



GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORY ON STAMPS JOURNAL

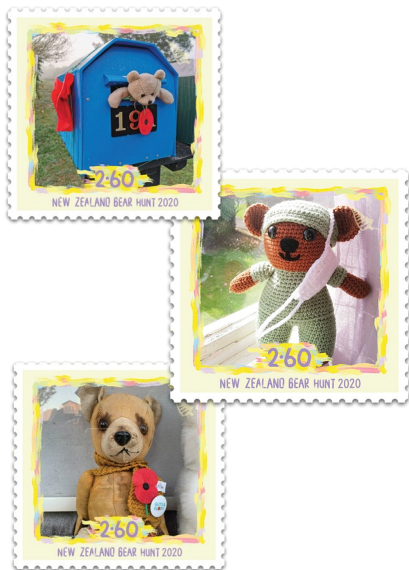
GLHSONLINE.ORG



Issue 009

July, 2020

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On May 4, 2020 Isle of Man Post Office released the "Carry Us Through" series of eight stamps with words depicting the islander's responses that will carry them through the coronavirus challenge. The proceeds from the stamps' sale will be donated to the Manx Solidarity Fund. The charity was set up to support individuals and businesses suffering financial hardship during the COVID-19 crisis.

As people were cautioned to stay home and stay local, households were encouraged to place teddy bears in their windows for neighbors to participate in a teddy bear hunt on strolls through the neighborhood. On May 20, 2020 New Zealand commemorated the activity when they issued the six stamp Bear Hunt series featuring photos of bear submitted for consideration. Proceeds of the stamp will support the New Zealand Red Cross.

(Continued on page 19)

The **objectives** of GLHS 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 other philatelic endeavors.

Membership fees at this time are \$10 a year to assist with maintenance fees including the website, photocopies of brochures, advertising, and other administrative expenses. Payment by check or money order, payable to the club, GLHS.

The GLHS electronic journal is published quarterly, January, April, July, and October. Submissions for October 2020 issue are needed by September 15, 2020. Members may submit advertisements for free.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Lisa Foster



In regards to the article, William “Billy” Haines, published in Issue 008, April 2020, page 16, Arthur von Reyn wrote, “I actually had images to use with the article I sent! Thought you would want the article shortened, which is why I held off sending them and offered to lay the article out for you. One was an image of a

Haines stamp I was going to propose for the USPS.”

Art, I truly apologize for not checking with you first. I was so excited to receive your submission for publication, that I failed big time. Please consider submitting again in the future. I pledge to do better at coordinating with authors.

Joe Petronie wrote, “Another great issue - thanks! I saw in Topical Times that the sports journal had an article on Sally Ride AND the summary mentioned her partner Tam. I was going to post a link on Facebook. Went to the site, but unable to locate the article. (sportstamps.org) Perhaps they will let you reprint the article in a future journal?”

The author and the SPI editor have graciously granted permission for publication in this issue of the GLHS Journal, see page 4.

Ian Gibson-Smith commented, “What a super issue. Please accept my congratulations”, and shared, “A couple of thoughts. Regarding the formation of the GLHSC. Does someone have the original letters etc. as they would be pretty cool? The story of the founding/rejection/acceptance of the Club would also make a good article not just for the journal but could have wider appeal and benefit philately. Particularly if the growing diversity and general tolerance you find among philatelists these days is emphasized.”

The issue has been touched upon in articles by Dale Smith, “Paul Hennefeld”, Jan 2019, pg 8, and Francis Ferguson, “Giving Back”, April 2019 page 6, on the website “About Us”. If anyone does have the letters and would be willing to delve further, I agree it would be great.

Ian also noted, “The link on the pdf to the GLHS Facebook page seems to go to an invalid page.”

Thanks for pointing that out! The final / was missing. <https://www.facebook.com/GLHSC/>

Ian also made a great suggestion which will be implemented in future issues, “Finally, I wonder if there is a way to put an ad or want list in the Journal, but I have a number of areas in which I am looking for material.”

There was a mailing in 1988 about AIDS. I would love to find an original and know how it was mailed.

Love letters or letters from gay men or lesbians from prior to 1850 or so that have LGBT relevance. (Stampless postal history)

Any postal history associated with Baron von Steuben.

“I was supposed to be back in the US and then Amsterdam, Mallorca and London. Instead I am stuck at the Wales house for the foreseeable future. Luckily I have my China overprint exhibit to rework and a ton of stampless material to go through. Stay safe and look after yourself!”

Brandon Nugent shared, “In the email distributing the April issue of the GLHS Journal, you’d asked for members to share philatelic themed things they’ve been up to.



Here’s a picture of me and my husband, Mark Evans, mugging it up on January 19, 2020 at the Australia Post booth at the Midsumma Carnival (part of the broader LGBTQIA+ Midsumma Festival) in Melbourne, Australia. My husband is always amused that I manage to weave something philatelic into nearly every trip we take! Regards.”

Ann Dunkin wrote, “Thanks, Lisa, for getting this out for all of us! I’m lucky enough to be in an industry that is being swamped with work by the crisis, but it will go on my weekend reading pile. I envy everyone who is playing with their stamps but I’m grateful that business is strong. Stay safe!”

(Letters to the Editor, Continued from page 2).

Vera Felts wrote, “Thanks so much for a very nice issue! ...I have been self-isolating since late Feb...After a couple of days of getting used to it, I must say that I am thriving! It is amazing how much we let outside activities of daily life interfere with our hobby. A friend from my stamp club here in Sequim ran across a collection in the back of a closet this week--he'd bought it 20-30 years ago and just forgot about it before getting it integrated into his own collection. It catalogs at over \$7K--he had no idea it was anything at all. May we all be so fortunate as we rummage around the edges of our collections during this pandemic!”

Carol Costa wrote, “Great move to put out journal early! Good ideas for articles!”

Celebrating PRIDE COVID style:



Lisa at work in front of the Pride banner, June 2020

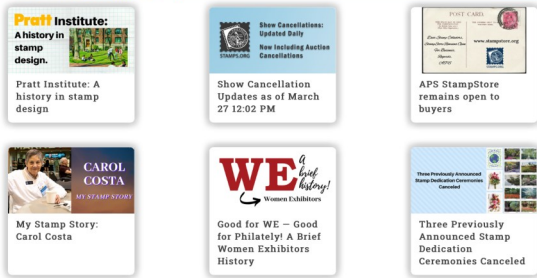
Laurie at work in front of the Pride balloon wall June 2020



Keep Philatelically Connected

Even with the cancellation of stamp shows and club meetings, you and your club members can keep philatelically connected.

1. Participate in an [APS Stamp Chat](#)
2. Sign up for [APS Summer Seminar Online](#)
3. If you have not emailed or called philatelic friends, consider doing so.
4. Check out the [APS Digital Library](#) of journals and exhibits
5. Reorganize your collections and the areas in which you are housing them.
6. Consider writing an article for newsletters or philatelic journals.
7. Explore philatelic websites to expand your philatelic knowledge and/or to make new purchases.
8. Start collecting a new area.
9. Join an [APS affiliate](#)



COVID-19: APS/APRL Closed by order of PA Gov

Carol, it was great to see you on the APS website and your Stamp Story in the March issue of the AP!

GLHS Membership

Membership fees are \$10 a year. Payment by check or money order, payable to the club, GLHS 1020 E. Hemlock St. Kent, WA 98030

Current Membership Report

Our current membership consists of 43 members. 26 are also members of the American Philatelic Society (APS) & 18 members of the American Topical Association (ATA).



Sally Ride – Tennis Champion, Physicist, Astronaut, SPI Member

by Norman F. Jacobs

Reprinted with permission of the author Norman Jacobs and the Editor Mark Maestrone, from the Journal of Sports Philately, Winter 2019, Volume 58, No. 2, pages 3-8.

Have you ever read an article about an iconic, courageous woman who just happened to be a junior tennis champion as well as a member of SPI?

When the astronaut Sally Ride appeared on a U.S. Forever stamp last year, my first impression was, “Wow, that’s a great image on the stamp.” While discussing this stamp with my non-philatelic friend in California who had taught at Sally Ride’s high school, I learned she had also been a nationally ranked tennis player. Then Mark Maestrone told me that she had been an SPI member as well many years ago, which made me want to learn more about Sally and the story behind the stamp.

Many media outlets covered the stamp release and the basics of Sally’s story, but I have interviewed her life partner, the stamp designer, and the stamp artist at length, to bring out more details of both Sally’s life and the process that led to

this dramatic postage stamp. Thanks to Tam O’Shaughnessy, Sally’s life partner, I have been able to include many details about Sally’s life as well as personal photographs.

Early Life and Tennis Career

Born in 1951, Sally Ride grew up in Southern California, but she spent her fourth-grade year traveling in Europe with her family while her father was on sabbatical from his teaching job. Sally showed her academic abilities early, testing high enough in English and math to skip 5th grade.

Sally’s mother, Joyce, taught her to play tennis during the European trip. Soon after returning to California, the family joined a tennis club near Encino where Alice Marble, who had won 18 Grand Slam championships, was director. Alice and Sally did not hit it off. According to Tam, Alice said Sally was “a very good athlete but would try to hit her with the tennis ball all the time.”

Sally continued her tennis lessons with other pros and transferred to Westlake School for Girls, a well-known Los Angeles area prep school, on a partial tennis scholarship as a junior. She was ranked #18 in the United States in the 16-and-under division. Her first year at Westlake was the second year that the school taught science to the girls there, and the first year that trigonometry and calculus were offered. As a high school senior, Sally took a class called “Physics for Poets” at UCLA.



Figures 1 & 2. (Left) Sally Ride in 1969 while playing on the Swarthmore College tennis team [photo: Swarthmore College]. (Above) Cover mailed from Swarthmore, PA Dec. 20, 1899 (with both a round dater and cork cancel). The sender, William W. Birdsall, was president of Swarthmore College from 1898-1902.

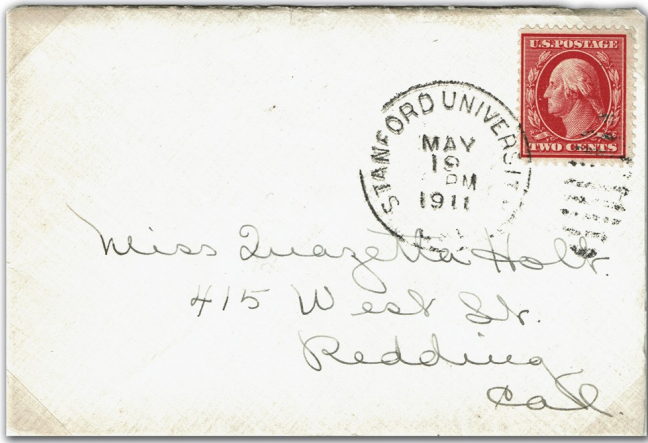


Figure 3. (Above) Following 1½ years at Swarthmore College, Sally transferred to Stanford University to pursue a degree in physics.



Figure 4. Sally (3rd from left) with Billie Jean King and Dennis Van Der Meer (right) during an exhibition mixed doubles tennis match in 1971. [Photo: Molly Tyson]

There was no Title IX program¹ when she entered Swarthmore College in 1968, and no sports scholarship program for women. Sally played tennis for Swarthmore, but she left after 1½ years. Both years she was at Swarthmore, she won the Eastern Intercollegiate Women's Tennis Championship (Figures 1 and 2).

She returned to California and spent the next several months practicing hard to see if she could make it as a tennis pro. Meanwhile, she took two classes (quantum physics and Shakespeare) at UCLA. Finally she realized that she did not enjoy

the training needed to become an elite athlete, but did have the mental discipline for science. She entered Stanford (Figure 3) as a junior, and played #1 on their tennis team, but she no longer had aspirations of turning professional.

While at Stanford, Sally worked summers at TennisAmerica, a tennis camp at Lake Tahoe owned by Billie Jean King and Larry King, along with Dennis Van Der Meer (Figure 4). Billie Jean came to visit between tournaments, so Sally and a male tennis partner played an exhibition mixed doubles match against Billie Jean and Dennis to entertain both the locals and the folks at TennisAmerica.

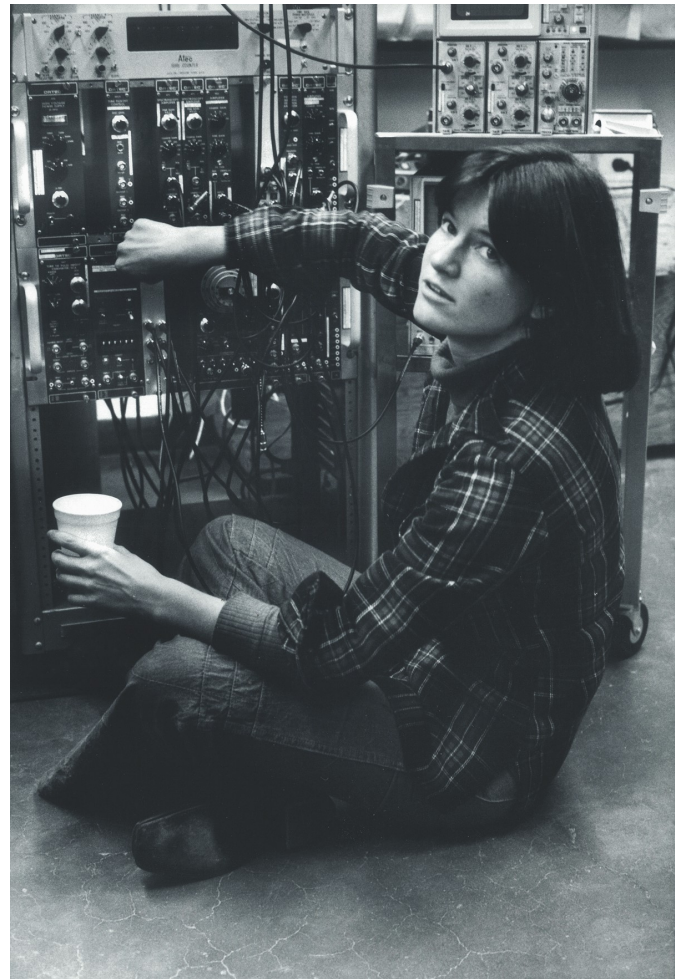


Figure 5. Stanford became Sally's home while she completed her bachelor's degrees and then went on to obtain her PhD in physics. This photo was taken in 1977 in a Stanford physics lab. [Photo: Ride Family]

Sally played a little tennis after college and also took up volleyball, but after joining NASA in 1978, she turned to running and weight lifting. Today her Dunlop Maxply tennis racket is in the col-

lection of the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, but not currently on display.



Figure 6. Sally, at left, with Shannon Lucid, Kathy Sullivan, Rhea Seddon, Anna Fisher, and Judy Resnik, the first six U.S. women astronauts (1978). [NASA]

Physicist and Astronaut

Sally graduated from Stanford with bachelor's degrees in both English and physics in 1973. She then continued her physics education at Stanford with a Masters in 1975 and a PhD in physics in 1978. Figure 5 shows her in a Stanford physics lab.

What to do for a job after graduation? Sally saw an article in the student newspaper saying NASA was looking for new astronauts, and for the first time, women could apply. She sent in her application immediately. Sally beat out more than 8,000 applicants to become one of the 35 new astronaut trainees, including five other women (Figure 6).

NASA only had a men's locker room and gym, so the agency had to construct new spaces for the women. What was it like to be among the first women astronauts? Well, here are a few examples of what Sally faced. When she became the first woman assigned to a shuttle crew, NASA engineers thought they should send 100 tampons on the mission. She told them that was excessive. At a press conference before her shuttle mission, she was asked what kind of makeup she was taking up into space. Another reporter asked, "If something goes wrong in the simulator, do you cry?"

During training, the astronauts had to fly 15 hours a month in the T-38 Talon two-seat training jet, as seen in Figure 7.



Figure 7. Sally during one of her required flights in the NASA T-38 Talon training jet. [NASA]



Figure 8. Aboard the space shuttle Challenger. [NASA]

Sally helped to develop the shuttle's robotic arm, designed to maneuver payloads. Her eye-hand coordination, honed by tennis, probably helps explain why she was selected to operate the three-jointed arm during her shuttle missions.

On June 18, 1983, after five intense years of training and ground-based work, Sally launched into space as a mission specialist on space shuttle Challenger, becoming the first American woman and youngest American astronaut to fly in space (Figure 8).

The cover in Figure 9 bears a Kennedy Space Center cancellation on that date, with an image of the space shuttle and the words "For Benefits on

Earth NASA.” The cachet depicts the STS-7 mission insignia with the astronauts’ names.



Figure 9. Cover commemorating the launch of STS-7, Sally Ride’s first of two shuttle missions. The machine cancel, which includes an image of the space shuttle, is dated June 18, 1983 from Kennedy Space Center, FL.

Many of the spectators at the launch wore T-shirts emblazoned with “Ride, Sally Ride,” a play on the words of Wilson Pickett’s 1966 song “Mustang Sally.”

During the flight, Sally operated the robotic arm to deploy and retrieve the Shuttle Pallet Satellite (SPS), a module that carried experiments to be performed in space outside the shuttle.

Her status as the first American woman in space was commemorated by a stamp club special cancellation and cachet (Figure 10) showing the deployed SPS attached to Challenger.

Her second mission, in 1984, lasted for eight days.

She was in training for a third mission when Challenger exploded shortly after launch in January 1986, killing all seven crew members. The shuttle program was suspended. Sally did not fly again, but she served on the commission that investigated the *Challenger* disaster in 1986, and again on the panel investigating shuttle Columbia’s destruction in 2003. Sally was the only person to sit on both panels. In 1995, USPS issued a \$3 stamp showing the STS-7 Challenger from



Figure 11. STS-7. Sally’s first mission with the mission name in microtype at the lower right corner (Figure 11).



Figure 10. Cachet and special cancel in October 1983 honoring Sally as the first American woman in space. The SPS robotic arm, which Sally operated, is shown deployed in both the cachet and cancel.

After NASA

According to her partner, Tam, Sally was hard-working, humble, and a quiet introvert. She struggled with her celebrity. After leaving NASA, she became a professor of physics at the University of California, San Diego. She and Tam also joined with three friends to found Sally Ride Science, a company that developed books and programs to encourage girls and boys to study science and math. Sally and Tam together wrote six science books for children. Sally died of pancreatic cancer in 2012, and in 2015 UC San Diego acquired Sally Ride Science, which operates today as a non-profit with Tam as executive director.

Stamp Collector and Olympic Enthusiast

Sally started collecting stamps at age 10 while traveling in Europe. According to Tam, she continued collecting her entire life. She had seven stamp albums, shown in Figure 12: six Olympic albums and one with a mix of Olympic and space stamps.

Sally attended the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. She had become a member of SPI in 1983. Interestingly, she listed herself on her Membership application simply as “a physicist interested in Olympic philately.” Her modesty fits well with the quiet persona described by Tam. When she rocketed into space in June 1983, SPI President Sherwin Podolsky congratulated her in the journal. Although she remained a member of SPI for only two years, she continued collecting stamps even after her membership lapsed.

Tam donated Sally's stamp albums to the National Postal Museum, and they may become part of an exhibition on famous women collectors.



Figure 12. Sally's philatelic collection resided in these seven albums, which have been donated to the National Postal Museum. [Photo: Tam O'Shaughnessy]

The Sally Ride Stamp

Because I thought the Sally Ride stamp presented an exceptional image that captured both the joy and the courage of an astronaut, I contacted Ethel Kessler, the art director, and Paul Salmon, the artist, to learn more about the work that resulted in this image. I spent a delightful hour speaking with each of them, and we can all thank them for putting the creative process into perspective for us as philatelists.

USPS works with only four art directors, who work on contract for each issue. Ethel Kessler has designed 175 issues for USPS. Usually, USPS provides general information about the stamp issue. Then the art director researches the topic and develops a vision and ideas for details before contacting an artist. The artist creates the stamp image. The four art directors and USPS staff meet monthly to review progress.

The process is not quick. It took 1½ years from the time Paul Salmon was contacted, until the USPS signed off on the final image of the stamp. An additional year elapsed before the stamp's release.

The USPS required the stamp to include both "USA" and "Forever" as necessary elements. The rest was up to the art director and artist.

Ethel Kessler said her guiding question as stamp

designer is always, "What is going to make this an iconic image to honor the person?" Her research includes reviewing images in the public domain as well as family photographs to help her decide if the stamp image will be a portrait or tell a bigger story.

Sally's photos showed her as "adorable, great smile, young," Kessler said, but she "didn't look like one of the group" in the photos with other astronauts. The stamp needed context.

Ethel contacted Paul Salmon, who had done the artwork for the stamp honoring aviation pioneer Billy Mitchell. She knew he favored "soft tones," which is what she wanted – a painterly style, not a photographic image.

Paul himself had a history with NASA and the Air and Space Museum. He was present as an invited NASA artist for Sally's first shuttle landing. He remembers a strong feeling of patriotism and his surprise that Challenger's descent seemed quite sharp, not gradual. The shuttle made a rapid descent, then a pullout over the runway. He watched all this from on top of the vehicle assembly building. Paul had been given a signed photo of the five astronauts from that launch; NASA had the same photo, unsigned (Figure 13). This turned out to be the image of Sally that Paul used for the painting reproduced on the stamp. NASA provided images of the rocket and smoke plumes from the launch.



Figure 13. The image of Sally from the official STS-7 crew photograph was selected by artist Paul Salmon for use on the Sally Ride commemorative stamp. [NASA]



Figure 14. The pane of 20 Sally Ride stamps as issued nationwide by the USPS on May 23, 2018.

Paul’s goals were twofold: first, to show the danger of the launch by depicting the lift-off, and second, to portray Sally as happy, upbeat, and pleasant, not to make an overly dramatic image. All the photos he saw showed Sally as positive and happy.

Initially, Paul and Ethel conceived a horizontal stamp, with a portrait of Sally on one side and the rocket further in the background. At the art director meeting at USPS, the feedback was that Sally’s image looked small sharing the space with the launch. Ethel changed the stamp to a

vertical orientation, increasing it to a semi-jumbo size. This wider vertical stamp allowed a larger image of Sally and put the rocket alongside, bringing them together and making Sally stand out prominently. Paul exercised artistic license to add the clouds and the purple to the image (Figure 14).

USPS issued two official first day postmarks for the stamp (Figure 15). The black and white version featured Sally’s signature, surrounded by small black stars. The color cancellation included an image of the mission patch showing a stylized space shuttle with the robotic arm deployed above, forming a number 7 to honor the STS-7 mission.

Both Tam and Billie Jean King spoke at the May 23, 2018, first-day-of-issue ceremony for the Sally Ride stamp. Their presence together highlighted Sally’s achievements early in life in tennis and later in promoting science education. The dramatic stamp that they unveiled speaks to Sally’s courage, her academic achievements, and the unlimited potential unleashed by big dreams and hard work.

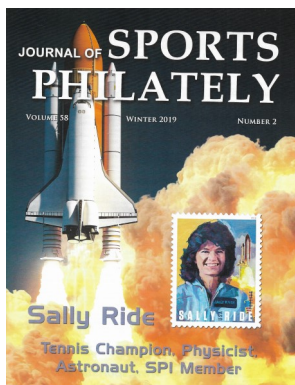
All members of SPI can feel proud that Sally was once part of our stamp collecting community.

Note

1. Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 is a federal law that states: “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.” (Source: www.ncaa.org)



Figure 15. The two first day cancels for the Sally Ride stamp issued in La Jolla, California.



Sally Ride – References

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Grady, Denise (July 23, 2012). “Obituary: American Woman Who Shattered Space Ceiling”. The New York Times. Retrieved October 2, 2019.

Maugh, Thomas H II (July 23, 2012). “Obituary: Sally Ride dies at 61; first American woman in space”. Los Angeles Times. Retrieved October 2, 2019.

Personal communication, T. O’Shaughnessy, October 17, 2018.

Personal communication, E. Kessler, October 23, 2018.

Personal communication, P. Salmon, November 1, 2018.

“Tennis Racquet, Sally Ride”, <https://airandspace.si.edu/collection-objects/tennis-racquet-sallyride>. Retrieved October 2, 2019.

Website Image Gallery Continues to Grow

By Arthur von Reyn

Regular GLHS website visitors may have noticed that the number of images of LGBT stamps grows as each month passes. There are now more than 150 U.S. and foreign entries in the U.S. and foreign stamp galleries; each entry describes that stamp subject matter and many depict multiple stamps.

Once again, thanks to John Stefanik for providing the numerous foreign stamps for scanning. It does take considerable time to convert each image and description into formats suitable for the website, so it may be many months before an additional 110 images are added.

The principal criteria for the stamp images featured on the website remains that there some relevance of the subject matter to the country of issue. This is an not iron clad rule, as some interesting subjects may show up on stamps that are intended almost exclusively for the philatelic market and never anywhere else. Members who have stamps that meet this criteria and whose subject matter does not already appear, are encouraged to contact me.

The website’s home page continues to be updated several times a month, featuring news that hopefully is of interest to the membership.

The website URL is <http://www.glhsonline.org>. I can be contacted at apvr@msn.com

LGBTQ ATHLETES ARE EVERYWHERE!

Discover them in the pages of the

Journal of Sports Philately

www.sportstamps.org

GLHS Board of Directors 2020

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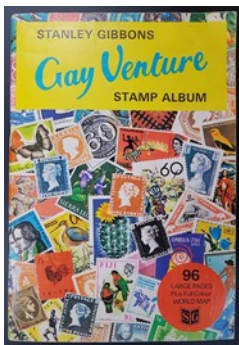
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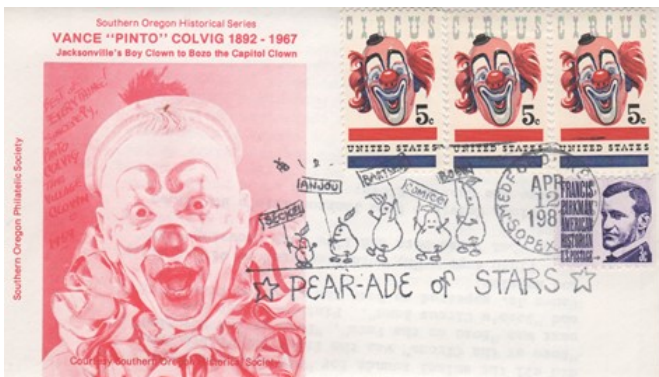
Gay Ventures

A Philatelic Column - Larry Crain



In these days we have need to be optimistic. We have need to anticipate a better future and to make it so by not crying about our present. I will ramble and talk of happy things.

Clowns. What can bring a smile to a face but the ridiculous joy of a clown.? In the town four miles away lived Pinto Colvig. You never heard of him, as Pinto anyway. As Bozo you probably have.



Show cover from SOPEX 1981

Puppies and kittens. Do you remember your first pet? OK, mine was a ribbit but you get the point. Animals may us happy. Working with stamps make us happy. Oh, I digress back to animals. Puppies and kittens are cute. Koala are cuter. Platypuses [platypi?] are over the top.



Comfort food. Chocolate? Ice cream fits the bill. For Kiwis (that's New Zealanders for us Up Overers) a favorite is hokey pokey. For me hokey pokey is what you say and then turn yourself around. But I still don't know what it's all about.



Be Happy. Bobby McFerrin sang the song and I have associated the phrase with Smiley Face. We need to be positive, be strong and be active. We need to socially distance and also to be involved in our communities, including the philatelic communities which add to our collecting activities.

So in these days let us be aware of the suffering of others -- those with the pandemic virus and those facing the pandemic racism. Let us be of good cheer



Smiley Face on the Pride flag on the garage in front of day lilies in my back yard. The flag was purchased in Capitol Hill, Seattle at the going out of business of the bookstore Beyond the Closet. This is the area of CHAZ, Capitol Hill Autonomous Zone which is in the news of the current unrest.

Marie Laurencin

By John P. Stefanek



Marie Laurencin was born illegitimate on 31 October 1883 in Paris. She drew from an early age. After school at the Lycée Lamartine, she attended the Académie Humbert, loosely associated with the École des Beaux-Arts.

Through a fellow pupil in 1907, she was introduced to Pablo Picasso and his circle, including Juan Gris, Max Jacob, Gertrude Stein, and the poet Guillaume Apollinaire. Marie and Guillaume began an affair that lasted until 1912. She began exhibiting her work (seven of her works appeared at the revolutionary 1913 Armory show in New York), and Guillaume's biased written praise elevated her reputation. While only a few of her paintings could confidently be categorized as Cubist, her name was synonymous with the *avant-garde* for more than two decades.

In 1914, Marie married German baron and would-be painter Otto von Waëtjen. During World War I, they lived in Spain. They divorced in 1920. She re-established in Paris, taking company with intimate friend and lover, dress-designer Nicole Groult. Here on, Marie would turn to women for her emotional needs. She was already acquainted with Gertrude Stein and her salon. Marie would also become a regular guest at Natalie Barney's "Salon de l'Amazone." Close friendships with women (some of a lesbian nature) are the background for her almost exclusively feminine artistic universe.

An exhibition at Paul Rosenberg's New York gallery in 1921 helped reestablish her artistic reputation in Paris. She protected herself from unwelcome commissions by charging more for work which bored her, double in the case of men, and extra in the case of brunettes. In 1923, she designed the décor and costumes for Francis Poulenc's greatly successful ballet, *Les Biches*, commissioned by Serge Diaghilev for Monte Carlo. She illustrated an edition of *Alice in Wonderland* that was received exceedingly well. Marie provided lithographs for *The Garden Party* by Katherine Mansfield.



She was extremely short-sighted all her life. She finally acquired spectacles in 1937. By then she was the best known of all French women artists. In that year, she was named chevalier of the Légion d'honneur. Marie never lost her passion for painting, though her work declined in quality during the 1940s and 1950s.



Suzanne Moreau entered Marie's service in 1925. Suzanne was adopted by Marie as her daughter in 1954. Marie Laurencin died of a heart attack on 8 June 1956.

Known stamp design featuring Marie Laurencin: Guinea 9/30/11

Known stamp designs based on Marie Laurencin's work: France 4174, 5122; St. Lucia 574

Marie Laurencin by Charlotte Gere, Rizzoli International Publications, Inc., New York, 1977

Marie Laurencin: Artist and Muse by Douglas K. S. Hyland and Heather McPherson, Birmingham Museum of Art, University of Washington Press, Seattle, 1989

"Memories of Bilitis: Marie Laurencin Beyond the Cubist Context" by Elizabeth Otto, "Genders Journal" Volume 36, 2002, University of Colorado

The Gay Book of Days by Martin Greif, Carol Publishing, 1989, page 184

Lesbian Lists: A Look at Lesbian Culture, History and Personalities by Dell Richards, Alyson Publications, Inc., Boston, 1990, page 42

The Queer Encyclopedia of the Visual Arts, edited by Claude J. Summers, Cleis Press, Inc., San Francisco, 2004, page 206

Who's Who in Contemporary Gay and Lesbian History: From World War II to Present Day, edited by Robert Aldrich and Garry Wotherspoon, Routledge, 2001, page 239

Women Artists in Interwar France by Paula J. Birnbaum, ASHGATE, 2011, page 93



Giving Back

Francis Ferguson



Cats Can be of Great Help.....?

It is the second week of May as I contemplate the present situation. The 'new normal' – while it may be new – it is not normal by any stretch of imagination. Florida is simply not a state that is accustomed to sheltering in place. Most of the time, if one is willing to brave the heat, humidity and blood sucking insects, the outdoor environs beckon. My preference is air conditioning – or the beach. I do continue to resist the efforts of my husband to join him doing yardwork.

Everything philatelic is frozen in place. No club meetings and no shows. We are stuck at home to adjust to a life of being housebound with cats who resent our intruding on their nap time.



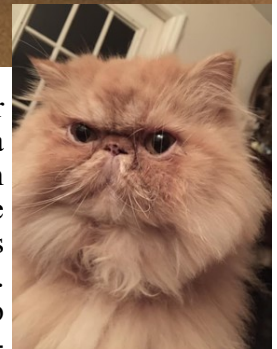
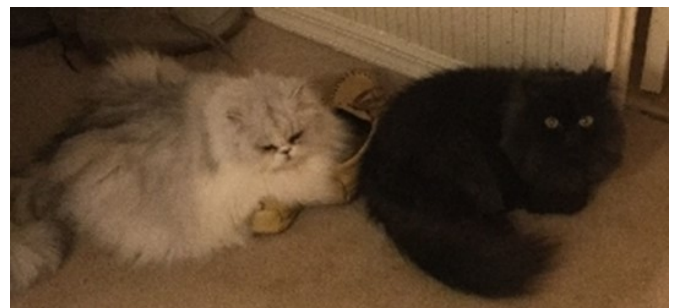
My preference has always been for cats – even though I like dogs, I just don't want one as a pet. I did have one misguided adventure down the dog ownership road, with a cute as hell,

Basset Hound who was all looks and absolutely no brains. After watching her do one strange thing after another I concluded there was air where brain matter should be. To say Ruby got along with her looks would be a totally accurate statement.

Thankfully, my husband of nearly 24 years is a cat lover. My husband and I have been the keepers (read servants) of cats for our time together. My first Persian (Howard) adored my Ricky, while Ricky's ASH, Samantha – absolutely hated me from day one, and would actively plot to scratch me or loudly hiss her dislike at almost every encounter. In her last years, Sammy grew to tolerate me – however, I had maintained Sammy was too

mean to die – I was wrong. Over the last 24 years, many of them have crossed over the rainbow bridge, Howard, Sammy, Bocus and Alex are romping in the endless fields of catnip.

Our current three, Howard (white), J.J. (black) and Izzy (orange) are typical of the Persian breed and



mostly are indifferent to their human servants. Once in a great while, I will be joined in my philatelic pursuits by one of them. Normally this occurs at the least opportune time. The last time I had J.J. jump up on my worktable and decide that sitting on some rather expensive material was a good thing to do. Thankfully, there was no licking and/or claws involved with this sit-in.

A local club member, some years ago, had a furry helper who was adamant that the clear plastic container was much more attractive – empty. Oscar did manage to clear the bin of most of those pesky



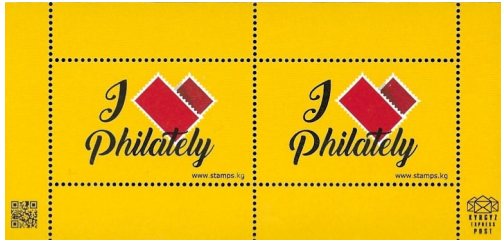
pieces of paper and completed the project by wedging his overflowing body into the container and promptly going down for a nap.

(Giving Back, continued from page 13)

One of our three Persians – Izzy [Figure 3] has a number of times jumped on my worktable to investigate what is happening. Most cats are pretty careful about walking around obstacles – not this cat. He is a bull in a china shop and simply goes where he wants to – plowing through any and all obstructions on his way to a happy place. It is highly entertaining to watch.

In the new normal I have come to understand nothing is even remotely normal. Maybe our three cats are the new normal and we simply have not evolved enough to understand that!

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




London 2020

Because of Covid-19 London 2020 International Exhibition had to be postponed to 19-26 February 2022. The London2020 Office Manager, Philip Longbottom wrote and offered GLHS to reschedule our room booking or request a refund.

The GLHS Leadership Team consulted and chose to request a refund of the \$130.00 for the cost of the room. We will see if there is interest in attending in 2022 and if so, re-apply at that time.

GLHS: Gay and Lesbian History on Stamps



The objectives of GLHS are to promote the interest in the collection, study and dissemination of world-wide philatelic material that depicts:

- Notable men & 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.

www.GLHSONline.org
Facebook: GLHSC
glhstamps2@gmail.com
ATA#458
APS#205

ZOOM with GLHS

Thursday August 20, 2020

6:00 PM PST/9:00 PM EDT

Hosted by Arthur Von Reyn

Invite will be emailed closer to the event

GLHS Annual Meeting Moves Online

By Arthur von Reyn

The GLHS will be holding its annual meeting on the internet this year due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic forcing cancellation of the summer American Philatelic Society show for the first time since 1943.

The APS show, which had been christened the Great American Stamp Show for 2020, has been the venue our club's annual meeting since the GLHS reformed in 2018.

This year, the GLHS meeting will feature a program, to be announced, as well as reports on club activities during the year. Members are also asked to share an item for a "Show and Tell" session.

This virtual meeting will occur August 20, 2020, on what would have been the first day of the APS show. Call to order is 9:00 p.m. EDT (6:00 p.m. PDT, etc.). The virtual meeting room will open at 8:30 p.m. EDT for those who would like to chat with other attendees, just as is done by those who come early to our regular physical meetings. International members should check for correct day and time.

The Zoom video conferencing application will be used for the gathering. Members can join using your desktop computer, laptop or smart phone in order to see the video. For audio only, one can dial in on a telephone (landline or really old cell phone). An email invitation to join the meeting, as well as reminders, will be sent in the days prior to the session.

In the event members enjoy this virtual meeting, it is possible more could be scheduled throughout the year.

The Many Roles of Maude Adams

By Laurie Anderson

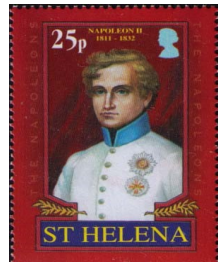
Born a natural actress, Maude Adams started her acting career at two months old when she appeared on stage with her mother, Asaneth Ann Adams Kiskadden in the play “The Lost Baby”. Over the objection of her father, James Kiskadden, Maude continued acting as a small child and within her first decade of life, she had performed in 26 different plays.

Maude Ewing Adams Kiskadden was born in Salt Lake City on November 11, 1872. She debuted in New York at the age of ten and then returned to California with her mother for a short time. Later, she moved back to Salt Lake City to live with her grandmother and studied at the Salt Lake Collegiate Institute. Eventually, Adams returned to New York where she continued to pursue her stage career.

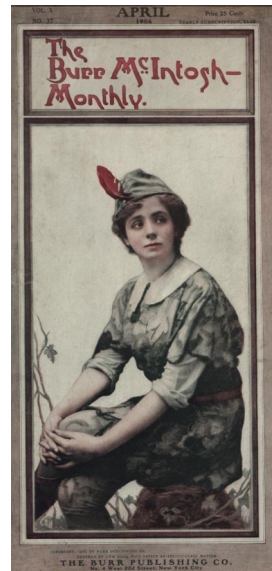


As the highest paid and most beloved American actress of her time, Adams used her “power” to work with Charles Frohman, a local producer in New York, to challenge stage roles made available to American actresses. With this challenge, she became known as a cross-dressing performer and starred in several major Broadway shows that disrupted the stereotypical gender roles.

Adams portrayed Napoleon II in “L’Aiglon” in 1900

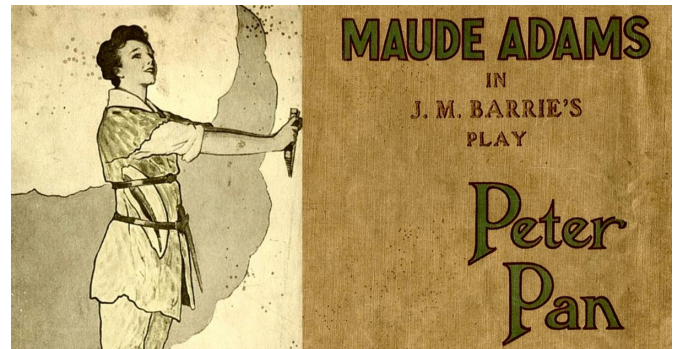


and as the male rooster in “Chantecler” in 1911.



However, her most famous cross-dressing role came in 1905 when she played Peter Pan. Adams performed as Peter Pan in over 1500 theater productions, earning \$20,000 a month, a salary that was unheard of at that time.

In 1918, Adams retired from the theater after falling ill with influenza. She took up work with General Electric and helped to improve and develop better stage lighting for the theater. Thirteen years later, 1931, Adams returned to the stage only to appear in a few regional productions. She retired once again in 1934.



Adams was known as a shy actress who never married. Adams had two long-term relationships in her life, both with women and although she never shared her personal life openly, it is believed she was a closeted lesbian. Her first long-term relationship was with Lillie Florence from the early 1890s until Florence’s death in 1901. Her second was with Louise Boynton from 1905 until Boynton’s death in 1951. Adams passed away in 1953, four months shy of her 81st birthday. She was buried on her Long Island property next to Boynton and the two share a headstone.



Nero

By John P. Stefanek



Have you heard that story about how Nero fiddled while Rome burned? It is complete fabrication. There are probably plenty of reasons to dislike Nero, so one need not create an example of an ineffectual leader in a time of crisis, an example of self-centered immorality, devoid of compassion.

Lucius Domitius Ahenobarbus was born on 15 December 37 in Antium (today known as Anzio). Music and chariots were his passions from boyhood, and he wrote poetry easily and without effort. He adopted the toga of manhood early at only 13 years old. At the age of 15, he married Claudia Octavia (his stepsister and Emperor Claudius' daughter) in a dynastic union contracted when he was age eleven. He never loved her.

His mother, Agrippina the Younger, had become Claudius' fourth wife and had convinced Claudius to adopt Lucius. So when, on 13 October 54, Claudius died via poison, Nero Claudius Caesar became emperor of Rome at age 16. It is assumed that Agrippina did the poisoning so that her son Nero, not Claudius' son Britannicus, might become emperor. Agrippina took charge, but within a year, she and Nero split irrevocably. Spurned by Nero, she began to champion Britannicus, apparently exposing her whole supposedly criminal career from her machinations to marry Claudius to claiming responsibility for his murder. Nero moved quickly to have Britannicus poisoned (he allegedly sodomized Britannicus some days before the murder). Agrippina countered by moving closer to Nero's wife Claudia. Nero removed Agrippina from the palace.

In 55, at the age of 17, Nero fell in love with a freedwoman named Acte and set her up as a sort of second-class wife, affectionately but illegally. In 55 and 56, he and friends engaged in nocturnal rampages said to include sexual attacks on women and boys. He allegedly forcibly defiled young Aulus Plautius.

In 58, Nero fell in love with Poppaea Sabina while she was still married to Rufrius Crispinus. It was she who wanted Nero to get rid of Agrippina because she believed she could never replace Claudia while his mother was still alive. Apparently, in an act of desperation, Agrippina offered herself to Nero, ready for incest, but was thwarted by her enemies. Nero resolved to murder Agrippina. It was done in March 59. He divorced Claudia for infertility, exiled her, and had her killed in 62 in order to marry Poppaea.

Nero convened the Ludi Maximi public games in 59 to celebrate his "salvation" from the plots of his mother. He convened the Ludi Iuvenalium (or Juvenile) private games the same year to celebrate the first shaving of the 21-year-old's beard. In the Juvenile games, he competed as charioteer and singer. The climax of the Juvenile games was the emperor's first appearance on stage, singing while playing the cithara (a type of lyre). It was at these Juvenile games that Nero introduced his Augustiani, Roman knights in their prime who would applaud and praise Nero's god-like beauty and voice. They first appeared in public in 64 and accompanied Nero later to the Olympics in Greece.

In future games, Nero would compete as a poet, a singer, an actor, a herald, and a charioteer. Unsurprisingly, he won every contest. In 60, he introduced Greek games to Rome: the quinquennial Neronian games. Even though he did not compete in them, he was awarded victor.

In 64, Nero first appeared on a public stage in Naples and sang in Greek. The same year, he first raced chariots in public. This was also the year when he held the party of the century, the notorious banquet of Tigellinus. The festivities centered on the Stagnum Agrippae, the great artificial lake in the Campus Martius, surrounded by parkland and trees. A great raft was towed by boats rowed by male prostitutes. Taverns and brothels were set up on the banks of the lake.

A few days later, Nero was solemnly given in marriage to former slave Pythagoras. Nero was adorned with bridal veil, witnesses attended, and the usual preparations for dowry, marriage bed, and wedding torches were undertaken. After the ceremony, he imitated the shrieks and moans of a virgin being deflowered.

On the night of 18/19 July 64, Rome began to burn fiercely for nine days. When the fire began, Nero rushed back from Antium to direct relief efforts and firefighting, including the intentional destruction of buildings meant to act as a fire-break. He opened the Campus Martius and his own gardens to the people, arranged for the erection of temporary shelters, provided supplies, and lowered the price of grain. Nevertheless, rumor spread that the emperor himself had ordered the fire. To quash the rumor, Nero fixed blame for the Great Fire on Christians. Many were arrested, convicted, and executed. It was the first and only large-scale persecution of Christians during the first century A.D.

Prior to the fire, construction had started on the *Domus Transitoria*, or Connecting House, a palace connecting the complex on the Palatine Hill with the imperial gardens on the Esquiline Hill. This had been destroyed by the fire. After the fire, Nero began rebuilding the city immediately, taking measures to prevent or impede future fires (e.g., separation of buildings, wider streets, use of brick, etc.). His new palace was called the *Domus Aurea*, or Golden House. It was huge and sprawling, including a huge vestibule to house the Colossus of Nero, a large rectangular lake, a grand nymphaeum, the mansion, and a large open area. The expense must have nearly bankrupted the provinces and temple treasuries.

Nero's public artistic performance was considered beyond socially acceptable for his class. Devotion to his artistic disciplines had overwhelmed his sense of duty: he would not speak to the military or the senate lest he damage his voice. Nero had alienated and persecuted much of the elite, neglected the army, and drained the treasury.

Tribune Subrius Flavus was with Nero during the fire. He conspired to murder Nero in the Circus Maximus on 19 April 65 and replace him with the nobleman Calpurnius Piso. Involved were several senior officers of the emperor's own praetorian guard, at least three centurions, three out of the twelve tribunes, and one of the two prefects.

Subrius Flavus said, "I began to hate you when you became the murderer of your mother and your wife, a charioteer, an actor, and an incendiary." The plot was foiled.

Seneca the Younger, one of the foremost proponents of Roman Stoicism, was Nero's most important victim. He was Nero's tutor and advisor before retiring in 62. Nero ordered his suicide in 65. Seneca complied.

Poppaea had given birth on 21 January 63, but daughter Claudia died within four months. In the summer of 65, lashing out in blind ferocity, Nero chanced to kick his wife, pregnant again, after which she died. In the first half of 66, Nero wed the much-married Statilia Messalina.

He went to Greece in late summer 66 to participate in the Olympics, which had been postponed, for the first time in more than eight centuries, from the prior year. Artistic competitions, including singing and acting, were included for the first time. Nero won the chariot race despite falling out of his chariot. Nero won every contest in which he competed: singing while accompanying himself on lyre, acting tragedy in mask and costume, racing chariot, and heralding. He participated in other games in other Greek cities into 67.

In late 66 or in 67, he discovered an ex-slave boy Sporus who so resembled Poppaea that Nero castrated him, called him Sabina, married him in a solemn ceremony (during the tour of Greece), properly with contract and dowry and bridal veil and public celebration, and dressed and treated Sporus in all ways as his empress, fondly kissing him. After returning to Rome, he paraded Sporus at Saturnalia, a festival of the relaxation of social norms. Sporus, not Statilia, stayed at his side until death.



In March 68, Julius Vindex, governor of Lugdunensis, a province in Gaul, had rebelled. In April, word arrived that Spanish provinces had rebelled, led by the governor of Tarraconensis, Servius Sulpicius Galba. Nero mustered an army and levied a special income tax. In June, his armies in Northern Italy defected. Soon, he awoke one morning to find his military escort and private bodyguards had fled. He, the eunuch Sporus, and three freedmen rode to a suburban villa to the north of the city. On 11 June 68, he learned that the senate had declared him a public enemy. With the help of his secretary Epaphroditus, the last of the Caesars committed suicide.



Known stamp designs referencing Nero:
 Bosnia & Herzegovina (Croat/Mostar) 308; Equatorial Guinea 269a; Italy 2419; Mali 1067b; Poland 3603b; Uganda 1086

Nero by Edward Champlin, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 2003
Christianity, Social Intolerance, and Homosexuality, by John Boswell, University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 1980, page 82
The Gay and Lesbian Literary Heritage, edited by Claude J. Summers, Henry Holt and Co., New York, 1995, pages 187, 599
Jonathan to Gide: The Homosexual in History by Noel I. Garde, Vantage Press, 1964, page 135
Same-Sex Unions in Premodern Europe by John Boswell, Willard Books, New York, 1994, page 80
Sexual Life in Ancient Rome by Otto Kiefer, 1933, page 318
Who's Who in Gay and Lesbian History: From Antiquity to World War II, 2nd Edition, edited by Robert Aldrich and Garry Wotherspoon, Routledge, 2002, page 322

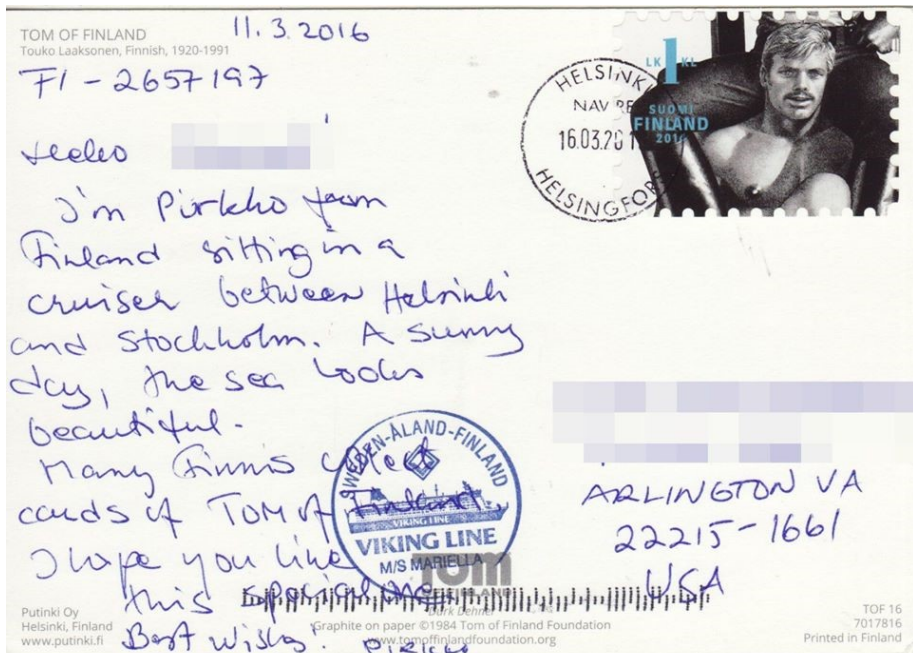


GLHS on Facebook

The GLHSC Facebook page has 242 followers, 10 more than last quarter. Check it out at <https://www.facebook.com/GLHSC/>

Posted by Joe Petronie May 8, 2020:

Today is the centennial of the birth of Touko Laarksonen, otherwise known as Tom of Finland. Finland issued a souvenir sheet of 3 stamps in 2014.



To which GLHS member Darrell Ertzberger shared (above) "Used on postcard to USA, posted on ship between Sweden and Finland."

COVID-19 philately

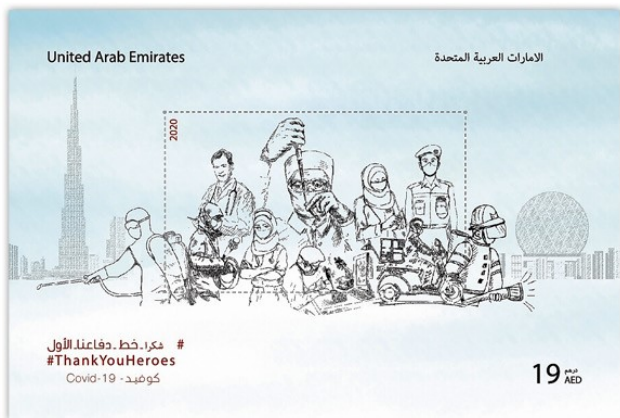
By Lisa Foster

HONORING HEROS

On March 17, 2020 Iran issued a commemorative postage stamp honoring the country's medical professionals as frontline fighters of the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. The "National Heroes" stamp includes a symbolic image of the sars-cov-2 virus based on electron micrographs. It is considered the first postage stamp in the world related to this coronavirus pandemic.



On May 10, 2020 the United Arab Emirates issues a single-stamp souvenir sheet thanking the pandemic's heroes.



On May 29, 2020 Ukraine issued a stamp and First Day Cover honoring frontline workers. Combating the Virus Vietnam issued two sets of stamps March 31,



2020 under the theme "Joining hands to prevent and combat COVID-19", "Join hands in COVID-19 Prevention and Control" to send a supportive message to front-line fighters, and raise citizens' knowledge, responsibility, determination amidst the straining COVID-19 combat. The collection, which includes to stamps measuring 31 x 46 mm, was designed by artist Pham Trung Ha with a hope to cover messages of solidarity. The VND 4, 000 (US \$0.16) stamp features pandemic fighting forces, namely health workers, soldiers and policemen in addition to normal citizens pushing the pandemic back. The VND 15, 000 (US\$0.63) stamp depicts images of scientists, physicians and doctors as research vaccines, preventative medicines and medical treatment needed to fight the virus. Vietnam Post offers postcards and envelopes with the same theme.



On May 7, 2020 the Moroccan Post service released the "Morocco united against COVID-19" stamp. The stamp illustrates representatives involved in the battle, including doctors, medical staff, police officers, civil protection agents, and janitors. The revenue from the sale of the stamps will be donated Special Fund for the Management and Response to COVID-19.



Taiwan's national postal service, Chunghwa Post plans on July 21, 2020 to release two stamps to promote the government's epidemic prevention policies. The se-tenant gutter features the Chinese text, "United in epidemic prevention, defeat the virus", and the slogan, "Taiwan Can Help" in English.



China

had

planned to issue a pair of postage stamps on April 7, 2020 in honor of the fighters against COVID-19 and in memory of all those who succumbed to it. The proceeds from the sale of the semi-tenant pair and related products will be donated to fight the pandemic. The images shown were proposed versions. There have also been a number of commemorative cancels from China.

Note the differences between the proposed stamp (on top) and the design that planned to be released on May 11 (bottom). [Jack Zhang] (Answer on page 21).



SOLIDARITY

On April 6 2020 Swiss Post issued "COVID-19 Solidarity", a semipostal stamp to aid people affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. The stamp was sold in sheets of 10 stamps, with the Swiss Post is covering the cost of the postage (10 francs), the buyer pays the surtax (50 francs), which is distributed 50/50 between Swiss Solidarity and the Swiss Red Cross.



On May 13, 2020 the United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) announced intent to issue a mini-sheet of six stamps in response to the COVID-19 global pandemic. The surcharge of each stamp to be donated for COVID-19 response activities. The sheet set format will include denominations

from each issuing office on the same sheet; 2 New York, 2 Geneva and 2 Vienna.

Uruguay also issued a stamp on May 13, 2020. The 25-peso stamp commemorates the country's coronavirus plan. The stamp includes the coronavirus information service phone number and the translated statement, "We take care of each other."



On June 3, 2020 Monaco issued a stamp showing Prince Albert II and his handwritten message of solidarity and the inscribed statement, "Facing COVID-19 together."



Bosnia Herzegovina (BH Post) allegedly released a stamp in April 2020 which depicts two COVID-19 viruses as the zeros in 2020.



Indonesia (April 2020) The 5000 Rup stamp depicts a rescuer in protective clothing and multiple COVID-19 viruses and red blood cells with a challenge: "Give Corona No Chance!/Stay at Home". There is uncertainty regarding this privately pro-

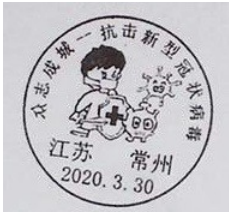


duced stamp, but do appear to be official.



Some countries are using slogan cancels to encourage people to follow social distancing guidelines. The United Kingdom's National Health Service, "STAY HOME. PROTECT THE NHS. SAVE LIVES. Royal Mail – Keeping Communities Connected." The Health Services in Ireland's slogan

encouraged people to "Stay at Home". Pos Malaysia had a postmark in March 2020, "You Stay At Home, We Deliver; Do your part to stop the spread of COVID-19." Singapore Post used three different slogan cancellations.



During the Pandemic, the United States Postal Service experienced a dramatic decline in mail volume. On April 12th #SaveUSPS went viral on social media outlets encouraging people to purchase postage stamps in support. Business such as Hallmark sent free cards to be mailed through the postal system to thank first responders and connect with loved ones. YouTube videos were created to teach children how to write and mail letters.

When I began following the release of COVID-19 related philately I had no idea there would be so much material. This article, or more aptly, this listing could go on for pages and pages as more issues are announced on an almost daily basis.


After compiling this, I found a "COVID-19: An Incomplete Philatelic Catalogue (Part 1)" had been created by Mark Joseph Jochim and is available at (<https://www.philatelicpursuits.com/2020/05/21/covid-19-an-incomplete-philatelic-catalogue-part-1/>).

In addition, there is a public Facebook group, "COVID19 related stamps" with regular postings of new material and links to order the stamps.

2020 is really the year of the rat



We are all in hiding.
We only come out to get food.
We store the food in our homes to eat later. And we run away when people come close to us.

Next year you'll need to work like an ox. 

COVID-19 China Stamp Variations

as identified by Jack Zhang

Missing Covid 19/no COVID sign; missing Soldier image; Bus and back group slightly faded; walking health personnel in PPE moved to right side; heart shaped perf; truck; background illustrations; plane; CCP sign; Sickle and hammer missing.



AlbumEasy

AlbumEasy is a software program for creating custom stamp pages that can be downloaded free of charge and is available for Windows, Linux and MacOS.

The StampWeb website (<https://www.thestampweb.com/albumeasy>) includes instructions to download and to use the program in the form of video tutorials and a manual that can be printed. The website also has user contributed stamp album pages from various countries. There is also the World Collector Project database which contains data of over 400,000 stamps to assist with working with the AlbumEasy software.

If any GLHS members use the program, or have in the past please send reviews and/or examples to be published in a future GLHS journal to glhstamps2@glhs.com.

New Issues

By John P. Stefanek

On 18 June 2020, the United Kingdom released eight stamps commemorating Roman Britain, including one stamp featuring **Venus** and one stamp featuring **Hadrian's Wall**.

On 11 June 2020, Monaco released a stamp commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the Birth of **Ludwig van Beethoven**.

On 28 May 2020, Russia released a stamp commemorating the 125th Anniversary of the Birth of **Sergei Yesenin**.

On 28 May 2020, the United Kingdom released eight stamps, a miniature sheet, and a Collector's Sheet commemorating the 60th Anniversary of *Coronation Street*, including one stamp featuring **Hayley Cropper**. She is a fictional character, portrayed by Julie Hesmondhalgh, who was the first transgender character in a British soap opera and was the first permanent transgender character in the world of serialized drama.



On 21 May 2020, the United States released four stamps commemorating Voices of the Harlem Renaissance, including one stamp featuring **Alain LeRoy Locke**.

On 20 May 2020, Bulgaria released a souvenir sheet commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the Birth of **Ludwig van Beethoven**.

On 19 May 2020, France released a stamp commemorating the 500th Anniversary of the Death of **Raphael**.

On 14 May 2020, Cyprus released a stamp commemorating the Bicentenary of the Birth of **Florence Nightingale**.

On 12 May 2020, the United Nations (Geneva) released a definitive commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the Eradication of Smallpox, designed by **Sergio Baradat**.

On 12 May 2020, the United Nations (Vienna) released a definitive commemorating the 200th Anniversary of the Birth of **Florence Nightingale**.

On 12 May 2020, Australia released a stamp pack of twelve stamps commemorating 10 Years of *How to Train Your Dragon* films, directed and written by **Dean DeBlois (born 1970)**. He is a Canadian film director, film producer, screenwriter, and animator, also known for directing and writing the Disney film, *Lilo & Stitch*. All three *How to Train Your Dragon* films and *Lilo & Stitch* received Oscar nominations for Best Animated Feature. Dean is openly gay.



On 12 May 2020, Australia released a stamp pack commemorating 40 Years since the Premiere of *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back*, including at least four labels featuring **Lando Calrissian**.

On 12 May 2020, Isle of Man released eight stamps commemorating the WHO Year of The Nurse & Midwife, including two stamps featuring **Florence Nightingale**.

On 2 May 2020, Guernsey released a stamp commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the Birth of **Ludwig van Beethoven**.

On 28 April 2020, Australia released a stamp pack of twelve stamps celebrating Disney Princesses, including two stamps featuring Ariel from *The Little Mermaid*, based on work by **Hans Christian**

Andersen.

On 23 April 2020, Turkey released a stamp commemorating the Centenary of the Inauguration of the Grand National Assembly, featuring **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk**.

On 17 April 2020, Austria released a stamp commemorating the 125th Anniversary of the Ephesus Excavations, featuring **Artemis**.

On 15 April 2020, Australia released four stamps commemorating Australian Legends of Comedy, including one stamp featuring **Magda Szubanski (born 1961)**. She was born in Liverpool, United Kingdom, and graduated from the University of Melbourne.

She is an actress, comedian, and writer, who appeared in the television situation comedy, *Kath & Kim*, and starred in the two *Babe* films. Her award-winning memoir, *Reckoning*, was released in 2015. She came out as gay in 2012 on an Australian television current affairs program.



On 7 April 2020, the United Kingdom released ten stamps commemorating Romantic Poets, including one stamp featuring **Lord Byron** and one stamp featuring **William Blake**.

On 7 April 2020, Australia released two stamps commemorating the 94th Birthday of Queen Elizabeth II, including one stamp featuring a dress designed by **Norman Hartnell**.

On 6 April 2020, the United Kingdom released a miniature sheet commemorating the 700th Anniversary of the Declaration of Arbroath, which was addressed to **Pope John XXII**.

On 26 March 2020, Liberia released two miniature sheets commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Queen, including five stamps featuring **Freddie Mercury**.

On 24 March 2020, Australia released a stamp pack of twelve stamps commemorating the 1950 Disney animated film, *Cinderella*, with music orchestration by **Joseph Dubin (1900-1961)**. He

was an American composer and orchestrator who scored or orchestrated more than 200 motion pictures during his career. He is best known for composing the soundtrack for the 1930 film, *The Big House*, as well as Disney films, *Alice in Wonderland*, *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*, and *The Adventures of Ichabod and Mr. Toad*.



On 21 March 2020, Central African Republic released four stamps celebrating Nude Art, including one stamp featuring **Diana**.

On 20 March 2020, the Netherlands released a gold stamp commemorating the 75th Anniversary of the End of World War II, featuring **Anne Frank**.

On 16 March 2020, Belgium released a miniature sheet commemorating Jan van Eyck, featuring **John the Apostle** in the selvage.

On 12 March 2020, Romania released a miniature sheet commemorating Easter, including one stamp featuring **John the Apostle**.

On 4 March 2020, Hungary released a stamp commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the Birth of **Ludwig van Beethoven**.

On 28 February 2020, Togo released a miniature

sheet and a souvenir sheet commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Queen, featuring **Freddie Mercury**.

On 28 February 2020, Togo released a miniature sheet commemorating the 80th Birthday of Al Pacino, including one stamp featuring him portraying **Sonny Wortzik** in the film, *Dog Day Afternoon*. He is a fictional character based on the real person, **John Wojtowicz (1945-2006)**. John was an American who attempted to rob a Brooklyn branch of Chase Manhattan Bank in 1972, partly to pay for the gender reassignment surgery of Elizabeth Eden, with whom he had a public wedding ceremony in the prior year.



On 28 February 2020, Togo released a miniature sheet and a souvenir sheet commemorating the 155th Anniversary of the Death of **Abraham Lincoln**.

On 28 February 2020, Togo released a miniature sheet commemorating the 130th Anniversary of the Death of Vincent van Gogh, including one stamp featuring *Wheatfield with Cypresses* (**Cyparissus**).

On 24 February 2020, Chad released a souvenir sheet commemorating Pablo Picasso, featuring *Three Musicians* depicting **Max Jacob**.

On 30 January 2020, Sierra Leone released a miniature sheet commemorating the 85th Anniversary of the Birth of Elvis Presley, including one stamp featuring him in the film, *Blue Hawaii*, with costume design by **Edith Head**.

On 30 January 2020, Sierra Leone released a miniature sheet commemorating the Death of Kirk Douglas, including one stamp featuring him in the film, *Lust for Life*, directed by **Vincente Minelli** and **George Cukor** and with costume design by

Walter Plunkett.

Vincente Minelli (1903-1986) was born in Chicago and was stage director at Radio City Music Hall before directing *At Home Abroad* on Broadway. Some

of the films he directed include *Cabin in the Sky*, *Meet Me in St. Louis*, *Father of the Bride*, *The Band Wagon*, and *Tea and Sympathy*.

He received an Oscar nomination for directing

An American in Paris and won the Oscar for directing *Gigi*. He was openly gay while living in New York and married four times after moving to California.



Walter Plunkett (1902-1982) was born in Oakland, California, and studied law at the University of California, Berkeley. His first credited work as a costume designer was 1927's *Hard-Boiled Haggerty*. He would work on more than 150 films in his career, including *Gone with the Wind* and *Singin' in the Rain*. He received Oscar nominations for *That Forsyte Woman*, *The Magnificent Yankee*, *Kind Lady*, *Young Bess*, *The Actress*, *Raintree County*, *Some Came Running*, *Pocketful of Miracles*, *How the West was Won*, and *An American in Paris*. He shared the Oscar for *An American in Paris*. He spent the last years of his life with partner Lee, whom he adopted so that Lee could inherit his estate.

On 30 January 2020, Peru released a souvenir sheet commemorating the 500th Anniversary of the Death of **Leonardo da Vinci**.

On 26 September 2019, Ecuador released five stamps commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the Birth of **Alexander von Humboldt**.

On 6 March 2019, Japan released two miniature sheets celebrating Spring, including one stamp featuring daffodils (**Narcissus**).