



A brief history of the Emerald Isle

Lambda Philatelic Journal

PUBLICATION OF THE GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORY ON STAMPS CLUB MARCH 2003, VOL. 22, NO. 1
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...and a visit
to the world's
gayest
cemetery

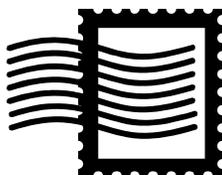
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The *Lambda Philatelic Journal* (ISSN 1541-101X) is published quarterly by the Gay and Lesbian History on Stamps Club (GLHSC). GLHSC is a study unit of the American Topical Association (ATA), Number 458; an affiliate of the American Philatelic Society (APS), Number 205; and a member of the American First Day Cover Society (AFDCS), Number 72.

The objectives of GLHSC are 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 to having prominent homosexual behavior, and
- ▼ Even though emphasis is placed on the above aspects of stamp collecting, GLHSC strongly encourages other philatelic endeavors.



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The *Lambda Philatelic Journal* thrives on philatelic articles, original or reprinted, and alternative viewpoints for publication. 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 one of the addresses listed.

MEMBERSHIP:

Yearly dues in the United States, Canada and Mexico are \$10.00. For all other countries, the dues are \$15.00. All checks should be made payable to GLHSC.

Single issues \$3.

There are two levels of membership:

- 1) Supportive, your name will not be released to APS, ATA or AFDCS, and
- 2) Active, your name will be released to APS, ATA and AFDCS (as required).

Dues include four issues of the *Lambda Philatelic Journal* and a copy of the membership directory. (Names will be withheld from the directory upon request.)

ADVERTISING RATES:

Members are entitled to free ads.

Non-members can place ads for \$10 per issue. Reproducible ads should be submitted, along with a check made payable to GLHSC, to the editor's address. Ads should be no larger than 1/4 page. Any ad submitted without artwork will be created by the editor and at the editor's discretion.

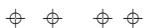
PUBLICATION SCHEDULE:

<u>Publication Months</u>	<u>Articles Needed by</u>
March	February 15
June	May 15
September	August 15
December	November 15

Any artwork and articles received by the editor after the aforementioned dates will appear in the next available issue, space permitting.

News from the Editor

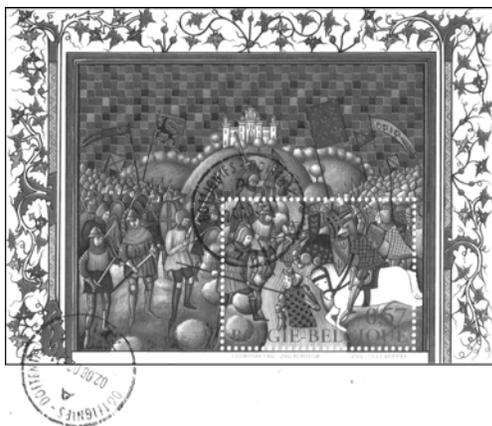
I would like to thank all of you who have sent in their dues, especially those who sent them in prior to me sending out a reminder postcard.



I finally made a trip back to France this past summer. I had not been since between my sophomore and junior years of high school.

My intentions prior to leaving were to get a cancel in every city that visited. I wasn't sure how to work the arrival and departure, but figured the rest of the trip would be no problem.

I arrived at Charles de Gaulle around 10:00 AM. Our French member, Hervé, and his dad picked me up and we drove to their house in Belgium. After a wonderful lunch, we drove to the train station in Mouscron to catch a train to Brussels and onto Amsterdam. The stamp below is Belgian with a postmark from Doittignies, dated August 2, 2002.



We switched trains in Brussels and arrived in Amsterdam around 6 or 7 that evening. I don't remember much of the train ride. A bottle of champagne, four bottles of wine (between four people) and jet lag can make you sleep anywhere!

Saturday morning, we were off to explore Amsterdam. It was August 3, and their gay pride parade. It was great watching the floats (actually boats) on the canals. My friend from college who lives in Amsterdam was available to translate. The post office we found could not hand cancel anything. All cancels were automated. Needless to say, this put a damper in my quest to get a cancel from every city. After two and a half days, we returned to Belgium.

Tuesday morning found Hervé, his parents and I driving to Dunkirk. Even though it was rainy, it was a very pleasant drive in the northern French country. I chose the Ella Fitzgerald from the Etoiles du Jazz (Stars of Jazz) set of six stamps. The stamp has an August 6th cancel.



August 7th was spent in the beautiful city of Brugge, Belgium. Dizzy me forgot my book back in Estaimpus, so the unavailability of an Amsterdam cancel no longer bugged me. (If any of you ever get to this part of Europe, you must visit Brugge.) August 8th, we spent in Watrelos and Lille. Watrelos is about two or three kilometers from Estaimpus, and is the city where Hervé lives. I chose the 100th anniversary of the Paris-Roubaix bike tour stamp for the Watrelos cancel. Roubaix and Watrelos are next to each other, and are part of the greater Lille area.

I was able to get two cancels from Lille. One is from the La Poste store. Unlike the US Postal Service which seems to have closed most of the postal boutiques, La Poste has a store in most major cities throughout France. The second Lille cancel is from the post office across the street from the Palais des Beaux-Arts de Lille.

(Continued on page 7)



The Stamps and a Brief History of Ireland

by Larry Siskind

A number of years ago I visited Ireland and viewed a St. Patrick's Day parade in Dublin. The parade celebrated the April 1916 rebellion against the British. I found the people very friendly and in no time made connections with young, gay members of the political wing of the IRA. These new friends treated me to Irish ideas, history and lots of good times.

Until recently my collection included few Irish stamps, then an opportunity came to purchase a beautiful, mint, mounted Irish collection at a bargain price. I could not resist.

Ireland is a great country to collect. Its stamps are issued more sparingly than those of other stamp entities. The country has few great rarities and most of its adhesives can be purchased quite reasonably. Ireland's earliest stamps include the beautiful British seahorses with Irish 1922 overprints (Scott 12-14, 36-38, 56-58, 77-79). Scott 79 (Figure 1) is a gray, blue 10 shilling value with overprint. Most Irish stamps reflect the history and culture of that land, not the usual, generic cat and dog Disney wallpaper that is all too common today.



Figure 1, Scott #79.
Seahorse with overprint. The wide margins and extremely fine centering make it a premium copy.

Let us take an historic tour of the Emerald Isle through its postage. Irish history can be summed up as a struggle of one people to be free of the yoke of another. Yes! There are gay moments in that history, which we will get to below.

The English had been in Ireland as early as the 12th century. British aristocrats dominated the estates and took over the wealth of the country, while most Irish Catholics were left poor and landless. In 1800, after an abortive rebellion involving Theobald Wolfe Tone (Scott 135-136, 192-193), William Pitt was instrumental in having Ireland annexed outright to England. Rebellion continued. Irish nationalists sought the help of Napoleon, England's enemy. A small French fleet landed a token force in Ireland. This force was defeated and Irish leader Robert Emmett (Scott 149-150) was hanged.

After the annexation the Irish economy declined. The failure of the

potato crop in 1846 and 1847 (Scott 519, 1064-1066) along with a severe typhus epidemic, brought misery, death and emigration, and led to a steep drop in Ireland's population. It did not snuff out the Irish taste for freedom. In 1900 the Sinn Fein party was founded by Arthur Griffith (Scott 670), but efforts to effect Irish home rule failed. World War I opened the door to more rebellion.

We now come to our gay hero Roger Casement (Figure



Figure 2, Scott #214 - 215
Roger Casement, Gay Irish Martyr

2, Scott 214-215). Casement was originally a British consul official. He served in Africa and South America. His writings exposed atrocities in the Congo and Peru and led to world outrage and reform. He became famous worldwide as a humanitarian. In 1912 he was knighted. Casement also was gay and enjoyed sexual exploits unthinkable in polite, Victorian England. It was the same England that sent Oscar Wilde, another gay Irishman (Scott 479, 1232 and 1237), to jail for "unspeakable" crimes. Casement kept a black diary detailing his sexual adventures. This diary was to cause his undoing.

In November 1914, after the start of the war, Casement traveled to Berlin and sought German help against the British. He also tried to recruit British POW's of Irish descent held by the Germans to the Irish cause. He had little success. The Germans sent him back to Ireland by submarine. They also sent a ship loaded with arms and ammunition for the Irish rebels, but had to scuttle the ship to avoid having it fall into British hands. Upon arriving, Casement was caught by the British.

Open rebellion began on April 24, 1916 when Irish nationalists seized the Dublin post office and other public buildings (Scott 120). It took the British a week to put it down. Many were killed or executed (Scott 206-213, 248-249, 460, 568). As for Casement, he was tried, found guilty of treason and sentenced to be hanged. Because of his fame as a humanitarian, letters were sent to the British from all over the world appealing for clemency; that is until Casement's black diary was found and

circulated. When it became known that Casement besides being a “traitor,” was also a promiscuous homosexual, he was doomed and ignominiously hanged on August 3, 1916. Today Casement is considered a great Irish patriot, writer and humanitarian.

In 1919 through 1921 the Irish rebels, now being led by Eamon de Valera (Figure 3, Scott 534), and Michael Collins (Figure 4, Scott 807) battled the British, including the infamous Black and Tan Police. Scott 284-289 honors the martyrs of that struggle. In 1919 the Dail, the Irish Parliament met for the first time and declared Ireland independent (Scott 925). By 1921 London was sick of the blood letting and the international pressure. After conferences, negotiations and protests, Ireland became the Irish Free State, an independent dominion within the British Commonwealth. The price for this independence was high: internecine civil war, the loss of Ulster, the odious oath of

allegiance to the British crown and the imposition of a British governor general. The majority reluctantly accepted the terms.

The Irish Free State issued its first stamps in 1922 by overprinting British definitives and the seahorses. Regular Irish issues commenced with Scott 65-76. The lower values of this first set are common and can be seen in most country collections.

In 1948 Ireland declared itself a republic with no further ties to England but the loss of Ulster appears to be permanent.

Comments and criticisms can be sent to me at: lasiskind@att.net.

SOURCES

Encyclopedia Britannica
Scott Postage Stamp Catalog, 2002 Ed. Vol. 3, Ireland



Figure 3, Scott 534
Eamon de Valera, Irish Nationalist who became President of the Irish Republic



Figure 4, Scott #807
Michael Collins, Irish soldier and statesman, killed in civil war.

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Père Lachaise: The World's Gayest Cemetery

From (and expanded upon) *The First Gay Pope and Other Records* by Lynne Yamaguci Fletcher; Alyson Publications Inc., 1992.

In the 17th century, there was a retirement home for old priests on the east side of Paris. Louis XIV's confessor, Père François de La Chaise (1624 - 1709), lived in the Jesuit house rebuilt in 1682 on the site of the chapel. The property was situated on the side of a hill. The cemetery was built in 1803 to help alleviate the overcrowding of other Paris cemeteries. Unfortunately, Parisians found it rather unfashionable because it was far from the city center.

Napoleon had the idea in 1804 to dig up the remains of Molière and La Fontaine and move them to Père Lachaise. He did this with much pomp. The cemetery then caught on with the population of Paris.

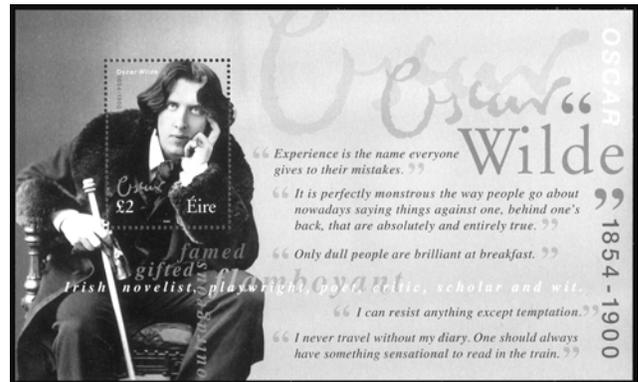
Among the notable gays, lesbians and bisexuals buried in Père Lachaise are Gertrude Stein, Alice B. Toklas, Oscar Wilde, Isadora Duncan, Jane Avril, Sarah Bernhardt, Marcel Proust, Rosa Bonheur, Natalie Micus, Anna Klumpke (all three buried together in the Micus family plot), Colette, Frederic Chopin, Jim Morrison, Eugene Delacroix and the French Sappho, Anna de Noailles.

Be sure to plan to spend a few hours wandering the streets and paths of the cemetery on your next Paris visit. You can reach Père Lachaise by Metro lines 2 and 3, Père Lachaise station.



Left: Oscar Wilde's grave. The dots on the lower portion are lip imprints left by numerous fans. The penis of the statue was either removed by a souvenir seeking fan or someone offended by it.

Below: Scott no. 1237.



One of the many roads in Père Lachaise. You can also follow well-worn paths for quicker, though not always easier, access to popular graves.



Gertrude Stein
Scott no. 1778



Gabrielle-Sidonie Colette
Scott no. B466

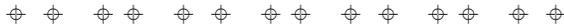
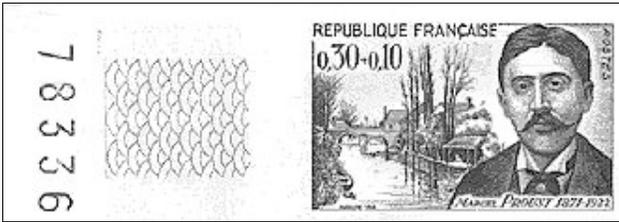


Federic Chopin
Scott no. 2744



The French Sappho,
Anna de Noailles
Scott no. B459

Marcel Proust, French Author.
Imperforate single with control
number, Scott no. B396



(Continued from page 3)

On Friday, August 9, Hervé and I took the TGV train (high-speed) to Paris. As with the other train travel so far on this trip, we experienced a delay of about 20 or 30 minutes. This occurred just as the train was picking up speed outside of Lille.



The only postmark I obtained was at the philatelic store near the Louvre. I chose a fourth stamp from the Stars of Jazz set.

Getting the cancels was great idea. Unfortunately, it was very easy to get side-tracked from my pursuit. I have plenty of pages in my book to fill on the next trip overseas.

Be the next GLHSC Member Profile...submit yours today!

Letter from the President

Dear GLHSC Member:

It has been a few years since we raised the price of dues. Of course, in that span of time we have seen two increases in postage rates, plus we have weathered an increase in paper and printing costs as well. We have managed to absorb the costs so far without diminishing our financial buffer, but that luxury disappeared after the latest postage rate increase and printing increase.

Your Executive Board has been trying to develop creative ways to off set these cost increases without actually raising the price of annual dues. Here are two ideas we have come up with:

- ▼ a GLHSC t-shirt, featuring some cool gay philatelic art; perfect for any rally or pride parade
- ▼ publishing Paul Hennefeld's seminal checklist of gays and lesbians on stamps

Sustaining Member category: For \$25 per year, you get an extra copy of the newsletter to share or donate, plus some other goodies we are in the process of figuring out. We could decide to develop a special Sustaining Members only commemorative cover or give you a copy of the checklist or other cool things.

We are always open to other suggestions, and I know we say this often, but we need the input of our members. While I say this, I know that I am just as guilty of coming home at night, turning on the TV and vegging out after working all day. It does take an effort to come up with ideas, and even more to implement these ideas. What the Executive Board probably fears the most is putting in the effort and then having no response.

Please send your opinions to glhsc@aol.com or the address on page 2. For instance, would YOU buy a t-shirt? Does having a professionally published checklist make you want to pull out your checkbook? Please let us know about the two ideas presented here before the next journal in June. Or better yet, give us an idea of your own!

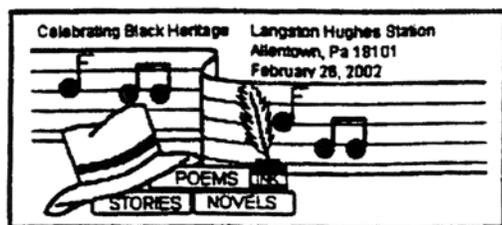
Thanks to all our members for your continued support.

Gay & Lesbian Update

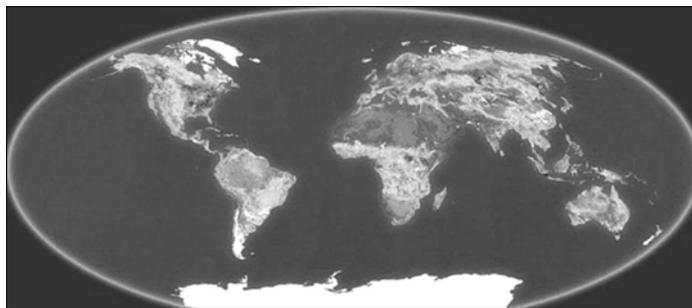
Though it is not “the” Stonewall, here is stamp issued by Canada Post. The stamp, which features the Stonewall, Manitoba postmark, was issued for the Canadian Postmasters and Assistants Association centennial. The first day cover as issued by Canada Post is featured.



In honor of the 50th anniversary of the Marguerite Yourcenar novel, *Mémoires d'Hadrien* (*Memoirs of Hadrian*), the Italian post office in Rome used a special postmark. The novel received the Prix Fémina Vacaresco for the best historical novel of the year in June 1952.



Cancel used for the 2002 United States Black Heritage issue that featured Langston Hughes. Hughes is another figure that hung around in gay circles (Alain Locke, Countee Cullen and Richard Bruce Nugent), yet whose sexuality is ambiguous. Issac Julien's film *Looking for Langston* was partly inspired by the enigma of Hughes's sexuality.



It's a GAY world...

Antigua issued a sheet of six stamps and a souvenir sheet on September 16, 2002. The stamps feature various pictures of Marlene Dietrich. Scott nos. 2591 a-f, 2592.

Bosnia & Herzegovina issued a stamp on September 10, 2001 to honor the 500th anniversary of *David* by Michelangelo. Scott no. 396.

Dominica issued a sheet of three stamps and a souvenir sheet on July 15, 2002 for the 20th World Scout Jamboree held in Thailand. Lord Robert Baden-Powell can be found on Scott nos. 2376a and 2377.

Macedonia issued a set of four stamps and a souvenir sheet on March 1, 2002 featuring ancient coins. A Philip II of Macedon gold stater can be found on Scott no. 236.

Tuvalu issued a set of four stamps and a souvenir sheet on October 2, 2002 for the 20th World Scout Jamboree held in Thailand. Lord Robert Baden-Powell is featured on Scott no. 895.

AIDS Update

Barbados issued a set of four stamps on December 2, 2002 for the centennial of the Pan-American Health Organization. AIDS Awareness is the subject of Scott no. 1039.

Cameroun issued a stamp in 2001 for the campaign against AIDS. Scott no. 941.

United Nations issued their AIDS Awareness stamps on October 24, 2002. A single stamp and a souvenir sheet were issued for use at each office. The souvenir sheet represents the UNPA's first semi-postal issue.

UN New York, Scott no. 835 and B1
 UN Geneva, Scott no. 403 and B1
 UN Vienna, Scott no. 325 and B1



New York postmark.



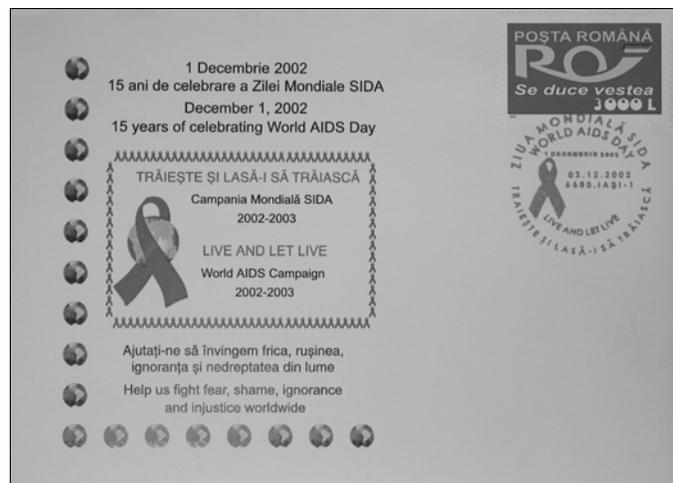
Geneva postmark.



Vienna postmark.



Cover of the UNPA Philatelic Bulletin no. 64. The New York and Geneva single stamps are featured near the Empire State building. The circular souvenir sheets are for Vienna, Geneva and New York respectively. The Vienna single stamp follows the souvenir sheets.



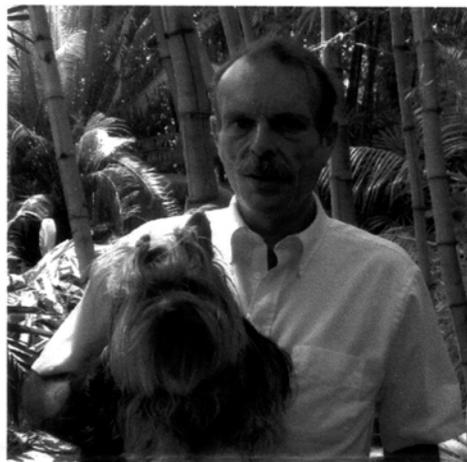
Cachet and postmark used December 1, 2002, marking the 15th year of celebrating World AIDS Day. The cachet and postmark are in Rumanian and English. Any additional information would be appreciated.

Phil Stager

For APS Director at Large

Personal Background

Greetings from sunny St. Pete! I am Phil Stager from St. Petersburg, Florida and I am asking you to vote for me for APS Director at Large. I have been collecting stamps since the early 1960's and entered my first competitive exhibit in 1963. My third place bronze medal from the 1963 CuyLorPex is still my favorite philatelic award. I am also active in my local neighborhood civic association and am vice-chairman of the City of St. Petersburg's City Beautiful Commission.



Otto von Yorkie says *Vote Early and Often*

Professional Background

I am a retired US Coast Guard officer with degrees in engineering and naval architecture and marine engineering. I served in a wide variety of sea-going and shore-based engineering billets that include two tours to Viet Nam and two Deep Freeze Deployments to the Antarctic.

Philatelic Background

I am an active member of the St. Petersburg Stamp Club and have served as President and Secretary and am currently newsletter editor and entertainment chairman.

My service to philately includes the following:

- American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors - Charter Member
- American Philatelic Society
 - Prepared six different slide shows
 - Member, Committee on Accreditation of National Exhibitions and Judges
 - Chairman of sub-committee that developed Divisions for national exhibiting.
 - Accredited philatelic judge and jury chairman.
- American Airmail Society - Awards Committee, National and Local Shows
- Florida Federation of Stamp Clubs - FLOREX Chairman and ass't chairman for eight years.
- Garfield Perry Stamp Club - Past President and March Party Chairman.

I am a member of the following philatelic societies and clubs: American Philatelic Society, American Topical Association, American Airmail Society, American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, American Revenue Association, British North America Philatelic Society, Meter Stamp Society, Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, Thematics Queensland, a variety of study groups, St. Petersburg Stamp Club, Garfield-Perry Stamp Club, and Cap Townsend Stamp Club.

Personal Thoughts

Philately has been and is a fun and exciting hobby - not because of the little (and sometimes expensive) pieces of paper we collect but due to the wide variety of interesting, fascinating, and honest people I have met throughout the world. I am asking for your vote and your help to enable us to accomplish the following:

1. Stop the decline in APS membership and help recruit new members.
2. Develop a fiscally prudent method of providing for the expansion of the APRL and of the APS headquarters.
3. Improve services to local stamp clubs.

WANTED:
**Articles on your
 favorite gay,
 lesbian, bisexual or
 other philatelic
 topics to be
 included in future
 journals.**

**Submit to the editor at
 address on page 2.**

**Collector seeks
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Helpful Addresses

American Philatelic Society (APS)
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 State College PA 16803-8000
 814-237-3803
www.stamps.org



American Topical Association (ATA)
 PO Box 57
 Arlington TX 76004-0057
 817-274-1181
home.prcn.org/~pauld/ata/index.html



American First Day Cover Society (AFDCS)
 PO Box 65960
 Tucson AZ 85728
 520-321-0880
www.afdcs.org



Wineburgh Philatelic Research Library
 PO Box 830643
 Richardson TX 75083-0643
www.utdallas.edu/library/special/wprl.html

International Gay & Lesbian Archives
 One Institute
 PO Box 69679
 West Hollywood CA 90069-0679

Homodok (Gay Archives)
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National Postal Museum
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 Washington DC 20560-0001

**Collecting
 stamps is
 fun!**

Last Lick



The American Philatelic Society's Annual Convention and Philatelic Exhibition will be held August 7 - 10 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, Ohio.

The largest philatelic event of the year, STAMPSHOW will include more than 150 dealers, representatives from several postal administrations, one or more auctions and multiple first days of issue.

At special booths all stamps will cost ten cents or less and all covers \$1 or less. Friday afternoon, there will be a Cachet-makers's Bourse.

APS STAMPSHOW is the largest annual philatelic exhibition with nearly 15,000 pages of stamps on competitive display. Exhibits will be accepted in all classes and divisions.

STAMPSHOW also includes the Champion of Champions competition between the grand award winners from 31 annual national-level stamp shows throughout the United States.

During the show, there will also be a philatelic literature competition. Philatelic books, periodicals, columns and catalogs published since January 1, 2001 (on paper, computer, radio or television) are eligible to enter this competition.

About 50 national specialty organizations are expected to meet at STAMPSHOW including national meetings of the Plate Number Coil Collectors Club, Machine Cancel society and the Society for Hungarian Philately.

Seminars for collectors of all age and skill levels will be available each day of the show. There will also be a special booth at the front of the hall to answer questions of beginning collectors.

For more information, visit the APS STAMPSHOW website:
www.stamps.org/stampshow/intro.htm

Or contact them at:

APS STAMPSHOW 2003
 PO Box 8000
 State College, PA 16803-8000
 Phone: 814-237-3803, ext. 271 or 218

National Topical Stamp Show 2003

The "mile high city" and the Rocky Mountains are an ideal venue for the 54th annual convention of the American Topical Association and National Topical Stamp Show, June 27 - 30, 2003, at the Holiday Inn Denver International Airport Hotel and John Q. Hammonds Trade Center in Aurora, Colorado. Aurora is a suburb of Denver.

The 2003 ATA convention will feature the traditional all-topical exhibition, the only such national show held in the United States. The National Topical Stamp Show (NTSS-2003), with 170 exhibit frames, is open to all collectors regardless of society affiliation, provided the entry meets the definition of topical/thematic collecting. ATA defines a topical/thematic exhibit as one that "consists of stamps and other philatelic material chosen for their design rather than for the countries that issued them or the class of postal service they provide." A thematic exhibit is a topical collection arranged to tell a story.

Make your hotel reservations now at the Holiday Inn Denver International Airport and John Q. Hammonds Trade Center. The 256-room hotel and conference center is located off I-70 East at Chambers Road just minutes from the Denver International Airport. Complimentary airport transportation is available. Reservations must be made directly with the hotel by telephone at 1-303-371-9494 or 1-800-HOLIDAY, or by mailing your reservation directly to the hotel at 15500 East 40th Avenue, Denver, CO 80239. Be sure to mention ATA to receive the special rate of \$94 per night plus taxes for single or double occupancy. All reservations at this special rate must be made no later than May 26, 2003.

