Dear Stephen Foster:

Thanks for the refs on your forthcoming 'Annotated Burton' and the Hawaiian legal code. It may be of interest that Charles Baumgardner, attempting to follow this up, was unable to find anyone in the Hawaiian legislature who would admit that any such law had been passed!

As for laws remaining in the books despite being declared unconstitutional, that is ancient history in the northeast. Segregation continued to be enforced for years in some southern areas long after Brown v. Board of Ed. and similar decisions of 1955-58. Police continued to seize and destroy copies of LIFE Magazine as obscene in parts of New Jersey (and Lynn, Mass., which remained notorious for this for many years) long after Roth v. US and related decisions. One was actually heard to say "We don't give a damn what the Supreme Court says, we're enforcing the law." This was in the NYC newspapers in spring 1958 or thereabouts—"I'm not sure I even saved copies of the date and page refs, let alone the issues. Patricia Nell Warren's THE FRONT RUNNER (which I reviewed as science fiction in GAY POST a few months ago) as it is about a future after the Supreme Court has declared any laws abridging the rights of any consenting adults to have sex unconstitutional) goes into detail about this very point: local ordinances and, worse, public opinion lag far behind even the Nixon Supreme Court.

I will probably be quoting you in GAY POST. I will have them send you the issue(s) in question. Alternatively, if it is GAY SUNSHINE or MAVERICK, ditto.

Brandt Aymar used to run the Cory Book Service before Arthur Richmond (God rest him) took it over. I met him many times during the 1950's. He is nuts about pussycats, and I think wrote a book about them. Time was when he would have been considered obvious. Androphile, not BL. Sagarin is probably aware that many people know he used to be DW/Cory; but Dr. Albert Ellis, may he rest in peace, "cured" him, aging him at least thirty years in the process, so that now Sagarin is anti-gay. Sic transit.

Thanks for the refs to artworks; this is exactly the kind of bibliographic aid needed. So now I will have to see, eventually about digging up my old notes, and obtaining a camera. . . . . I used to have a number of terra-cotta versions of Thorvaldén statues; one rested in a 2nd Ave. antique shop for months, and every time the local kids' school let out, the kids passed it by with points and giggles.

The poster books of Maxfield Parrish have featured some of his androgynous youngsters; they aren't all airbrush jobs, so presumably he meant them to be epicene.

Thanks for the ref to Caravaggio. I suspected this for a long time on grounds of numerous commentaries—also in the having actually examined AMORE VINCITORE (I commented on this in GL), openmouthed, with eyes wide in wild surprise, that I was not the only person ever to have had such tastes!

Even the Greeks were somewhat confused on the question of age of adulthood. Note the numerous disagreements on whether Achilles or Patroklos was the older lover, which the cherished boy; vase-paintings disagree, even the earliest ones which would have been before the Feisistradit editions which fixed the text of 'Homer' for all time. All they did agree on in this context was that A & P were soldier buddies and that they were also lovers in the Dorian manner, which implied that one must have been the 'inspirer', the other the 'hearer.' Androphilia was not considered as a reasonable possibility by the 6th, 5th century or later Gks, whatever the Achalians may have done! Carpenter, of course, was not a BL; I have it from Gavin Arthur, who knew him well and had slept with him, that EC was a Whitmanesque androphile, a great cuddler and practitioner of karezza, not especially given to buggery, and that like WW (whom Carpenter had slept with, in turn—talk about apostatic succession) he was profoundly affected by some kind of sudden experience of mystical enlightenment.

If you can find evidence that the buddy system in other countries paired off older and younger soldiers, the argument is complete as is the parallel to the Dorian/ Androphilic. Of course it would make sense anyway, new recruits
learning from their older companions what they wouldn't learn on the drill field. There is also an obvious parallel to cowboys in the XIX Century in whom this kind of pairing off seems to have been usual, though western movies usually make the younger one at least mid or late teens, besides suppressing the fact that THOUSANDS of XIX Century cowboys were blacks. George Rossman (have you his address? if not, here it is--

Frank X. Vernava (I never forget the X--this is a signal that Vernava is to hold all such letters for George's eyes only)
115 Linden
New Haven, CT 06511

doubtedly will be able to provide plenty of information on this and related situations, though documentation is possibly a little harder to worm as he has access to Yale Library, far larger than UMiami.

I see some though possibly not all of the letters you write JW. I shall have him xerox your earlier ones just in case anything happens to his own data files; I wish he would do that with all his researches anyway. He carries so much in his head that literally could not be reconstructed by anyone else, depending (as his conclusions do) on linguistic/philological evidence from over 25 Slavic and Semitic tongues. I have shown him some of your letters (those I have happened to be carrying when we met), figuring that they might stimulate him to other researches. He is possibly the ranking scholar ever to enter the field, even though not himself a BL.

Woops. Have to go. I'll drop this off and hope you get it before I arrive in NY (c/o FCI, 200 I.U.Willetts Road, Albertson, LI, NY 11507), approx. 8 to 29 Sept. inclusive.

Peace & joy,

Walter
Box 2 352, Berkeley, CA 94701

Dear Stephen Foster:

Thank you for the Hawaiian data. This clears up a lot of misunderstandings.

Have you been contacted about the new revived version of IJGL? It is to appear as a quarterly, beginning approximately Jan. 1976, under the name KALOS; I will be editing it, but its publisher (who goes under the name of Eric Lindford) can be reached only c/o Comitia Press, Box 7071, Arlington, VA 22207. With your permission, I propose to publish various excerpts from your letters. KALOS will be uniform in format with the IJGL and of similar scholarly approach. We can use material and would specially appreciate some from you. Comparative age-of-consent studies, reviews, theoretical issues, anything.

Sat. Review Name. Oct. 18? No, I haven't seen it, but I'll make inquiries. However, this is one of many straws in the wind. See, for instance, the Aug. 1975 BOYS LIFE, particularly the cover and the photostory on surf fishing at Cape Hatteras. !!!! The Neiman-Marcus and Bloomingdale Xmas catalogues have been known for this sort of thing in the past; and of course everyone has seen the Donmoor shirt ads, whose photographer is almost certainly a BL.

Boxyish nudity in movies is a large subject and surely between you and Parker Rossman and R.B. Andrews and several others we can compile a catalogue raisonnee. Object, comparing trends and providing a wantlist for those who live in cities where some movie houses specialize in classics and accept want lists, as the Carnegie Hall Cinema does in NY. (They showed Montreal Main and a dozen other films, relevant and otherwise, partly because I was one of several who gave them wantlists. Unfortunately I had to be out of town when Lord of the Flies, Wild Child, and Death in Venice were shown...)

Thanks for the ref. to Woodberry. When the new edition of GL is ready I will make sure to include something about him. I have not as yet seen any of his works.

Sorry for the delay but I was in NY when your letter arrived. I only returned night before last. I will probably be here at least 2 weeks and possibly until the end of January.

In haste---

[Signature]
Dear Stephen Foster---

Thanx for the various enclosures. I will try to obtain a REVIEW copy of GAY ACADEMIC from the publisher, for KALOS. Material for this magazine should be sent either to me or to Comitia Press, Box 7071, Arlington, VA 22207; it will reach me faster if you send it directly to me, however. If you send it to Johanson, the delay will be more serious.

Yes, the "Jonathan Drake" of Le Vice in Turkey is the same one who wrote, or rather co-authored with Dennison Nichols on, BOYS FOR SALE. His real name is Parker George Rossman. The book is largely intended as sociology though I am certain that some bits are extrapolation and others fantasy--these last are the erotic bits. This book was distributed by a 42nd St. pornshop, which was later put out of business for obvious reasons of homophobia (heteroporn was OK, grownup homoporn was tolerable--though grudged--whereas BL erotica was a no-no). It was rare for awhile, then a stash of copies appeared in England and now, I believe, Elysian Fields carries it.

Did Dr. Frenkel or George Weinberg cite places where either one printed the word "homophobia"? This would be the obvious way of proving prior claim. It is, however, possible that they invented the word independently, as an antonym for "homophilia," which was the etymologically preferable form (compared with "hox", which is half Gk, half Latin) in use in ONE Inc. and Mattachine Society circles in the late 1950's. It means "fear of the similar"!

I must dig out the "Oriani" ms. for you. It is divided into sections which might conceivably be publishable (rewritten) in KALOS.

Going on your earlier permission, I have excerpted parts of two letters from you, rearranged and edited them slightly, and forwarded them to KALOS with your byline and running title NOTES AND COMMENTS (which the publisher might change), in the format of a regular column.

I don't have the GAU newsletters. Wayne Dynes is one reason why; he thinks my book is immoral and my costume outlandish. If this outweighs my contributions, so be it. When I told this at a rap group in Berkeley, the questions were (1) "But aren't we all breaking the laws?" and "What WERE you wearing?" When I indicated that my "costume" was roughly the same there as here, i.e. dark corduroy trousers and a velour shirt (I am allergic to wool), there were shouts and storms of laughter at Dynes's expense. Piss-elegance is not my trip, but I can tolerate it in other people; why can't he do likewise? It hardly behooves any gay person to be intolerant.

Thanx to the reference to Raven-Hart. At the moment I have many authors to look up, and regrettably a couple of deadlines.

In haste,

with best wishes for a boyous holiday season,

[Signature]
Dear Stephen Foster:

By pure coincidence, I have received a letter from one

Donald H. Mader
Box 133
East Arlington, VT 05252

which I would try to xerox for you though it's awfully faint. I have taken the
liberty of giving him your address and urging that he write you, because of the
subject matter of your last letter, namely MEN & BOYS. He has, it seems, found
the answer to some of your questions (e.g. "Edwin Edwinson," compiler, = Dr. Edward
M. Slocum, chemical engineer, etc., just as you've found the answer to some of his
problems. I replied to him separately, just before coming east, suggesting that
his findings might be worth abstracting for KALOS. And the same holds for you. Most
likely a collaboration is in order because of the extreme overlap of your researches
on this book.

It is also possible that Timothy d'Arch Smith--whose address I have not at
the moment, though possibly mail would be forwarded from 64a St.mJohnsWood, London
W 8, or else find out from Roger Moody or Brian Taylor--might have answers to some
of these questions. He is known to have access to a copy of M&B and regards it,
as do you & I & dear Mr. Mader, as an extremely important American Calamite
document.

The reason Jonathan Katz is deliberately relegating Bayard Taylor to a
footnote and ignoring the other Calamites is that he is VIOLENTLY ANTI BL--his
sop to homophobia, for which piece of intellectual dishonesty he is held in
contempt and will be either ignored or at best relegated to a footnote in anything else we publish. This is the same person who had the CHUTZPAM to "edit"
German publications without knowing a word of the language, and who could not
tell the difference between the 18th century long S and the lowercase f (he probably
believed that the Bay Colony people mispronounced the name of their colony
"Massachusetts!") Forfouth.

I have not been able to lay my hands on the Oriant MS but it is entirely owing
to EXTREME time pressure, probably more than ever before in my life, more than I
will ever again consent to, and more than you have ever had the misfortune to
experience (count yrself lucky).

Good heavens, if Cecil Roberts is 85, he is certainly unlikely to object to
something being alluded to which he saw in print sixty years ago. All you can lose
by writing him is time and postage. The worst he can do is ignore you or refuse to
comment; any objurgations (which seem unlikely from a poet) can be filed in the
awful basket or even published in KALOS. Ask him how he knows he would refuse to be
honest, living in--of all places--Rome? Is he unaware of the Scala di Spagna?

Sorry for delay and for brevity. I am still under godawful time pressure, but
it will ease off in another two or weeks, Gd willing.

Best,

[Signature]
RECEIVED APRIL 1976

Box 352, Berkeley CA 94701

Dear Stephen Foster:

Before we both forget it, please cite the exact title, compiler(s), publisher, date, etc., for the Hawaiian statutes you xeroxed for me. As two different law libraries have failed to turn up this information, Eric Lindfors tells me that we will need the citation as exactly as possible (a xerox of the title page might help) so that it can be published without fear of contradiction. It will go into the second issue of KALOS.

The first issue is in press now, being delayed by a horrendous accident to one of the printers (she lost a finger...) but at worst it will be out in a few days. I think you will like it.

I have met Don Mader. A fine, idealistic person and a real scholar in his various obscure lines. He is continuing to run down the lacunae in MB. A reprint is contemplated, but I hope to persuade him to contribute an essay on MB for KALOS. He has likewise spotted examples of fraudulent alteration of poems and authors' names to create Calamite bibliographic ghosts. There are fortunately not many, though.

If Frank Harris says anything about anyone, I immediately begin to suspect it of being a lie, verb. sap. It'll be necessary to check VANITY FAIR for years around 1908.

The letter you recently wrote Johansson, with its amazing off-the-cuff passage of indignation, is splendid, and with a few footnotes and a very little polishing it would be excellent for KALOS. I am not yet decided whether to run it as a letter or as an article, but there is time to decide.

I have only within the last 24 hours gotten back from NY and I am exhausted. Living out of a suitcase for 4 to 6 weeks at a time is a drag.

More later,

with best wishes

[Signature]

W3
Dear Stephen Foster:

Thanks for your letter. The enclosure about DEATH IN VENICE is of interest mainly for the blurb; Tadzio is certainly not everyone's notion of "ideal beauty"!! One may ask about the, umm, religious affiliation of whoever wrote the ad copy. I have not yet seen the film, but there is some chance I may be able to see it tonight, as it is enjoying a one-night stand in one of the local theatres.

The news of Tom & Swann's death shocked me. I knew he was desperately ill, but had no idea he was near death.

I believe Eric Lindford gets GAY NEWS. If not, I shall suggest that he do so-

"Marocco" is an archaic spelling; why Eric continued to use it after I pointed out that it is inappropriate is beyond me. WERE YOU ACTUALLY THERE? COULD YOU UNDERSTAND ANY OF THE SPOKEN LANGUAGE?

Anything you have to say about Richard Barham Middleton will be welcome. We are aware of the numerous blunders--and alterations of text--in M&B. However, I think the person you should be writing to about Middleton is Don Mader, since he is working on the M&B problem. I have a tentative promise from him that though his intro. to the forthcoming reprint of M&B is spoken for--he will contribute an article to KALOS.

Glad you have that permission letter from Cecil Roberts. We would welcome anything you have to write about him. Call it the LAST OF THE CALAMITES if only. If he knew his work or was known to them by his work/ was acquainted with them. Tim d'Arch Smith called me down for associating Chubb with the Calamites, since he was a recluse and refused to meet them--though A.T. Bartholomew and some others were familiar with Chubb's work. I want to avoid anymore hassle from him. Teutonic exactitude sometimes has to take a second place to British scholarship.

The identity of the city Eric wrote about in HYPOCRISY AT ANY PRICE is NOT FOR PUBLICATION. It is Baltimore and all the details are factual aside from names of participants. You are not to reveal to anyone that you have learned the name of the city. Reason: possible repercussions against some of the people already in that scene.

If you will cite the W.German law (preferably a xerox of the statute) there is the makings of at least a VARIA entry and possibly a good article on the law. "Lex Asinus Est." The idea that 69 (is there any other kind than "oral 69"?) between an 18 and a 21 can be legal for one, a felony for the other, is exactly as stupid as the legal situation in the USA where a married couple from TX, Ala, Miss, or several other dixiecrat states, legally residing there as husband & wife, become automatically juvenile delinquents and the man guilty of statutory rape, as soon as they cross into certain other states, which I cited in GL. The laws have been liberalized somewhat but only somewhat. Thanks for the reference to Dr. Knoblock. I have written him and am thinking seriously of citing the bit (was it from you?) about the new Red Chinese sex manuals which advocate as cures for any unwanted sexual feelings (i.e. any at all outside of wedlock) (1) cold baths, (2) loose underwear, (3) group athletics, and (4) meditation on the wriggings of Marx, Lenin, Stalin & Ch. Mao, in a VARIA in whichever issue contains Knoblock's contribution.

Thank & best wishes

Walter
Dear Stephen Foster---

I don't really know what reply is needed on the Tilden review. If the book is as Buckley described it, it should rate at least a passing mention in KALOS; but from the tone of the review I doubt that Buckley is himself gay--or if he is, he inhabits a queen-size closet. I suspect that any biography of a BL should be reviewed by (and possibly even written by) a BL, for the time being, if only to view the pros and cons without a negative bias either of homophobia or of whitewash (as many gays are prone to do now on some illustrious figures, claiming they were gay but denying the BL element, trying always to erect a wall between Us and Them, the Them being BLs = Child Molesters).

As for A KIND OF LOVING, thanks for this piece; the main problem with its anonymous author is that he got caught; my own experiences are not even nearly in parallel. I never had to develop athletic interests just to keep up with my young friends--let alone pretend interests. I accepted kids for what they are, they accepted me as I am: someone they could confide in, someone unshockable, someone who was genuinely interested as people in them as people, someone not locked into the parent/child authority trip. Kids still react that way to me, whether or not I ever see up the pants leg of one. If this man can still ask "what do they get out of it?" I am convinced he does not perceive them at all clearly. I tried to answer that one in GL! I shall show this to Lindors for possible reprinting with comment, but it's not a high priority item. It will be far more worthwhile reprinting Brongersma's various contributions. He is our most important amicus curiae and I wish I thought he would live another 20 or 30 years. I may even write an open letter to GN in reply...

I have sent along excerpts from various among your letters, slightly edited and rearranged for continuity, to Lindors as installments of FOSTER'S COLUMN (suggesting he find a better title). I have not yet seen a copy of THE GAY ACADEMIC: is it relevant?

During the last half of August I shall be in NYC for professional reasons, taking out one weekend to visit the Arlington area (wish me luck!!!), and I hope then to see galley proofs on K2. The probabilities increase, incidentally, that I will be in the Miami/FtL area sometime this winter for a coin collectors' convention (like that of August 1974 only at a different hotel) and we may even be able to get together by that time.

Woops! Got to get back to work, I'm way behind schedule. More later.

Best always,
Dear Stephen Foster,

I have to confess to a fairly silly occurrence. At present your last letter appears to be mislaid under a mountain of correspondence and other papers and I cannot lay my hand on it despite extensive search. This is assuming that I ever got it; I am going by what you have been saying to JW. It might be easier if you furnished a xerox copy of the letter. I will then answer it immediately. I have been EXTREMELY busy of late.

Don Mader will have to be informed of the truth. I have not quarrelled with Lindfors. KALOS is in press and I expect to see #2 any day (I am a little disappointed that he did not send me galley proofs). Material for #3, 4 has accumulated and I am still working up into publishable form the mess of an article on the British media that 'Humphrey Barton' sent on, in addition to a major manifesto or position paper. But I have answered every letter by Mader which ever reached me.*

I notice that the Bullough bibliography supposedly mentions WB = J2E. They did this without my knowledge or consent. If I get my hands on a copy I intend to review it mercilessly: its tactic of merely updating Legman is completely incompetent. (I am sure that Edgar Leoni is going to hit the ceiling when he learns of his own cover being blown.) Fortunately my boss is unlikely either to learn of this occurrence or to do anything about it; he knows I am gay and he trusts me completely, thank God.

*The last letter from Mader was many, many months ago; he wished certain bibliographic data, which I provided. The only address I have for him is in Vermont, which is hardly a likely place for a Brooklyn cleric in Feb. or March; he did not wish mail to come to his church.

The Oriani ms. is now located and will be in your hands as soon as the U.S. Snail can accommodate it. I feel, however, that maybe I had better xerox it first, just in case.

In great haste,

[Signature]
Dear Stephen Foster,

Thank you for the xeroxes, which were legible enough. I realize on reading them that I had long since answered your letter of July 25 and NEVER SEEN yours of Xmas. So blame the Post Awful and accept my apologies for any other delays.

The corrected footnote on the Cécil Roberts article has gone to Eric Lindfors; thanks. The article is being run but I do not know if in #2 or #3. I HAVE NOT seen Eric in quite a while; I did not get down to the Arlington area last time I was in NY (a month ago), but will try next time as there are quite a few people I want to visit: most of them not known to you, four BLs plus several coin people, plus some old personal friends not sharing any of our interests.

Next time I will be in the Southeast will be in August, the last week to be exact, for the coin convention at the Marriott (the ANA convention -- pronounced anal); I don't know if I can promote a trip to the Miami/Ft. L./Coral G. area though I'd love to get down to Disney World and dig some of the new rides, scenery, etc. I will probably be able to rent a car if I do manage to get down there. It is only a matter of time anyway.

The parallel you cite between occasional drinking/alcoholism and bisex/exclusive gay is ingenious enough; what they have in common, from the medical/psychiatric viewpoint, is clearly the element of facultative/compulsive. A shrink explained that to me some time ago: they feel that the person who is gay out of necessity (whether one postulates a constitutional explanation or a depth-psych one based on very early parent/child relationships) does his thing out of compulsion, whereas the bisexual can choose his partners from either gender and is acting on free will, rather than out of compulsion, therefore is paradoxically--healthier. This of course grossly oversimplified, but it represents liberal psychiatric thought for a long time, prior to the APA's vote, and it still represents it in many shrinks' heads despite the vote, which was pretty much a way of treating gays like blacks. There is good material here for an article, possibly for Gay Academic.

I wrote Knoblock; you never gave me Weiss's address. That was more than a year ago and there has never been an answer. Who is Weiss anyway?

GR has long insisted that Gavin Maxwell was a BL; they correspondence for years. Having seen some of Maxwell's photos of his young employees and his fostersons, I must admire his taste. Simon and Nicholas in particular.

The subject of BL in the USA is so huge you can start literally anywhere, from the colonies to the present day, from private lives to poems to novels to movies. I will be glad to see anything of the kind from you. I have not yet spent the $$ on Katz's book; if I do so, it will be only to review it, and from what you tell me, the review will not be favorable: As for Chester Alan Arthur, his grandson Gavin Arthur [astrologer to Haight-Ashbury; I slept with him the night before Marion came to live with me, and he gave her away at our wedding]-x was gay, God rest him, and really out front; he knew about his grandfather's proclivities.
It is hardly up to me to tell you what to write. The field is wide open. I knew when I published GL that I was only tickling the surface, that there was a great deal more around if only I could locate it. Now you have done so and I am glad.

Woops! I was not aware that Mader had told you he lived in Vt. So far as I know he divides his time, but at least since I did not publish the address of the church, he has not been betrayed in any way. I have heard from other sources that he has thrown me, so I ended up writing him and asking pointblank if I have done anything to merit this treatment, apologizing on the contingency, and offering to help with his bibliography projects (short of turning over the 700+ pp. Checklist ms., of c.).

Kittel very much wants to see the Alcibiade ms. I do not have it. I have been unable to reach Bee Bookshop in Oakland by phone or in person—evidently it keeps odd hours, and Charles Gilman (who owns the bookshop, the Bay Area's largest gay bookstore, many times the size of Oscar Wilde Memorial in NY) still has the ms. If he is not going to publish it I will get it back and send it off right away to Coltsfoot Press. I know nothing of any dislike on the part of Coltsfoot; Kittel visited me some weeks ago and the conference was very friendly, as has been his correspondence since. I plan to visit him next time I am in NYC and will see just what has happened.

JW tells me that Mader climbed I knew an Italian when I translated the Alcibiade. This is, of course a distortion; the actuality is that I had recovered the language when memories of a life in Italy in the 1540's returned to me (my name was then Gennaro, I was a bastard of the Orsini clan and a runaway from a monastery where they had shaved me), and the UC Berkeley Music Dept. still retains my translations, with commentaries on the astrological content, of the libretto of Monteverdi's opera Il Ritorno d'Ulisse in Patria (1638), alias Ulysses's Homecoming. This was a term paper and it got me a damn good grade in the course. If I find Alan Curtis, who is fluent in Italian, could not fault my translation, it is unlikely that Mader can fault my rendering of L'Alcibiade.

I find all this petty bickering and squabbling and backstabbing most shamefully 1950s-ish and unworthy of the united front we are supposedly putting up. It is counterproductive and has to stop.

Nobody has trashed you to me anyway. And if they did I would not encourage it. I will trash pretentious bullshit, fake scholarship, and fraud of any kind, but personalities no. Even such a controversial figure as Mikhail Itkin, no matter how much we disagree on machismo and S-N, I will not trash.

No, I do not know Roger Austen. If he dislikes my 1964 approach to GL, he is welcome to contact me now; he may find that my consciousness has been raised since then.

You realise that the Anita Bryant campaign is being heavily financed by the fundamentalist churches. So far as I know, any other anti-BL campaigns seem to be taking their lead from the Moral Gables one. If I had the money I would put up billboards all over the area: DEAR ANITA: "LET HIM/HER WHO IS WITHOUT SIN CAST THE FIRST STONE."-J.CHRIST

There are two Oriani mss. One of them is a novel, the other is a series of biographical sketches. I have the novel here and await the repair of the xerox machine to send you a copy. The other has to be dug out of "Xerox files. I don't envy you the task of editing either one!
Dear Stephen Foster:

No, I have no carbon copy of my letter of July or early August last to you. I have no carbons of many of my earlier letters to you, or most other correspondents. This is obviously a mistake and all I can do is begin as of the last few days.

The Marriott at which I'll be staying late August is in Atlanta, Ga.

JW never gave me Weiss's address, which is why I never wrote him. Knoblock never answered my letter. Too bad.

As I remember Gavin Arthur telling it, his grandfather Chester Alan Arthur, in his younger days, either in the public schools or while at Union College, had some really passionate friendships, in the Lord Byron manner; but Gavin did not say anything about the ages of his various friends. The context was not BL but the (jocose?) question of Gavin's having possibly inherited a tendency to be gay from his grandfather. (Gavin’s real name was Gavin Chester Alan Arthur but he dropped the middle names when he grew up, possibly to dissociate himself from a fairly uptight family background.) God rest him; I loved him, as did Marion. I spent the night sharing Gavin's bed, the night before Marion came to live with me, and he gave her away at her wedding; I gave her an autographed copy of G's CIRCLE OF SEX when she arrived...Gavin was a great cuddler and kisser, much more than a Sex Fiend, very much like Edward Carpenter. Wasn't there a squib in ESQUIRE some years ago about the "apostolic succession" involing Whitman, Carpenter, Gavin Arthur and Allen Ginsberg? That would put me into the same line—along with William Burroughs, whom I have not yet met.

*Nor any other details. I suspect Chester Arthur had not given him too many specifics. But as Chester Arthur had been headmaster of some boys' school in Vermont, it is also possible that he had an eye for well-turned boy legs and buttocks. I didn't then know the right questions to ask Gavin on that score...and now he is gone. Too bad.

As soon as I come back from Des Moines I will try to get the one Oriani ms. xeroxed for you, and to locate the other one. K2 is not in my hands, it is in the printers' hands, and I have no news on this one.

Well, did the infamous Desilets (not to be confused with Desilu Productions, I suppose; ever take the boy to Hollywood? And what became of the kid? ;: I have been hoping someone would do research in law reports, but I have not myself had time to go through them. You should realize that I have two other professions besides being J.Z.E.

In great haste,

WB

PS. Are you aware there is, here in California, a widespread boycott of Florida citrus products, on behalf of the pro-gay and pro-E.R.A. contingent who are fighting Anita Bryant? And that the rumor is going around that Ms. Bryant is in the pay of the Total Woman outfit, itself thought to be sponsored by the Baptist Church? The best thing I could wish for Ms. Bryant is about 500mm of the best quality Oxley LSD in HER o.j., so that she could see herself as she really is, and maybe learn why she is so paranoid. When is the referendum coming up?
Dear Stephen Foster:

If your May and July letters ever got here, I did not see them. The uspod has been goofing dreadfully, including copies of my book going astray (WALTER BREEN’S ENCYCLOPEDIA OF US & COLONIAL PROOF COINS). I will reply to your copies.

I will be on the E.Coast next month and will try to see Lindfors & recover everything then. He has a lot of material from me and other contributors which now must be either returned or held until another possible magazine outlet develops. From what I have learned by phone, it was not the content of his #2 issue (which I have seen only briefly, disliked, but heard had been passed by his attorney as nonobscene) but the political climate which induced him to cease publication. He has repaid all his debts, refunded all subscriptions, cleared out the bank account, and I do not know if he even is continuing to use that POBox. Possibly he is scared by one of the recent developments--some people on his mailing list went to jail. I will have to ask him for more details.

I have not yet seen GAY ACADEMIC, nor yet GAI SABER. I will try to see if either of these can use any of the material originally intended for K2 or K3--my speech, the Brongersma articles, my manifesto, any of the book reviews, the article edited from part of Moody’s thesis, etc. Ditto J.Hsx, which is being edited out of SF State College now.

No, I have not been watching TV of late. In fact, I have been out of town much of the time, and the only things I have watched since July have been some old ST returns, a few cartoons with a little friend, the first issue of I CLAUDIUS and several local opera presentations.

The thing to take to a skateboard park is a camera, preferably movie. I am going to have to get an SX-70 for pics of a few friends.
I haven't seen a teenybopper fammag in years. Most of them were dreadfully dull in the early 70s which I did see; probably the wrong issues.

At least you could have gotten the address of the BYT from Orlando. I have done this myself more than once and with very pleasant results, though alas not in such circumstances (usually they are coin collector types instead of singers, alas!).

In haste,

\[\text{WF}\]

PS. Plenty more of the enclosed if you can use them.
Dear Stephen Foster:

Tom Swann came out only late in his life, and he never mentioned to me either this hardcover novel or Jeff Jones. He earlier learned that science-fiction/fantasy circles were, until lately, as straight as American Legionnaires. Thank God that's gone!!! Thanks for the info on GAY ACADEMIC. I will have to pick up a copy somewhere. Possibly at Bee Bookshop, or at worst when I go back East...

The Robert Burdick who reviewed the Nichols item in GAI SABER is one of the two others appearing with me April 4, 1976 when I gave that speech. The whole proceedings were to appear in K3 but now we must find another voice. BODY POLITIC? Burdick's name should have been known to you because of INNER TIDES, a paperback poetry collection published (with illus. by Sidney Smith) by the Gay Post group in NYC. If you don't have a copy of this, I can get you one.

We were planning to reprint two of his poems in K3 or K4. I will not buy the Advocate. I am boycotting the thing for obvious reasons, of which its anti-BL stance is one. Did you by any chance see any of the issues of AIN'T IT DA TRUTH? One of these exposed Oink's motivations—and Sgt. Matlovich's (from a story we recovered in San Francisco); but then the whole Gay Post group has been publishing justifiable criticisms of Oink's policies ever since he took over the Advocate and made it a tool of the big left-handed-Establishment advertisers (bars, baths, clothing purveyors, etc.), therefore tacitly in the hands of the Mafia. Problem with calling him a pig is that pigs are good to eat...

On the contrary: plenty of "latent" types, the queer-baiting kind, make parenthesis a specific goal in order to "prove" that they are completely normal, to be an example to everyone else. Witness, for instance, Ms. OJ herself. I could name others, who are unlikely to be known to you. However, their wives are not happy with their MCPiggy. I will make sure you get your articles back, though it now looks as though my next trip to NY may be delayed until March or even April, much to my displeasure as I was hoping to get there this month before the 108% cold sets in.

Moody = Roger Moody, a gay activist in England who has been long associated with PAL and PIE; he used to edit PEACE NEWS, in which he gave a rave review of the Neville Spearman Ltd reprint of GL. His thesis is "Don't apply to me, Foster!":

GL2 is progressing though it is being interfered with by other duties—I have to get three other books to press in the meantime: one in June (my own—on coins), two others in Feb. and March, all on coins. It will have a new introduction and most likely will drop any mention of that klunker—Albert Ellis.

The Brongersma speech was also printed in CHILDHOOD RIGHTS 1:2. (Available from PIE c/o Release, 1 Elgin Ave., London W9, or from David Grove, 53 Hargood Road, Kidbrooke, London SE3 6FT.)

That was quite a sample from the fanmags! Maybe I have been missing something, at least as fuel for imagination. James is quite something. Thanks.

What is wrong with coin collector types "instead of singers, alas"? Mostly that the coin collector types—with a few rare glorious exceptions—are mundane moneygrabbing avaricious narrowminded people who don't have one new idea per year except how they can make a quick kiling through investing right. I have had to play God among them long enough to want to become an atheist. Choirboys are something else—at least we can talk music when we're not making beautiful music together. (I am an organist and harpsichordist and have sung in madrigal groups, mostly as a tenor.) This is quite aside from their other attractions. Have you read SANDEL?

Walter Brean
Box 352
Berkeley, CA 94701