



Lambda Philatelic Journal

PUBLICATION OF THE GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORY ON STAMPS CLUB * MARCH 2007, VOL. 26, NO. 1, WHOLE NO. 97



Fun with covers

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

The objectives of GLHSC are to promote an interest in the collection, study and dissemination of knowledge of worldwide philatelic material that depicts:

- Notable men and women and their contributions to society for whom historical evidence exists of homosexual or bisexual orientation,
- Mythology, historical events and ideas significant in the history of gay culture,
- Flora and fauna scientifically proven to having prominent homosexual behavior, and
- Even though emphasis is placed on the above aspects of stamp collecting, GLHSC strongly encourages other philatelic endeavors.

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MEMBERSHIP:

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

Single issues \$3.

There are two levels of membership:

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

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

New memberships received from January through September will receive all back issues and directory for that calendar year. (Their dues will be considered paid through the end of the year they join.) Memberships received October through December will be considered paid through the following year and will not receive back issues, unless they are requested.

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Non-members can place ads for \$10 per issue.

Ads should be no larger than 1/4 page. Any ad submitted without artwork will be created by the editor and at the editor's discretion.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE:

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

WINNER OF THE SILVER-BRONZE AWARD AT
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News From the Editor



An interesting cover used to submit dues payment. All stamps are from the current US definitive series. Cover overpays current rate by 1 cent.

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As I have stated in the past, the journal depends on submissions from all members. Unfortunately, I have received very little for this and the next few issues of the journal. PLEASE send a one to four page article on YOUR favorite philatelic subject. The easiest way to submit it is via email or disk, in text format. Graphics should be at least 300 dpi. If you are unable to scan (in color, please), send me the original. I will scan and return your stamps, covers, etc. to you.

My thanks go out to all who have submitted an article so far this year. The postmarks on page 10 are from recent issues of *Topical Time*, the journal of the American Topical Association.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

The last issue of the *Lambda Philatelic Journal* was excellent as always and one to which I could especially relate. I would like to add a couple of addendums if I may to two of the articles.

First, the article on Jaroslav Hasek was well written and well researched. The story of Svejek (spelled Schwejk in German) is well known throughout Europe and especially in the German speaking lands. The Bavarian composer, Konstantin Wecker, produced a pop musical show on the character: "Take It Easy, Schwejk." The show was produced at the Deutsches Theater in Munich and easily had six numbers that would have been great dance tunes had they been recorded and issued. I have not been able to find any of these songs on CDs of Wecker's music. Although it is over six years since I saw it at the theater, the showstopper was "Gott sei Dank" (Praise the Lord) which was a hot dance number. Frankfurt (Main) has for many years had a popular gay bar called Zum Schwejk, which to my best knowledge is still there near the Konstablerwache.

The second article on Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne was also well written. Those members who are interested in gay relationships and the government at this time might want to read *The Lavender Scare* by David Johnson (ISBN 0-226-40190-1). It is fascinating reading as to how the government cracked down on gays and gay relationships, fired thousands of government workers by denying security clearances, and the eventual rise of Harry Hay and the Mattachine Society. I picked up my copy at a gay London bookstore, but I think it should be available in the United States as well.

Sincerely,
Tony Andren
Germany

ATA Membership Benefits Unit Members

You have joined an ATA Unit or Affiliate because it has certain benefits for you. Perhaps it relates to your collecting interests. Perhaps you enjoy the sociability aspect of the meetings and undertakings of the unit. You no doubt can think of many reasons why it is a good experience for you. Your unit is an affiliate of the American Topical Association and this relationship provides benefits as well. Each month Unit activities are publicized under the heading "Units In Action" in *Topical Time*, the journal of the ATA. Others read about these activities and are persuaded to join the Unit that deals with a subject that appeals to them. This publicity leads to an increase in membership in the Units.

Likewise many additional benefits await those who join the ATA. One very nice benefit is that you will receive every issue of *Topical Time* where you can read about all of the Units and their activities. Membership gives you access to nearly 500 checklists, over 80 handbooks, numerous slide shows and DVDs, a translation service, and a membership directory that allows you to get conveniently in touch with others with similar collecting interests. Soon to be available to ATA members will be a website whereby members will be able to buy, sell, or trade stamps on line at no charge. Keep in mind that your membership in ATA makes ATA a stronger umbrella organization. This is important when it comes time to sell your topical collections as ATA promotes the resale value of your collection. Many other benefits will be realized when you join ATA. Details or a membership application can be obtained by writing to the American Topical Association, PO Box 57, Arlington, TX 76004-0057, by phoning (817) 274-1181, or by e-mailing americantopical@msn.com.

Passion Lost, Never to be Regained

by Bobby Cloud

John Milton, (1608-1674) the great English poet, had an intense relationship with his boyhood friend Charles Diodati, which was analyzed in an essay by John Shawcross who concluded that "The total view of Diodati seen from the extant evidence certainly points to a homosexual nature; of Milton, to a latent homosexuality which was probably repressed consciously (as well as subconsciously) from becoming overt except with Diodati." At the time Milton also had a very passionate friendship with another classmate named Alexander Gill, the son of the headmaster of St. Paul's School.

John Milton married in 1642, and after his first wife's death, he remarried twice more (his second wife also succumbing to complications of childbirth). One can never label Milton as a homosexual, but one can label him as having homoerotic "love" for Diodati – though he also had developed another passionate friendship in Christ's College in 1626 with one Edward King. There is no evidence that Milton was ever again so attached to another male after Diodati's early death in 1638. (Ironically King also died in 1638).

Milton's attachment to Diodati may help explain his attitudes toward homosexuality in *Paradise Regained* (1670) and other works. In *Paradise Regained*, Milton incorporates a homosexual temptation into the famous banquet scene by means of significant allusions to Alexander the Great, Ganymede, and Hylas. Satan tempts Christ with "Tall stripling youths rich clad, of fairer hew / Then Ganymed or Hylas" (2.352-53). According to Greek Mythology, Ganymede was the young, beautiful boy who became the lover of Zeus and Hylas was the handsome youth with whom Hercules fell in love. Milton has carefully constructed a homoerotic temptation that reaches its culmination in the alluring presence of beautiful youths who symbolize the power of homosexual love to attract figures as powerful and stalwart as Zeus and Hercules.



Scott # 2153

The homosexual allusions in other works such as *Elegy VII* (1627), the epigraphs on the title pages of the *Masque* (1637) and *Poems* (1645), which are from Virgil's homoerotic second eclogue, and the highly charged homoeroticism and homosexual allusions of his elegy for King (*Lycidas* – 1638) and for Diodati, (*Epitaphium Damonis* -- 1638), all suggest that Milton was familiar with the classical literature which celebrated homosexuality and had a strong capacity for discovering in it emotions that were correlative to his own emotions.

Though there is no doubt that he accepted the biblical condemnation of sodomy, there is reason to think that his attitude toward same-sex relations was an enlightened attitude for his age. Milton lists sodomy among the numerous offenses against chastity and evokes the story of the biblical Sodom and Gomorrah as a precedent of God's anger with the ungodly. Milton seems to recognize homosexuals and heterosexuals as distinct classes, he did not conceive of the story of Sodom and Gomorrah as referring exclusively to homosexuality. God's destruction of Sodom signified to Milton the generalized issue of simple lust -- whether it is heterosexual lust or homosexual lust. Perhaps an underlying lust that Milton had for his boyhood friend, Diodati. By using 21st century labels, one may be able to classify Milton as a repressed homosexual or bisexual who gave in to society's pressures and lived life for society rather than for himself.

Perhaps because Milton was controversial and political or because of the context of showing his attitude for same-sex love as being OK, the Royal Post has never honored John Milton, England's great 17th Century Poet. The only stamp found honoring John Milton is from 1958 from the USSR (Russia).

Bibliography

Bredbeck, Gregory W., *Sodomy and Interpretation: Marlowe to Milton*. Ithaca, New York: Cornell University Press, 1991.

Shawcross, John T. "Milton and Diodati: An Essay in Psycho-dynamic Meaning." *Milton Studies* 7 (1977): 127-163.

Garde, Noel, *Jonathan to Gide: The Homosexual in History*; Vantage Press, 1964.

Adrienne Monnier, Paris' First Librarian

by Angela Watson

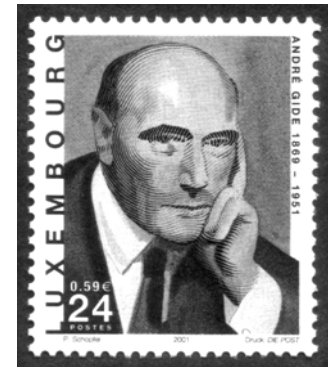


Adrienne Monnier was born in Paris in April 1892. She was a book dealer and writer and was a lesbian member of the avant-garde salon group in Paris in the early 20th century. In 1915 she opened the bookshop *La Maison des Amis des Livres* (The House of the Friends of Books).

Monnier was among the first women in France to found her own bookstore. At this time, it was unusual for a French woman to independently set herself up as a bookseller, as most women who worked in this field either assisted



Scott no. B466



Scott no. 1051

in the family run bookstore or, as widows, took over the business from their deceased husbands.

Monnier, who had worked as a teacher and as a literary secretary, loved the world of literature and was determined to make bookselling her career. So, with limited capital and in a very chauvinist era, she and her friend Suzanne Bonnierre opened their shop at 7 Rue L'Odeon in 1915. This location was in the heart of the Latin Quarter of Paris. This opening came at a time when there was a genuine need for new bookstores, since many male booksellers had left to join the armed forces to fight in World War I.

La Maison des Amis des Livres was a meeting place for some of the most famous authors of the time and their fans. James Joyce, Ernest Hemingway, André Gide, Colette and George Eliot were among Monnier's many associates in the literary world.

Just across the street, American expatriate Sylvia Beach opened the bookshop *Shakespeare and Company*. Beach and Monnier had a relationship that lasted 20 years. By sponsoring readings and encouraging informal conversations among authors and readers, the two women brought to bookselling a domesticity and hospitality that encouraged friendship as well as cultural exchange.

Monnier pioneered the concept of a lending library in France, a luxury that Americans now take for granted, and she cultivated a female clientele. She particularly encouraged them to use the library, as many women of the time did not have money of their own, and would not have been able to get money for books from their husbands.

In addition, Monnier launched a French language review, *le Navire d'Argent* (The Money Ship), in June 1925. Along with the works of French writers who frequented her bookshop, she devoted an issue to American writers including Walt Whitman, William Carlos Williams, Ernest Hemingway and E.E. Cummings. Beach assisted Monnier in editing of the journal. However, after a dozen issues, Monnier had to abandon the *Navire d'Argent*, since the effort and the cost was more than she could manage.



Sylvia Beach (left) and Adrienne Monnier

Regarding Sylvia Beach, there is no evidence that she was ever romantically involved with men. She had long friendships with a number of women, but the love of her life was Monnier, with whom she lived from 1920 until 1936, when Monnier began a brief affair with another woman. From that time on, Beach lived alone, although the two women continued a devoted friendship, dining together every evening until Monnier's death in 1955.

Although Beach's name is connected to Ernest Hemingway, whom she called "my best customer," Robert McAlmon, and Ezra Pound as well as Gertrude Stein and Natalie Barney, her closest associations were with the French. While Beach closed her store during the Nazi Occupation, Monnier remained open and continued to provide books and solace to Parisian readers.

Plagued by ill health, Monnier was diagnosed in September 1954 with aural disturbances of the inner ear.

She also suffered from delusions. In May, 1955 she committed suicide by taking an overdose of sleeping pills.

Monnier's works, most of which were published after her death, include:

Les gazettes d'Adrienne Monnier 1925-1945 (The Gazettes of Adrienne Monnier) (1953); *Rue de l'Odeon* (Street of Odeon) (1960); *Trois agendas d'Adrienne Monnier* (Three Diaries of Adrienne Monnier) (1960); *Dernières gazettes et écrits divers* (Last Gazettes and Various Writings) (1961); *Les poésies d'Adrienne Monnier* (Poetries of Adrienne Monnier) (1962); and her autobiography, *The Very Rich Hours of Adrienne Monnier* (1976).

Based on Wikipedia.

We're on the web!
www.GLHSC.com

The Florida Forty Stamper: Mystery of Lincoln

by Francis Ferguson

This introduction article is the first of a five part series to appear in 2007 and 2008. The intent is to explore the extraordinary myths and sometimes scant facts that surround the life of the 16th President of the United States. This series will continue with Part II – Youth, Part III – Pre-Presidential, Part IV – Presidential, Part V – The After-Life.

The legacy of Abraham Lincoln, who was assassinated in 1865, is filled with rich detail, but conversely other common facts are often murky and devoid of hard evidence. Lincoln scholars have been noted to say --- he is newly invented for each generation. This is a highly accurate and prophetic statement as we have witnessed the recent publication in 2005 of “The Intimate World of Abraham Lincoln” by C.A. Tripp and the resulting firestorm of words. The book contains little new evidence to confirm Lincoln’s alleged love of men over women, but it does make some fantastic jumps of logic with



Scott 77 is one of my favorite stamps and also the first Lincoln stamped issued in April of 1866 followed by the wonderful pictorial series of 1869 which had the 90 cent bi-color rendition.

the information presented -- often with no hard evidence to back-up the conclusion drawn. However, this book has started many to review and rethink some of what has been believed as “doctrine” in past years.

In almost every survey of United States Presidents done by scholars, Lincoln finishes in the top three. Few Presidents since this country’s founding have become strong historical icons as much as Lincoln. In the late 1920s, sculptor Gutzon Borglum and

President Coolidge selected Washington, Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Lincoln to appear on Mount Rushmore -- further cementing Lincoln’s iconic status in the mind of the general public.

His presidential terms of service saw turmoil like none seen before as the Civil War raged on, with the North fighting the South over one basic issue; human rights. Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation in 1863 firmly and unequivocally stated his beliefs on human rights. Did this action foreshadow something that Lincoln fought on a more personal level? That has been suggested.

Lincoln’s close personal association with a small number of male friends during his lifetime can be construed as something more. How much more? No one has that answer. History is written and rewritten to fit the available facts or cover-up objectionable facts that do not conform.

Lincoln’s marriage in 1842 to Mary Todd yielded four children. This tumultuous union can not be described as an easy marriage. Mary Todd is often described as a “shrew” by many historians. Is any of this proof of his heterosexual orientation? Some historians have viewed this as nothing more than the aberrations of a possible bisexual male, struggling to fit into the societal norms of the period while others just ignore.

This series will explore many of these issues. [One of my personal heroes in life has always been Lincoln, followed by Helen Keller, and Thomas Edison – all people who made remarkable contributions to humanity, despite their handicaps or circumstances. I have read a great deal about Lincoln over the years and have always felt a special connection, for whatever reason, with him. This book by C.A. Tripp in many ways, I feel, is a character assassination with thinly researched and documented information. I do however, appreciate the discussion that the book has generated – this series included!]

Until next time, have a great time collecting, and I look forward to hearing from any readers with comments or suggestions. I can be reached at hampton@cfl.rr.com.

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In memory

David Renn

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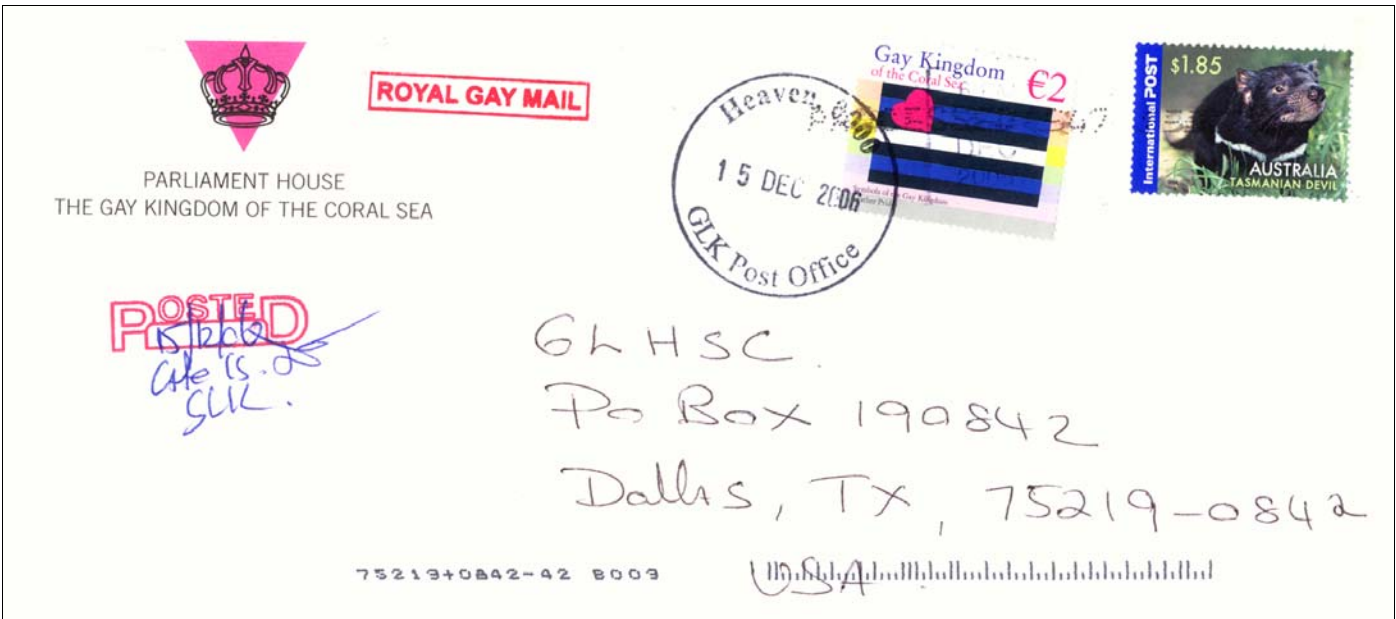


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**Check out Paul's
collection on the web
@ www.paulsgaystamps.com**

Gay & Lesbian Update



Cover "mailed" from the Gay & Lesbian Kingdom of the Coral Sea Islands. The cinderella is "postmarked" December 15, 2006 at Heaven, 0000. Due to the placement of the cinderella, it was cancelled with an Australian spray-on cancel that is un-readable. The Australian \$1.85 tasmanian devil stamp paid the postage.



Lunt-Fontanne Theater Station
April 27, 2006
New York, NY



In Memorial Station
1955 - 2005
East of Edens. Rebel. Giant
Sept 30, 2005
Lost Hills, CA 93249

James Dean Memorial
September 30, 2005
Lost Hills, CA



Albrecht Durer
April 13, 2006
Nurnberg, Germany



Caravaggio Day 2005
September 24, 2005
Italy

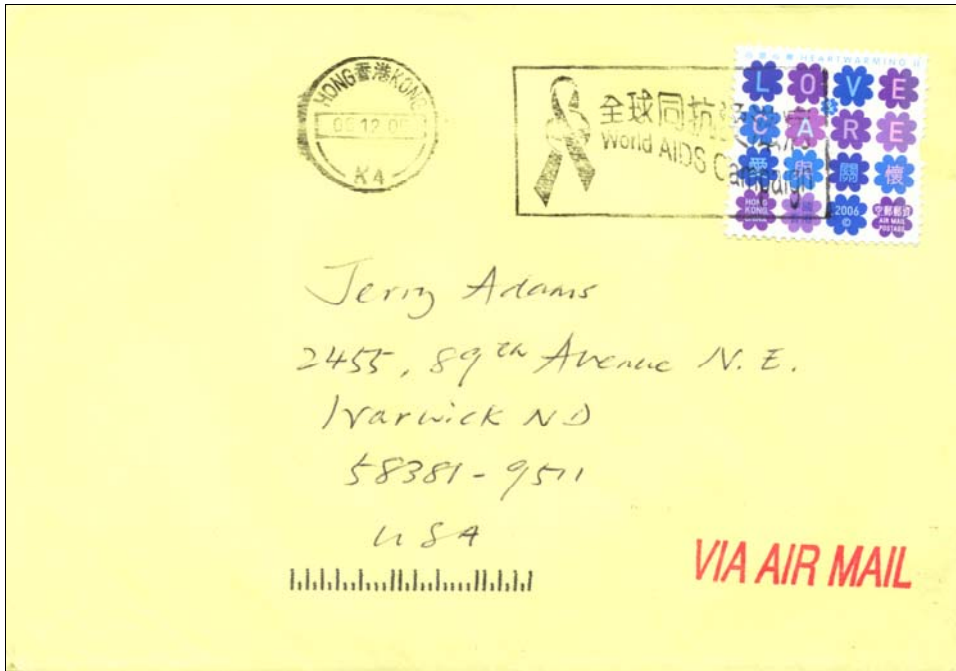


Ship named after Alexander von Humboldt, June 11, 2006
Bremerhaven, Germany

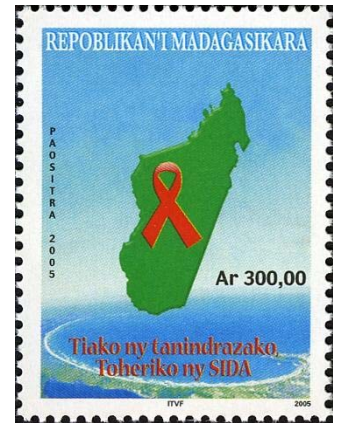


Greta Garbo
December 3, 2005
New York, NY

AIDS Update



Hong Kong cancel.
Does anyone have more information on this?



Algeria issued 1 stamp on November 1, 2005.

Madagascar issued a single stamp on February 10, 2006.

Belgium issued a stamp for the centennial of the Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp, on September 25, 2006. AIDS research is part of the institute's programs. Scott no. 2161.

Mali issued a set of 6 stamps on January 10, 2002. The stamp on the right is Scott no. 1125.



Monaco issued a single stamp.

Cambodia issued 3 stamps. Does anyone have any more information on this issue?

Morocco issued a single stamp on December 1, 2006.

Ghana issued 10 stamps. Does anyone have any more information on this issue?

Mozambique issued a set of three stamps on October 9, 2006 - Presidential Initiative Against AIDS. Scott nos. 1744 - 46.

India issued a stamp on December 1, 2006.

Thanks to one of our newest members, Stephen Lorimor, for the AIDS update information. More to follow in June.



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Not only will NTSS '07 have a Western Theme based on the Ft. Worth "Cowtown" atmosphere, but there is plenty to do here in the area and we can help you plan a memorable vacation. See our website for sources at which you can obtain free brochures and coupons. Here are listed many activities, several of which are still in the planning stages as of Aug. 2006. PRE-REGISTRATION STRONGLY ADVISED!

Transportation NTSS '07 will be held adjacent to the DFW airport with *free* transportation from and to the airport. The Sheraton Grand has not only reduced the price of their newly refurbished rooms from \$159 to \$89 a night for us, but will provide *free* transportation to the huge Grapevine Mills Mall for those who want to some spend time away from the hotel. They will also set up transportation to a local Protestant or Catholic Church on Sunday morning. Private transportation to a nearby synagogue can be arranged.

Both Topical and non-topical dealers will be on hand to help fill your want lists. We will have 35 dealer tables and up to 224 competitive exhibit frames. There will be Dollar Cover and 10c stamp table dealers invited to participate as well. New exhibit awards will be given along with a \$500 Remington bronze as Grand Prize. New ATA Tenure ribbons for members of 10 years or longer will be on your badges.

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For more information contact the ATA Central Office – PO Box 57 – Arlington, TX 76004-0057 –

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**(Don't forget to dress up in your western duds.)**