



Lambda Philatelic Journal

PUBLICATION OF THE GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORY ON STAMPS CLUB * JUNE 2009, VOL. 28, NO. 2, WHOLE NO. 106

Gay Pride



Scott no. 777



Scott no. 778

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 world-wide 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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**GLHSC, PO BOX 190842,
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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. \$1 add-on for late dues.

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.

ADVERTISING RATES:

Members are entitled to free ads.
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

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News from the Editor

Another quarter and another journal. It's rather easy, and tempting lately, to start moving articles and graphics around. Sorry for the slight delay in getting the March and June issues out to everyone.

Articles are needed for the upcoming issues for this year. Formats and the like can be found on page 7.

I hope that everyone has a safe and cool summer. If the past week or so in north Texas is any indication, the staying cool part is going to be tough.

If any of you are FB members, send me an invite. Thanks to those who have extended the invite. Until the next issue, happy collecting!

News from the President

Aaaa-chooo! There sure is a lot floating around in the air this month! Pollen, gay marriage, pollen, gay pride, did I mention pollen? OK, so what does this have to do with collecting stamps, you might ask. Well, I suppose nothing, really (unless you've got a bunch of stamps laid out on your desk and you sneeze), but we have seen a number of significant changes happening across the country with regards to gay marriage.

Some have been good (very good!): Iowa (who knew?), Vermont, Connecticut, with pending decisions in Maine, New York and California. This will make for some interesting points of discussion at this year's plethora of pride happenings, to be sure. I was wondering has anyone else noticed a decrease in attendance at any pride events in the last year or two? Here in greater LA, we have no fewer than five specific pride events, with a half dozen more within driving range. At what I always considered to be the grand-momma of all pride events here in Southern California, West Hollywood's showing last year was disappointing. Many of the booths were filled with corporate sponsors (Chevron? really?), a significant number were vacant, hardly any independent vendors, and it seemed like the crowd was both less in number than in years past and also somewhat less enthusiastic.

It occurred to me that perhaps the LGBT community is moving to a point in our evolution where we are integrated enough in society that gay pride parades and festivals will slowly become a thing of the past. Or maybe we are just all MySpace'd and FaceBook'ed with the community that we want, LGBT or otherwise. In the LGBT community, we have always created our own culture because we were on the outside, always looking in, certainly never fitting in, but maybe now, we are starting to actually assimilate.

And while I think that marriage for all is, of course, the right direction, I wonder if we will miss our separateness. I read an article in the most recent issue of The Lesbian Connection lamenting the demise of lesbian culture as we had come to know it. Author Margaret Mann writes:

"Hopefully, I know better than to cling to the past. We had our day and things are different now. The younger lesbians will be what they will be. But something magical happens

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Drawn Out Tintin's been outed. Jinkies! Could Velma be next?

(Reprinted with permission from *The Advocate*, Issue #1024. www.advocate.com)

Is it a happy accident that the popular cartoon character Tintin, who first appeared in European newspapers in 1929 and is set to star in a series of upcoming Steven Spielberg films, has a tidy blond coif, a tiny dog for a pet, and counts a sailor and an opera singer as best friends? Where the scarved Tintin was silent, the U.K.'s Times newspaper speaks – in January an article dubbed the most famous creation of Belgian artist Hergé an unquestionable 'mo.

Tintin exists amid a long tradition of ambiguous animated characters. Many of these two-dimensionals sprang from the minds of Hanna-Barbera: Scooby-Doo's Velma is a maybe baby dyke, Snagglepuss from *The Yogi Bear Show* is a lisping pink mountain lion, and the Great Gazoo on *The Flintstones* (played by Alan Cumming in the film version, no less) is a possible pocket gay from outer space.

Add to that list Waylon Smithers of *The Simpsons* (the blue-balled assistant to Mr. Burns); Stewie, the homicidal (and homosexual?) baby of *Family Guy*; and SpongeBob Square Pants, who holds hands with boys and caught the ire of Focus on the Family in 2005 for "promoting the gay agenda" (their boycott sank.) Four decades after Hanna-Barbera's heyday, TV's gayish characters cover a wider spectrum of humanity; we've even come so far as to see an openly gay character in *The Simpsons*' Patty Bouvier. But maybe Velma and her '70s friends suffer from a queer case of Jessica Rabbit syndrome: They're not gay, they're just drawn that way.

* * * * *

In 2000, France issued their annual Fête du Timbre stamp featuring Tintin. The stamps were issued in

three formats: sheets of 40; booklets of four regular stamps, three semi-postal stamps and a label; and souvenir sheet of one semi-postal stamp. The surcharge went to the French Red Cross.

The Tintin issue was the first with the name change from Journée du Timbre to Fête du Timbre. It also was issued in both French Francs and Euros. Many European countries began issuing stamps in both denominations in 2000 to prepare their citizens for the arrival of the Euro on January 1, 2002.

Opposite page: Belgian sheet issued for the 100th anniversary of Hergé's birth. Scott no. 2234a-y.



Scott no. 2764



Scott no. 2765b

HERGÉ 1907-2007



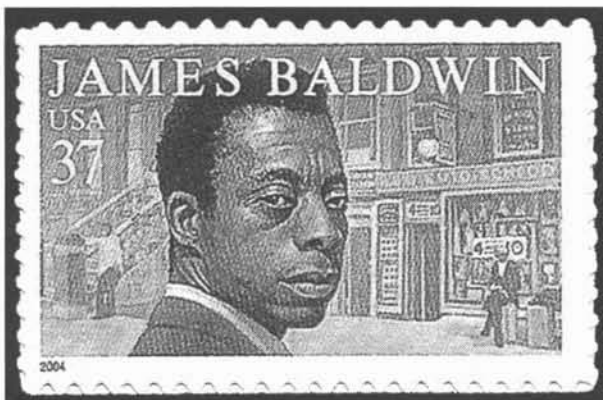
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The Florida Forty Stamper: A Writer with a Voice for Generations to Come

by Francis Ferguson

An American by birth, Baldwin nevertheless spent most of his life as a resident of France from which his critical analysis of contemporary African-American life, dug deep into the social norms of the times. His books predicted/wished/demanded civil rights for African-Americans during a time of social unrest and helped to develop the acceptable norms that followed.

James was born in Harlem on August 2, 1924 to a single mother, Emma Berdis Jones. When he was still young, Emma married David Baldwin, a lay preacher of the Holiness-Pentecostal sect. James was the eldest of nine children. The strained relationship between James and his adopted father resulted in a less than ideal home life. Despite the home front issues, James attended and graduated from the well known and highly prestigious DeWitt Clinton High School. During his early high school years, religion was to strongly influence and guide him; at the age of 14 Baldwin was ordained a preacher. This was not a philosophical solid foundation for James and at the age of 17 he turned away from religion and moved to the center of artistic culture in New York City – Greenwich Village. Supporting himself with odd jobs, James began to write the material that would later be collected into the publication *Notes of a Native Son* (1955).



Scott no. 3871

A pivotal event in Baldwin's life occurred in 1944 when he met Richard Wright, who helped to secure a fellowship fund that allowed him to devote himself totally to writing. Baldwin's friendship with Wright turned adversarial in 1949, when Baldwin published a critical review of one of Wright's works.

In 1948, Baldwin received a Rosenwald Fellowship and left for Europe. There he would find the peace and acceptance that he so wished for in the United States. Baldwin's first novel was completed in 1953; *Go Tell It on the Mountain*. This autobiographical work would establish a good solid foundation for works to follow. His second book, *Giovanni's Room*, stirred a great deal of controversy due to its explicit homosexual content. In 1956, this was not a subject that peeked out of the deep dark recesses of the closet.

Baldwin's experiences in Europe helped him immensely when he returned to the United States in 1957 after 9 years abroad. The budding elements of civil equality had begun to blossom and Baldwin became known as an articulate spokesperson for the civil rights of African-Americans. He became a very popular and much sought after speaker on the lecture circuit. Baldwin's outrage continued unabated throughout the turbulent 1960s. The assassinations of three of his close friends, Malcolm X, Medgar Evers, and MLK all but destroyed his ability to think of racial harmony. He returned to France in the early 1970s and continued to write until his death on November 30, 1987 from stomach cancer.

While Baldwin seemed to come to grips with his own sexuality during his time in Greenwich Village, never was he comfortable living as a black gay man. In the United States he never found the acceptance and/or indifference that Europe afforded him. Sadly, such an articulate spokesman as Baldwin was, he never was on the fore-front of any equal rights movements.

During the beginnings of Baldwin's extended stay in Europe in 1949, he met and fell in love with a seventeen year old runaway. Lucien Happsberger and Baldwin remained close until Happsberger's

marriage three years later. Baldwin was devastated by this turn of events and seemed to never fully recover. No other relationships are documented.

To continue Baldwin's legacy – the USPS issued a first class postage stamp featuring him in 2004 as part of the Literary Arts Series (Scott 3871). A more lasting effect of Baldwin's is to note that, one of his richest short stories (of which he was a prolific writer), *Sonny's Blues*, appears in many anthologies of short fiction used in introductory college literature classes. That alone speaks volumes of his life's work.

Once again we draw to the end of the current article -- see you in future cyberspace -- I welcome any comments and/or suggestions on future topics; email at hampton@cfl.rr.com. Until next time have a great time collecting whatever makes you happy!

[Note. While I am embarrassed to admit that I have never picked up a book by Baldwin, I will correct the deficiency during my next visit to the bookstore.]

[Sources www.wikipedia.com]

Hans Erni, Swiss Artist

by Bill Cox

The journal's recent article on Raymond Burr (Sept. 2008, Vol. 27, No. 3) brought to mind the actor's admiration for the renowned Swiss artist, Hans Erni. Raymond Burr owned six of his paintings. Reportedly, they gave him comfort to look at during his final days before dying of cancer.

In February 2009, this world-acclaimed artist celebrated his 100th birthday. He is still actively painting. He was born in Lucerne, Switzerland, one of eight children. His early art training was at the Academie Julian in Paris and the Art School in Berlin. His contacts with artists such as Arp, Brancusi, Calder, Kandinsky, Mondrian and Moore influenced his work. Picasso and Braque also had a great influence on him.



Scott no. 496

WANTED: ARTICLES

Send in articles on your favorite gay, lesbian, bisexual, topical or country for publication in a future issue of the *Lambda Philatelic Journal*.

- Text file via email or diskette preferred.
- Graphics - 300 dpi or better quality.
- Will scan originals and return if needed.

His public works, personal exhibitions and art awards were represented by paintings, frescos, mosaics and tapestries. In 1949, he won a competition of the Swiss Postal Service for the design of a stamp. Since that time, he has designed more than 90 stamps for Switzerland, Liechtenstein and the United Nations.

Hans Erni is also known for his activism, lithographs for the Swiss Red Cross and participation on the Olympic Committee. He has created a large number of sculptures and ceramics, costumes for the theater and the opera, and even banknotes.

The Pegasus Constellation stamp was issued by Switzerland in 1969. In 1979, he designed a set of four Swiss stamps called "Swiss by Choice". This set included Rainer Maria Rilke, German poet, and Thomas Mann, German author, both of whom are included in Paul Hennefeld's excellent handbook.



Scott no. 667



Scott no. 670

The Swiss Europa stamps of 1986, woman and man, were award-winning stamps, while the Europa stamp of 1995 used the dove as symbol of peace (showing perhaps the Picasso influence).



Scott no. 958

Muscular male nudes were found in much of his work, well illustrated in the designs of four stamps for the 250th anniversary of the Duchy of Liechtenstein. They are "Biology", "Physics", "Astronomy" and "art". One can easily see the appeal of this artist's work to gay audiences.



Scott no. 454



Scott no. 455



Scott no. 456



Scott no. 457

Our First Modern Day, Unofficial Gay Saint??

by Bobby Cloud



Newman can be found on the 1954 Ireland, Scott 153-154; Centenary of the Founding of Catholic University

It was Cardinal Newman's dying wish that he be buried with his closest friend in the grounds of the house they had shared as priests (and as probable lovers.) Nearly 118 years after his death, Britain's most famous Anglican convert to Roman Catholicism is to be re-interred in a sarcophagus in preparation for his becoming a saint, leaving the remains of his friend Ambrose behind.

In October 2008, the church did dig up the grave and found virtually no remains. The decision to separate the remains of John Henry Newman and Ambrose St. John has upset figures in the Church and led some to question whether it is embarrassed about their relationship. They were buried in a grave in a secluded cemetery on the outskirts of Birmingham, England.

Newman has been moved to the Birmingham Oratory in preparation for his beatification. Elena Curti, deputy editor of *The Tablet* – a respected Catholic journal – expressed regret that the cardinal's final request was not being observed. Newman's deepest emotional relationships were with younger men who were his disciples. The most significant of these was Richard Froude, who died in 1836; then Ambrose St.

John, who lived with Newman from 1843. After the death of Ambrose St. John, Newman clung to the corpse all night. When the Cardinal passed away, he was buried, at his request, in the same grave as his beloved Ambrose.

Newman himself was reluctant about Sainthood in general and would never discuss the matter. Tradition has it that a sign of sainthood is when the physical body decomposes slower than normal, or in some legends, not at all. Newman's burial instructions forbade them from burying him in a lead coffin used to foster this sort of "sainthood". In fact, his wish was for them to use mulch to cover the simple coffin to actually hasten the decomposition. Besides the Irish stamps, Newman can also be found on Jersey, Scott 316, issued for Jersey Artist Walter William Oules on Sept 20, 1983.

References:

- wordpress.com
- freerepublic.com
- catholicherald.com/uk
- telegraphherald.com

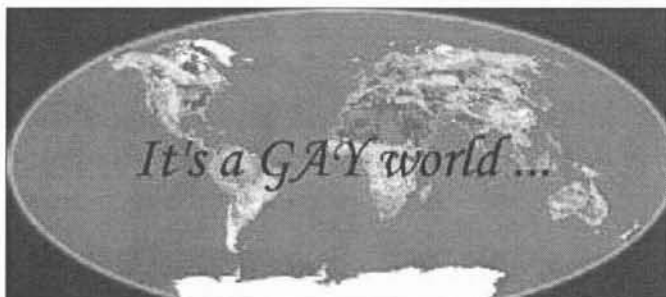


Gay & Lesbian Update

From member Bob Brown: Here is some thing for your next issue. I have bought lots of wedding ring stamps. I am putting them on all my letters and writing below them "Support same sex marriage". I figure if the government wants to spend my tax dollars promoting marriage, then I will use their same message and shoot it back at them and no added cost to me. I suggest everyone do the same.

* * * * *

Leonardo da Vinci cancel from May 2008.



Australia issued a strip of five stamps featuring popular Australian films on November 3, 2008. The stamps were also issued in a vertical strip of five self-adhesive stamps. *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* can be found on Scott nos. 2997, 3002.



Ascension issued a set of five stamps honoring the longest reigning British monarchs on December 15, 2008. King James I is featured on Scott no. 962.

Finland, on January 22, 2009, issued a sheet of four stamps to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Finland as Grand Duchy of Russia. Tsar Alexander I can be found on Scott no. 1330a.

Mauritius issued a set of five stamps featuring authors who mentioned Mauritius on December 8, 2008. Charles Baudelaire is featured on Scott no. 1054.

United States issued a strip of four stamps for the 200th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln on February 9, 2009. Scott nos. 4380 - 83.

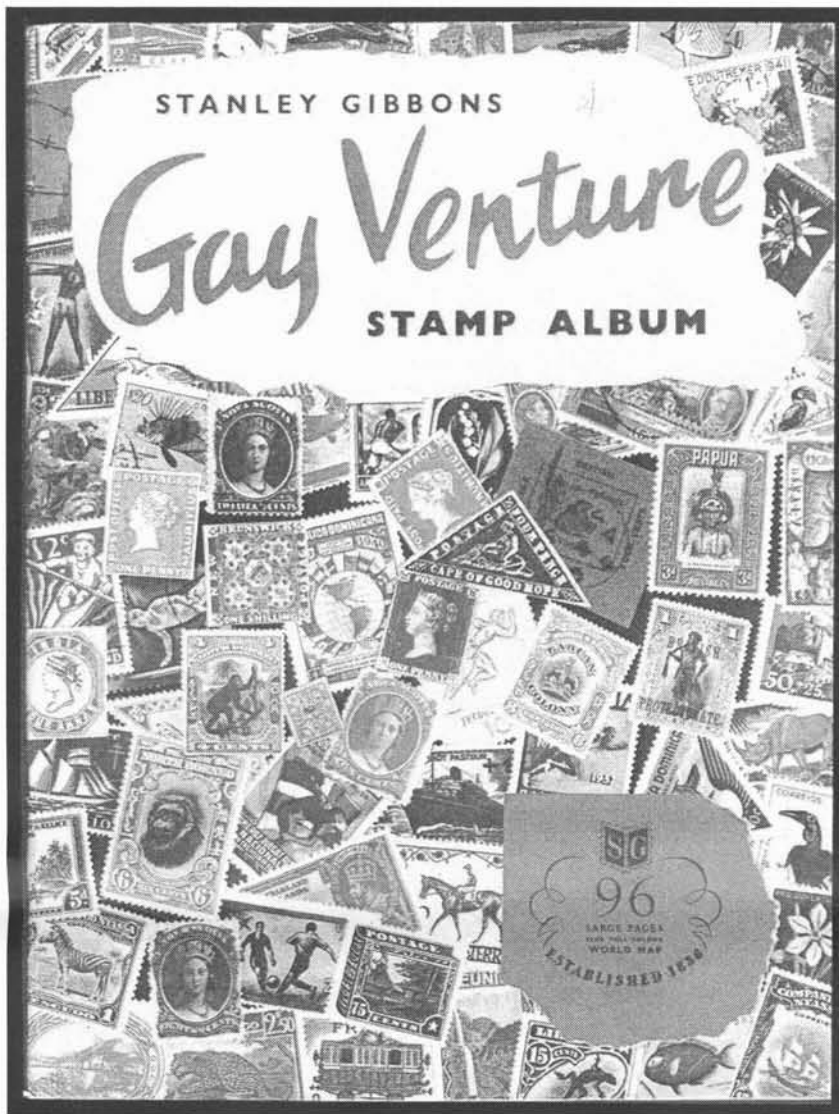
AIDS Update

A new website is on the Internet. Be sure to visit www.aidsonstamps.com. The site is the result of hard work of one of GLHSC's newest members.

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Papua New Guinea issued a set of nine stamps, a sheet of four stamps and a souvenir sheet on December 1, 2008. The stamps were issued for World AIDS Day. Scott nos. 1339 - 49.

Tanzania issued a set of four stamps, a sheet of four stamps and a souvenir sheet on July 14, 2007. The stamps were issued for the campaign against AIDS. Scott nos. 2479 - 84.



Album cover published in 1967 by Stanley Gibbons. Recently found on eBay.



Gay postcard posted on eBay.

Helpful Addresses

American Philatelic Society (APS & APRL)
100 Match Factory Place
Bellevue PA 16823
814-933-3803
www.stamps.org
www.stamplibrary.org



American Topical Association (ATA)
PO Box 8
Carterville IL 62918-0008



www.americantopicalassn.org

American First Day Cover Society (AFDCS)
PO Box 16277
Tucson AZ 85732-6277
520-321-0880
www.afdcs.org



Wineburgh Philatelic Research Library
PO Box 830643
Richardson TX 75083-0643
www.utdallas.edu/library/uniquecoll/speccoll/wprl/wprl.htm

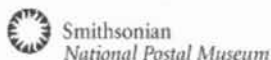
ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives
One Institute
909 West Adams Blvd.
West Hollywood CA 90007-2406
213-741-0094
www.onearchives.org



Homodok (Gay Archives)
Oosterdoksstraat 110
NL—1011 DK Amsterdam
The Netherlands
www.ihlia.nl



National Postal Museum
MRC 570
Smithsonian Institution
Washington DC 20560-0001
www.postalmuseum.si.edu



The British Library
Philatelic Collections
96 Euston Road
NW1 2DB London
United Kingdom
www.bl.uk/collections/philatelic



(Continued from page 3)

in large lesbian groups when everywhere you look you are affirmed by women-loving-women. There is a deeply satisfying connection generated when you're sharing an experience with thousands of people just like you."

So, I wonder will we still be able to keep our LGBT identities and still assimilate within the greater society? I ask because as we become more and more integrated (and isolated at the same time due to the computer, TV etc.), will we even have pride parades and festivals or gay centers or even a Gay and Lesbian History on Stamps Club in 10 years? And if so, will we miss that deeply satisfying connection by not connecting with others of like mind and spirit? I hope not, but I fear that it might in fact come to pass.

Have we come to the place where there wouldn't ever be another Stonewall? Acknowledging 40 years since that momentous gay event this year is pretty remarkable, but there still remains much work to be done, both socially and politically. I think that whether or not you are political, just being a member of GLHSC is certainly a statement of who we are and where we have both come from and are going to.

I'd be interested in hearing what other members have to say on this topic, or for that matter, any other topic as it relates to the club and the greater LGBT community at large. Please feel free to email me at bleumoon@charter.net.

Happy Pride!

Angela

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