



Lambda Philatelic Journal

PUBLICATION OF THE GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORY ON STAMPS CLUB MARCH 2004, VOL. 23, NO. 1, ISSN 1541-101X

Italy, Scott no. 771



Byron

Lord

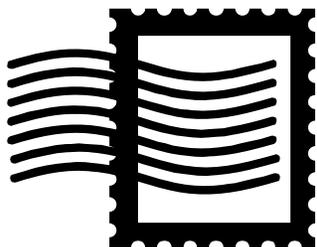


Russia, Scott no. 5634

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.



GLHSC OFFICERS:

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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

Another year, and an exciting one so far. Gay marriage, whatever your beliefs, has spread like wild fire. If any members were motivated to philatelically commemorate these events, please share your covers.



Thanks to all the members who submitted their questionnaire. Results can be found on page 5.



The next journal should be out in the mail by the end of June. As usual, send any articles you have to me. Graphics should be 400 to 600 dpi and the article in text format. Original graphics can also be sent. I can scan them and return to you.



The 2004 edition of the membership directory is enclosed with this journal. Please let me know if anything has changed so that I can issue a supplement with the June issue of the journal.

Please note that there are several states that are not represented in GLHSC. If you have any friends or fellow collectors in those states, let me know and I can send them an application. Wouldn't it be great if we could have at least one member in all 50 states!

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From the President

By now, most of you have received your free copy of the Gay and Lesbian History on Stamps Checklist, lovingly prepared by GLHSC founding member Paul Henefeld. In talking with Paul and his partner Blair, I came to understand that this was quite an undertaking and one that they were both completely committed to.

They underwrote the entire cost for this project out of their own pockets because they believe in the importance of preserving and promoting gay and lesbian history. This is an educational project, to be sure, but it is also a social activism project.

I am committed to supporting Paul and Blair and I am sending them a check to help offset the cost of this undertaking. I would urge everyone who received a copy of this booklet to do likewise. Put a check for \$5 or \$10 in the mail. Every member could afford to take a one-dollar bill and send it to Paul and Blair. Do it right now while you are thinking of it. Their address is 512 Park Street, Upper Montclair, NJ 07043-1944.

I know some of you might be thinking, "I don't even collect gay and lesbians on stamps, I'm just a gay or lesbian stamp collector." This profile probably fits over a third of our membership, but do not let that deter you from appreciating and supporting this project. Without people like Paul and Blair, our community and our hobby would be a far less engaging and vibrant place.

I will never forget the time Paul exhibited his collection at a Los Angeles venue. I happened to be nearby the frames, when two older American Legion type men walked past the exhibit and muttered, "This is terrible. This shouldn't be allowed here. How can something like this be exhibited here?" Interesting enough, they did take the time to look at each and every frame. Despite their apparent antagonism toward the subject matter, they were truly philatelists at heart.

Things like Paul's exhibit, the handbook, and even each and every one of us being members of this club are seed-sowers. And the seeds we plant today will blossom into things we could never imagine. Just ask the protesters at Stonewall, twenty-five years ago.

Lord Byron 1788 – 1824

By Paul Hennefeld

1988 was the 200th anniversary of the birth of one of the world's greatest poets, George Gordon Noel Byron. The poet can be found on stamps of Albania, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Malta, Monaco and Russia. Great Britain, the country of Lord Byron's birth, and the Commonwealth countries have never honored Lord Byron in a philatelic manner. Lord Byron's sexual enlightenment began at an early age; he was known to have been an active bisexual, and also had an illicit sexual relationship with his half-sister. Was the British government's decision to ignore this 200th anniversary based on a moral judgment?



Greece, Scott no. 316



Russia, Scott no. 5634

Byron's Parents and Early Life

"Mad Jack" Byron, the poet's father was quite a scoundrel. He married his first wife for her money, got her pregnant, squandered her money away, and then left her, only to marry again. Jack's second conquest in the field of matrimony was Catherine Gordon, a high-strung temperamental woman, whose moods could swing from loving tenderness to fits of violence. This was the atmosphere that George Noel Byron was born into January 1788. While Catherine was fleeing from her husband, she gave birth to George in London, then continued on her journey with her baby to her home in Aberdeen, Scotland. Three years later "Mad Jack" died. Besides having to cope with his mother's erratic behavior and growing up fatherless, George contracted polio, which left him lame in one leg. He was taunted and harassed by other boys for being a cripple, but overcame this disability by excelling in swimming while attending Aberdeen grammar school. This exercise greatly improved the use of his legs.

May Gray entered George's life as his nursemaid when he was nine years old. This devoutly religious woman would read the Bible to him during the day, and then when nighttime came, she would slip into bed with him, molesting him

night after night. On several occasions May would invite her boyfriend over. She would make Byron watch their illicit love-making.

In 1798 George's great-uncle died, and the ten-year-old youngster inherited the title and estate of Lord Byron. One year later, Byron not being able to tell his mother of the sexual abuse that was happening to him night after night, finally found the courage to confide in the family lawyer. He told him of the horrid things that were being done to him by his nurse and her lovers. May Gray was immediately dismissed.

At age twelve Byron was in love with Margaret Parker, and in 1803 Mary Chaworth, a neighbor captured his heart. She toyed with him and referred to him as 'that lame boy', then she married, and Byron was brokenhearted, returning to Harrow to finish his education. Byron was to discover that he enjoyed the company of fellow classmates, especially Lord Clare, Lord Dorset, and William Harness. He wrote: my school friendships were with me – passions...I never hear the word 'Clare' without a beating of the heart ... and of William Harness, Byron revealed that the first poems he wrote were written to him.

At Cambridge, seventeen-year-old Byron favored fifteen-year-old choirboy John Edleston. He referred to Edleston as his patron, page or attendant, lavishing him with gifts, money and poetry. Edleston, in return, reciprocated by giving Byron a stone carnelian and breaking into tears of embarrassment because the stone was of such little value. From that moment on Byron always cherished the carnelian, and he wrote a poem entitled "The Carnelian."

Byron is quoted as saying: "I could love anything on earth ..." He succeeded in doing just that. He had hundreds of love affairs, which included members of both sexes. His downfall was his insatiable love for his half-sister. He was ostracized by his peers, and went into exile, never to return again.

Note: I actually wrote this several years ago, after reading an article on Lord Byron in Topical Time magazine [Jan/Feb '89 issue]. The article omitted some important facts about the poet's life. Notably missing were the 'men' in Lord Byron's life. Some listed here are: Robert Rushton, Lord Clare, Lord Gray, Lord Dorset, John Edleston, Robert [his valet], Thomas Moose, John Hobhouse, Nicolo Giraud, John Murry, John Fitzgibbon Clair, Bartolomeo de Renier, Loukas Chaladrtsanos.

ATA Establishes Study Unit Chat Rooms on Its New Website

The American Topical Association has established a means by which each of its specialized Study units can set up a "chat room". The service works this way. Each Study Unit will choose a day of the week and an hour at which members may go on-line to exchange real-time information about their topic. Up to three different Units may share the same time slot, but in different "rooms". Each Unit will be able to establish an independent site.

Members may go to the ATA website at www.americantopicalassn.org and then put their cursor on the button that takes them to the Study unit area. In that area, they will click the link to the appropriate room (example "Biology Unit") and will list their name. If they do not have a password, one can be obtained by clicking on the "Register Password" button. Members then enter their name as being in the chat room and can see, in writing, who else is there. For any questions, you can click the link to the tutorial, which should help you and get you to the chat room.

Each Unit selects someone to moderate the chat room meeting to insure that just one or two individuals do not control the time or that it is not used to promote commercial ventures or give a platform for derogatory comments. Each Unit will be able to follow simple instructions to set up and name their site as well as to control the proceedings.

Among the benefits of the Chat Room are that it becomes an arena in which members can ask each other questions they may have. Individuals may announce new discoveries or new related cancellations or related events. Many Units have bi-monthly or Quarterly journals or newsletters that can be supplemented by Chat Room discussions or can raise issues to bring up.

The site could have a meeting subject or theme, announced at a prior chat room meeting. Information about member's illness' or death could allow for some members to send cards to friends or their families.

A major benefit could be an interchange between members of different Units. One member who is in, let's say the "Dogs on Stamps" Unit may have purchased a set of stamps that had mostly cats pictured, but one or two stamps in the set picture dogs. That member could get

on the "Cats on Stamps" chat room and offer to sell the balance of the stamps picturing Cats to one of their members, or vice versa.

In some cases, your group may wish to set up a subject in advance for your following meeting so that people can prepare to cover one particular area of interest. You may wish to meet weekly, bi-weekly or monthly as well. That can be set up through the ATA Central Office. When establishing a time for the meeting, Units should consider the various time zones that would come into play.

The ATA will have a disclaimer page that notes that the ATA is setting this up as a service to the philatelic community, but has no control over the content of the pages and therefore will accept no responsibility for things written or trade or sales made on each Unit's chat room. At present, there is no plan to limit how long you may be active each session. We will list three Units per evening that can all work simultaneously. Others who decide to request a chat room at a later date will have to take day time hours over the week or weekend. The ATA will post a schedule of approved Unit Chat Rooms and times and dates. This rule is subject to change, dependent on future demand.

This service has been added to the benefits of the ATA to increase the value of membership in both the American Topical Association and its 50 Study Units. For additional information, contact the ATA Central Office at 817-274-1181 or fax 817-274-1184. Our email address is americantopical@msn.com.



In memory,

Howard Applegate

December journal returned with
a deceased auxiliary stamp



Who is GLHSC? Questionnaire Results

by Joe Petronie

Friends and acquaintances have asked me just who belongs to GLHSC. Are they gay collectors? How do you collect gays on stamps? Thanks to the members that returned their questionnaire, we now have some up-to-date answers.

The response rate was 58%. (72 returned, 124 sent) Of those returned, the majority consider themselves either an intermediate or advanced collector. (39% each) 5% used the beginner classification, and 14% didn't respond.

Few members stated that they collect only GLBT, yet most collect GLBT along with either country or topical collections. Thematic appears to be the most popular collecting method.

- ▼ 11% collect GLBT only
- ▼ 11% collect by country only
- ▼ 12% collect by theme or topic only
- ▼ 14% collect all three
- ▼ 52% collect some combination of the three or other items altogether (postcards, postmarks, etc.)

For the journal, I probably should have included choices for articles on GLBT and general collecting interests. However, here is how the different sections of the journal rank. Number of "votes" in parentheses. The directory remains popular.

- ▼ Monthly Heroes/Heroines (46)
- ▼ Member Profiles (44)
- ▼ Editor's Page (43)
- ▼ Gay & Lesbian Update (40)
- ▼ Letters to the Editor (40)
- ▼ President's Page (39)
- ▼ Last Lick (35)
- ▼ AIDS Update (28)
- ▼ GLBT Postmark Checklist (27)
- ▼ Florida Forty Stamper (21)

Now the task is to find members to help keep them coming. Anyone willing to be the subject of the next member profile, send it my way. Include any graphics that you'd like. If you have any ideas for new columns, be sure to let me know. To those who expressed an interest in submitting articles, I'll be mailing out a summary of topics that members listed. You may have already received it as you read this!

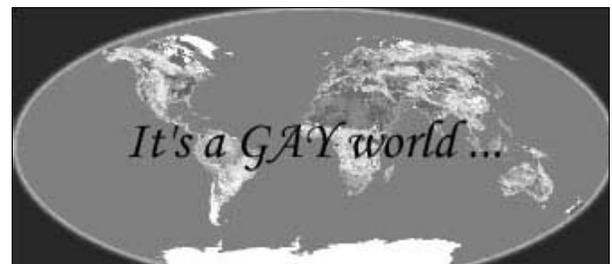
42% of the respondents were interested in purchasing annual GLHSC cachets. 37% were interested in annual GLBT cinderellas. The next step would be to form a committee of those who expressed an interest to help design the cachet/cinderella. Either would be great ways to 1) get out word of GLHSC, 2) promote GLBT history and 3) honor GLBT that probably wouldn't make it to a postal

stamp. A cinderella would most likely have more appeal to non-collectors. Maybe they would reawaken one's interest in a long forgotten collection.

Again, thanks to all who submitted their questionnaire. Look for articles on your favorite collecting areas in future journals.

Gay & Lesbian Update

The 11th Annual Gay & Lesbian Business and Trade Expo was held in New York City the weekend of March 20, 2004. The United States Postal Service had their mobile unit at the Expo, providing the first known GLBT cancel this year.

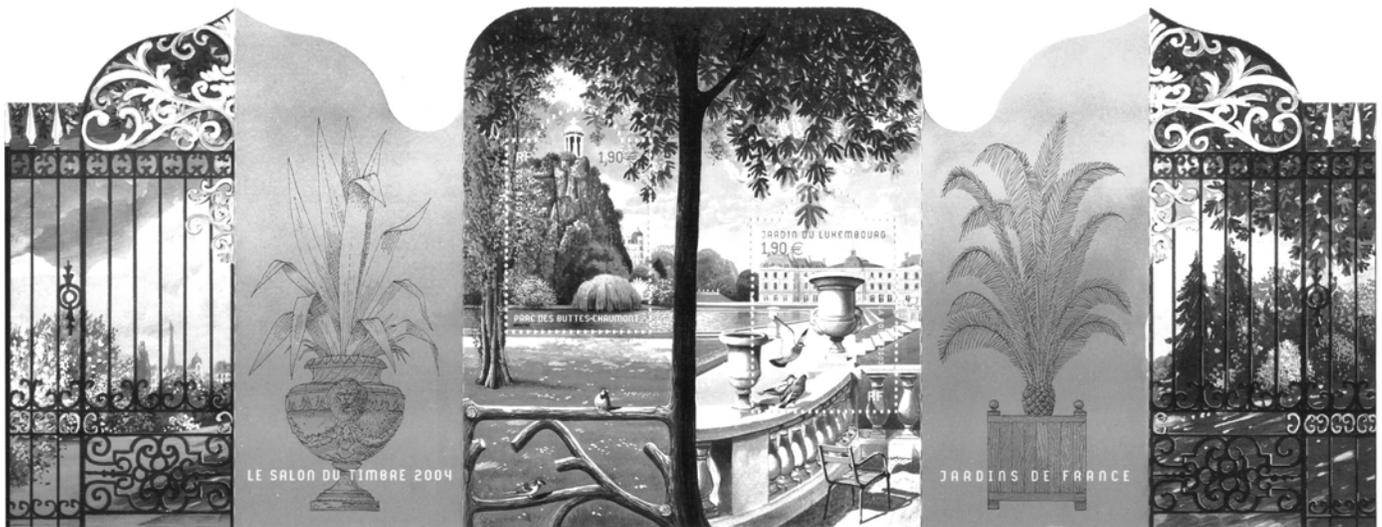


Dominica issued their Christmas stamps on November 17, 2003.

Madonna and child with the young St. John, by Correggio, can be found on Scott no. 2448.

Madonna and child with angels playing musical instruments, by Correggio, can be found on Scott no. 2450.

Editor's Picks



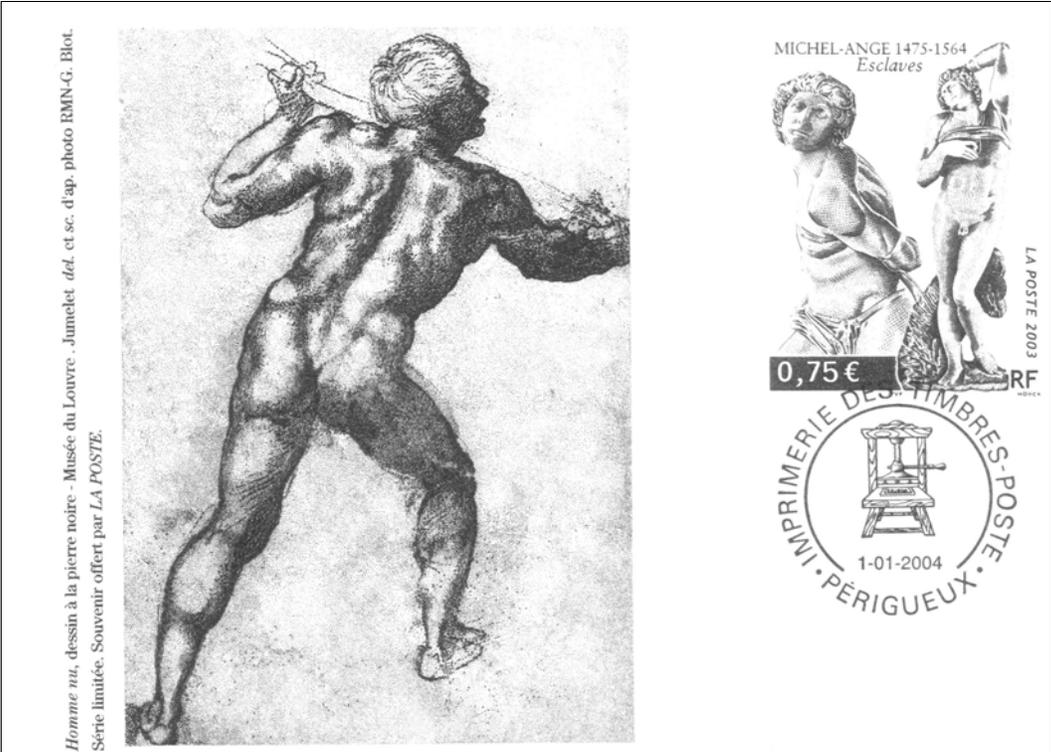
French stamps issued in honor of the “Gardens of France”. The sheetlet contains two stamps, in the center section. The sheetlet folded is on top. Parc des Buttes-Chaumont is to the left of the tree, the Luxembourg Gardens are to the right of the tree.

Editor's Picks



Year of the Monkey cover

French First Day postcard for recent Michelangelo stamp



WANTED:

Member profiles and 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.

Paul Hennefeld, co-founder of this study unit, is offering various gay-related items on eBay. These are all duplicates of material in his wide-ranging collection of gays and lesbians depicted on stamps. Check trading name 'dakotanj' on eBay periodically for an extensive selection of AIDS stamps and covers, Keith Haring items, framed stamps and gay event cancellations.



Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance:	\$ 523.89
Membership:	
87 1-year renewals:	\$ 925.00
4 new Members:	40.00
Additional years:	20.00
Donations:	40.00
Journal Copies:	\$ <u>1.00</u>
Total Additions	\$ <u>976.00</u>
Sub-Total	\$ 1,509.89
Expenses:	
ATA Program	<u>25.00</u>
Balance:	\$ <u>1,484.89</u>

**Collector seeks
Postcards/Ephemera**

I collect real photo postcards (gay oriented, sports/physique, nudes, affectionate couples, cross-dressing). Also, early gay magazines/ephemera. Prompt payment ensured.

Frank Serafino
61 Woodland Drive
Oak Brook, IL 60523
USA

Or e-mail Frank at:
Ffino69@aol.com

Sometime in the 1970's or 1980's, covers were prepared at the biennial Dignity National Conventions. If anyone has further information, access to covers, please contact me.

I am willing to purchase or exchange.

Contact: George Mercier, PO Box 180707, Boston, MA 02118-0707

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PO Box 8000
State College PA 16803-8000
814-237-3803
www.stamps.org
www.stamplibrary.org



American Topical Association (ATA)
PO Box 57
Arlington TX 76004-0057
817-274-1181
www.americantopicalassn.org



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)
Oudezijds Achterburgwal 185
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The Netherlands

National Postal Museum
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Reak. Nyomtat.

Last Lick

2004 ATA Annual Convention

The National Topical Stamp Show is scheduled for June 11 - 13, 2004, at the Holiday Inn Select Memphis Airport. This will be the 55th annual ATA convention, the first time being held in "The River City." The Holiday Inn Select is located at 2240 Democrat Road with 24-hour complimentary shuttle to and from the Memphis Airport, and complimentary parking for those who will be driving.

Sleeping rooms are available to those attending the ATA convention at a special rate of \$92 plus tax per night for single or double occupancy. Reservations are now being accepted by telephoning the reservations department toll-free at 1-888-444-7789, or by calling the hotel at 1-901-332-1130. However, to obtain this special rate, reservations must be made no later than May 19, 2004.

Two tours are planned. Both tours will be conducted by a professional guide. The tour on Thursday, June 10, 2003, will take participants on a Mississippi River ride on the Memphis Queen paddle wheeler. The bus will depart the hotel at 1:30 p.m. and return at 5:00 p.m.

The all-day "Elvis/Memphis City tour" is set for Monday, June 14, 2004, departing the Holiday Inn at 9:00 a.m. and returning to the hotel at 4:00 p.m.

It's also time for another GLHSC meeting. Should I reserve a room for a meeting? Memphis isn't that far from Dallas, about a 7 hour drive. Anyone that is planning to attend the NTSS, let me know soon.



Discover Gold!

APS STAMPSHOW

August 12-15
Sacramento, CA

www.stamps.org 2004

APS STAMPSHOW, the nation's largest annual event for postage stamp collectors, will take place at the Sacramento, California Convention Center from August 12 - 15, 2004. Hours for the show are 10 am to 6 pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and 10 am to 4 pm on Sunday.

The show will feature about 150 dealers from throughout the U. S. and abroad, a multi-session Regency Superior auction, first day ceremonies, 13,000 pages of exhibits, and more than 125 meetings and seminars. Approximately 50 national philatelic organizations will participate. Admission is free.

While the auction sessions should realize \$1 million, there will be a dozen special booths where all items will sell for \$1.00 or less. And at one booth, anyone may pick through thousands of stamps and take as many as they can fit in a bucket for only \$5.00.

Special exhibits will include the One-Cent Z Grill, the most valuable United States stamp and the Inverted Jenny. Stamp designer Chris Calle will be present with examples of many of the stamps he has created for the U.S. and other countries.

Seminars on eBay and the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee will likely be especially well attended. The U.S. Postal Service will issue a new stamp featuring "Giant Magnolia's on Blue Velvet" by Martin Johnson Heade in a ceremony at noon on the first day of the show. A cachetmakers bourse will be held on Saturday.

Full details on the show including lists of the participating dealers and exhibits, and the schedule will posted to <http://www.stamps.org/StampShow/intro.htm>. The exhibit prospecti, forms to request meeting, seminar and booth space, and a form to volunteer to help with the show are all available from the website or by calling the APS at 814-237-3803 ext. 217.