

GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORY ON STAMPS

JOURNAL

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“BOSTON MARRIAGE”

By John P. Stefanek

Reprinted and reformatted for print from an exhibit made by John and shown at the Spellman Museum in June 2024

What Is It? The term “Boston marriage” refers to a non-traditional, domestic relationship between two middle- or upper-class women. Many, but not all, were romantic. These queer, committed partnerships occurred primarily in New England, where higher numbers of college-educated women were financially secure enough to choose whether to enter into a conventional marriage with a man.



USA 1940
Scott #872

Frances Willard (1839-1898) taught at colleges that would later become parts of Syracuse University and Northwestern University. She participated in the founding of the Women’s Christian Temperance Union, eventually becoming president. Frances met social reformer and songwriter Anna Adams Gordon in 1877. They lived together romantically until Anna’s death. In 1888, Frances became the president of the National Council of Women of the United States.



USA 1981 Scott #1890, #1891, #1893

Katharine Lee Bates (1859-1929) is best known for writing the anthem, “America the Beautiful.” She was born in Falmouth, Massachusetts, and graduated from Wellesley College in 1880. She taught at high schools and won a prize for a young adult novel, *Rose and Thorn*, that taught about social reform. She popularized the concept of Mrs. Claus from her poem, “Goody Santa Claus on a Sleigh Ride.” She studied at Oxford before earning her master’s degree and becoming professor at Wellesley. Katharine’s poems and surviving letters to social activist and professor Katharine Coman reveal they lived in a “Boston marriage” (or “Wellesley marriage”).



USA 1948 Scott #959

Carrie Chapman Catt (1859-1947) was a women’s suffrage leader who campaigned for the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution. She served twice as president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, founded the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, and founded the League of Woman Voters. After her second husband died, Carrie lived with longtime companion, suffragist, and community organizer, Mary Garrett Hay, next to whom she is buried.



USA 1989 Scott #UX134

Jane Addams (1860-1935) was an American settlement activist, reformer, social worker, sociologist, public administrator, and author. She co-founded Chicago’s Hull House, and in 1920, she co-founded the American Civil Liberties Union. In 1931, she became the first American woman to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. She is recognized as the founder of the social work profession in the United States. She was a role model for middle-class women who volunteered to uplift their communities. Jane’s romantic partner for over thirty years was philanthropist Mary Rozet Smith.



USA 1940
Scott #878

(Continued on page 5).



The *Gay and Lesbian History on Stamps Journal* is published quarterly by Gay and Lesbian History on Stamps (GLHS). GLHS is an affiliate of the American Philatelic Society (APS), Number 205, and a study unit of the American Topical Association (ATA), Number 458.

The **objective** of GLHS is to promote an interest in the collection, study and dissemination of knowledge of worldwide philatelic material that depicts:

- Notable men and women and their contributions to society for whom historical evidence exists of homosexual or bisexual orientation,
- Mythology, historical events and ideas significant in the history of gay culture,
- Flora and fauna scientifically proven as having prominent homosexual behavior, and

Even though emphasis is placed on the above aspects of stamp collecting, GLHS strongly encourages other philatelic endeavors.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE:

<u>Publication date</u>	<u>Submissions due</u>
October 2023	September 15
January 2024	December 15
April 2023	March 15
July 2023	June 15

Members may submit advertisements for free.

GLHS Board of Directors 2022-2023

President: Lisa Foster (Wash.)

Vice President: John P. Stefanek (Mich.)

Secretary: Marlene Michelson (Calif.)

Treasurer: Laurie Anderson (Wash.)

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Thank you for renewing your membership in Gay and Lesbian History on Stamps and for recognizing the importance of supporting your philatelic community. Your continued participation and financial support are essential as we continually strive to strengthen our organization.

Membership dues for 2024 continue at \$10.00 a year. You may make your dues payment online via PayPal at <http://www.glhsonline.org/pages/onlinememberform.html>.

You may also make dues payments via check or money order payable to GLHS to the Treasurer, Laurie Anderson, 646 169th St. S., Spanaway, WA 98387.

Membership Report

Our current membership consists of **79** members. 48 are also members of the American Philatelic Society (APS) & 36 members of the American Topical Association (ATA).

*When you join the APS, ATA and/or AFDCS
notify GLHS*

Additional volunteers are needed



- Social Media Committee to explore options for group open and/or closed online communications/meetings such as Google, Instagram, twitter, blogs, go-to meeting, HipChat, etc.
- GLHS Journal Editor
- GLHS Journal Columnists
- Index GLHS journal articles since 2018
- Give presentations in person or virtually
- Coordinate GLHS Socials
- Maintain membership
- Advertising Committee
- Submit articles, journeys, cover/postal history write ups, travels and philatelic events

Spellman Museum of Stamps and Postal History

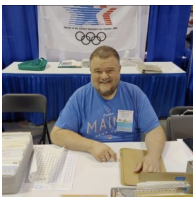
The Spellman Museum celebrated their first Gay Pride month with exhibits created by GLHS members.

One page exhibits were provided by Carol Costa, John P. Stefanek and Lisa Foster.

Dr. Tomas L. Griebbling's exhibit, "From Mark of Oppression to Symbol of Gay Pride—The Pink Triangle" was on exhibit through the month of June.



On June 18, 2024, the museum hosted a zoom presentation by Tomas sharing the exhibit. Tomas is a GLHS member, and collector of postal & sports history & ephemera, LGBTQ history and Civil Rights. There were 27 participants. Attendees comments included, "Fascinating presentation," "Fantastic information," and "Very interesting! Thank you".

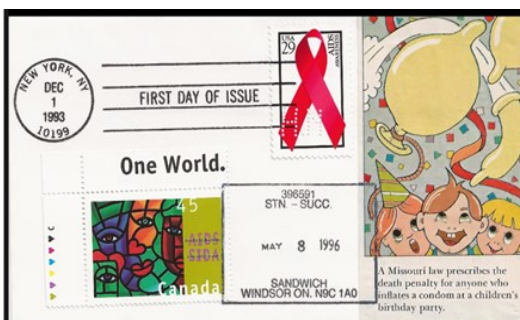


The museum's Executive Director, Brian Howard has plans to grow Pride participation in future years and is open to reviewing LGBT collections. For future consideration contact BHoward@spellmanmuseum.org.

Be sure to see Tomas Griebbling's exhibit, "From Mark of Oppression to Symbol of Gay Pride—The Pink Triangle" at GASS/NTSS 2024.

GLHS Virtual Presentation April 2024

Presentation by Dale Smith
on GLHS YouTube
<https://youtu.be/oboeaspjLPI>



**Cachet
Maker
Hideaki
Nakano**



Future GASS

2024 August 15-18,
Hartford, CT

2025 August 14-17,
Schaumburg, IL

2026 Bye – Boston 2026
May 23-30

Great American Stamp Show '24

GLHS will have an open meeting during the show Friday August 16, 2024 at 4:00 PM in Room 25 where Dr. Tomas L. Griebbling will share their award winning exhibit, "From Mark of Oppression to Symbol of Gay Pride - The Pink Triangle", followed by discussions related to the subject and exhibiting in general. The exhibit won the Most Popular Award at the 2023 Greater Houston Stamp Show, and a Large Silver at the San Diego Stamp Show 2024.

GASS 2024 will be held August 15-18 at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford, CT. Pre-register to avoid the lines and get a pre-made name badge. Pre-registration closes on July 31 [Pre-Registration \(stamps.org\)](https://stamps.org).



The ATA will be celebrating 75 years at GASS 24! The Annual Meeting and Birthday Celebration will be held Friday August 16 at 2:00 PM. They are requesting RSVPs to ensure they have enough giveaways and treats for all the party goers. RSVP at <https://americantopical.org/event-5627793>

The celebration will continue with the [ATA President's Reception](https://americantopical.org/event-5627793) on Friday evening (be sure to register by August 1 if you plan to attend).