



Lambda Philatelic Journal

PUBLICATION OF THE GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORY ON STAMPS CLUB * JUNE 2010, VOL. 29, NO. 2, WHOLE NO. 110



Hermes -- Postal Icon



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. \$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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Opinions expressed here are solely those of the authors, and do not necessarily represent those of the GLHSC, its' officers or members.

News from the Editor

Articles are urgently needed for upcoming issues. I have received a few articles which appear in this and the next journal. Thanks to the members that have sent them in. I can still use articles for the remainder of the year.

* * * * *

As noted on page 10, the first known lgbt pride cancel in many years was used in Milwaukee. If any members are aware of other cancels being used this year, please let us know. Samples of the artwork would be greatly appreciated.

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BREAKING NEWS

from *www.JoeMyGod.com*
and *Bay Windows*

In what appears to be a global first, Austria has issued a postage stamp commemorating gay pride. The special stamp was designed by Christian Högl, who works as a professional graphic designer in addition to his volunteer activities as HOSI Wien's co-president. He also created the graphic designs for the Rainbow Parade for the last eight years. "Austrian Post will dedicate one of the 60 postal stamps to be issued this year to this event," said Jona Solomon, co-president of Homosexuelle Initiative (HOSI) Wien, Austria's oldest and leading gay and lesbian organisation, that has been organising the gay pride parade in Vienna since 2003. A special post office will be set up at this year's parade where stamp collectors can get the prized "first day postmark."

The stamp is to be issued July 3, 2010. Look for a copy in your September journal.



It's Time for a US Harvey Milk Postage Stamp!

by San Diego City Commissioner Nicole Murray Ramirez
National Milk Stamp Campaign Chair

(Reprinted from the web.)

Last year, a major national letter writing campaign was launched to get the US Postage Service to issue a commemorative stamp to honor civil rights icon Harvey Milk. This Harvey Milk Stamp rendition is by San Francisco artist Jim Leff.

The International Court System, founded in 1965 with chapters in over 68 cities within the United States, Canada, and Mexico, is spearheading this campaign with co-sponsors National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), Victory Fund, Equality Across America, Harvey Milk Foundation, Equality California and Christopher Street West. Among the national honorary chairs; Stuart Milk, Reverend Troy Perry, Cleve Jones, Ray Carey, Chuck Wolfe, Academy Award winner Dustin Lance Black, Senator Mark Leno, Lorri Jean, Jose Julio Sarria and the Speaker of the State Assembly John A. Perez. [See information below about the Imperial Court's 45th anniversary event in Kentucky on June 5.]

Last year, I launched this letter writing campaign, as Chairman of the City of San Diego's Human Relations Commission, which voted unanimously to send an official letter to the national Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee to give serious consideration to this proposal. Congressmembers Bob Filner and Susan Davis followed with their personal letters, as well as the President Pro-Tem of the San Diego City Council, Kevin Faulconer.

The International Court System has launched a letter writing campaign and events throughout cities in the United States with sponsoring organizations and supporters doing the same. It is the hope of this national Milk Stamp Campaign to create an avalanche of letters to the national Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee, which makes the final decision. It takes approximately two to three years to get a commemorative stamp to be approved by this committee. So in 2012 or 2013, it could be possible for a Harvey Milk stamp to be approved.

Some of our sources in Washington, DC have informed us that a Harvey Milk stamp will seriously be considered. As we celebrate the first official Harvey Milk Day in California on May 22, now is the time for all Americans to join the campaign and write the National Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee to urge them to honor a true civil rights hero and issue the first US stamp in honor of outstanding citizen Harvey Milk.

Please join us and get your friends, family and neighbors to write a letter to:

Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee
c/o Stamp Development
US Postal Service
1735 North Lynn Street, Suite 5013
Arlington, VA 22209-6432

Happy 80th Birthday Harvey Milk!

For more information about this campaign go to www.impcourt.org.

Postcard with Jim Leff design.

Hermes - Postal Icon

by Bill Cox

The Greek god, Hermes, is undoubtedly the most readily recognizable of all the ancient Olympians. As a son of Zeus, he became messenger to the gods along with many other attributes: god of roads and travel, thievery, language, athletic contests and gymnasiums, to name a few. He sometimes conducted souls of the dead to Hades.

The Romans knew him as Mercury, a patron of travelers, merchants (he was a deity of commerce), rogues and thieves, and a god of the wind. In our solar system, the planet Mercury was named for him as it is the fastest moving planet. Little wonder that he has become an icon in postal history for swift mail delivery. Our own United States Post Office used Mercury as its symbol from 1772 until 1837.

As a swift-footed messenger, he wears a broad rimmed traveling hat adorned with two wings, sandals usually shown with wings, and carries a special staff called "caduceus" as a sign of his high position. Sometimes nude and sometimes cloaked, he is usually depicted as a handsome and athletic, beardless youth. In early Greek times, he was portrayed as an older man.

Hermes was also a god who bestowed qualities of beauty, loyalty, strength, and eloquence onto male lovers. Paul Henefeld, in his excellent Handbook - 2004, lists the many representations which continue today.

Countless world postal systems have featured his image. One early and rare example is the 1856 Red Mercury stamp of Austria created as postage on newspapers. It has a value of \$40,000.

In 1861, Greece began using a Hermes head as a definitive. The many versions issued in different sizes and colors have kept philatelists intrigued for years.

Shown here are just a few examples from the author's collection, and while not created as a topical collection, it does pay tribute to this handsome divinity.



Illustrations of Gay History

by Bobby Cloud

It's not their face you see, but their work as artists. Oftentimes, the stamp doesn't even note the name of the artist or illustrator. Whether you agree that the person "could be", "was" or "was not" same sex oriented, the homoerotic connections is noted and the gay link is just as important to gay history as it is to the history you were taught while growing up. You may or may not recognize the name, and you may not recognize the gay connection in history, but it is there. As explored in the September 2006 issue of the LPJ with the illustrations of J. C. Leyendecker (Scott 1729, 3369, and 3502c) and Sergio Baradat (Scott 3942) and the recent issue of September 2008 featuring Georgia O'Keeffe with her "Red Poppy" (Scott 3069), the face of the person was not pictured. Their works as illustrators/artists were featured.



Scott no. 1207

Winslow Homer (1836-1910)

American artist Winslow Homer was a creative artist. He produced many paintings and prints that represented and celebrated the companionship and intimacy of soldiers, hunters, ship mates, and other men engaged primarily in "typical masculine" outdoor occupations.

Homer was a private individual who consistently refused to reveal any details concerning his personal life. His failure to marry was always attributed to his shyness around women. In the 19th century, men who loved other men usually suffered from guilt. Yet Homer did not reflect this in his paintings. One of

Homer's closest friends was Albert Kelsey. They shared a studio in Paris for 2 years. A posed photograph made in Paris commemorates their friendship. Kelsey stands with linked hands and arms resting on the shoulders and back of Homer, who is seated on a tall column. Significantly, on the back of Kelsey's copy (which he preserved the rest of his life) was written "Damon and Pythias" (a reference to the mythological heroes who were devoted to one another.) Interestingly later in life, Homer made a drawing of Kelsey riding nude on the back of a turtle in the Bahamas. The significance can only be inferred by the interpreter.

Winslow Homer's painting *Breezing Up* was issued in 1962 on Scott 1207. In 1987, Bermuda issued a set of 5 stamps depicting paintings by Homer (Scott 514-518). The USPS again honored Homer with Scott 3632j on the "Four Centuries of American Art" souvenir sheet. Winslow Homer will be honored once again in 2010 in the ninth American Treasures series. It features *Boys in a Pasture*, an 1874 Homer painting. It is part of the Hayden Collection at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. This stamp will go on sale Aug. 12.



Scott no. 1235

Thomas Eakins (1844-1916)

Although his personal sexual preference is an ongoing matter of debate, painter and teacher Thomas Eakins is solidly aligned in the history of art with a homoerotic awareness. Throughout his career, Eakins sought to suggest a realistic, classical depiction in his paintings. He produced works that celebrated ideals of form, particularly the male figure.

Although in 1884 Eakins married Susan McDowell (1851-1938), a musician and painter who would become his frequent model and photographer; there is still the ongoing matter of his sexual orientation. Due in part to his most famous work *The Swimming Hole* which art historians believe to be a recreation of Plato's Academy, it is widely cited as a prime example of homoeroticism in Eakins. Thomas Eakins was honored by the USPS in 1967 on Scott no. 1335 - *The Beglin Brothers Racing*.

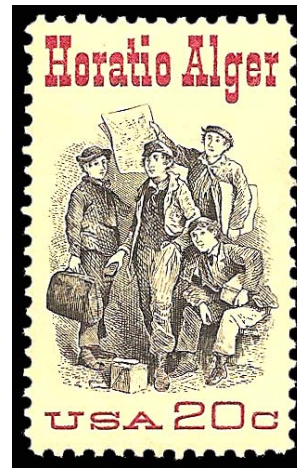


Scott no. 1435

Robert {Clark} Indiana (b. 1928)

Robert Indiana is best known as the creator of the LOVE series of paintings and sculptures. He is an openly gay American artist who has incorporated autobiographical and gay themes within his work. Oil company manager Earl Clark and homemaker Carmen Watters of New Castle, IN adopted the infant as their only child. Indiana was part of the pop art movement, though he mockingly refers to himself as a sign painter. Like other pop artists he uses commonplace objects and familiar images with new meaning.

Typical of pop artists, Indiana serialized the image. In 1966, he exhibited a series of "love" paintings including a definitive version featuring four red block letters completely filling the canvas against a blue and green background. Each letter fills a quarter of the picture. The LOVE image had an immediate impact, especially among the youth culture of the 1960s. In 1973, the USPS commissioned Indiana to do a LOVE postage stamp. The resulting product, Scott no. 1475, became the most popular stamp ever issued by the U.S. government



Scott no. 2010

Horatio Alger, Jr. (1834-1899)

Alger was a prolific writer of dime novel stories for boys and about boys. From the debut of his first novel, *Ragged Dick*, in 1867, Alger was instrumental in establishing a new genre of dime novels known as the 'city story.' The genre arose out of the widespread urbanization that followed the Civil War and paralleled the rise of industrialism. Alger's stories made the young street urchins living in poverty among large, urban centers such as New York, Boston, and Philadelphia heroes. With unusual courage and moral stamina, Alger's youths struggled against hardship to achieve great wealth and praise. These rags to riches stories were enormously popular with the public and flourished in the decades from 1870 to 1890.

In 1886, a special parish committee of the Unitarian Fellowship Church of Brewster, MA accused Rev. Alger, Jr. of being "inappropriately familiar" with Thomas Crocker and John Clark. Alger did not deny the charge. He fled on the first train to New York City. At the time of his death, Alger was living with his sister Augusta and her husband in Natick, MA. Tragically, his sister destroyed all his personal papers. In 1982, the USPS honored Alger, not with a photo of the man, but with an illustration depicted from his novels. Alger's young street urchins illustration became Scott no. 2010.

Ian Woodward Falconer (b. 1959)

Falconer is an openly gay painter and illustrator whose illustrations have graced many covers of *The New Yorker* magazine. In addition, he has designed sets and costumes for the New York City Ballet, the San Francisco Opera, and the Royal Opera House among others.

Olivia was his first children's book. He lives in New York City and has always been out. He knew he was gay, or at least appreciative of men right from the start. "One of my earliest memories is being in the locker room at the yacht club," says Falconer. "I was probably only 5 or 6 years old. I was looking around at all the naked men and thinking "Wow!" In 2006 the USPS honored "Favorite Children's Book Animals." *Olivia* was among the illustrations honored on Scott no. 3993

Alan J. Shalleck (1929 - 2006)

Shalleck was an American writer and producer for children's programming on television. He is most known for his work on later Curious George books and the 1980s television shorts. In 1977, he approached Margret Rey about producing a television series based on Curious George. This led to the 1980 television show. Shalleck and Rey wrote more than 100 short episodes for the series. In addition, they collaborated on a number of children's books and audio-books. Some of these books list Rey as

the author and Shalleck as the editor, while others credit Shalleck as the author and Rey as the editor.

On February 7, 2006, a few days before the theatrical release of a Curious George motion picture, Shalleck's body was discovered at his home in Boynton Beach, Florida. He was a victim of a robbery/homicide. His attackers were two gay men (lovers) he had met via a gay sex network. They were tracked down using the victim's phone records. They confessed to the crime and were subsequently sentenced to life in prison without possibility of parole in 2008. No stamps have been issued to honor Shalleck. However, Curious George was featured on the aforementioned "Favorite Children's Book Animals." The stamp is Scott no. 3992.

Bibliography

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Kernan, Nathan. *Robert Indiana*. New York: Assouline, 2003

Moon, Michael; "The Gentle Boy from the Dangerous Classes': *Pederasty, Domesticity, and Capitalism in Horatio Alger, Jr.* 1987

Giltz, Michael; "Ian Falconer" *The Advocate*, Liberation Publications, Inc. 14-Oct-2003

<http://www.miaminewtimes.com/2008-02-07/news/cartoon-creator-s-grisly-murder/1> (Alan Shalleck)



Curious George, Scott no. 3992 - Olivia, Scott no. 3993.
The Very Hungry Caterpillar and Maisy were a joint issue with Great Britain.
The British stamps were the same design as the US stamps.

The Florida Fifty Stamper Susan B. Anthony - She Made a Difference

by Francis Ferguson

The second oldest of eight children and born in 1820, to Daniel Anthony and Mary Stafford Anthony, Susan spent her early years in West Grove, Massachusetts. She was born into a Quaker family that did not allow toys or amusement in the household for fear of “distracting the soul from the inner light.” Susan developed a strong sense of family and self reliance. She remained in close contact with all of her siblings, especially her sisters throughout her extraordinary life.



Scott no. 1435

In 1826, the Anthony family moved to Battenville, New York. Susan was sent to a local district school where she experienced the first pains of being discriminated against. Her teacher refused to teach her long division because of her gender. Her father quickly removed her from this sub-standard environment and placed her in a group home school, where he taught Susan himself. In 1837, a brief stay at the Moulson's Female Seminary was not going well, when the economic downturn nearly completely erased the family's financial wealth. It was only the last minute intervention of Susan's uncle Joshua

Read that averted total loss. In an effort to regroup, the family moved in 1839 to Hardscrabble, New York. That same year Susan left home to teach and help pay off the family debts.

For the next ten years she taught in two different institutions. From 1846-1849, she was the headmistress of the Female Department at the Canajoharie Academy. It was here that Susan became empowered to fight for wages equivalent to those of male teachers. The disparity was extraordinary, with men earning roughly four times what women did for the same duties.

In 1849, Susan quit teaching and moved to the family farm in Rochester NY. She began to take part in activities related to the temperance movement. It was also at this time that she began to distance herself from the Quakers. She also began to attend the local Unitarian Church. As Susan got older she continued to move further away from organized religion in general.

As the years passed, Susan involvement in the temperance movement, African-American and women's rights movement continued to grow. Without a doubt the enduring legacy of Susan B. Anthony is tied directly to her co-founding of the National Women's Suffrage Association in 1869 with long time friend Elizabeth Cady Stanton. In 1892, she became President and served until 1900. Retiring at the age of 80, Susan remained in Rochester and died of heart disease and pneumonia on March 13, 1906.

Following her death, the New York State Senate passed a resolution remembering her “unceasing labor, undaunted courage, and unselfish devotion to many philanthropic purposes and to the cause of equal political rights for women.”

Susan lived in an era of a more fluid definition of sexuality and as a result she was often seen purely as an old maid. She was far from it. Women were always at the center of both her professional and private life. Susan Anthony first met Elizabeth Cady Stanton at a lecture in 1851. Whether they were lovers will remain a matter of speculation, but it is clear that theirs was a particularly close and enduring friendship that lasted for many years. Surviving corre-

spondence shows that there was a intimate relationship of some nature with Anna Dickinson, who she invited to share her bed with. Her third companion was apparently Emily Gross of Chicago who she spoke of as "my new lover" in an 1895 letter to her niece, at the age of 75.

In 1936, the USPS issued Scott number 784 and followed with another commemoration in 1955 with the only female in the Liberty Series, Scott 1051. Furthermore in 1979, the US Mint issued the Susan B. Anthony dollar coin. This was the first real (non-allegorical) American woman on circulating U.S. coinage. This remarkable coin was only minted in 1979, 1980, 1981, and 1999. The coin can still be found occasionally in circulation.

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.

Gay & Lesbian Update

For the first time in many years, there was a Pride cancel used in Milwaukee, June 11 - 13. Copies of the cancel are available until July 13. Be sure to include a self-addressed stamped envelope for the covers' return. Mail your covers to:

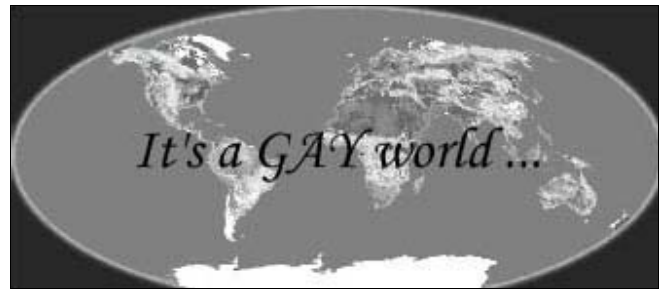
Pridefest Station
Box 5016
Milwaukee WI 53201-5016

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The May 2010 issue of the *American Philatelist* included an article on Alexander von Humboldt.

* * * * *

Look for a new and improved GLHSC website soon. Special thanks to Francis Ferguson for his help in getting the new site online.



Grenada issued a sheet of three stamps featuring Abraham Lincoln, Scott no. 3730.

Grenada Grenadines issued a sheet of four stamps featuring Abraham Lincoln. Scott no. 2734.

Micronesia issued a sheet of four stamps featuring Abraham Lincoln. Scott no. 840.

Poland issued a strip of three stamps featuring lost artworks. *Exlibris Willibald Pirckheimer*, by Albrecht Dürer can be found on Scott no. 3967a.

Udanda issued a sheet of four stamps featuring Abraham Lincoln. Scott no. 1899.

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

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.

* * * * *

The international bureau of the Universal Postal Union has asked postal administrations to issue stamps in 2011 to mark 30 years of the fight against AIDS.

The request is part of a campaign of the UPU, UNAIDS (the joint United Nations program on HIV/AIDS) and the International Labor Organization to raise awareness of how AIDS is spread.

The UPU's international bureau also has recommended that the stamps include the UNAIDS logo and other logos that may be designed for the occasion.

* * * * *

Serbia issued a postal tax stamp on October 9, 2006 for AIDS prevention. They were obligatory on mail October 9 - 31. Scott no. RA5.

Helpful Addresses

American Philatelic Society (APS & APRL)
 100 Match Factory Place
 Bellefonte 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

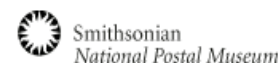
ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives
 One Institute
 909 West Adams Blvd.
 West Hollywood CA 90007-2406
 213-741-0094
www.onearchives.org



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



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www.bl.uk/collections/philatelic



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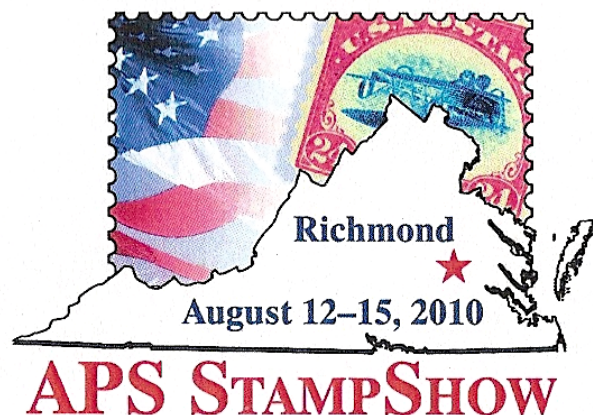


Two ways to own this special ATA cachet (while supplies last):

- Donate \$50. or more to ATA's **Buck the Trend Fund**
- Purchase it for \$5. (postpaid)

AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 8, CARTERVILLE, IL 62918-0008 Phone 618-985-5100 Fax 618-985-5131
americantopical@msn.com www.americantopicalassn.org



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.