



GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORY ON STAMPS

JOURNAL



GLHSONLINE.ORG



Issue 026

October 2024

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Friedrich von Steuben (1730-1794)

*From a column written by Francis Ferguson, Jr.
in Lambda Philatelic Journal, 2001, Vol 20, No1.*

Baron von Steuben was born into a military family in the Prussian town of Magdeburg on September 17, 1730. There is little recorded information of his early life; he was educated at a Jesuit school in Breslau and entered the service of the king and army at the age of sixteen. Steuben rose quickly in rank, paying very close attention to the study of "the arts of war".

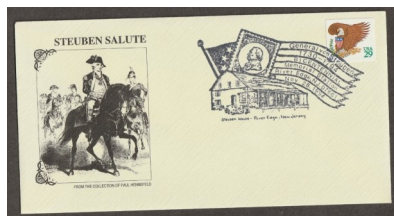
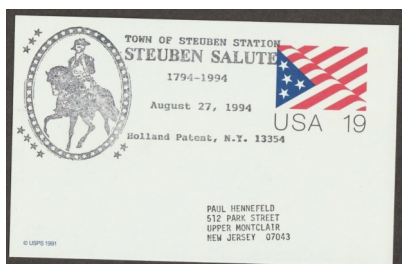
During this period of his life, he was noticed by Frederick the Great. King Frederick is widely considered to be one of the greatest military leaders of our times, and to Steuben's immense benefit also homosexual. However, Steuben ran afoul with the clergy for "taking familiarities with young boys, which laws forbid" and was at risk of being prosecuted. This event was the single driving force behind Steuben's search for a more tolerant land.

On December 1, 1777 the Baron von Steuben arrived in Portsmouth, New Hampshire with his male seventeen year old private secretary, Pierre Etienne Duponceau, to whom he was romantically attracted. Steuben quickly became a critical part of George Washington's inner circle of highly regarded individuals. Washington in 1778 recommended the appointment of Steuben as Inspector General, and Congress quickly approved this nomination. This laid the ground work for Steuben to prepare the acclaimed "Regulations for the Order and Discipline of the Troops of the United States", which became a standard of reference for military training for the United States military organization.

Steuben continued to serve Washington, as commander of one of the three divisions of Washington's troops at the pivotal battle of Yorktown. As the Revolutionary War concluded, Steuben continued to provide assistance as he helped Washington to demobilize the army in 1783, and also to plan the defense of the newly freed nation. He was discharged from the military in March of 1784 with honor.

Steuben established residency in New York with his two aides-de-camp, William North and Benjamin Walker, who he

1976, Aitutaki, Surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown



Cancel used in River Edge, NH for the bicentennial of von Steuben's death. Paul Hennefeld designed the postmark portion of the cancel. The drawing of the Steuben House was done by Claire Throll of New Jersey.

On September 17, 1930 Baron Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben was honored with the release of the two cent red (Scott 689) for his participation in the American Revolution.



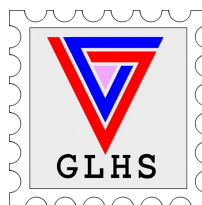
1930, US, #689



1980, Germany-Berlin, #9N455



1976, Aitutaki, Surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown



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>
January 2025	December 15
April 2025	March 15
July 2025	June 15
October 2025	September 15

Members may submit advertisements for free.

GLHS Board of Directors 2023-2025

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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/onlineform.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.

! New Members !

Jasmine, L., Concord NH

Paul, A., Wauwatosa WI

Marvin W., Saint Paul MN

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



Designer of the UN LGBTQ Equality stamps to be at 1st UN Postcrossing event in NYC



The United Nations Postal Administration will host a pop-up meetup Oct. 9, 2024 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. to celebrate World Post Day and the 150th anniversary of the Universal Postal Union. The Chief of UNPA Thanawat

Amnajanan and the designer of the UN UPU 150th Anniversary stamps Sergio Baradat will be present to greet guests and stamp collectors and will be available to autograph the stamps and related products.

Baradat is also the designer for the 2016 United Nations LGBTQ Equality stamps: <https://baradat.com/lgbt-equality-United-nations>



More about the UN 150th Anniversary stamps here: <https://unstamps.org/shop/upu-150th-anniversary/>

More about UN stamps: <https://unstamps.org/>
Please note there is no admission fee required to enter the UN visitor's concourse area where the UN Stamp Counter, Gift Shop, and Bookshop are located. For your reference, here are the details regarding the UN General Visitors check-in and screening procedures: <https://www.un.org/en/visitor-centre-new-york/page/arrival>



How to Exhibit to the World

Create one page exhibits for the ATA competition, then put them together to create an exhibit to enter at NAPEX during WorldPride 2025.

NAPEX 2025 (National Philatelic Exhibitions of Washington, D.C., Inc.) will be held June 6-8. <https://www.napex.org/index.html>



WorldPride 2025 will take place in Washington, DC from May 23—June 8th and feature a vibrant and innovative slate of events and cultural programs that will highlight the best that Washington, DC has to offer. The World Pride Parade will be on June 7 and The Rally & March on June 8. <https://worldpridedc.org/about/>

Each year, philatelists from throughout the world enjoy creating one page exhibits to be displayed on the ATA website. Last year there were more than 250 exhibits from 19 countries. This year's *My One Page Exhibit!* opens December 15, so it's an ideal time to get started.



Join the creators of the program, Tom Broadhead and Michele Bresso, for tips on creating your exhibit this year.



How to Exhibit to the World - Creating Your Exhibit for ATA's My One-Page Exhibit! Program

Saturday, October 26, 4:00 p.m. Eastern via Zoom

Register at <https://americantopical.org/event-5881928>

GASS Future Dates/Locations

2025 August 14-17, Schaumburg, IL



The hotel for the show will be the Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center Hotel, a Marriott property directly connected to the convention center. The convention center and hotel are located approximately 18 miles from Chicago's O'Hare International Airport.

2026 Bye – Boston 2026 May 23-30



Retirement... Went Astray

By Francis Ferguson

I apologize for being missing in action, but unforeseen events overtook my life. While I did retire as planned on 01.04.24 the events of the following two months did not go as expected. January and February were spent at a lot of doctor appointments all leading up to what was planned to be a stent or two to be placed in my arteries supplying blood flow to the heart. Well, that did not go as planned. On March 4th I was on the operating table for about 2 hours – and the diagnosis was no stents could be placed. Instead, I was stuffed back in my room and told I was not going anywhere – any time soon. March 7th saw a major replumbing job done with a triple bypass being performed (otherwise known as CABG). Successfully. A total of 11 nights in the hospital eating rather questionable food was an adventure I do not want to repeat. But alas, that was not in the cards. Five days after being released to the care of my husband I ended up back in the hospital for three nights after suffering a minor left side stroke. Thankfully the stroke issues have all mostly resolved now. Six months out from surgery I am still in the recovery mode, and do cardio PT almost every day.

After being missing in action for most of March-April-May I have been returning slowly to my philatelic duties. The will to do things -- does not match my endurance level at this time, but it is getting better with each passing day.

Thankfully the summer months in Central Florida do not require me to be outside much as the heat and humidity just drains the energy from me. I can instead spend time with my philatelic projects. I call that a win in my book.

Until next time, be good and practice kindness. Pay it forward.



Breaking the Ice Member Introductions

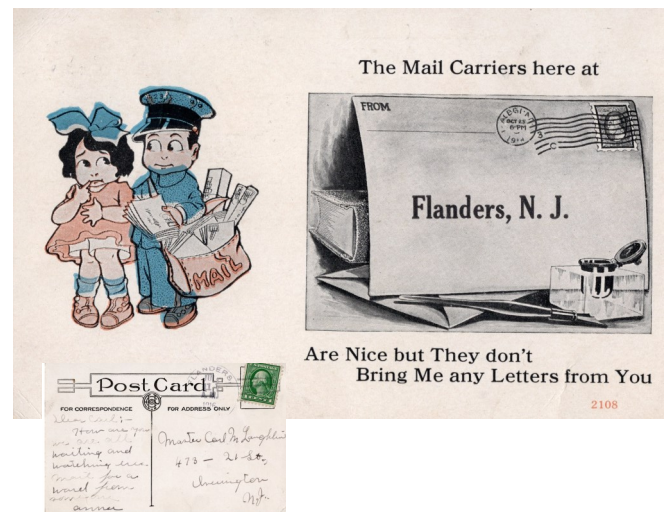
Marvin Welk
from
Saint Paul, Minnesota

Collecting stamps started for me when I was young at a time when the U.S. stamp album was a single volume. The collection sat dormant for many years before restarting after retiring.

I find enjoyment in the artistic beauty of stamps, which also seems to mean I have more interest in the colorful stamps of recent decades than in the single-color stamps and complexity of the 19th century.

My collection is mainly United States singles and certain small sheets of interest (strictly my opinion). The collection also includes a sampling of past and present Hawaii stamps. Also, I'm attempting to collect LGBTQIA2s+ stamps of the world, for which GLHS is extremely helpful at providing information. For that, I am grateful.

Publication Content Wanted



Did you recently acquire a fun stamp?
An interesting cover? Scan it!

Did you attend a philatelic related event, in person or virtually? If so tell us about it!

Write a letter to the editor.

Submit a Breaking the Ice introduction.

Send all submissions for publication to
glhstamps2@gmail.com.

New stamp shines spotlight on Canadian singer-songwriter Sarah McLachlan



Grammy and JUNO award-winning artist has sold more than 40 million albums worldwide and is known for her philanthropic efforts

Canada Post Press Release September 17, 2024

VANCOUVER – Canada Post issued a new stamp September 17, 2024 honouring singer-songwriter and musician, Sarah McLachlan. Known for her emotional ballads and hauntingly soulful vocals, the award-winning Canadian artist has sold more than 40 million albums worldwide.

Born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in 1968, McLachlan was adopted as an infant and received classical training in guitar, piano and voice at an early age. After studying at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design for one year, she moved to Vancouver, British Columbia, and released her first studio album, *Touch* (1988), at age 20.

Her second album, *Solace* (1991), went gold in Canada and earned McLachlan her first two JUNO nominations and first win for Best Video for the single “Into the Fire.” *Fumbling Towards Ecstasy* – celebrating its 30th anniversary this year with a North American tour – was a hit on its release in Canada and the United States in 1994.

McLachlan has since launched six more studio albums, including the multi-platinum *Surfacing* (1997), her best-selling album to date. Showcasing her unique fusion of pop and folk with such hits as, “Building a Mystery,” “Sweet Surrender” and “Angel,” the album was a critical and commercial success and won two Grammy Awards and four JUNO Awards.

In 1997, McLachlan founded the exclusively female-fronted Lilith Fair concert tour, which helped bolster careers and raised more than \$7 million for local and national charities. She has been a longtime advocate for animal rights and is the founder of the non-profit Sarah McLachlan School of Music, which provides free music education and mentorship to children and youth, among others, facing barriers to access.

McLachlan was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada (1999), invested into the Order of British Columbia (2001) and received a Governor



General’s Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Artistic Achievement (Popular Music) (2015). A member

of the Canadian Music Hall of Fame (2017), she will be inducted into the Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame on September 28 of this year.



GLHS editor’s note: Although Sara McLachlan does not identify as LGBTQ, she has a large lesbian following and is a strong advocate for gay and lesbian rights.

(von Steuben, continued from page 1)

adopted as his two “sons”. He died a “bachelor” in 1794, leaving his considerable property to North and Walker.

Germany issued a 100 pfenning stamp commemorating the 200th anniversary of the death of General von Steuben. The stamp was the first class rate for letters sent in Germany and Europe.



1994, Germany, #1642

From September Gay Philatelic Heroes by Paul Hennessee, Lambda Philatelic Journal, September 2001

Frederick von Steuben was born September 13, 1730. He was military aide to Frederick The Great, and Prince Henry of Prussia. [Frederick & Henry were both homosexual] It is believed that Baron von Steuben had been caught in an uncompromising position with one or several of his soldiers. Steuben fled to the USA to join General George Washington’s ‘family’. Steuben trained the American troops, and was the author of the ‘Military Code of Regulations’ handbook. Two soldiers, William North and Ben Walker, were to von Steuben’s liking. He legally adopted both men, and they lived together until the general’s death, at which time they shared in his estate.

Thomas Anthony “Tomie” dePaola

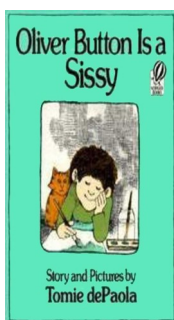
DePaola was gay. He came out later in his life, telling *The New York Times Magazine* in 2019 that, for much of his career, "If it became known you were gay, you'd have a big red 'G' on your chest... and schools wouldn't buy your books anymore." (1)



Photo newwaysministry.org

Among his many works, DePaola, who was gay, wrote one of the earliest picture books to feature a boy who could be read as queer and “didn’t like to do things that boys are supposed to do.” The book was based on his own childhood experiences. (2)

The protagonist of DePaola’s 1979 *Oliver Button Is a Sissy* prefers to draw, dress up, and dance rather than do sports, even though the other boys tease him. Eventually, though, his courage and tap-dancing performance win over his classmates. (2)



- (1) Wikipedia
- (2) <https://mombian.com/2020/03/30/in-memoriam-tomie-depaola-author-of-oliver-button-is-a-sissy-and-much-more/>
- (3) <https://www.newwaysministry.org/2020/04/28/remembering-tomie-depaola-the-gay-childrens-author-who-painted-many-catholic-tales/>

Member exhibits at GASS 2024

Dawn R. Hamman, *All Aboard! A Grand Tour - American Style, 1915*, NTSS Multi-Frame Grand & Large Gold (92 points).



Darrell Ertzberger
CANEJ Chairman
presents Dawn
the medal.

Art Bunce, *Watermarks and Countermarks of the AQ Lettersheets of the Republic of Venice 1608-1797*, StampShow Multi-Frame Competition, Large Gold (92 points). Also American Philatelic Congress Award.



APS
President
Cheryl Ganz
presented
Art the
medal.



Laurie Anderson, *Go for the Gold! The Introduction of Women in the Olympic Games*, NTSS Multi-Frame Competition, Large Vermeil

(81 points)



Thomas Anthony “Tomie” dePaola was born September 15, 1934 in Meriden, Connecticut, USA. He enjoyed cooking, reading, gardening, traveling, watching movies and shopping. DePaola wrote and illustrated more than 270 children’s books over a half century career, earning many awards and recognitions, including the Laura Ingalls Wilder Award (now known as the Children’s Literature Legacy Award) for his lasting and substantial contribution to children’s literature.

The non-denominated (63¢) stamp is from the cover of *Strega Nona*, the first of a series and one of his best-known books, first published in 1975. The older woman on the stamp is “Grandma Witch” (Calabria, Italy). She uses magic to cure her neighbors’ ills and help with matters of the heart. In the stamp, she is carrying her magic pasta pot.

Tomie dePaola stamp was issued May 5, 2023, at the Currier Museum of Art in Manchester, New Hampshire, USA. The museum holds more than 100 of dePaola’s works in their collection <https://currier.org>.

The Currier Museum claims dePaola “had a masterful ability to express complicated emotions through accessible narratives and dynamic illustrations, filled with his warm and lively characters.” His work comprised of folktales and legends, informational books, religious and holiday stories,

and touching autobiographical tales. Deceptively simple, dePaola’s stories contained layers of emotional meaning that appeals to readers of all ages.

DePaola attempted to convey three fundamental truths in all his books: Success depends on hard work, happiness relies on embracing one’s true self, and love and kindness underscore all.

DePaola passed on March 30, 2020 in New London, New Hampshire, USA. He was 85. The museum created the Tomie dePaola’s Art Education Fund to support art education for young people.

Publisher of *Strega Nona* is Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers.

The designer of the Tomie dePaola stamp is postal service art director Derry Noyes. She chose this design as her kids grew up reading the *Strega Nona* books thus making dePaola a beloved writer in their family. The stamps were printed by Ashton Potter Ltd., of Williamsville, New York, USA, using offset lithography. Microprinting appears somewhere in the design.

Cachet designer: Carol J. Edholm; Mountlake Terrace, Washington, USA. Only six sets of these specific covers were created.



The AFDCS is a volunteer non-profit and non-commercial organization serving the needs of First Day Cover collectors, cachetmakers, and dealers. Founded in 1955, the society has a membership of over 1,100 active first day cover collectors, including many who design and manufacture their own cacheted FDCs.

Cheery, Whimsical Pinback Buttons Stamps Bring Playful Touch to Cards and Letters

USPS Press release August 15, 2024 supplemented
with personal photos.

HARTFORD, CT — The Postal Service, in partnership with the American Philatelic Society, held a dedication ceremony for Pinback Buttons stamps today at the Great American Stamp Show. The stamps feature 10 typographic designs by various artists in their unique styles, each with a single word as the central element of the design.



“Long before we had social media, pinback buttons were a common form of self-expression. Even today, nothing replaces the warmth of a handwritten note to friends and family. When you send your next note, you’ll have an upbeat stamp to add an extra personal touch to the envelope,”

said Scott English, executive director of the American Philatelic Society.

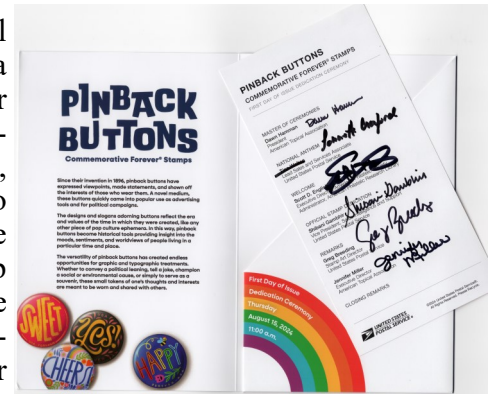
“One of the bedrocks of our nation is freedom of expression, so it’s no surprise that pinback buttons have enjoyed such enduring popularity,” said Shibani Gambhir, USPS sales intelligence and support vice president. “Whether they convey your politics, champion a cause, simply tell a joke or serve as a souvenir, these small tokens of your thoughts and interests are easily worn and shared with others.”



Other speakers at the ceremony included Greg Breeding, an art director for USPS who designed the stamps. He said, “the idea of working with 10 artists at once felt a little overwhelming. But that turned out to be the best creative decision I made.”

Jennifer Miller, executive director of the Ameri-

can Topical Association, a group for stamp collectors, said, “Like so many of the recent stamp issues, the Pinback Buttons Forever stamps offer a wealth of topics for stamp collectors. These new stamps carry a wonderful nostalgic feel for veteran philatelists and intriguing designs for modern topical collectors.”



Since their first appearance in 1896, pinback buttons have expressed viewpoints, made statements and showcased the interests of those who wear them. Covered in clear celluloid to protect the



paper underneath and constructed of stamped metal that was easy to reproduce, the first pinback buttons were more

colorful and versatile than the metal buttons and other insignia that preceded them.

The novel medium quickly came into popular use for advertising and political campaigns. For more than 120 years, buttons of various sizes have helped spread ideas and broadcast opinions on a wide variety of topics.

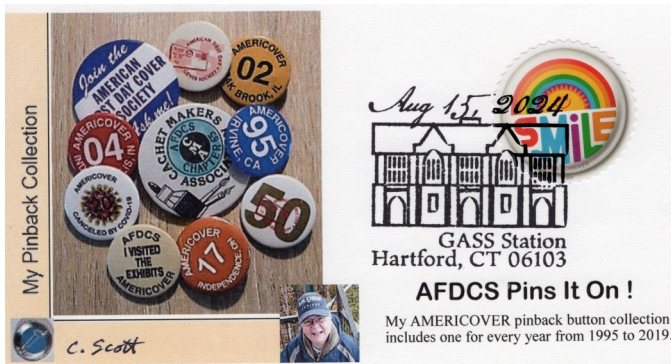
The designs and slogans adorning buttons reflect the era and values of the time in which they were created, like any other piece of pop culture ephemera. In this way, pinback buttons become historical tools providing insight into the moods, sentiments and worldviews of people living in a particular time and place.

The pane of 20 stamps features 10 typographic designs by various artists in their unique styles, each with a single word as the prominent design element.

The round shape of the stamps as well as shadowing and reflection effects give the appearance of three-dimensional pinback buttons. The pane ver-



so features an illustration of a round silver button back with pin fastener repeated 20 times, one for each pinback button shown on the front of the pane.

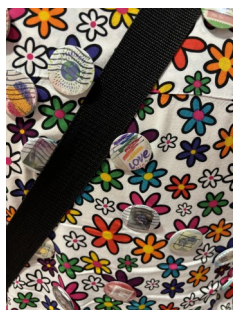


The versatility of pinback buttons has created endless opportunities for graphic and typographic treatments. Whether to convey a political leaning, tell a joke, champion a social or environmental cause, or simply to serve as a souvenir, these small tokens of one's thoughts and interests are meant to be worn and shared with others.



First day cover designed by Dani Levis, of BGC Legacy, the next generation of Barry & Gerry Covers.

Casey Jo White wearing handmade pinback buttons.



There were over 20 attendees at the GLHS meeting on Friday August 16, 2024 to see Dr. Tomas L. Griebbling share their award winning exhibit, "From Mark of Oppression to Symbol of Gay Pride - The Pink Triangle".

Tomas' virtual presentation hosted by the Spellman Museum of Stamps and Postal History on 07/18/2024 can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/PD6vTE6dp9Q?si=3NG6uKSr5cG7ydtl>



Tomas Griebbling is with Mike Miklovic at Connecticut Convention Center.

"You are making a very strong political and social statement with this exhibit - DO NOT BACK DOWN"

Just returned from the Great American Stamp Show in Hartford, CT - the annual national meeting of our various stamp and postal history collector organizations (American Philatelic Society; American Topical Association; Gay & Lesbian History on Stamps; Sports Philatelists International; and others).

These comments were part of the juried public forum critique and also on the written ballot from my primary respondent - himself a new winner this weekend of the highest lifetime achievement award in our hobby. My exhibit examines the symbol of the Pink Triangle - originally created by the Nazi regime to oppress gay men in the WWII concentration camps - and subsequently reclaimed after Stonewall by our community starting with ACT UP and others. The message and need for activism remain critically important today and for our future. Proud to have also given a seminar session on it during the meetings which generated great discussion.

#GASS2024



Tomas L. Griebbling, *The Olympic Symbol in Design*, NTSS Multi-Frame Competition, Large Vermeil (84 points)

Tomas L. Griebbling, *From Mark of Oppression to Symbol of Gay Pride - The Pink Triangle*, NTSS Multi-Frame Competition, Vermeil (77 points)



ATA President Dawn Hamman presented Tomas' medals.

LAMBDA PHILATELIC JOURNAL

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 1991, PAGE 4

Gay Postal History: Barney Frank

The final installment of this series is on another Congressman from the State of Massachusetts. The first two Congressmen were forced to leave public office upon disclosure of their sexual preference. The third Congressman had a different outcome, though his ordeal began much the same as the other two. The fourth, and final Congressman, had a much different chain of events.

The closet was still "home" for Barney Frank while he was a Massachusetts state representative. Unlike others who were gay yet did not acknowledge this fact, he was very supportive of gays and lesbians. In the 1980 elections, he was elected to the US House of Representatives. His district covered the Boston suburban area of Newton and Fall River.



Once in Washington, it appears that Frank began to slowly open the door. His coterie began to grow. Visits to gay bars became more frequent. And, he was still a very strong supporter of gay and lesbian issues. By the mid 80's, most people who knew Barney Frank knew or suspected that he was gay.

1987 was to be an important year for Frank. Gary Hart, who was running for President, was forced to drop out of the race. This was due to Hart's affair with Donna Rice. The press went on a frenzy,

delving into politician's private lives. The Governor of Ohio was said to have had three affairs. Reporters then began to question Jesse Jackson on his relationships. Then, Connecticut Representative Stewart McKinney died of AIDS. He was married at the time and the father of five. Upon his death, it was discovered that he had had several gay relationships. It was at McKinney's funeral when Frank decided to publicly acknowledge his being gay. "I don't want to leave the impression that I am embarrassed about my life."

During a May 29, 1987 interview with the *Boston Globe*, Frank said, "If you ask the direct question: 'Are you gay?', the answer is: Yes. So what? I've said all along that if I was asked by a reporter and I didn't respond it would look like I had something to hide, and I don't think I have anything to hide."

Barney Frank was the first US Congressman to openly acknowledge that he was gay. The others were all forced to make this admission. Frank's coming out marked an important moment in gay history.

Rep. Frank has since been re-elected to Congress. His sixth term began after the 1990 off-year elections. He is currently on several House committees: Banking, Finance, Urban Affairs; Government Operations; Judiciary and The Select Committee on Aging.

The House of Representatives currently has two members known to be gay. The Senate has none. Of the four members covered in this series, it appears that public acceptance is growing. However, both members that were forced from office represented Southern states. Reps. Studds and Frank come from a much more liberal state. One day, all of America will discover that a person's sexual preference does not affect their ability to be public officials.

(Continued on page 12)

New Issues

By John P. Stefanek



In September 2024, Australia released a stamp commemorating the Gold Medal won in Para Rowing: PR3 Mixed Double Sculls at the 2024 Paris Paralympics by Jed Altschwager and **Nikki Ayers**. She grew up in Dalmeny, New South Wales,

and studied nursing at the University of Canberra. She originally played rugby union until a 2016 injury. While in recovery, she met Jed Altschwager and began rowing training in 2018. She competed at the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics and became world champion in 2023. Nikki is openly lesbian.

On 12 September 2024, Ireland released four stamps celebrating Iconic Irish Voices, including one stamp featuring **Sinéad O'Connor**.

On 9 September 2024, Pitcairn Islands released four stamps commemorating Artefacts from the *Bounty* Launch Boat, including one stamp featuring **William Bligh's** eyeglass.

On 5 September 2024, Germany released a stamp celebrating **Freddie Mercury**.

On 3 September 2024, the United Kingdom released eight stamps and a Collectors sheet commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Television Series, *Porridge*, including one stamp featuring the openly gay character, **Lukewarm**, portrayed by **Christopher Biggins (born 1948)**. He was born in Oldham, Lancashire, was brought up in Salisbury, Wiltshire, and made his stage debut at the age of 17. His extensive television career began in 1972 on *Upstairs, Downstairs*. Christopher is openly gay and formed a civil partnership in 2006 with Neil Sinclair.



On 2 September 2024, Australia released a Stamp Pack of nine stamps celebrating Kids' Showtime Greats: *Babe*, including three stamps featuring border collie Fly, voiced by **Miriam Margolyes**.

On 28 August 2024, Bosnia and Herzegovina (Muslim/Bosniak/Sarajevo) released a stamp commemorating the 275th Anniversary of the Birth of **Johann Wolfgang von Goethe**.

On 15 August 2024, the United States released ten stamps celebrating Pinback Buttons, including one stamp featuring art by **Lisa Congdon (born 1968)**. She is a fine artist, author, and illustrator, who grew up in upstate New York and Northern California and who currently lives in Portland, Oregon. In 2013, Lisa married her partner, Clay Lauren Walsh.



On 15 August 2024, the United Nations (New York, Geneva, and Vienna) released six stamps celebrating UNESCO World Heritage: Republic of Korea, designed by **Sergio Baradat**.

On 6 August 2024, Australia released a Stamp Pack of twelve stamps commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Blondie, featuring **Debbie Harry (born 1945)**. She was born in Miami, raised in Hawthorne, New Jersey, and graduated from Centenary College. She began her musical career as a back-up singer for The Wind in the Willows and joined The Stilettos in 1973. The following year, she co-founded Blondie and quickly became a punk icon. In 2014, Debbie revealed that she had several relationships with women.

On 29 July 2024, the Republic of China (Taiwan) released four stamps celebrating Classical Poetry, including one stamp featuring the work of **Li Bai**.

On 19 July 2024, Germany released three stamps celebrating Delivered with Pride, featuring the **Intersex-Inclusive Pride Flag** created by **Valentino Vecchietti**. She is an intersex consultant and writer from London who founded Intersex Equality Rights UK in 2019.



On 18 July 2024, the United States released five Flower definitive stamps, including one featuring daffodils (**Narcissus**).

On 25 June 2024, Spain released a stamp commemorating the Death of **Antonio Gala (1930-**

2023). He was born in Brazatortas and grew up in Córdoba before graduating from the University of Seville and the University of Madrid. He was a poet, playwright, essayist, and novelist, known for a particular blend of lyricism and epic. Antonio openly spoke of his homosexuality.



On 24 June 2024, the Netherlands released a miniature sheet commemorating **Andre van Duin's** 60 Years in Show Business.

On 24 June 2024, Oman released a miniature sheet commemorating the 30th Anniversary of Oman LNG, including one stamp featuring Sultan **Qaboos bin Said**.

On 21 June 2024, Austria released a miniature sheet celebrating Beautiful Austria, including one stamp featuring the Narzissenfest, or **Narcissus Festival**.

On 20 June 2024, Armenia released two stamps commemorating the Centenary of the Birth of **Sergei Parajanov**.

In June 2024, Syria released five stamps commemorating the International Flower Fair, including one stamp featuring *Narcissus pseudonarcissus* (**Narcissus**).

On 14 June 2024, Belarus released a stamp commemorating Achievements of Belarusian Medicine, featuring the Rod of **Asclepius** on the stamp sheet selvage.

On 3 June 2024, Bulgaria released a souvenir sheet commemorating the Centenary of the Birth of Marcello Mastroianni, featuring him in the film, *La Dolce Vita*, partly written by **Pier Paolo Pasolini**.

On 28 May 2024, Djibouti released two miniature sheets commemorating the 95th Anniversary of the Birth of Audrey Hepburn, including six stamps featuring her in costumes designed by **Cecil Beaton** and three stamps featuring her in a costume designed by **Hubert de Givenchy**.

On 28 May 2024, Djibouti released a miniature sheet commemorating the 95th Anniversary of the Birth of Grace Kelly, including one stamp featuring her in the film, *High Society*, directed

by **Charles Walters** with music by **Cole Porter** and hair styling by **Sydney Guilaroff**.

On 28 May 2024, Djibouti released a miniature sheet celebrating German and Austrian Composers, including two stamps featuring **Ludwig van Beethoven** and two stamps featuring **Franz Schubert**.

On 28 May 2024, Djibouti released a miniature sheet and two souvenir sheets commemorating the 210th Anniversary of the Sixth Coalition Marching into Paris, including one stamp featuring Emperor **Alexander I** of Russia and one souvenir sheet selvage featuring King **Louis XVIII** of France.

On 28 May 2024, Djibouti released a miniature sheet commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the Appointment of the Future Pope John Paul II as Archbishop of Kraków, including one stamp featuring Queen Elizabeth II in a dress designed by **Hardy Amies**.

On 28 May 2024, Djibouti released a miniature sheet and two souvenir sheets commemorating the 35th Anniversary of the Death of **Salvador Dalí**.

In April 2024, Saudi Arabia released a stamp commemorating World Health Day, featuring the Rod of **Asclepius**.

On 27 December 2023, Azerbaijan released a miniature sheet celebrating Flowers, including one stamp featuring hyacinths (**Hyacinthus**) and one stamp featuring narcissi (**Narcissus**).

On 15 December 2023, Guinea released a miniature sheet and a souvenir sheet commemorating the 210th Anniversary of the Battle of Leipzig, including one stamp and the souvenir sheet featuring Emperor **Alexander I** of Russia.



On 15 December 2023, Guinea released a miniature sheet and a souvenir sheet commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the First American Woman in Space, featuring **Sally Ride**.

On 15 December 2023, Sierra Leone released a miniature sheet and two souvenir sheets commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the World Health Organization, featuring the Rod of **Asclepius**.

On 30 November 2023, Guinea-Bissau released a miniature sheet and twenty souvenir sheets celebrating Art, including one stamp and one souvenir sheet each featuring the work of **Eugene Delacroix, Leonardo da Vinci, Sandro Botticelli, Raphael, Albrecht Dürer, Michelangelo, and Caravaggio**, with three souvenir sheet selvages featuring **Aphrodite (Venus), John the Apostle, and Dionysus (Bacchus)**.

On 30 November 2023, Guinea-Bissau released a miniature sheet commemorating the Centenary of the Discovery of Tutankhamun's Tomb by **Howard Carter**.

On 15 November 2023, Central African Republic released a miniature sheet and two souvenir sheets commemorating the 125th Anniversary of the Birth of **Tamara de Lempicka**.

On 11 November 2023, Burundi released two miniature sheets celebrating Marilyn Monroe, including selva designs based on photographs by **Cecil Beaton**.

On 9 October 2023, Niger released a miniature sheet and a souvenir sheet commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Birth of **Alberto Santos-Dumont**.


On 9 October 2023, Sierra Leone released a miniature sheet celebrating Mother Teresa, including one stamp with a design partially based on a photograph of Queen Elizabeth II by **Cecil Beaton**.

On 11 August 2023, Sierra Leone released a souvenir sheet commemorating the July 2023 NATO Summit in Vilnius, featuring **Xavier Bettel (born 1973)** in the selva. He is currently the 14th Deputy Prime Minister of Luxembourg. He obtained a master's degree in Public and European Law and a DEA in Political Science and Public



Law from Nancy 2 University, France. He began his political career in 1999 when he was elected to the Luxembourg City's

communal council and was elected Mayor in 2011. He became Prime Minister of Luxembourg in 2013. Xavier married Gauthier Destenay in 2015. In 2018, he became the first openly gay prime minister in the world to be reelected for a second term.



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