

What To Do With Those Stock Girlies

Well, first, of course, you have to collect stock Girlies before the question of what to do with them arises. In a very real way, they're the 'forgotten issues' of the Girlie category, always destined, it seems, to be overshadowed by the 'other' Girlies. The real emphasis is on the Girlie singles, and then the Girlie sets...and bringing up the rear are the stock Girlies.

I'll admit that they're not as attractive as the other issues, nor are they as interesting—after all, they're all the same! That's why they're 'stock' issues—the same graphic used on otherwise completely different covers (over and over again), and often they're just a stock imprint on the *inside* of the cover. One might legitimately ask, then, why collect them? And to that I say, paraphrasing George Leigh Mallory, "Because they're there!" I figure if I'm going to collect Girlies, then it behooves me to collect *all* Girlies.

But, what does one do with them, say, in relation to your other Girlies? Do they all go into the same collection? Do you house them separately? Do you only collect one example of each graphic or all advertisers of each graphic? If you've been in the hobby any length of time at all, you already know what the standard answer is... "It's your collection; you can do anything you want!" In my own case, having already met the monumental challenge and having arrived at a satisfactory solution (!), I keep my stock Girlies in their own separate collection (separate binders and separate totals from my other Girlie covers), and, yes, I collect all variations and all advertisers, although I can certainly see the logic behind collecting only one example of each stock Girlie graphic.

The late Walter Hubbard, CA, reported having 2,659 stock Girlies in April 1993. And, just recently, Dan Bitter, OK, has come out with a Stock Girlie Design Catalog of almost 800 designs for \$12.

