



# GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORY ON STAMPS

## JOURNAL



GLHSONLINE.ORG

Issue 021

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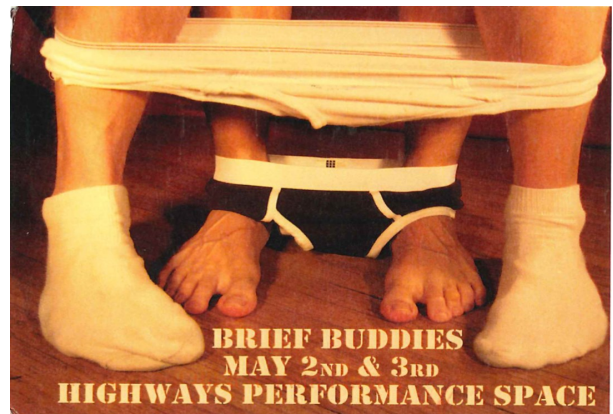
### HIGHWAYS PERFORMACE SPACE AND THEIR PROVOCATIVE POSTCARD MAILINGS

By Richard L. Beecher

Highways, located in Santa Monica, California, is a theatre performance space for artists looking to explore progressive and alternative works of theatre, music, dance, spoken work and interactive media. From its small beginnings in 1989, it has always been receptive to the works of LGBTQ artists.

In order to promote its events to the public, Highways has used the mails to publicize such events, frequently in the form of postcard mailings. Some of these mailings have been quite provocative, to say the least. Two such mailings are shared.

The first event, from May of 2008, promoted an event called *Brief Buddies*. While one side of the card gave the recipient all the details of the who, what, where and when of the event, the other side presented a rather suggestive photo of the lower portion of two men’s legs, with their underwear briefs positioned around their ankles. No one could argue that such a mailing was not going to be noticed.



Even more scandalous, and in celebration of Valentines Day and a nod to the 16<sup>th</sup> president of the United States, Highways presented a fundraising event title *Abraham Lincoln’s Big Gay Valentine’s Bash* in February of 2010. Once again, the particulars of the event are offered on the address side of the card, while the steamy side of the card showed a picture of Honest Abe’s head superimposed on the body of muscular nude man, holding what appears to be a spear and reclining on what appears to be leopard skin throw rug. Outrageous, you might say, but both cards were delivered to their destination without running afoul of any content restrictions that the United States Postal Service may have had in place. (Images continued on page 4)



The *Gay and Lesbian History on Stamps Journal* is published quarterly by Gay and Lesbian History on Stamps (GLHS). GLHS is an affiliate of the American Philatelic Society (APS), Number 205,

and a study unit of the American Topical Association (ATA), Number 458.

The **objective** of GLHS is to promote an interest in the collection, study and dissemination of knowledge of worldwide philatelic material that depicts:

- Notable men and women and their contributions to society for whom historical evidence exists of homosexual or bisexual orientation,
- Mythology, historical events and ideas significant in the history of gay culture,
- Flora and fauna scientifically proven as having prominent homosexual behavior, and

Even though emphasis is placed on the above aspects of stamp collecting, GLHS strongly encourages other philatelic endeavors.

## PUBLICATION SCHEDULE:

<u>Publication date</u>	<u>Submissions due</u>
October 2023	September 15
January 2024	December 15
April 2023	March 15
July 2023	June 15

Members may submit advertisements for free.

### GLHS Board of Directors 2022-2023

President: Lisa Foster (Wash.)

Vice President: John P. Stefanek (Mich.)

Secretary: Marlene Michelson (Calif.)

Treasurer: Laurie Anderson (Wash.)

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## MEMBERSHIP:

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 organization, GLHS, mailed to 646 169th Street S., Spanaway WA 98387 or by PayPal to [glhstamps2@gmail.com](mailto:glhstamps2@gmail.com).

### Membership Report

Our current membership consists of **82** members. 48 are also members of the American Philatelic Society (APS) & 37 members of the American Topical Association (ATA).

*When you join the APS, ATA and/or AFDCS notify GLHS*

### ! New Members !

Joan C., AZ

## Additional volunteers are needed

- Social Media Committee to explore options for group open and/or closed online communications/meetings such as Google, Instagram, twitter, blogs, go-to meeting, HipChat, etc.
- GLHS Journal Editor
- GLHS Journal Columnists
- Index GLHS journal articles since 2018
- Give presentations in person or virtually
- Coordinate GLHS Socials
- Maintain membership
- Advertising Committee
- Submit articles, journeys, cover/postal history write ups, travels and philatelic events





## GLHS Annual Meeting

August 13, 2023  
11:00 AM

The meeting will begin at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time in Room 13.

The Great American Stamp Show which takes place August 10-13, 2023, in Cleveland, Ohio. The show site is the Huntington Convention Center, 300 Lakeside Avenue. Sponsored by the American Philatelic Society, the American Topical Association and the American First Day Cover Society, the event features hundreds of exhibits, highlighted by the World Series of Philately competition, featuring the best exhibits from regional shows held around the country.

A philatelic literature competition, both printed and digital, is also scheduled. The largest annual philatelic event in the United States also features a more than 85 dealer bourse, Kewruga Auctions, seminars and philatelic society meetings, including our own. The U.S. Postal Service, the Faroe Islands and the U.N. Postal Administration will have booths at the show. Admission is free and paid parking is available. For more details on the event and registration, visit the [APS website](https://www.apsa.org).

### Body, Mind, Soul FDC



Thursday, Aug. 10  
1:00 p.m. on show floor,  
stage next to USPS

#### United Nations Postal Administration

Three stamps (pane of 20) and three souvenir sheets featuring Taijiquan, Calligraphy and Guqin. Artist: Yun Zhang (P.R. China)

### GASS Future Dates/Locations

- 2023 August 10-13 Cleveland OH
- 2024 August 15-18, Hartford, CT
- 2025 August 14-17, Schaumburg, IL
- 2026 Bye – Boston 2026 May 23-30

## Join NPM at GASS to talk about LGBTQIA Postal History

August 12, 2023  
1:00 PM

The National Postal Museum is embarking on a series of study days and one of the first ones will be about LGBTQIA postal history and we want your help!

So, what's a study day? Study days are an opportunity for the Postal Museum to consult expert philatelists and subject matter experts to understand what is in the Museum's collection and what's missing. Study days help staff understand how to describe and display what they have and develop an acquisition plan to fill key gaps in their collection. In the case of LGBTQIA postal history, the Museum's collection is quite limited and staff would like to understand what they should be acquiring as well as likely sources of material.

How can you help? There will be a study day planning session held at GASS on Saturday, August 12th at 1:00 PM. All are welcome and those who identify as LGBTQIA are particularly encouraged to attend and provide input into content for a study day as well as key attendees from the LGBTQIA philatelic community. Check the GASS schedule of events for the specific room.



### First Day of Issue

## Thinking of You

United States Postal Service  
Pane of 20, forever

Friday, Aug. 11  
11:00 a.m. on show floor,  
stage next to USPS