

# The Galvin Gazette

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ACE 343  
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In the wake of G.A.D. 2004

## ***Thanks for a great year, and a Great ACE Day!***

**By JOHN MARTIN, ACE 343**

There are many great things about the Great ACE Day. It's our Indy 500, our Super Bowl, the World Series, our New Years Day, the FIRST day of school and the LAST day of school. In other words, it's a peak, a high point of our collecting year. What we do the rest of the year, many times it seems, either flows from or leads up to that annual cover-sending extravaganza, the Great ACE Day.

ACE member Ken Jenkins created the Great ACE Day in 1987, giving someone in ACE the opportunity to be the "Target" and giving all the other members the opportunity to flood that Target with covers, as well as exchange special covers with as many other members as possible.

This year, I was nominated, along with three fine ACE members – Jim Eckert, ACE 179; Doc Nichols, ACE 379, and Sabrina Curtis, ACE 420, as a Target candidate.

To actually be the winner, as past Targets will tell you, is a mixture of emotions, including surprise, amazement, wonder, humility, gratitude, appreciation and the utter joy of receiving over 500 covers and seeing the talent, imagination and creativity of our members on display in one short span of time.

To all of you, I say:

***Thank you very much!!***

It is difficult to find a better word in the English language than just the plain old "Thank You" which, somehow, seems to say it all.

Beyond a heart-felt statement of thanks, however, I want to pay tribute to you and your covers in both a personal and a public way.

Personally, I have been and will continue to be working on sending each of you a written "thank you", commenting on the covers you sent. Publicly, the idea entered my head to try to write a verse of poetry for each of you who sent G.A.D. covers, a verse that would in some way say something about at least one of the covers you sent, or about some other aspect of your ACE participation.

In the beginning, I was only planning to write a verse for each one from whom I had received a G.A.D. cover, but I soon realized there were some who, while I didn't receive a "specific" G.A.D. cover from them, nonetheless are much appreciated fellow members with whom I have exchanged on many happy occasions at other times.

So, I expanded the list of verses, though I couldn't accomplish the feat of making up a verse about EVERY member (but I could always do that another

time, I told myself!). I hope that those I left out are not offended, but I've written so many poems that I'm starting to fast run out of fresh ideas for something to say, let alone something to rhyme!!

And, I admit, some of the verses are pretty darn corny. (Maybe you'll think ALL of them are! If you do, that's okay!!)

Alongside the verses I'm trying to place copies of the cover or covers by that ACEr, although I haven't started to actually do that yet so, if I run out of space to put covers, I hope you'll understand!

Before we get to the poem itself, however, here is a bit of my experience with this year's Great ACE Day.

I received a card saying that Jim Eckert, ACE 179, was the Target, and my granddaughter, Danielle Zandecki, ACE 437, received a similar card (her ACE address is my home address in Centralia). I didn't know if Jim was really the Target or if I was, because the G.A.D. tradition is to fool the Target into thinking it's someone else.

But, I DID for sure that Jim was MY Target! I began putting together various types of covers for Jim – a few FDCs, some special cancels, and some computer cachets, along with some hand-colored and hand-lettered covers, plus some collage covers, which are always fun to do.

Of course, all those covers had to be addressed, and it wasn't too long before I knew Jim's address by heart! Well, as it turned out, I knew the address okay, but I did get a little mixed up once. When going through the stack of covers, double-checking, I noticed that I had addressed one to Jim "Bastrop" instead of Jim "Eckert." I left it the way it was, as I figured Jim would probably get a laugh out of it when he received it down in Bastrop, Texas!

On Saturday, July 31, I went to the Galvin Post Office to mail my covers to Jim. Gerri, the substitute postmaster who works Saturdays, was thumbing through all the covers, enjoying looking at them, when she suddenly said: "Hey, you addressed THIS one to yourself!" I looked at it and saw that I had written "John Martin, ACE 179." I had used my name and Jim's ACE number; the rest of the address for him was correct! I laughed and told her to just send it with the rest! I figured Jim might get a laugh out of that one, too. That's what happens when you write names and addresses so many times: You start to go batty and write crazy things!

I also opened my P.O. Box while I was there and found seven or eight covers, some of which identified me as the G.A.D. Target. Since the newsletter had said to mail covers so that they would arrive on or around Aug. 1, these were the first robins of spring, so to speak! Still, I wasn't fully convinced that I actually was the

Target until Monday, when my medium-sized post office box was filled to overflowing! Eighty covers came in Aug. 2 and 80-100 more each day for the next few days. After that, the daily volume decreased, but the covers kept coming in. In fact, as I write this in mid-August, they're still showing up!

Well, I've put it off as long as possible. But now, it's time for my "Thank You" poem to my fellow ACERs!

**ACE 20**

Charlie fixed some covers up with  
 Help of Ridgid wrenches,  
 And LPs honoring Dubya and Kerry;  
 Plus others featuring Bob & Gail,  
 And Darlene, Phil and Dave,  
 Enough to make most any ACER merry.



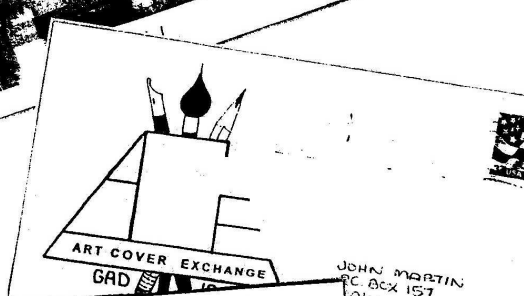
**ACE 52**

Darlene took her camera to the  
 P.O. at Winnetka,  
 Then snapped Canoga Park and other places:  
 Reseda, Woodland Hills, Van Nuys,  
 Balboa and Encino,  
 Tarzana and West Hills and Calabases.



**ACE 80**

Would any GAD time be complete  
 Without at least one cover  
 Showing our club logo big and bold?  
 Dave Garrett did the honors by  
 Providing it, in color:  
 Yellow, silver, red, brown, black and gold!



**ACE 106**

Jan Cramer carefully cut and trimmed  
 To make a short-sleeved shirt,  
 (Kind of like a cover for a cover);  
 Then put in place a May bouquet  
 With flowers just unfolding,  
 The glories of their beauty to uncover.



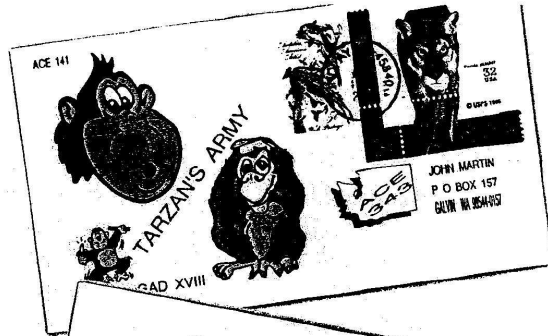
**ACE 121**

Cover-to-Cover covers cover-makers  
 And their activity,  
 And it always is a mighty fine creation!  
 A dedicated editor spends  
 A lot of time to do it:  
 Joe Doles – he has our great appreciation.



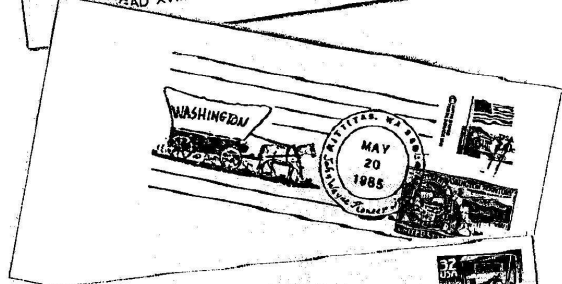
**ACE 141**

Dave Lemon found some frisky apes  
Were hiding in his software,  
He coaxed them out with no computer glitches;  
He called them Tarzan's army and a  
Happy lot were they,  
They kept of' Tarzan's enemies in stitches!



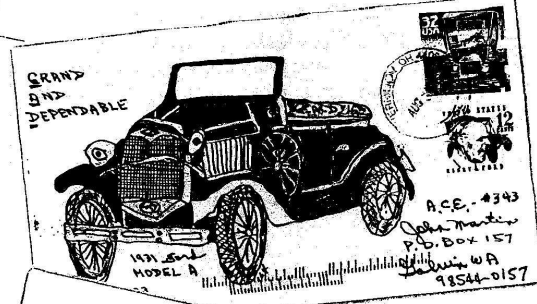
**ACE 152**

The John Wayne stamp will not come out  
Until September Ninth,  
But Gene Falada, 19 years ago,  
Sought and got a cancel  
In honor of the Duke,  
And in '04 he sent it: "Westward Ho!"



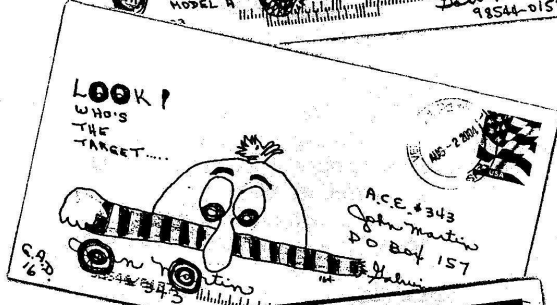
**ACE 164**

Frank Horvath put his mind to work  
On G-A-D's initials,  
And noted that our Gardens Are Demanding;  
God's Animals know Danger; doves are  
Graceful And Demure;  
He's offered some insightful understanding.



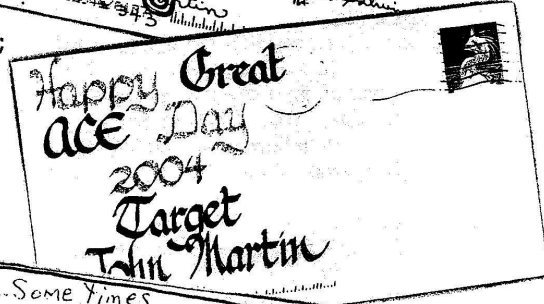
**ACE 177**

Gary Hudeck shares my interest  
In nostalgic things,  
We love the six Three Stooges, yes we do!  
Gary also has a flair for  
Fine calligraphy,  
And did it up in red and green and blue.



**ACE 179**

Jim Eckert had a job to do with  
Pine trees on his land,  
He hired some help to make sure he'd get this done;  
Along the way he took some time to  
Send me out a cover,  
With Jim dispensing some of his fine wisdom.



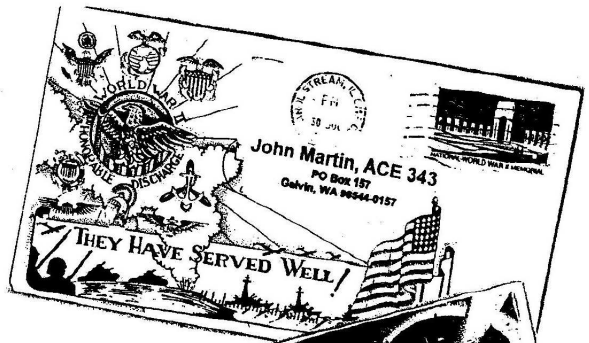
**ACE 183**

Cal Breaux's covers usually take us  
To the Sunday comcs,  
He's very good at drawing them just right!  
Mickey, Goofy, Pluto,  
Charlie Brown and Lucy,  
And Garfield in a crazy feline plight.



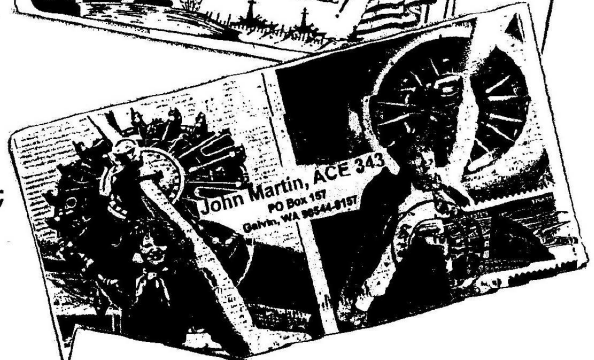
**ACE 191**

An artistic cover maker and  
A real fine person, too,  
Who also writes an interesting letter;  
She recruited father Jim  
To join the ACE Club, too,  
To make her contribution even better!



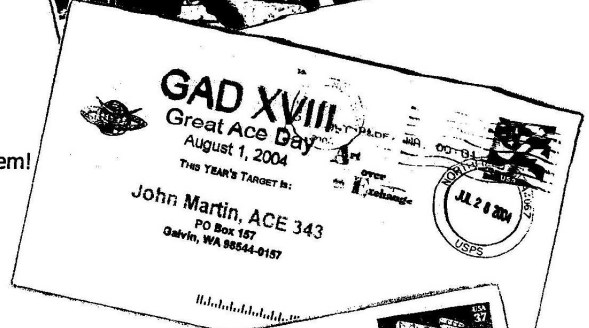
**ACE 200**

Dick Scharck looked at history  
As he designed his covers,  
And caught the kiss that ended World War Two;  
Earhart shared a cover with the  
Keaton gal who played her:  
Amelia? Diane? Is this déjà vu?



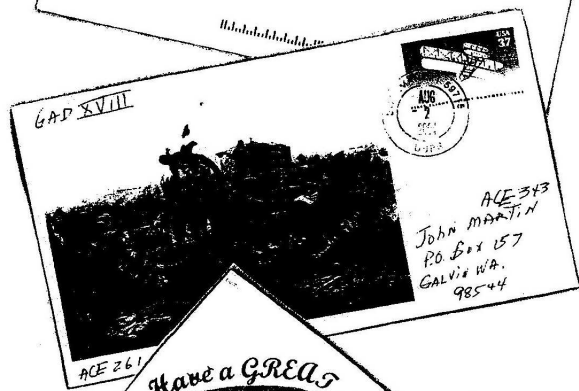
**Ace 227**

Each one of Jim's covers  
(and he's sent out quite a few)  
Is a special treat from top to bottom;  
He's a valued member  
And those who he's sent covers,  
Can tell themselves they're really glad they got 'em!



**ACE 250**

I met Kurt Laubinger at Phil's  
Back in Two Thousand Three,  
Where he showed his McIntyre art to me;  
We've done exchanges ever since  
Especially when the topic  
Is covers cheering on the G.O.P.!

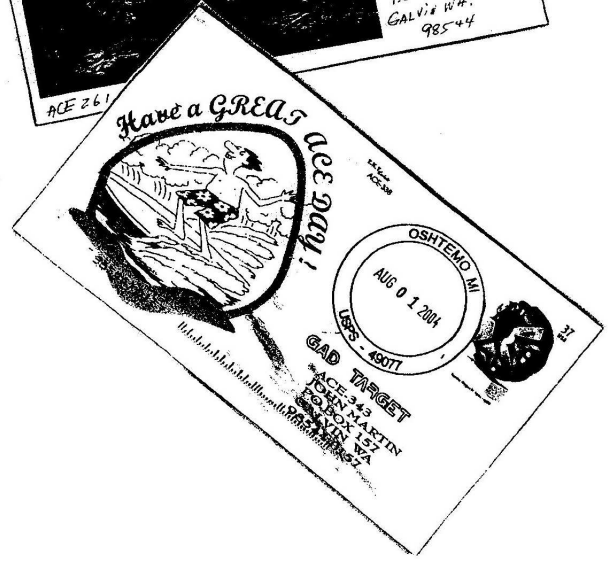


**ACE 261**

Clinton Brazle's always been a  
Faithful correspondent:  
Send him one, he sends one back to you;  
He's way out in the middle of that  
Big Sky state, Montana,  
But has met, of fellow ACEs, quite a few!

**ACE 324**

When your mailbox is full of covers,  
And one's from Bob Safarz,  
You have a real hard choice you can't avert:  
Should you admire and open it first,  
As if it were the main course?  
Or read the others and save his for dessert?



**ACE 326**

A friendly guy who dwells between  
Two mighty mountain peaks,  
South of Mt. St. Helens, north of Hood,  
Leroy and his family have shared  
With many an ACEing friend,  
May the future bring his family much good.

**ACE 338**

He's got those great initials that  
We envy: T-N-T!  
A nicer guy would be quite hard to find;  
Patriotic covers are a  
Specialty of his,  
And he loves to put some humor on our mind.

**ACE 339**

G-M-H-3 – our friend, George Hill –  
Has been the ACE Club target,  
The prez, the veep, the editor so stout;  
The secretary, M-O-Y, and when he  
Does his covers,  
He really likes to spell the message out!

**ACE 347**

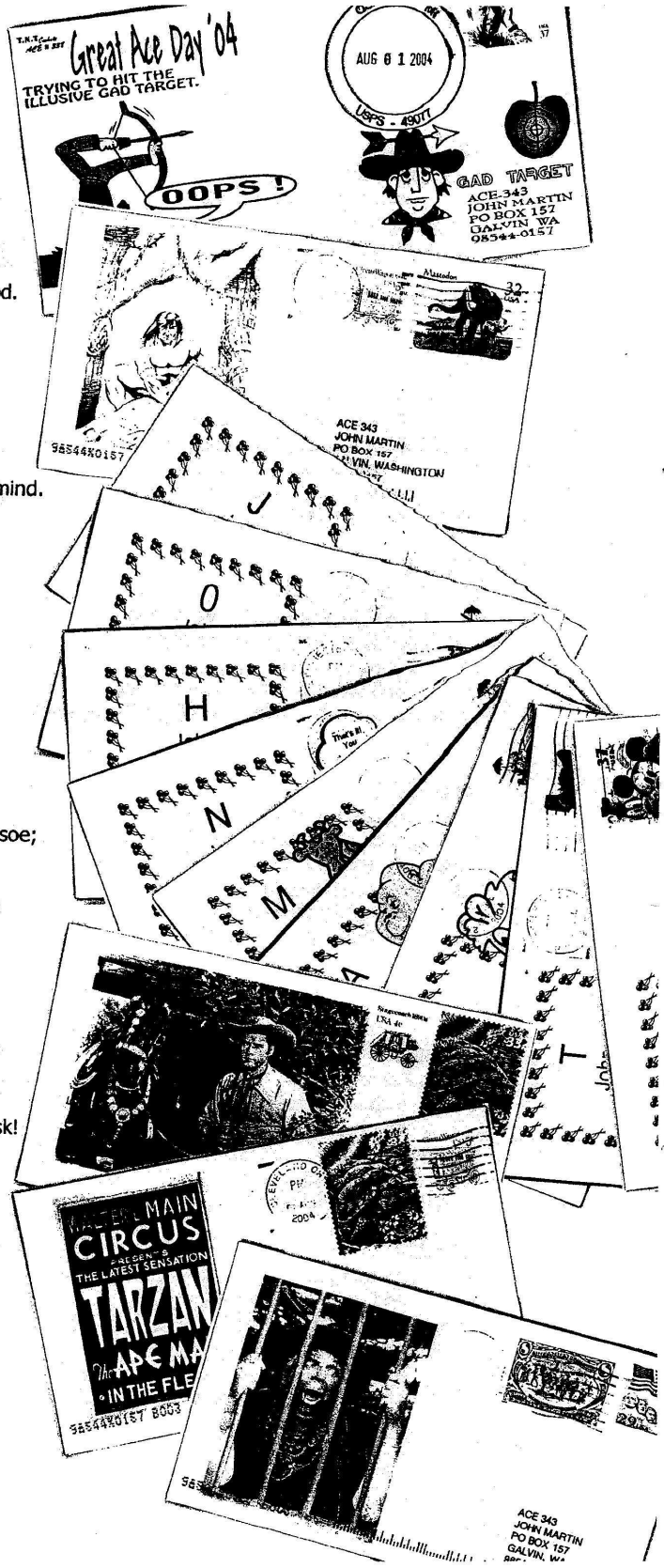
Those first days were rough ones and,  
In order to survive,  
Covers of fur were made by Robinson Crusoe;  
The "first days" of today are made  
When'er new stamps come out,  
With covers well designed by Tom Peluso!

**ACE 353**

Roy Rogers, Cisco, Hoppy, Clint, Shane,  
Tarzan and Jane (Russell!),  
What more could any movie lover ask?  
But Phil, the Covermonster, did all that  
And something "more":  
"Moore," that is, with no Lone Ranger Mask!

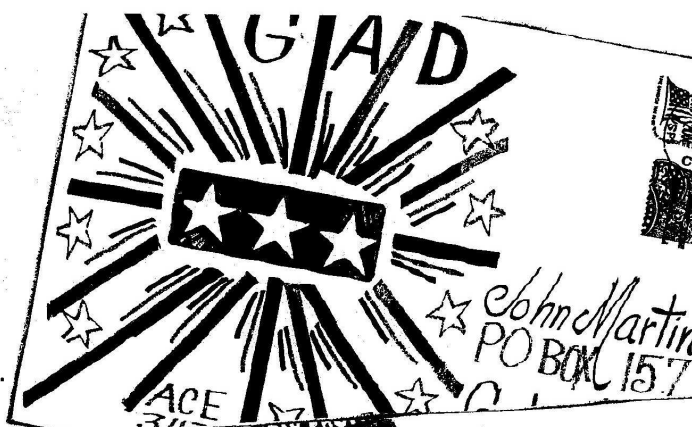
**ACE 357**

ACE and Ada, A-P-S, they all  
Begin with 'A',  
We have a seasoned trooper in our midst;  
She's working hard behind the scenes,  
To make things a success,  
The letter 'A' is tops on any list!



**ACE 359**

Viola Gianetti is a treasure  
In our club,  
He imagination always is abuzz;  
She re-invents the cover, each time  
She sends one out;  
We're always tickled with the art she does.



**ACE 361**

Markell made some special covers and  
Mailed them August Two;  
The mailman must have been a Whirling Dervish;  
He brought me four on August Fourth,  
One each on the fifth and sixth;  
Is that any way to run a Postal Service?



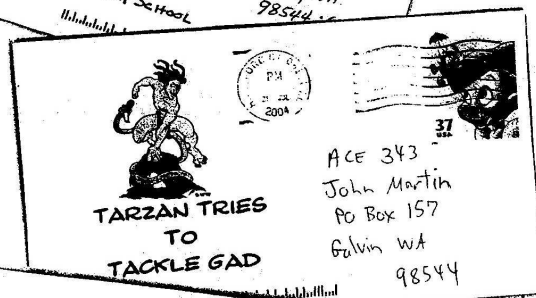
**ACE 363**

Erma Whitbeck thought, for GAD,  
She'd "cover" my life story,  
On one, a rooster crowed that I was born;  
She showed me at McDonald's, and  
Upon a Greyhound bus,  
And tricycling to school one happy morn.



**ACE 364**

As time goes by I'd like to meet each  
ACEing friend in person,  
And Daniel David's high upon the chart;  
He writes such chatty letters  
And seems so very nice,  
His covers always come right from the heart!



**ACE 369**

Lisa Doiron chose to feature  
Mister Disney's Tarzan,  
The apeman and his Jane were on her covers;  
She also made, to tie in with her  
Home in Massachusetts,  
A Bosox cover for us baseball lovers.



**ACE 378**

Stan Longenecker made covers with  
Varieties of themes,  
His talent is not muted by a muzzle;  
From Lewis-Clark to Disney, he  
Churned those covers out,  
Including two that linked up like a puzzle!

