



Lambda Philatelic Journal



Volume 7, Issue 3

FALL 88

\$1.50 Per Issue

This article appeared on the front of Toronto's leading gay newspaper, XTRA. We want to thank Ken Popert, Editor and Jeff Woods, photographer, for making our visit to Toronto a memorable one.

INITIATIVES



You can't lick'em. Gay stamp collector Paul Henefeld (above) was in town in mid-June for the 39th annual convention of the American Topical Association at the Sheraton Centre. Paul won a Gold Award and the Best Researched Collection Award for his collection of stamps from many countries bearing the likenesses of such famous gay people as Oscar Wilde, Marcel Proust and Walt Whitman. Paul is the founder of the Gay & Lesbian History on Stamps Club. Interested XTRA! readers can write to the club at Box 3940, Hartford CT 06103 USA.





The Lambda Philatelic Journal is published quarterly by The Gay and Lesbian History on Stamps Club (G.L.H.S.C.), an official study unit of the American Topical Association, membership number 458. We have served gay and lesbian philatelists since 1982.

The objective of this club is to promote and foster an interest in the collection, study and dissemination of knowledge of worldwide philatelic material depicting men and women (and their works) for whom historical evidence exists of homosexual or bisexual behavior, orientation or support; historical events or ideas (such as law and the bill of rights) significant in the history of gay and lesbian culture; and animal species that have scientifically been proven as having prominent homosexual behavior.

W
R
I
T
E

T
O

U
S



Mailing address

G. & L. H. S. C.
POST OFFICE BOX 3940
HARTFORD CONNECTICUT
06103 9398

President.....	Ed S Centeno
Secretary.....	Paul Hennefeld
Treasurer.....	Blair O'Dell
Vice President.....	Brian Lanter
Women's Historian.....	Kathy J Hall
Editor.....	Paul Hennefeld

The Lambda Philatelic Journal thrives on philatelic articles; original and or reprinted, viewpoints, and periodicals (clippings or copies) for publication. We welcome members to submit any of the above. Members are also encouraged to place free advertisements of philatelic interest.

TOPEX '88 - TORONTO, CANADA
JUNE 17 - 19, 1988

by Jay E. Manewitz

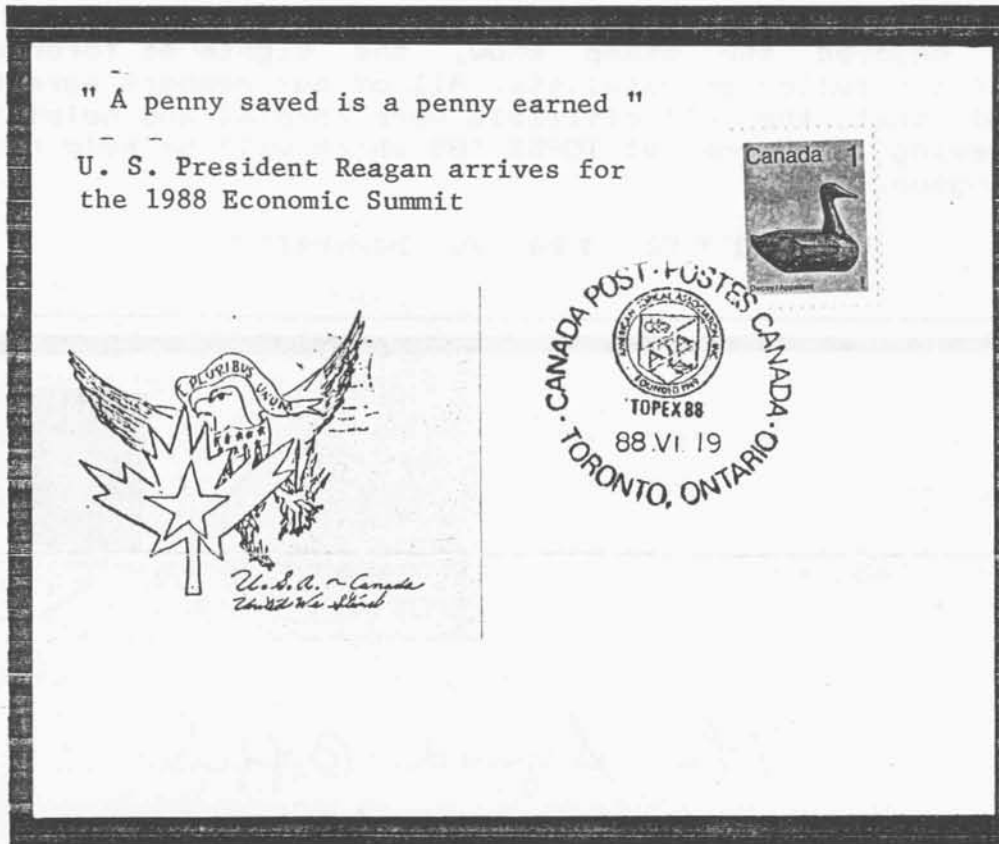


Several members and supporters of G&LHSC were in Toronto, Canada for the first Canadian Stamp Dealers Association Stamp Show, TOPEX '88, which was held at the Sheraton Hotel.

Paul Henefeld, our secretary, exhibited his collection,

Alternate Lifestyles of Famous People, which won the gold award along with the Collector's Club of Chicago's Best Researched Award. Various members accompanied Paul to the annual banquet; he was presented with his awards on June 18. Only four gold medals were presented at this show. Paul's collection always draws huge crowds and is usually the topic of conversation at any show at which he exhibits. After winning his awards he was interviewed by a reporter from XTRA, Toronto's leading gay newspaper. A reprint of this interview appears on the front page.

T
h
i
s
c
o
v
e
r
w
a
s
c
r
e
a
t
e
d
b
y



G
e
o
r
g
e
A
D
,
N
e
i
l
S
i
g
n
e
d
1
4

The Star Spangled Banner could be heard as our president, Ed S Centeno, was entering the hotel. No, it was not played for Ed; it was for President Ronald Reagan who was being welcomed to Toronto for the International Economics Conference. He was tardy and had kept the crowds waiting. Ed, our president, was on time for the club meeting.

The meeting was attended by members from: Michigan, New Jersey, Illinois, Canada, New York, and Connecticut. Items discussed were:

- applying for nonprofit status to receive discount on mail rate
- possible new ways of disseminating information about the club
- whether to accept paid philatelic advertising in the journal
- affiliation to American Philatelic Society
- suggestions for a more innovative club name
- establishing club research library
- a new computer for the club
- how to increase membership
- a logo for the club

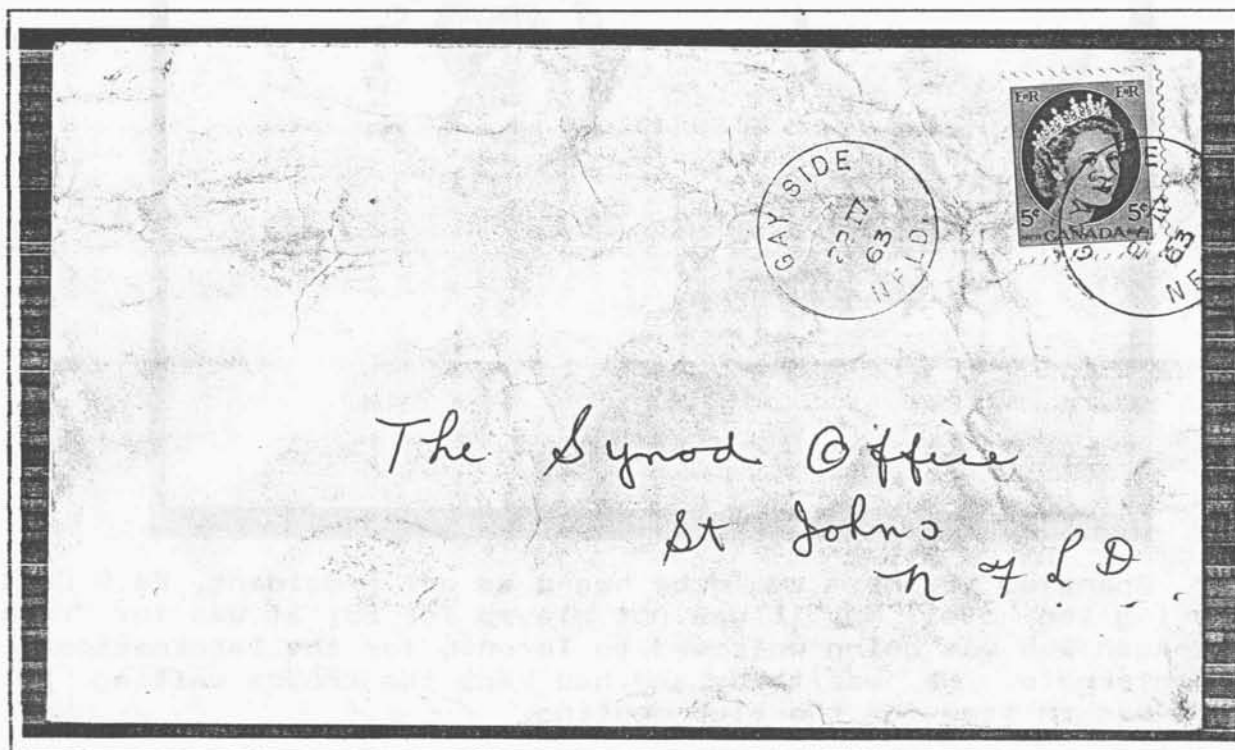


The meeting adjourned at 2:00 P.M.

Several of our members stayed at the Shelby Hotel, which is gay owned. It was an ideal location, half a block to subway and bus and within walking distance to downtown. During our stay in Toronto several of our members visited Casa Loma Castle, CN Tower, Eaton Centre (mall), ate at a gay outdoor cafe, attended an Off-Broadway performance of "Let My People Come" and the list goes on. Excursions around town at times were difficult due to barricades and roadblocks which were set up for the International Economics Conference.

We thoroughly enjoyed the stamp show, the sights of Toronto, and the comradeship of our fellow philatelists. All of our members agreed it was a fun show, and that the ATA officials were cordial and helpful. We look forward to seeing everyone at TOPEX '89 which will be held next year in Spokane, Washington.

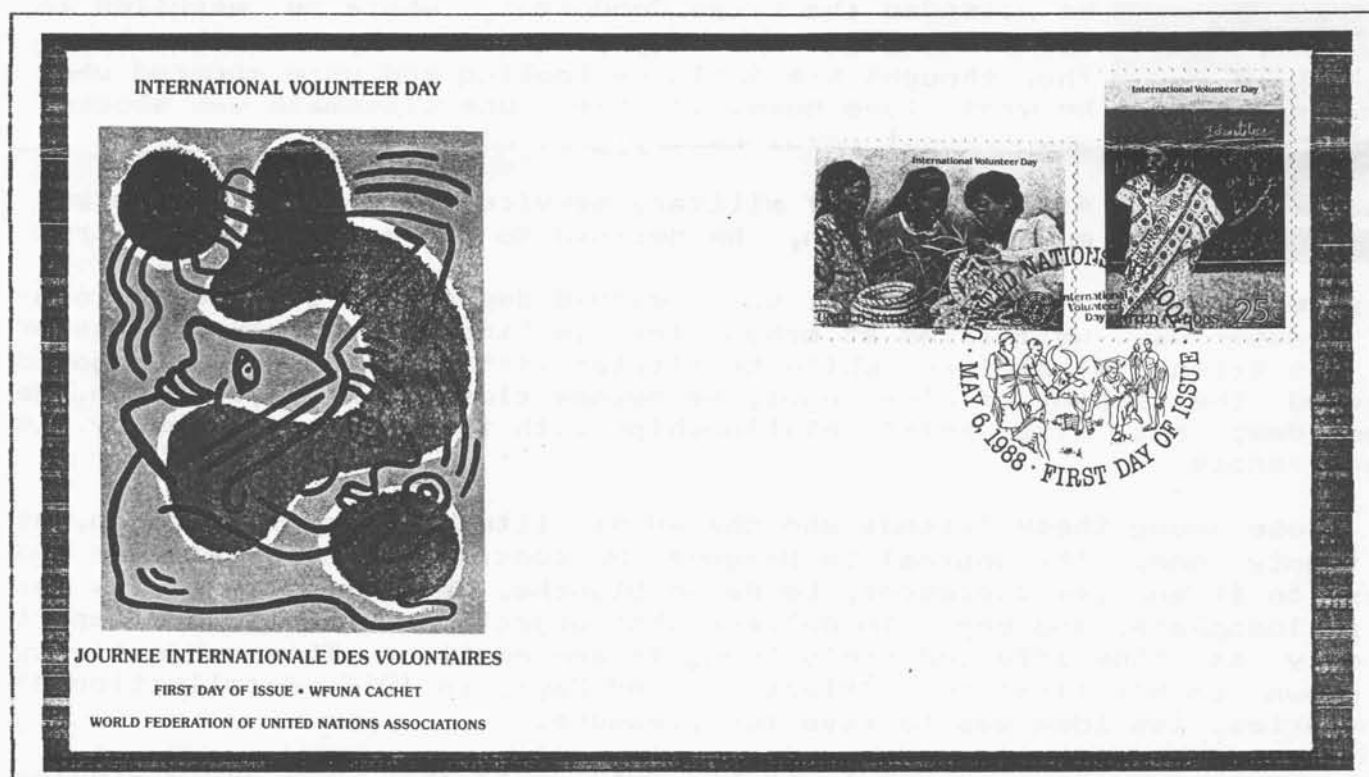
WHAT'S IN A NAME?



The residents of Gayside, 350 of them, became tired of jokes about their small community; and so they propose a solution

After writing to the provincial government, taking polls, and shifting through numerous suggestions, the town council consigned "Gayside" to the archives of Newfoundland history. The town is known as DAYTONA

contribution by Ray Broms



This WFUNA cachet features a painting by Keith Haring, a renowned gay pop artist famous for his graffiti art ("Atomic Baby"). He also designed the 1984 International Youth Year cachet and lithograph. That lithograph resulted in a sellout.

The United Nations released six stamps, two each with United States, Swiss and Austrian denominations. For more information write:

WFUNA, DC1-1177
UNITED NATIONS PLAZA
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK 10017

The funds derived from the sale of the federation's philatelic items are used to help finance its work in promoting public understanding of the United Nations.

FRENCH WRITER MARCEL PROUST: 1871-1922

by Thomas Krolak
The Empty Closet, Rochester, New York

The struggle to be admired began early for Proust, who was born July 10, 1871 in Paris. He was the son of a well-known Catholic doctor, and his mother was from a rich Jewish family. Proust was strongly attached to her and her mother, and was influenced by his mother's love of the arts. Her attention was vital because from the age of ten asthma became a life-long problem for him, confining him to home and seaside resorts. He later re-created these resorts in his writing.



He attended the Lycee Condorcet, where he excelled in his studies but was deeply disliked by the other boys. They thought him feminine-looking and were angered when he wrote love poems to them. One classmate was shocked when Proust passionately grabbed his hand.

After a year of military service for which he volunteered at eighteen, he decided to be a writer. But first

his parents had to be satisfied, so he earned degrees in law and philosophy. Proust was well-liked at school for his kindness and sense of humor plus his talent for mimicry. While he flirted with some women, and enjoyed and used the company of older ones, he became close to many young men. He formed deep but often brief relationships with them, often marred by his possessiveness.

With those among these friends who shared his literary tastes he began, at age twenty one, the journal *Le Banquet*. He contributed brief stories and essays to it and its successor, *Le Revue Blanche*. He was influenced by German philosophers, and began to believe that objects and events were important only as they affected one's thoughts and emotions. This subjectivity was shown in his first book, *Pleasures and Days*, in 1896. A collection of love stories, its idea was to live for pleasure.

To his parents this seemed to be his only goal. They were upper-middle-class and pleaded with him to get a respectable profession in law or business. They were especially insistent since the book sold poorly and got few good reviews. He had briefly worked in a library, but was now unemployed and eager to be popular, so he gave extravagant parties. He was financially dependent on his mother and money made a gulf between them.

Although Proust was often ill, he became a regular on the Paris social scene. Prominent gay poet Robert de Montesquiou became his friend and a ticket to high society. Proust flattered him artfully, getting invitations but tiring of de Montesquiou's vanity. He also befriended artistic women and was invited to their salons, or intellectual gatherings.

As he swam through this elegant, class-conscious world, he recalled his impressions. This is why much of his writing is autobiographical. His collected notes were the basis for the novel, *Jean Santeuil*, published in 1952, but written in 1895-99. Its title character is much like him. His notebooks contained reference to gay experiences that he hid from his parents. In *Jean Santeuil*, he describes what are gay meetings disguised as heterosexual encounters.

Included also in these notebooks are references to the Dreyfus Case, in which a Jewish French army captain was wrongly imprisoned for treason. Proust became a Dreyfusard, one of his public defenders. He co-authored and circulated a petition for Dreyfus in 1897. The affair tore France apart and led to widespread anti-Semitism. Proust's great novel contains a long discourse on anti-Semitism in the upper classes.

Proust was still close to his mother despite their differences. His father had died in 1903, leaving him with a yearly allowance, but it was his mother's death in 1905 that left him independently wealthy.

Her demise left him freer to act on his gay impulses. At twenty three he had met Reynaldo Hahn, a Venezuelan pianist, composer and singer. The affair was intense for two years and their friendship was permanent. At his new address he received Hahn and other male friends, often while bedridden. But he also met young men of a socially lower caste than himself.

One member of this category was Alfred Agostinelli, a man from Monaco whom Proust hired as a chauffeur on a trip in 1907. Proust admired his darkly handsome features and his uniform. The next year Agostinelli began working for Proust as his valet. He moved in with the author but brought his mistress with him. Proust loved him but hated her. Agostinelli left Proust to take flying lessons and was killed when his plane crashed into the ocean in 1914.

This tragedy plunged him into grief equalled only by his mother's death. But her death had also enabled him to write the novel, Remembrance of Things Past, based on experiences that would have disturbed her. Proust became a near-recluse while writing it, starting in 1909.

Remembrance's main character, Marcel, narrates a story similar to Proust's life. Marcel comes into contact with aristocratic society and becomes disillusioned with it while he and other characters are involved in a series of love affairs. References are made to gays and lesbians. The technique of involuntary memory is used. Agostinelli was the model for "Albertine," Marcel's fleeing mistress. De Montesquiou inspired the novel's gay Baron Charlus.



The first of these books, Swann's Way, was turned down by several publishers. He had to pay for its printing. Writer Andre Gide was one of those who dismissed it as too long, but soon admitted that was his greatest error. Gide's periodical agreed to publish the next two volumes, but Agostinelli's death, World War I and financial losses discouraged Proust from submitting them. He revised the volumes, lengthening them. Volume II, Within A budding Grove, won the Prix Goncourt in 1919.

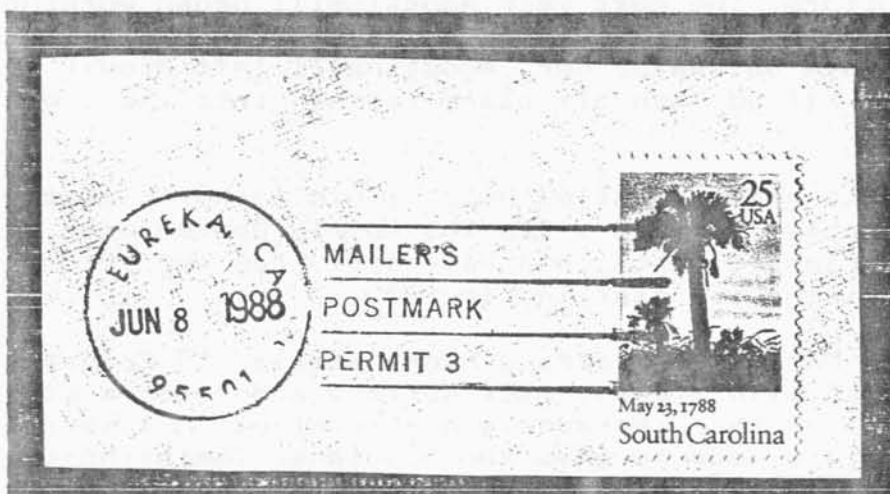
The next part, Sodom et Gomorrhe, or Cities of the Plain, was about a gay men's brothel and was published in 1921-22. Proust paid nightly visits to such a brothel for research, despite his asthma and arthritis, and gave money to a friend to start one. "Gomorrhe" refers to lesbianism. Gide was angered by the treatment of gays in Sodom as "grotesque." Proust confessed that he had, in a previous volume, wrongly dressed his pleasant memories of gay love in the guise of non-gay romance to "fill out" that part. By the later volume all that was left degeneracy, but all the characters except Marcel declined in the novel.

Proust would only admit privately that he was gay, but Remembrances's familiarity with the gay world and the sympathy in the novel for Oscar Wilde said enough.

by Lin Collette



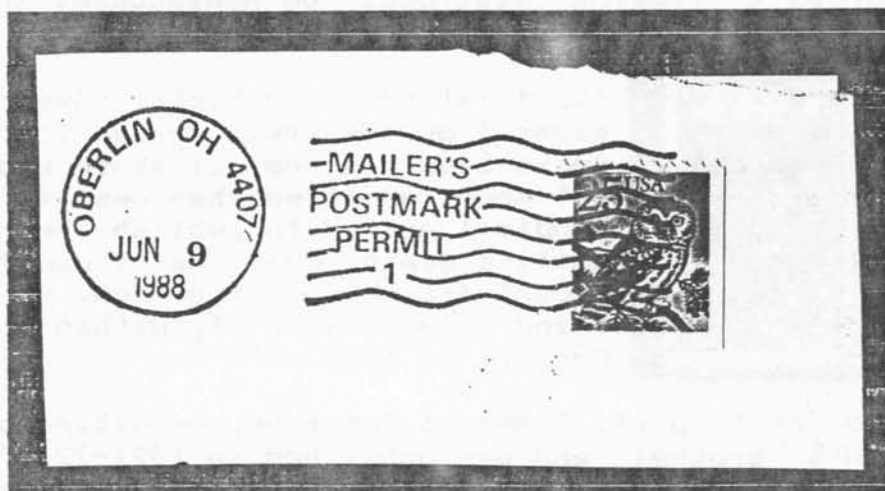
Precancels are not entirely related to the topic of gays/lesbians on stamps, but a collection of these stamps with cancellations related to the topic can certainly be begun. First, however, one should know just what precancels are. The official definition of a precancel is a stamp cancelled under proper postal authority before being affixed to a letter or package. Precancels have been used primarily by companies that mail large numbers of packages and letters, since their use eliminates the need for the post office to cancel each letter separately. Nonprofit organizations are particularly prone to using precancels, and there has been much discussion in the stamp press recently about precanceled Transportation coils.



In recent issues of Linn's and Stamp Collector there has also been some discussion of individual use of precancels. Yes, individuals can purchase precancels and use them on their mail, but only if they hold a precancel permit from that particular post office. However, individuals can purchase up to 100 stamps precanceled with a town's device without a permit, as long as they don't attempt to use

those stamps for any purpose other than selling to or trading with other collectors. CLEAR?? HOPE SO.

Although there are several different types of precancels, all can be divided into two groups: bureaus and locals. Bureaus are printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and the stamp is precanceled as the design is being printed on the stamp. Up until the advent of "line-only" precancels, each bureau was a government stamp specially printed for use in one city only. Each is separate government issue as much as any stamp listed by Scott, and there are over 8,000 Bureaus!!



This two permits are owned by GLHSC members.



Locals, on the other hand, are printed locally in cities and towns where they are used. Many different devices have been used to precancel locals, such as handstamp, mimeograph machines, and others. Precancels were first authorized in 1887 by the Post Office Department, but there are several unofficial precancels from years before, such as the "Glen Allen Star." These unofficial



usually had lines drawn across the stamp with pen or brush, and are often difficult to prove as actual precancels.

Some post offices soon switched to using printing presses to produce them, discontinuing the use of ink strokes. These were mostly collections of lines or bars that didn't identify the town (much like the lines - only Bureaus of today). In a few cases, however, special distinctive designs were used that did give some idea of where the precancels came from. This was the exception, not the rule.

Postmasters still exerted their right to individuality by printing only the city name, including "U.S.A." in the design, or using fancy designs. In addition, some precancels had the month and year added to the imprint. These are called "integrals" or "dateds". Later, a 1938 postal regulation required that mailers add dates and initials to precancels in denominations of six cents and up.

Precancels are relatively easy to get, start with your daily "junk mail", compared to past years. Collectors can order precancels from post offices with devices (up to 100 at a time), or purchase them from dealers, or trade with other collectors. A collection can encompass every precancel ever issued, just as in general worldwide collecting -- and just as impossible to accomplish. And it can be just as specialized as you want it to be. You can collect only Bureaus or just locals. Bureau collectors can specialize in certain issues, varieties, and types. Local collectors can concentrate on certain towns, types, precancels on specific stamps or series (such as the Liberty series), precancels used in foreign countries such as Belgium or Canada, and so on.



And, yes, one can make a topical collection out of precancels. As I mentioned earlier, one can certainly do a precancel collection on gay themes. For example, one could collect precancels from towns and cities that have Pride Day marches, gay communities, and the like. Or collect precancels from the birthplaces and homes of American gays. I haven't try doing this yet, what with all the other collections I have, but it certainly can be done.

Further information on precancels (SAE appreciated) write to:

Lin Collette

Box 1774

Pawtucket, RI 02862

Every letter sent will get a packet of precancels, and how you can order precancels from post offices and also give you a starter list.



Today's biographers are making it easier for gay and lesbian history buffs to read between the lines, but still they're hampered by their own tunnel vision.

Authors often get hung up on finding proof of sexual activity, gay or straight, and miss the importance of life long attachments or identity.

This happens even in more enlightened biographies that acknowledge love between women, Gerda Lerner said in a September 1987 article in The Women's

Review of Books. Lerner examines recent biographies of early women's rights advocates Frances Willard (U.S. Scott #872) Carrie Catt (U.S. 959), and Alice Paul (who spent more than half a century fighting for the Equal Rights Amendment, died in 1977; it's time to nominate her for a stamp), in her review, "Where Biographers Fear to Tread."

Biographers become so concerned with finding proof of genital experience that they can't see the forest for the trees, she suggests. The three biographers, Ruth Bordin, Robert Booth Fowler and Christine Lunardini respectively, seem to hold a stereotypical notion of "lesbian" and struggle to avoid labeling their subject as such, she said.

By limiting their definition to sexual activity, they miss the evidence that their subjects, as well as other important American and British reformers, lived their lives without emotional attachments to men and derived their strength from association with networks of women.

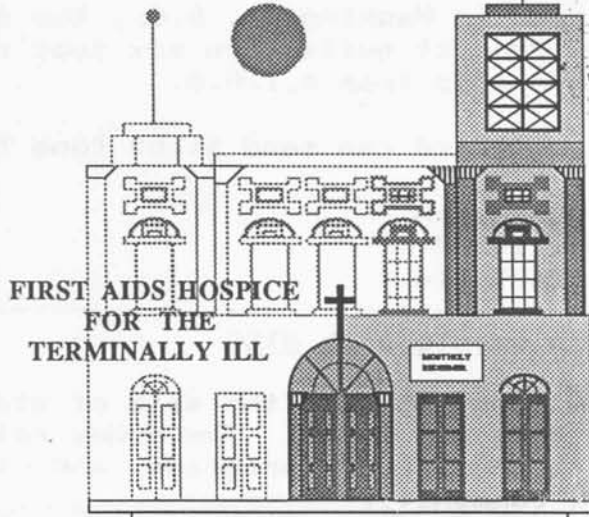
Instead of filtering their perceptions through late 20th century homophobia, Lerner suggests, historians "must attempt to recreate the life and times of her subject from within the consciousness of the subjects."

She extends her analysis to the biographers of suffragist Susan B. Anthony (U.S. 784, 1051), poet Emily Dickinson (U.S. 1436) and social work reformer Jane Addams (U.S. 878).

One recent biography that embraces a wider definition and examines the influence of same-sex relationships on creative development is Willa Cather: The Emerging Voice by Sharon O'Brien.

Though O'Brien lacked absolute proof of Cather's lesbianism, largely because Cather (U.S. 1487) burned her letters before her death, she examined how Cather's feelings and perceptions colored her writing, especially in her early career.

GERTRUDE STEIN PHILATELIC SOCIETY



FIRST AIDS HOSPICE
FOR THE
TERMINALLY ILL

OPENING OF THE HOSPICE OF SAN FRANCISCO
115 Diamond Street, San Francisco, California
MARCH 2, 1987

7/9



Les Wright
P.O. Box 14665
San Francisco, CA 94114

GAY HISTORY SERIES # 11

12 YEARS IN
3 TOURS OF
WOUNDED:
WINNER OF:

MARCH, 1975:
OCTOBER, 1975:



THE AIR FORCE
DUTY: VIETNAM
AT DANANG
BRONZE STAR
PURPLE HEART
ADMITTED BEING GAY
INVOLUNTARY DISCHARGE
FOR BEING GAY



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

Cover: © Copyright 1979 by Lambda Stamps

T/Sgt. LEONARD MATLOVICH



Leonard Matlovich, a former Air Force technical sergeant whose battle to stay in the military after he acknowledged his homosexuality to a superior officer landed him on the cover of Time magazine in 1975, died of complications associated with AIDS on June 22nd in Calif.

Alyson Publications finished his biography shortly before his death, and will be published in the spring of 1989.

The American Postcard Company has published a postcard picturing the quilt at its October 11, 1987 inaugural display in the Mall in Washington, D.C. At that time the quilt consisted of about 1,900 panels. Now on a twenty city tour of the U.S., the quilt has grown to 3,400 panels and by October 1988, when it is again displayed in Washington, D.C., the quilt will have 10-12,000 panels. The Names Project quilts are six foot cloth panels memorializing individuals who have died from A.I.D.S.

Anyone interested in purchasing the postcard can send \$1.00 (one to be sent postpaid)

Names Project Foundation
Post Office Box 14573
San Francisco, CA 94114

A National Campaign to help people with AIDS



STAMP OUT AIDS raises money through the sale of stamps (cinderella). \$1.00 buys six seals. The money raised provides food, hospice care, buddy programs, and other vital services to the community.

\$1.00 per set of 6, plus a S.A.S.E.

STAMP OUT AIDS
John Glines, Project Director
240 West 44th Street
New York City, New York 10036

SAN MARINO ISSUES FOUR AIDS STAMPS

San Marino has taken a bold step that many bigger nations have avoided thus far: using stamps to publicize the danger of AIDS.

Four stamps were issued on September 19 to heighten the awareness of the deadly disease. The stamps are being released in conjunction with the International AIDS Congress which will be held from October 10-14 in San Marino.

The 250-lira - depicts a tree symbolizing life.

The 350-lira - represents the destruction of the disease. The design features the acronym AIDS with an intense white light penetrating and disintegrating the disease.

The 650-lira - symbolizes the theme of AIDS: a knot to loosen. A knotted cord, representing the difficulty in research, is shown surrounding the AIDS virus.

The 1,000-lira - depicts a man reading a newspaper and symbolizes that printed matter is a useful means to arrest the spread of the disease.

For more details, write to:

Philatelic and Numismatic Department
Piazza Garibaldi, 47031
Republic of San Marino

Joe P. of Dallas, TX has asked for our opinion:

"What country would most likely issue a strictly gay stamp???"

Yours truly thinks it would most likely be: The Netherlands. What's your opinion. Send us your choice and we'll share it in the next issue.

LAST LICK LAST LICK LAST LICK

Worldwide stamp collector is seeking other members (especially foreign countries) to trade used/unused stamps. Will answer all letters. Please write to: Michael Ravis Post Office Box 68 Philippi, W.V. 26416

SISTER!! DO YOU SHARE MY COLLECTING INTERESTS?? Women on stamps/FDCs; motorcycles on stamps/FDCs (yes, I am an avid real-life motorcyclist...so is my lover); USA-UN-UK FDCs; and USA & UK proof coins. Because of G&LHSC I am now starting a collection of lesbians on stamps, all countries. Let's talk!! /call Jacqui on (202) 420 1860

An open letter from a Charter Member of GLHSC:

I am acting as a "receiving agent" for a prison stamp club based in San Luis Obispo, California. The men belonging to the club have asked me to plead for donations for their group, which has been in existence for about two years. Most of the men are beginning collectors; all say that they have benefited greatly from collecting stamps. They have little cash to purchase stamps for their collections, and thus must rely on donations. Prison regulations prohibit them receiving the donations directly -- hence my involvement. The men appear to be serious about themselves. As such, I hope that you will be willing to send a donation of stamps, literature, and such to the club. There will be no skimming, and it would be appreciated if CTO's are not sent.

Please send donations to:

Stamp Club
C/O Lin Collette
Post Office Box 1774
Pawtucket, RI 02862

Unfortunately, this is not a tax - deductible contribution.

The GLHSC would like to thank the following members for their philatelic contributions to the club's archives:

Joseph of Dallas, TX for the beautiful set of Sweden stamps.

Joe of Aurora, CO for the magnificent set of male nudes from Greece.

Les Wright for his generous donation of special gay covers, letters, books, male nudes on stamps, postcards and a complete set of the International Gay Philatelic Journal (the official publication of the Gertrude Stein Philatelic Society) and the British Gay Philatelic Society's Journal (the official publication of the British Gay Philatelic Society).

The GLHSC gets letters from people (mostly from foreign countries) wishing to place personal ads in our journal and also asking for names and addresses of members. Most of the requests are for pen-pals, very few are interested in stamp collecting. WE DO NOT PROVIDE ANY DATA ON OUR MEMBERS TO ANYONE UNLESS WE GET PERMISSION DIRECTLY FROM MEMBERS. WE DO NOT ACCEPT PERSONAL ADS, ONLY OF PHILATELIC INTEREST.

The club has also received a copy of Philatelic Bulletin and a recent issue of The International Philatelic Club (both magazines are filled with worldwide listings of people interested in exchanging philatelic material.

If any of you are interested in obtaining copies of those issues and/or letters, please send me a S.A.S.E. OR IRC.

Yours truly is seeking Walt Whitman FDC's, singles, and commercially used stamps on covers from the following countries: Romania (Sct #1076), Bulgaria (Sct #919), Czechos (Sct #726), and Dahomey (Sct #C-119). Willing to buy or trade.

The following national gay organizations are proud Supportive Members of our club:

The Gay and Lesbian Task Force (American Library Association)
Lake-Geauga Social Advocate Task Force (Ohio)
Plain Brown Rapper (San Diego Publication)
International Gay History Archives
The Naiad Press, Inc.
National Gay Archives
Lambda Stamps, Inc.
Patlar Publications
Paz Y Liberacion

Our journal gets distributed to the following:

Linn's Stamp News
Stamps Magazine
Topical Times
Canadian Gay Archives
The British Library (Philatelic Collections)

Your truly (again) would like to correspond with those of you that collect postcards. My topic is male nudes, Walt Whitman, and Olympics. There's a big postcard show in New York City on November 11/13th at Penta Hotel, 7th Avenue & 33rd Street.

Due to the Advocate Magazine article in June '88, and other coverage from various national gay magazines and newspapers, our club has increased membership by 15%!! The volume of mail became so high that I became coerced into purchasing a computer to keep up with the demand.

The PC has become a valuable tool in keeping up with the club's correspondence, doing the journal, maintain accurate record keeping on membership files, and doing word processing.

For you PC experts I purchased a Leading Edge Model D 2, 640K RAM, hard drive 30 MB, MS-DOS 3.2 & GW Basic, IBM compatible, etc. If you're in the market for a PC I recommend this baby highly. I also purchased the Multi mate word processing software.

THE GLHSC NEEDS YOUR HELP IN PUBLICIZING OUR CLUB IN YOUR HOMETOWN.

An excellent way to cut down in advertizing is by providing free articles to magazines and newspapers across the country. I have written a series of articles about the club, stamp collecting, famous people on stamps, and Paul's collection and his big success story on how he has won numerous prestigious awards and the positive attitude from the straight world. This program has been proven to be a big hit, that's how our club landed in the national Advocate Magazine. But we need your help to make it bigger and more rewarding.

I'm only asking for a list of your hometown gay newspapers, magazines, and any sociable club that you think would be willing to print one of our articles for free. For every list I get, will gladly send you a copy of the articles and a token of appreciation.