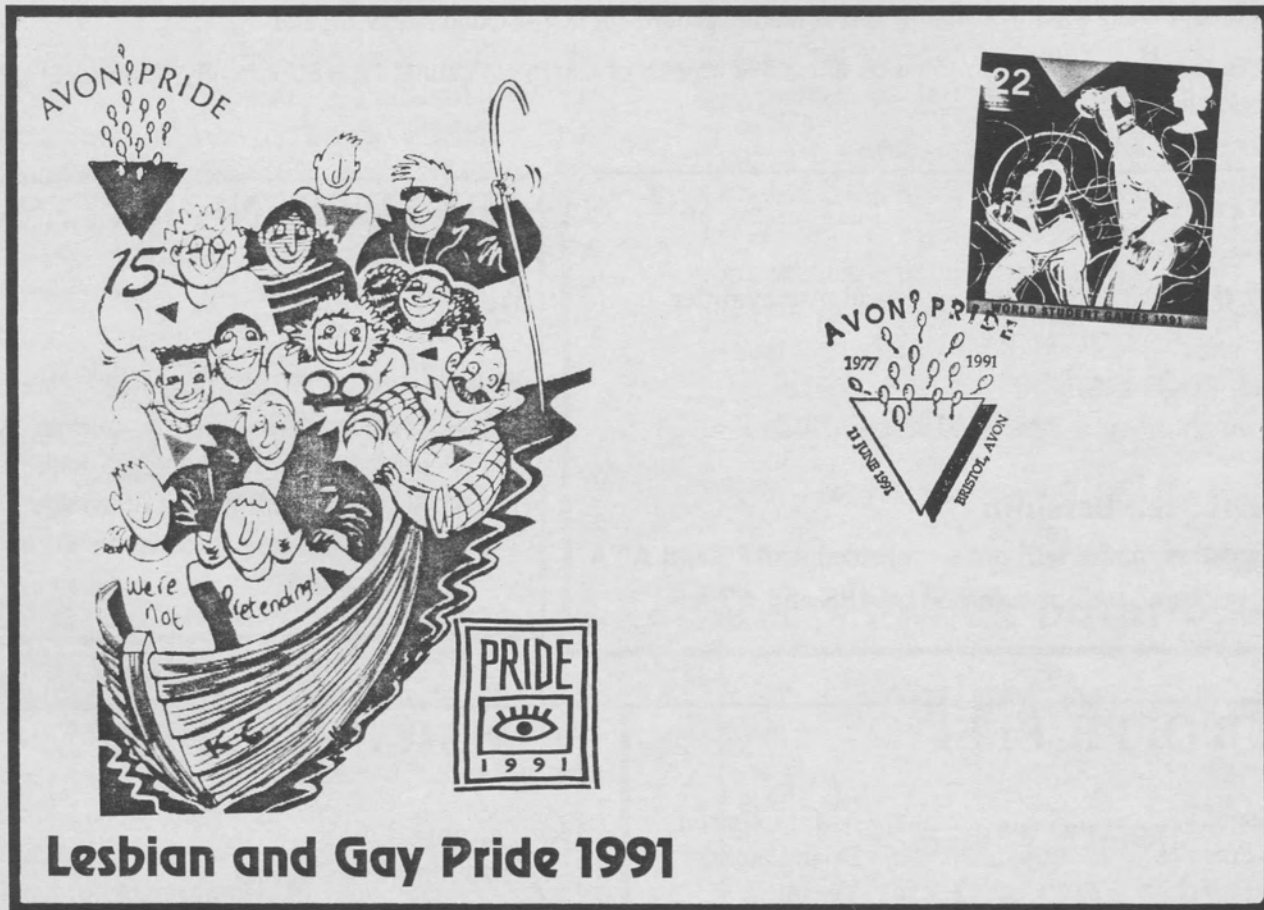


Lambda Philatelic Journal

Publication of the Gay and Lesbian History on Stamps Club

Vol. 17, No. 1

MARCH 1998



Lesbian and Gay Pride 1991

Just in time for June Pride Celebrations...

Suggesting Subjects for Stamps - Page 4

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Plus:

Gay and Lesbian Update, AIDS Update and a new column, Breast Cancer Awareness Update

The *Lambda Philatelic Journal* is published quarterly by the Gay and Lesbian History on Stamps Club (GLHSC). GLHSC is a study unit of the American Topical Association, Number 458, and an affiliate of the American Philatelic Society, Number 205. GLHSC is also a member of the American First Day Cover Society, Number 72.

The objectives of GLHSC are to promote and foster an interest in the collection, study and dissemination of knowledge of worldwide philatelic material that depicts:

- λ notable men and women and their contributions to society for whom historical evidence exists of homosexual or bisexual orientation,
- λ mythology, historical events and ideas significant in the history of gay culture,
- λ flora and fauna scientifically proven to having prominent homosexual behavior, and
- λ even though emphasis is placed on the above aspects of stamp collecting, GLHSC strongly encourages other philatelic endeavors.

MEMBERSHIP:

Yearly dues: (Make check or postal money order payable to GLHSC)

- US, Canada, Mexico: \$ 8.00
- All others: \$10 or 12 IRC

Levels of Membership:

- Supportive, name will not be released to APS and ATA.
- Active, name will be released to APS and ATA.

ADVERTISING RATES:

Members: Free

Non-Members: \$10 per issue. Please submit a reproducible copy of your ad. Ads should be no wider than 3.25 inches. Ads should not have a height of greater than 2.5 inches. Camera-ready would be greatly appreciated.

CLUB OFFICERS:

President.....Angela Watson
Vice President.....Brian Lanter
Secretary.....Vacant
Treasurer.....Judith Beckett
Editor.....Joe Petronie

MAILING ADDRESS:

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Lambda Philatelic Journal
PO Box 515981
Dallas TX 75251-5981

PUBLICATION DATE

June 20, 1998
September 19, 1998
December 12, 1998
March 20, 1999

ARTICLES NEEDED BY

May 31, 1998
August 31, 1998
November 30, 1998
February 28, 1999

The *Lambda Philatelic Journal* thrives on philatelic articles, original or reprinted, and alternative viewpoints for publication. Members are also encouraged to place free advertisements of philatelic interest. The Editor reserves the right to edit all materials submitted for publication. The views expressed in the journal are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent those of the Club or its members. Any comments should be addressed to the Editor at the address listed.

News From the Editor

Welcome to our 16th year!! This issue of LPJ relates to various ways to promote gays and lesbians on stamps and other philatelic items. Hopefully, it will give several members ideas for the upcoming Gay Pride Celebrations in June!

Special thanks to Paul and Blair for having the December journal printed and mailed for me. John O'Brien, Executive Director of One Institute is the photographer for the photo of Paul Hennefeld and Jim Kepner which appeared on page 3 of the December issue of LPJ. Sorry for the omittance.

On page 8, you'll find a tribute to a French artist written by one of our French members. Though it is not philatelic in nature, Hervé had begun a philatelic-related article prior to Mr. Dupré's death.

The letter that follows was received in response to the December journal.

January 5, 1998

Dear Joe,

I am writing to ask for Paul Hennefeld's address to contact him. We wanted to send him a letter to thank him for the wonderful article he did on our founder Jim Kepner.

We also want to thank you for including it in the current issue of Lambda Philatelic Journal. We receive hundreds of publications on a regular basis from around the world and have no way to sit down and read them all. However, I do make sure to read yours.

I have very much enjoyed the great amount of information both of stamps and history that continues to flow from your fine publication and work. If every collector did as much in their respective hobbies as you do, we would be much closer to our goals of involving all Gays and Lesbians in their Movement for freedom.

On behalf of our board of directors and all our supporters, we thank you for your hard work

and dedication to recording and learning our history and sharing this with so many others.

We will be moving into our new central building at the University of Southern California this Fall and hope to have a permanent exhibit of stamps in the display areas of our reading room. We hope supporters of your club would help in the display and sponsorship of these glass cases which we expect many young and not so young people to view and learn from. It should bring many into contact with your club and the enjoyment of this hobby for the first time.

We do send you our bulletin which is currently published twice a year. You should be receiving shortly our latest issue which has an update on our many projects and work.

We will be having two major events this year and want to invite your readers who would like to attend. The first to be held in May will be a celebration of Jim Kepner's life. It will also celebrate the past fifty years of our Movement. We will have attending many of the remaining pioneers and giants of our Community. Among those who have expressed interest in coming reads like a who's who of our Movement. Jim was well loved by everyone in our Community. Many of those to attend will never again due to their age be in the same space, all at the same time. We will send you notice as the details are available.

The second event will be the opening of our new building at the University. We will be holding a grand opening and will be inviting everyone to join us for this historic event.

We also want to approach your club to consider issuing a stamp in Jim's honor. We would love for a post office mark at least to be done at the time of our grand opening, to record this event of saving and recording history. We could have the post office van sell this mark to the many guests we expect to have at this event.

Continued on page 7

Gay Stamp May Have a Chance

PGN (Philadelphia Gay News)
Jan. 30 - Feb. 5, 1998

The U.S. Postal Service is planning a stamp collection commemorating the 20th century, and the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation reports there is a chance that lesbian and gay history could be included.

For the "Celebrate the Century" campaign, stamps will be issued to commemorate each decade, and the public will get to vote on which ones will honor the 1950s-1990s.

The nominations to be voted on by the public will be chosen by the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee. GLAAD encourages people to submit suggestions that honor America's lesbian and gay heritage. The organization is spearheading a letter-writing campaign to ensure that Americans will be able to vote for a major lesbian and gay event in American history.

"This is a unique opportunity for our community to have a direct impact on lesbian and gay visibility in a medium that Americans use every day - stamps," said GLAAD executive director Joan M. Garry. "While there are lesbian, gay and bisexual people represented in[sic] some stamps - Bessie Smith, James Dean, Tennessee Williams and Cole Porter, most notably - our community's larger history is invisible in the world of stamps."

GLAAD suggests the following people and events would honor our community: the Stonewall riots for the 1960s, slain San Francisco Supervisor Harvey Milk for the 1970s, the 1987 display of the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt in Washington, DC for the 1980s, and the March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Civil Rights and Liberation for the '90s.

To make suggestions, contact:

Stamps Department, ATTN: Dr. Virginia Noelke
Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee

US Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, RM 4474E
Washington DC 20260-6753

Suggesting Subjects for Stamps

Excerpts from US Postal Service brochure

Each year, the (U.S.) Postal Service receives approximately 40,000 proposals recommending subjects for stamps.

Suggestions are accepted only for subject matter of stamps - not the design. Because stamp design is such an unusual art form, any unsolicited artwork is not accepted.

Since 1957, the citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee has evaluated all stamp proposals. The Postmaster General appoints the 15 members of the Committee. They have a wide range of educational, artistic, historical and professional expertise. The Committee meets four times a year to consider new proposals. The members review and provide guidance on subjects, artwork and designs for new stamps.

The Committee makes its recommendations with all postal customers in mind, not just stamp collectors. Relying heavily on these recommendations, the Postmaster General makes the final decision on the subject matter and design of all U.S. postage stamps and postal stationery.

What is the Committee looking for? They use these general criteria to evaluate stamp proposals. Stamp subjects must:

- stand the test of time
- be consistent with public opinion
- have a broad national interest

The postal Service and the Committee have also set these specific criteria for evaluating subjects for U.S. stamps and stationery:

1. Stamps and stationery should feature American or American-related subjects.

2. Except for U.S. Presidents, no person will be honored on a stamp or stationery item until ten years after his or her death - usually on a significant birthday. Presidents may be honored with a memorial stamp on their first birthday after their death.
3. Historical events will be considered only on anniversaries in multiples of 50 years.
4. Only events and themes of widespread national appeal and significance will be considered.
5. Significant anniversaries of universities and other institutions of higher learning will be considered only in relation to Historic Preservation Series postal cards that feature an appropriate building on campus that is listed on the National Historic Register.
6. No stamps or stationery will be issued to honor the following:
 - a living person
 - organizations or associations that exist primarily to solicit or distribute funds
 - commercial enterprises or products
 - cities, towns, municipalities, counties, primary or secondary schools, hospitals, libraries or similar institutions
 - religious institutions or people whose principal achievements are associated with religious undertakings or beliefs
 - any subject that has been issued in the past ten years (except traditional themes, including Christmas, U.S. Flag, Express Mail, Love)
7. Requests for observing statehood anniversaries will be considered for commemorative postage stamps only at intervals of 50 years from the date of the state's entry into the Union.

Requests for observing other state-related or regional anniversaries will be considered only as subjects for postal stationery, and only at intervals of 50 years from the date of the event.

The process for stamp and stationery subject proposals is:

1. Send the proposal, including historical information and the important dates associated with the subject to the Committee.
2. The Stamp Development staff will determine whether the proposal complies with the criteria. An acknowledgement letter will be sent stating that the proposal was received and the status of the subject.
3. Stamp Development researches the proposed stamp subject.
4. The researched subject is placed before the Committee, which takes one of three actions:
 - not recommend the subject
 - set it aside to consider for future use
 - ask for more information and consider it in the future
5. Working two to three years in advance, the Committee makes its recommendations to the Postmaster General.

Once a subject has been accepted, the Stamp Development Design staff commissions an artist for a concept or finished artwork. The artists are among the top professional illustrators in the United States. There is no competition for design contracts: creative assignments do not lend themselves to competitive, "lowest bid" contracting. The decision to assign contracts rests solely with the Stamp Development Design staff—in support of the goals and recommendations of the Advisory Committee and/or its contract (private sector) art directors.

Ed. Note - Reading this brochure, I'm not too sure what impact the proposed GLAAD letter-writing campaign will have on the choices for the upcoming decades. Voting for the 1950s ended on February 28, 1998. Voting for the next decade, the 1960s, will begin in the next few months. Look for your ballot in your local post office lobby.

How to Obtain a Special Postmark

by Ed Centeno

With the month of June quickly approaching, here are some guidelines for obtaining gay, lesbian and bi cancels.

WHAT IS A PICTORIAL CANCELLATION?

A rubber stamp with the imprint of a design commemorating a particular event. The image can be applied to envelopes, postcards or other material, provided they have first class postage stamps affixed (20 cents for postcards, 32 cents for envelopes.)

HOW CAN YOU OBTAIN ONE?

Contact your main Post Office Retail Marketing Division or the Customer Relations Division 60 to 90 days prior to your event. Although a written letter is required, it is very important to ask to meet with the person to further discuss your proposal. Because every postal management division varies on interpretation of the postal regulations, it is recommended that you bring a camera ready design and sample copies of previous cancellations.

WHAT TO INCLUDE IN THE ARTWORK?

The USPS Domestic Mail Manual requires that the following be incorporated in the design to be submitted for approval:

1. Name of event followed by the word 'Station' or 'STA'.
2. Date of the event (month-day-year).
3. City, state and zip code.

The design should be in black and white at twice the intended size. Overall dimensions of the design should not exceed four inches horizontally and two inches vertically. It can be any shape or format, as long as it fits the required dimensions. A few tips on preparing a good design:

- Keep additional text brief.
- Main elements should be clean. They should be simple and easy to see, avoiding fine shading, tiny ornaments and extraneous visual clutter.

HOW TO ENSURE APPROVAL?

The USPS Domestic Mail Manual prohibits "pictorial cancellations which endorse the ideals, policies, programs, products, campaigns or candidates of religious, anti-religious, commercial, political, fraternal, trade, labor, public-interest or special interest organizations." Events such as meetings, fairs, conventions and various types of local celebrations sponsored by, or involving such organizations, are generally approved, provided the design does not include symbols or illustrations referring to ideals, policies, products, campaigns or candidates. Please keep in mind that the postal service does not sponsor or endorse any event. It is very important to be aware of this for legal reasons. You must sell the idea that this is a profitable venture for the postal service. Do not mention politics in your discussions.

HOW CAN YOUR COMMITTEE PROFIT FROM A CANCELLATION?

By submitting your request within the 60 to 90 days prior to your event, the post office will arrange for the appropriate publicity for your pictorial cancellation. The USPS will include the date and mailing address from which the cancel can be obtained. Their press release reaches all of the major stamp collecting newspapers with a circulation of 85,000 readers weekly. These cancellations are popular with collectors. Because they are only available for 30 days after the event, they can become quite collectable. People generally mail postcards from places they visit, so what better way to encourage mailing your cancellation than issuing a special, commemorative postcard at your event. These can be sold at your booth to the general public.

HOW CAN OTHERS OBTAIN THIS CANCELLATION?

Pictorial cancellations are available for 30 days after the date of the event. Anyone can send a written request, along with stamped items, to the address provided by the USPS. Most people use either No. 6 envelopes or postcards. Most collectors frown upon No. 10 envelopes, but they can be used. Written requests must include a self-addressed stamped envelope for the return of the covers. Proper postage should be placed on this SASE. (32 cents for the first ounce, 23 cents for each additional ounce.)

WHO SHOULD BE NOTIFIED?

Ideally, the gay press should be sent a press release of your event, along with a notice that a cancellation will be available. Copy of the artwork is also helpful.

Many members of GLHSC collect gay-related cancellations. It is very helpful if you could notify us as early as possible. The journal is published every March, June, September and December. Be sure to include a clear, reproducible copy of your cancel. Send the information to:

Editor
Lambda Philatelic Journal
PO Box 515981
Dallas, TX 75251-5981

If you know of any groups planning a gay, lesbian or bi related postmark, be sure to ask them to send us information. Or, send their name and address to the Editor so that we can contact them directly. Thanks.

Letter

Continued from page 3

While the stamp for Jim would at this time be a cinderella stamp and not an official postage stamp of some government, it may lead to what I would encourage your club to do as the next logical step.

We would like to join efforts between our organization and your club to help create a set of Gay/Lesbian pioneers and events (to be issued

by the U.S. post office?) much along the lines of the Black Heritage series being issued by the U.S. Post Office.

Another possibility and one which I believe we need to begin to organize for (Someone may already have started this in your club?) is to have the U.S. Postal Service issue a stamp on the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion. I am a Stonewall Rebellion veteran and belong to a Stonewall Veterans group. I am sure we would want to join with your club on this effort.

As you know it takes a long time to have a stamp or series be considered and then issued by the U.S. Postal Service. I believe we should work together between archives, historians, educators and stamp enthusiasts to get a series of Gay & Lesbian pioneers on U.S. Postal stamps.

As the largest and oldest Gay/Lesbian archives in this country and with the information on who some of the overlooked but important people were, we could help contribute to this effort. We also have a large mailing list of over ten thousand who could help build this momentum.

I am sorry for this long letter but wanted to raise several important points with you, since I found an opportunity to write to you and my time like yours is busy and limited.

Again, thank you for all your fine work!

Yours truly,

John O'Brien
Executive Director
One Institute
PO Box 69679
West Hollywood CA 90069-0679

Ed. Note: Mr. O'Brien's letter brings up several important ideas. As we approach the end of the century and close in on our 20th anniversary, I think that we as a group should take up all of the ideas presented. Enclosed is a questionnaire. Please take the time to complete it and return it to me. Thanks.

Collecting stamps is fun!!

Stéphane Dupré

1960 - 1997

by Hervé Marchand

On January 4, 1997, Stéphane Dupré died due to complications from AIDS. He was a French artist, specializing in drawings in the style of Rex. There was no direct connection to philately.

When I first contacted Stéphane, I wanted to write an article for the *Lambda Philatelic Journal*. In my mind, I had a working title: "The Drawing: The Basis of Humanity and Philately". The earliest humans drew on the cave walls to record their history. In Egypt, this drawing continued with the advent of hieroglyphics. In architecture, painting, the designing of a car and the creation of a stamp, the first step is the drawing. I thought that Stéphane's style could possibly be translated to a stamp design.

Stéphane was an illustrator. His first male drawings were for short stories and novels. As his works became known, he began to illustrate articles in French gay magazines. His works began to appear on the covers of these magazines. He was also asked to prepare a national prevention campaign featuring condoms.

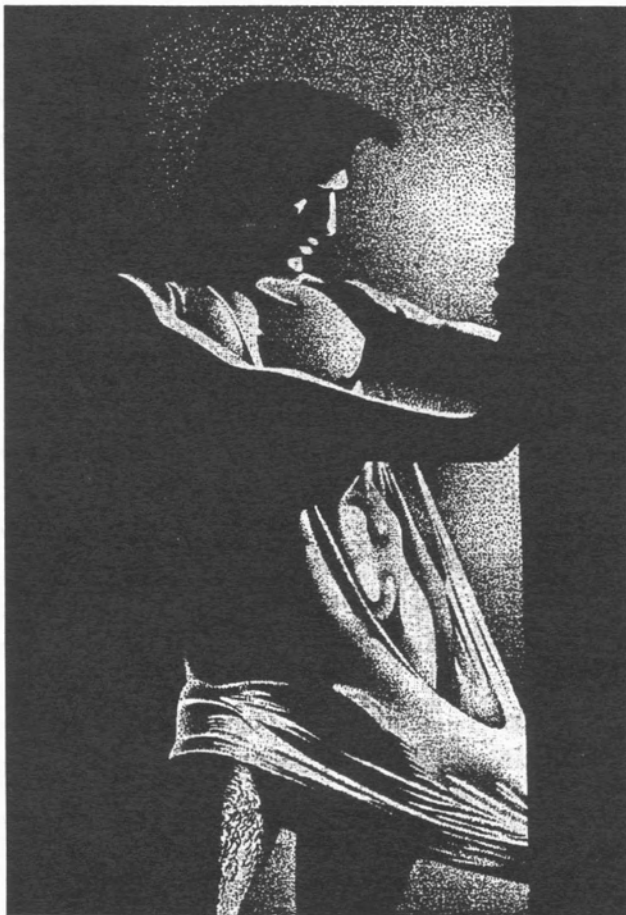
In 1989, he began working for groupe Illico. Groupe Illico is a group that owns several French gay magazines. Stéphane went on to become Artistic Director for groupe Illico.

Stéphane's style was to use dots to form his figures. He liked this style especially for his black and white drawings. "There is a good resolution on the volume, the brilliance, the texture of the skin..." Through the perfection of his work, he could express the sensuality and sexuality of the male figure. His subjects became one with the fantasy that he depicted.

During our meeting, he discovered the philatelic world and I further discovered his many works. Stéphane was a perfectionist at his job. His relationship with groupe Illico made for a solid foundation for his work. It also lent support during the different stages of his illness. Stéphane était passionné et passionnant. (Roughly

translated, Stéphane was passionate and entrancing.)

Stéphane, we think of you often. Fondly, Jérôme, his companion; his family; his friends; and Hervé.



Gay and Lesbian Update

It's a gay world...

Cuba issued a set of 6 stamps honoring famous composers on September 15, 1997. Frederic Chopin can be found on Scott no. 3856. Ludwig van Beethoven can be found on Scott no. 3858.

Remember that it is illegal for Cuban stamps to be imported into the United States at this time.

Czech Republic (former Czechoslovakia) issued a stamp honoring Jaroslav Hasek, author of the *Good Soldier Svejk*. Our member in the Czech Republic says he should be included in a gay and lesbian collection. Does anyone have any sources to verify this?



Scott no. 2432

Also from our Czech member, there are several stamps related to painter Jan Zrzavy. Our member can confirm that he was gay.

Grenada Grenadines issued a set of 8 stamps plus 2 souvenir sheets honoring famous composers and musicians on October 10, 1997.

Beethoven, Scott no. 1995a

Tchaikovsky, Scott no. 1995b

Chopin, Scott no. 1995d

Schubert, Scott no. 1997

Mexico issued a stamp honoring Sor (Sister) Juana Inés de la Cruz. Born Juana Inés de Asbaje, at age 16 she took vows as Sor Juana. She earned a reputation in Europe and Spanish America as one of the greatest lyric poets of the late 1600s. Her sexuality has been a matter of controversy for centuries. Contemporary Mexican lesbian writers claim her as their foremother. Sor Juana can be found on Mexico Scott no. 1911. (See *Completely Queer, the Gay and Lesbian Encyclopedia* by Steve Hogan and Lee Hudson.)

The Netherlands issued a stamp to mark the 200th anniversary of the birth of Franz Schubert on August 5, 1997. Scott no. 972.

Russia. Anyone with information on Sofia Kovalevskaja? She was a Russian mathematician. She was possibly a lesbian. There was very little chance in tsarist Russia for women to receive a good education. Her marriage may have been for convenience. She may appear on a few Russian (or Soviet) stamps.

Sierra Leone issued a sheet of 9 stamps plus a souvenir sheet to honor motion pictures directed by Alfred Hitchcock.

Cary Grant, Ingrid Bergman in *Notorious*, Scott no. 2063c.

Cary Grant in *North by Northwest*, Scott no. 2063e.

Joan Fontaine, Laurence Olivier in *Rebecca*, Scott no. 2063g.

United States issued a stamp in the Literary Arts Series honoring Thornton Wilder. This stamp was issued April 17, 1997. Scott no. 3134. The *Gay Book of Days* lists Wilder as being gay. Does anyone have other sources of this?

In an article on Uganda and Ghana honoring black writers from the United States (*Linn's*, December 1, 1997), it is mentioned that **James Baldwin** had been previously honored on a stamp. Any help as to the country of issue and the date it was released?

AIDS Update

France. Several cities used an AIDS information service postmark in late 1997.



PARIS LA CHAPELLE CTC 17-10-97



Germany. A recent cancel sponsored by the German medical thematic study group honors Luc Montagnier, co-discoverer of HIV.

Indonesia released a stamp on December 1, 1997 for World AIDS Day. The theme of the day in 1997 was "Children Living in a World with AIDS."

Paraguay issued two AIDS stamps on December 5, 1997. This is their second AIDS issue.

Slovakia issued a stamp honoring Olympic figure skater Ondrej Nepela on November 3, 1997. He died of AIDS. Scott no. 289.



Tanzania issued a set of 4 stamps and a souvenir sheet for World AIDS Day. The low denomination, 140/- caused some controversy in Tanzania. It was removed from circulation because of protests about its subject matter. The message on the stamp promotes the use of condoms to prevent AIDS. Unfortunately, journalists, mullahs, religious clerics and others were furious that such a message would be printed on stamps. Several bishops said that "all morally upright people must reject it." It appears that they have a problem with the idea of using condoms. Many letters to the editor and editorials appeared in Tanzanian newspapers. The postal corporation bowed to the pressure and withdrew the stamp from circulation. Fate of the stamps is unknown.

The other three denominations did not seem to bring about such protests. The 310/- denomination's message is "Caution! You May contract AIDS." The 370/- stamp reads "Control of AIDS is our responsibility." The 410/- value urges people to "Care and Support AIDS Orphans." The souvenir sheet has a value of 500/-. It features the same stamp design as the 140/- stamp, with the inscription "World AIDS Day" on the bottom border area.

Scott nos. 1586-90.

(Linn's Stamp News, January 5, 1998)

The **Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus** issued its second AIDS stamp on December 22, 1997.

Wallis et Futuna issued a stamp in the fight against AIDS on December 1, 1997.



France, part II. For the 10th anniversary of World AIDS Day, l'association VIH 28 organized a philatelic exposition in the city of Chartres, France. A special postmark was used for this event. A postal card and envelopes franked with the French AIDS stamp were sold, with the money going towards the fight against AIDS.

The price of each item is roughly \$3 plus about \$1.50 for shipping and handling. (15 francs each, plus 6,70 F for s & h.) You can try writing to:

Pierre Casanova
17, rue Louis Blériot
28000 Chartres
France



Breast Cancer Awareness Update

It appears that several countries have issued, or plan to issue stamps on this topic. Is there sufficient interest in this topic? Does anyone have a checklist compiled to share?

Australia issued a stamp on October 27, 1997. Scott no. 1625.

Last Lick

A meeting room has been reserved for GLHSC at the 1998 National Topical Stamp Show (formerly known as TOPEX.) The GLHSC meeting will take place at 3:00 PM on Saturday, July 18.

The ATA Convention will be held July 17-19, 1998 at the Fairview Park Marriott in Falls Church, Virginia, just outside of Washington, DC.

On Friday afternoon, a private tour of the Merrifield (Virginia) Processing and Distribution Center is being offered. The President's Reception will be held Friday night at the National Postal Museum. Transportation is being provided to both events. The ATA annual business meeting will be held at 1:00 Friday afternoon. The Awards Banquet will be held on Saturday evening.

For more information, please contact the ATA.

APS STAMPSHOW 98 Visits the Silicon Valley

APS STAMPSHOW 98, the annual convention of the American Philatelic Society and the largest annual postage stamp show in the United States, will be held in Santa Clara, California from August 27-30, 1998. The show will include more than 125 dealers, 600 frames of exhibits including the World Series of Philately, a first day ceremony for the pane of twenty different U.S. Art Masterpiece stamps, youth and beginner areas, a number of Society meetings and seminars, and the American Philatelic Society General and Board meetings. There is no admission charge and door prizes will be awarded hourly. Parking will be free to the first 2,000 attendees each day.

Special rates have been negotiated at two hotels. Attached to the Convention Center, the Westin will be the headquarters hotel. Reservations may be made by calling at 800-228-3000. Be sure to ask for the APS STAMPSHOW rate which is \$99 single and \$109 double.

You can save a little money by staying at the Marriott which is about a half mile away. Rooms there are \$89 per night single or double. Reservations can be made by calling 408-988-1500.

Santa Clara, the heart of the Silicon Valley, offers a great deal for the entire family. Between the Convention Center and the Marriott is Paramount's Great America, the largest amusement park in Northern California. Behind the Convention Center is the San Francisco 49ers practice facilities as well as a golf course and tennis courts. Santa Clara is also home to the Intel Museum.

Contact the APS at PO Box 8000, State College, PA 16803-8000, telephone 814-237-3803, fax 814-237-6128, for entry forms, meeting applications, hotel reservation cards, and answers to any other questions you may have. E-mail requests may be sent to kpmartin@stamps.org. Information will also be available from the APS web page at:

<http://www.west.net/~stamps1/aps.html>.

Always buying
collections.

Robert W. Gesell
PO Box 8248
Ann Arbor MI 48107

E-mail: Rgesell3@Juno.com

Phone: (734) 662-5460

APS Member



Come Together - International Gay and Lesbian Penpals Foundation - is doing its best to help gays and lesbians contact each other world wide. CTFI has been active for gays and lesbians in Germany, Japan, England, Norway and the United States arranging penpals, friendships, contacts and inexpensive accommodation within the country and abroad. For more information, please write to:

CTFI
Staugraben 7
26122 Oldenburg
Germany

E-mail: ctfi@gmx.net

Homepage: <http://ctfi.home.pages.de> or

<http://www.geocities.com/westhollywood/heights/2319>

A limited number of Arizona Central Pride covers have been discovered. Proceeds will help support the educational work of the Phoenix G/L PEN Chapter.

1996-97 Complete Set	\$22
(One cover from 1996 and one from each day of the 3 day 1997 festival.)	
1997 Complete Set	\$13
(One cover from each day of the 3 day 1997 festival.)	
1996 Cover	\$10
1997 Cover	\$5

To place your order, write to:

Donna Walkuski, Director
G/L PEN
PO Box 24605
Phoenix AZ 85074-4605

The Gay and Lesbian Postal Employee Network (G/L PEN) Mission Statement:

To serve as an advocate and resource for all gay and lesbian employees and advance their recognition and legitimacy within the United States Postal Service.

Revision 1 to the Philatelic AIDS Handbook is now available for \$5 plus postage. Copies can be obtained from:

Phil Stager

4184 51st Ave., S.
St. Petersburg FL 33711-4734

Philstag@juno.com

DIRECT MALE Introduces New Home Shopping Directory

DIRECT MALE announced today publication of a new "Home Shopping Directory" to be inserted into the upcoming Spring/Summer '98 edition. This new advertising vehicle will feature full-color "mini ads" designed for consumers to use as an easy reference guide. Delivered to 55,000 gay male households on May 15, 1998, this new directory is the first nationwide at-home shopping directory to reach gay male households published in the U.S.

Today's announcement follows the successful launch of DIRECT MALE's new larger size (6" by 7") packaging in January '98. The new larger foil packaging has been hailed by advertisers as giving DIRECT MALE even greater direct marketing impact.

"We are proud to make available to companies wishing to participate in DIRECT MALE this new advertising vehicle," said Andrew Isen, publisher of DIRECT MALE. He continued, "while not a substitute for premium positioning through the traditional DIRECT MALE advertising card, we believe there are companies with advertising budgets who will find this special insert an attractive alternative. We look forward to welcoming a select few of these companies through placement in the DIRECT MALE Home Shopping Directory."

DIRECT MALE continues to be the nation's longest continuously published home shopping and travel pack to reach gay male households nationwide. DIRECT MALE is a subscriber-driven program, delivered to select upscale gay male households who have requested to receive advertising from gay-friendly companies. With more than 200 companies advertising to date, DIRECT MALE will celebrate its seventh anniversary this year.

For more information or to request media materials, please call 1-202-482-1300.