



GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORY ON STAMPS JOURNAL



GLHSONLINE.ORG

Issue 008

April, 2020

Tove Jansson	1
Letters to the Editor	2
Breaking the Ice	2
Website Update	5
Trying to Promote	5
Billie Jean King	6
Crudity of Nudity	7
Luis Cernuda	9
Gay Ventures	10
Chain Cards	11
Giving Back	12
Out of This World	13
Philately in a Pandemic	14
Lavender Palette	15
William "Billy" Haines	16
New Issues	19
Great American SS	24



Tove Jansson

By John P. Stefanek

Tove Marika Jansson was born on 9 August 1914 in Helsinki to sculptor Viktor Jansson and his illustrator (and postage stamp designer) wife Signe. Tove could draw almost before she could walk. At only fourteen, she first published her illustrations in a couple newspapers. In 1929, she published a seven-part comic strip in the children's paper Lunkentus. Her professional life as an illustrator had begun.

She attended the Stockholm Technical School from 1930 until graduation in 1933. In that year, her first illustrated book was printed. She took art classes for four years at the Ateneum (Finnish Society of Art in Helsinki), making her name as a draughtswoman and illustrator. She met fellow artist Samuel Beprosvanni, soon an object of Tove's passion for a few years.
(Continued on page 3)



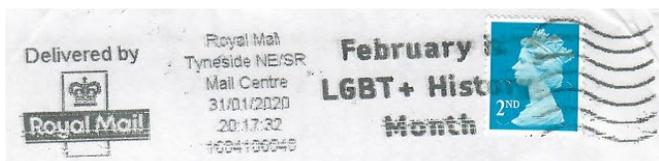
The **objectives** of GLHS are to promote an interest in the collection, study and dissemination of knowledge of worldwide philatelic material that depicts: Notable men and women and their contributions to society for whom historical evidence exists of homosexual or bisexual orientation; Mythology, historical events and ideas significant in the history of gay culture; Flora and fauna scientifically proven to having prominent homosexual behavior, and other philatelic endeavors.

Membership fees at this time are \$10 a year to assist with maintenance fees including the website, photocopies of brochures, advertising, and other administrative expenses. Payment by check or money order, payable to the club, GLHS.

The GLHS electronic journal is published quarterly, January, April, July, and October. Submissions for July 2020 issue are needed by June 15, 2020. Members may submit advertisements for free.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Lisa Foster



Carol C. wrote, "Awesome job on newsletter!"

Phil S. wrote, "Great job on the latest GLHS Newsletter!"

Dawn H. wrote, "Your newsletter is wonderful!"

Although I appreciate the positive feedback and kind words, I would not be successful without the submissions from our members.

Francis F. wrote, "Tremendous effort on your part. You deserve a loud and long round of applause. Thank you for expanding the white space between the columns -- it does make it look less cluttered and does make it easier to read."

Ian G. wrote, "Great job as always on the journal. Regarding London, count me in on attending the meeting on the 6th and I would be totally down for a social thing to meet other members so please count me in!"

Art vR. wrote, "note that the number of pages in a journal should always be in four pages increments, i.e. 4, 8, 12, 16, etc. Otherwise, if a library prints it out for binding in double sided spreads, there will be blank pages. For example, with 21 pages in the last issue, there would be three blank pages."

Thank you, Art for your input. I had not considered that as it is an e-journal. I will take your suggestion into account in future issues.



GLHS @ LONDON 2020 CANCELLED

Current Membership Report

Our current membership consists of 38 paid members. 25 are also members of the American Philatelic Society (APS) & 17 members of the American Topical Association (ATA).

Breaking the Ice

Frank Serafino

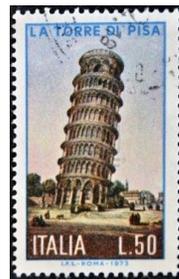
In an attempt for GLHS members to get better acquainted with each other, members are invited to introduce themselves by answering questions to be published in the Journal.

First off, what is your name, and where are you from?

FRANK SERAFINO, OAK BROOK, IL

When and how did you become interested in stamp collecting?

I COLLECTED AS A CHILD; NOW RETIRED AND INTEREST REKINDLED



What do you like to collect?

GAY & LESBIAN HISTORY;
U.S., ITALY

What prompted you to join GLHS?

FORMER MEMBER; GLAD TO SEE IT'S STILL AROUND

How can GLHS help you? And/or What do you hope to get out of the club? And/or What would you like GLHS to offer?

I'VE BEEN PUBLISHED AND WOULD LIKE TO WRITE SOMETHING FOR GLHS IN THE FUTURE

Frank, we look forward to meeting you and reading your articles in the future. Welcome!



(Tove Jansson , Continued from page 1).

She travelled to Paris on scholarship in 1938, enrolling at the École des Beaux-Arts, then at the Atelier d'Adrien Holy. The following year, she travelled to Italy, again on scholarship, viewing as much as she could before the start of war. She worked extensively with the Swedish-language satirical political paper *Garm* for some fifteen years. Most famous were two covers featuring Hitler: "The Munich Conference" from October 1938 and "German Evacuation of Lapland" from October 1944. Endless illustration jobs provided income, but painting was her passion. Tove's first solo exhibition was at the Konstsalongen in Helsinki in 1943.

Tove moved into the tower studio at Ulrikasborgsgatan 1, the studio she would use for the rest of her life. She had a five-year relationship with philosopher and Member of Parliament Atos Wirtanen. During, she fell violently in love with married theatre director Vivica Bandler. This brief new romance was represented by Thingumy and Bob in the third Moomin book ("They were born like that and can't help it."). Tove also painted Vivica (and a Moomin) into a mural she created in the basement of Helsinki Town Hall.



In autumn 1945, her first Moomin book, *The Moomins and the Great Flood*, was published in both Helsinki and Stockholm. She started writing it during the Winter War (1939-1940), when the Soviet Union attacked Finland. After two more Moomin prose books (there would eventually be nine in total), Tove began to be known as a writer. The third book was published in English in 1950 as *Finn Family Moomintroll*. She became a megastar in the 1950s when her Moomin comic strip series took off in Britain.

Tove built Windrose House, a log cabin on Bredskär, an island in the Pellinge archipelago. There in 1951, she created the first of three Moomin picture books, *Hur gick det sen?* (*The Book About Moomin, Mymble and Little My*). The cover and interior pages were each pierced with a roughly circular hole, allowing a glimpse of what

comes next (or what happened before). It won the Nils Holgersson Plaque in Sweden, awarded by the General Association of Swedish Libraries.

Tove attended the Artists' Guild 1955 Christmas party. Thus 41-year-old Tove met 38-year-old graphic artist Tuulikki Pietilä. They had both brought their best 78rpm records and were unwilling to let anyone else meddle with the music. By March they were in love, together for life. In the Moomin world, Tuulikki is represented by the character Too-ticky.



She won the Elsa Beskow plaque in 1958 for her illustrations to *Moominland Midwinter*. She also won the Rudolf Koivu Prize and the Swedish Literature Association's Prize. The first Moomin play appeared in 1949, but the second, *Troll in the Wings*, was a smash hit in Stockholm. Its success in Oslo finally opened Norway to Tove's books. She turned over the comic strips (which continued until 1975) to her youngest brother Lars and spent a few months at the end of 1959 in Greece and Paris with Tuulikki.

Tove continued illustration work (e.g., books by Lewis Carroll and J. R. R. Tolkien), but free from the demands of comic strips, she returned to painting. She presented several solo shows during the 1960s. The Moomin books continued (until 1970), including *Who Will Comfort Toffle?*, which became one of the best-loved in Scandinavia. She won the *Stockholms-Tidningen* 1963 prize for Finland-Swedish culture.

She and Tuulikki built a low cottage on the forked island of Klovharun out on the Gulf of Finland. It never became the refuge she hoped because strangers arrived almost daily to see the famous "Moomin mama." Tove won the Hans Christian Andersen medal in 1966. It is the most important international prize for children's literature. She wrote *Sculptor's Daughter*, the first of several adult books not related to Moomins, in 1968.

(Continued on page 4)

(Tove Jansson , Continued from page 3).

The last of the Moomin prose books was published in 1970, but a television series soon appeared in Europe. The Japanese Moomin boom came in the early 1970s. Tove flew to Tokyo for speeches and appearances as the books and a television series of films appeared. (She had to prevent the spread of these films because of the inexplicable inclusion of violence and war. She returned to Japan in the early 1990s when new, acceptable films were created.) She and Tuulikki continued around-the-world with stops in Hawaii, California, Mexico, New Orleans, St. Petersburg, and New York.

International success and the 1972 Mårbacka Prize came to Tove after she published *The Summer Book, A Novel*. Several more awards followed during the rest of the decade. She wrote plays and dramas for television and radio. A great Tove Jansson Exhibition opened at the Museum of Art in Tampere, including tableaux and a large Moomin house, joint projects by Tove and Tuulikki. Tove’s novel, *Fair Play*, is the story of the life and love the two shared. They stopped summering on Klovharun. The new Japanese Moomin boom began, and a new Moomin television series started in Finland and Sweden.

The Swedish Academy awarded Tove its Major Prize in 1994. Her last book, *Messages*, was published in 1998. Tove Jansson died on 27 June 2001.

Known stamp designs featuring Tove Jansson: Finland 1455

Known stamp designs based on Tove Jansson’s work:

Aland 261; Finland 898-901, 931-2, 1067-70, 1127, 1193, 1218, 1290, 1338, 1380, 1432, 1491, 1541, 1589, 1/22/20; Japan 3822-3, 4182-3

Known stamps designed by Tove’s mother, Signe Hammarsten-Jansson:



Finland 155-65, 165A, 166, 166B, 167-70, 170A-B, 171-3, 173B-C, 174, 174A-B, 175, 175B-C, 176, 176A-I, 182-3, 195-6, 212-3, 215-9, 219A-B, 220-40, 243-4, 246, 248, 250-1, 254-62, 264-5, 268-78, 287-8, 290-300, 302-4, 306-10, 312-4, 314A, 315-24, 326, 341, 350, 357, 367, 380, 394,

398-400-4, 404A, 405, 405A, 410, 413, 415, 457-9, 459A, 461A, 462, 464, 464A-B, B15-30, B35-47, B49-68, B74-109, B114-22, B126-56, B160-5, C2-4, C9, M2-3



Tove Jansson: Life, Art, Words by Boel Westin, translated by Silvester Mazzarella, Sort Of Books, 2014

Who’s Who in Contemporary Gay and Lesbian History: From World War II to the Present Day, edited by Robert Aldrich and Garry Wotherspoon, Routledge, 2001, page 210

“The stamps of Swedish designer Signe Hammarsten-Jansson,” by Richard Tarrant, 10 April 2019, allaboutstamps.co.uk



Spray cancellation. The theme of LGBT History Month 2020 was “Poetry, Prose and Plays”

Website Update

By Arthur P. von Reyn

The GLHSONline.org website continues to be updated on a regular basis. However, a number of times over the past few months, newsworthy posts have appeared on our group's Facebook page with no corresponding effort made to ensure the messages also appear on the website. This is rather discouraging. Members with news that should be shared with members are encouraged to contact me so those who peruse the website will have the same opportunities as Facebook users.

The number of LGBT related stamp images available for viewing on GLHSONline.org continues to increase, thanks to John Stefanik providing a considerable number of worldwide stamps for scanning since the last website report.

There are plenty of stamp images remaining to be added. However, one can see from the new issue listings in this journal every quarter, the LGBT related stamp universe has expanded far beyond the website capacity. Thus, the stamps featured on the website must have some relevance to the country issuing them. Members who have stamps that meet this criteria and whose subject matter does not already appear, are encouraged to contact me.

There were plans to offer a method of paying dues and applying for membership over the website, but this is not being implemented at this time due to the cost constraints.

An index of the *Gay and Lesbian History on Stamps Journals* available on the website is needed. I was planning to do this, but have not yet had time. If someone else would like to take this on while there are only eight journals that need categorization, an index will appear much faster.

I can be contacted at apvr@msn.com.

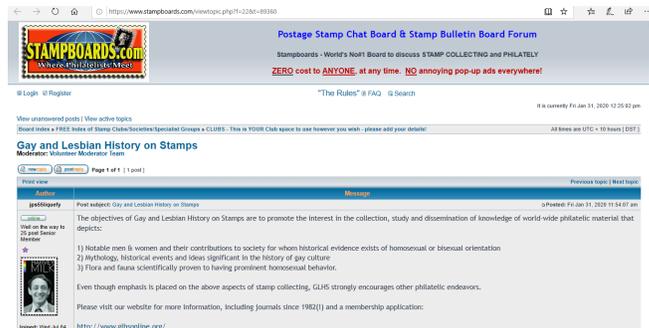
Join in Topical Fun on Social Media

There's always something fun happening at the ATA Facebook page (American Topical Association) and on Instagram ([american_topical_association](https://www.instagram.com/american_topical_association)). You're invited to post your favorite stamps and join in! For nearly 10 years now, ATA has hosted *Topical Tuesday*. You are invited to post a stamp on a specific theme some weeks, while on others you may choose to post a stamp of your favorite topic. For lively philatelic discussions, visit ATA on social media.



Trying to Promote

By John P. Stefanek



A few years ago when I started looking for information on LGBTQ history on stamps, I found a fairly active philatelic discussion forum on the Internet: STAMPBOARDS.com. It started in 2007 and is run by Glen Stephens, a dealer from Sydney, Australia. It's mostly Australia-centered, but has members from all over the world, including an American who coordinates the Colnect Online Catalogue, a British dealer who maintains an exhaustive database of Machin varieties, and another Brit who authors a blog on British Commonwealth new issues.

I finally joined in mid-2018, but spent a year mostly lurking the topics. I realized I could use the forum to try to promote our group. So in November 2019, I started a topic called "LGBTQ History and Culture in Philately Discussion" with the hope of generating general interest. I planned on regularly posting the image of a stamp in my collection accompanied by a paragraph (usually a mini-biography) about how the stamp relates to gay and lesbian history. Happily, other members of the forum have contributed, even posting a link to our website. If you are or become a member and wish to contribute to the topic, please do.

The forum also has a Club section, so I started a topic about Gay and Lesbian History on Stamps with links to both our website and our Facebook page and information about our upcoming meetings in London and Hartford. Another forum member has posted a compliment about our great website (Well done, Arthur!).

GLHS on Facebook

The GLHSC Facebook page has 232 followers Check it out at www.facebook.com/GLHSC and "like" us while there.



Billie Jean is Not My Lover

by Laurie Anderson

Game, Set, Match....a phrase heard by tennis enthusiast everywhere but probably heard the most by the former number one world tennis pro, Billie Jean King. The winner of 39 Grand Slam titles in her 18 years of professional play, which included the 1972 title win in all three Grand Slam events (US Open, French Open and Wimbledon), Billie Jean King is a role model to many.

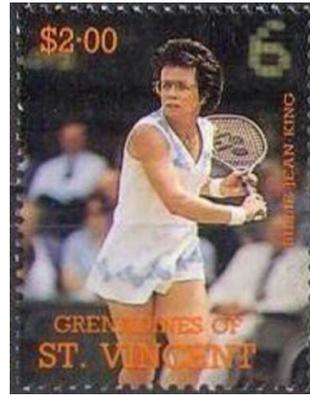
A natural born athlete, Billie Jean spent several of her younger years playing other sports, particularly basketball and softball. It wasn't until the fifth grade that Billie Jean was introduced to tennis and she seemed to be a natural. It was then that Billie Jean recognized she had found her calling and she knew she would play tennis for her lifetime.

From a young age, Billie Jean recognized there was a difference in how women and men in the sport were treated differently. Experiencing and living these inequalities between the sexes, Billie Jean took these injustices and used them to fuel her drive to be the best tennis player ever. It also sparked her desire to be a social advocate for gender equality. With this in mind, Billie Jean founded the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) in 1973 and became the first president. She used the WTA to launch her campaign to obtain equal pay for both sexes at the US Open. Her campaign became recognized around the world and was authenticated when she defeated Bobby Riggs, a self-proclaimed chauvinist, in three consecutive games in a match entitled the "Battle of the Sexes". In 1974 she continued her fight to gain equality for women in sports when she founded the Women's Sports Foundation. This foundation was dedicated to developing leaders who would provide girls equal access to all sports.



Left: An original undated postcard

Official souvenir produced for the Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum in commemoration of Billie Jean King



Left: 1988 Commemorative stamp to recognize Billie Jean King from St Vincent & the Grenadines

Throughout her career, Billie Jean was recognized by many groups and given numerous awards and titles. She was Sports Illustrated "Sportsman of the Year" in 1972, sharing the title with John Wooden. In 1975, she was named Time Magazine's "Person of the Year", received the "Presidential Medal of Freedom" and was given the "Sportswoman of the Year Lifetime Achievement Award" from the Sunday Times. In 1987, Billie Jean was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame and three years later, she was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame.

Outside of the tennis courts, Billie Jean's personal life was scrutinized. In 1965, Billie Jean married a fellow college student and tennis player, Larry King. In the early 1970s, Billie Jean realized she was interested in women and had an affair with a woman, her secretary Marilyn Barnett, while she was still married to Larry. In 1981 during a palimony lawsuit filed by Barnett, Billie Jean was outed as a lesbian. The public outing and lawsuit cause Billie Jean to lose all her sponsors and endorsements, costing her over \$2 million in lost revenue, forcing her to continue playing tennis. In 1987, Billie Jean and Larry's marriage ended when Billie Jean acknowledged she was in love with Ilana Kloss. Billie Jean and Ilana remain partners to this date and Billie Jean and Larry remained friends.

Billie Jean King officially retired from tennis in 1990 at the age of 47. She continues to be a prominent LGBTQ and women's right activist today.

Ilana Kloss & Billie Jean King



The Crudity of Nudity on Stamps

By Lisa Foster



Many countries commemorate fine artists and their work on postage stamps. The United States Postal Service (USPS) has stamps of Modern art, Botanical art, Portraits of the artists themselves, etc. but very little fine art as seen on European stamps. As I began to question dealers, collectors and exhibitors I was told this was because many of the famous master's paintings are of nudes which the USPS felt to be indecent, vulgar or too crude to be on a postage stamp.

The first time in the world a postage stamp represented a naked woman was in the 1930's when the Spanish Postal Authority produced a stamp depicting *La Maja Desnuda*



in commemoration of the painter Francisco Goya. The United States government barred and returned all mail bearing the Goya's "Nude Maja" stamps. Interestingly today Section 1463 of Title 18, United States Code, prohibits mailing of "indecent, lewd, lascivious, or obscene" matter on wrappers or envelopes.

Eventually the US did allow mail with the stamp to enter the country and allegedly issued and sold, for a few days, a stamp with the same image. I was unable to find any reference to this alleged stamp, but did find Scott #738X a humorous revision of U.S. #738 *Portrait of his Mother* by American born artist James Abbott McNeill Whistler issued in 1934 for Mother's Day using a vignette from the Spanish (#397) stamp of similar color.



Scott #738



Scott #738X

Actually the first US stamps with nudes were issued in 1873. They were newspaper stamps, used to pay the cost of mailing newspapers, printed with pictures of ladies in classical poses. Three of them are classified as nudes and were re-issued (same or similar) in later years; *Peace* (ScPR29), *Hebe* (ScPR31) & *Indian Maiden* (ScPR32).



Upon further research I found other US stamps with nudes, although they are more obscure. In 1893 the US issued *Columbus in sight of land* (Sc230) which shows a nude woman holding on child on the left side of the stamp.



Years later in 1926 the US issued John Ericsson Memorial (Sc628) stamp which pictures a statue of nude female.



In 1940 commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Pan American Union, the Three Graces from Botticelli's Spring are pictured (Sc895).



Not all of the stamps portray nude women. In 1949 the *UPU Post Office Building* stamp (Sc-C42) is pictured with the UPU emblem which depicts five partially clothed men and women dancing around the earth.

(Continued on page 8).

(Nudity, Continued from page 7).

In 1953 commemorating the 75th anniversary of the *American Bar Association* (Sc1022), the stamp depicts the detail of a frieze from the Supreme Court Room.



The 1932 *Olympic Games, LA* (Sc719) and the 1965 *Physical Fitness* (Sc1262) both portray statues of a nude male.



One could also consider more abstract nudes such as the Kii Statue on the *City of Refuge* stamp (Sc-C84) issued in 1972, or the drawing depicted on the *Breast Cancer* stamp (Sc-B1) released in 1998.



If you feel like conducting your own online research, the website “Nudes on Paintings” (<http://www.artonstamps.org/nudes.htm>) is quite entertaining. If you hover your mouse over the stamp, a humorous caption, or alternate picture appears. On YouTube you can watch an entertaining cabaret of Nudes on Stamps from around the world. (www.youtube.com/watch?v=P9J8ed6HOpM).

Seriously, if you are interested in pursuing collecting nudes on stamps there is an online Index/checklist of Nudes on Stamps with pictures (<http://www.snap-dragon.com/PNIndex.html>), and the American Topical Association provides a checklist of Nudes (2970). In addition there is an ATA Study Unit, Fine and Performing Arts Philatelists with a quarterly journal.



American Philatelic Society (APS)
Gay & Lesbian History on Stamps as an APS Affiliate (AF0205).

“Affiliate since: 8/31/1991.”

Listed on the online directory of specialty societies at <https://stamps.org/Collect/Affiliates> and <https://classic.stamps.org/Specialty-Societies>.

GLHS Board of Directors 2019

glhstamps2@gmail.com

President: Lisa Foster (WA)

Vice President: John P. Stefanek (MI)

Secretary: Marlene Michelson (CA)

Treasurer: Laurie Anderson (WA)

Editor: Vacant (filled by Lisa Foster)

Collect Your State

Have you ever thought about collecting the stamps that relate to your state? Many ATA members enjoy learning about the history, important sites, flora and fauna of the state where they live, or perhaps where they were born. Thanks to the work of state checklist coordinator Mike Vagnetti and a legion of volunteers, checklists are available for most states. Contact the ATA office for more information.



Luis Cernuda

By John P. Stefanek

Luis Cernuda y Bidón was born on 21 September 1902 in Seville, Spain, the youngest of three children. He graduated from the school of the Piarist Fathers and received a law degree in 1925 from the University of Seville. At the end of that year he first published his poems in the magazine *Revista de Occidente*.

In 1927 he moved to Madrid and published his first book of poems *Perfil del aire* (*The Air's Profile*) as a supplement to the magazine *Litoral*. Luis met other young writers, including Federico García Lorca and Vicente Aleixandre, and his poems were read in homage to the great Spanish poet Luis de Góngora, celebrating the tercentenary of his death that year. Because of these homages, the group of young poets became known as the Generation of 1927.

Luis had learned French to study both French and Spanish classical poetry. After reading Louis Aragon and other French writers and recognizing the social stigma attached to his homosexuality, he was drawn toward surrealism. It would allow him to express himself more freely in his books *Un río, un amor* (*A River, A Love*) (1929) and *Los placeres prohibidos* (*Forbidden Pleasures*) (1931):

If a sailor is the sea,
Blond loving sea whose presence is a chant,
I do not want the city made of gray dreams;
I want only to go to the sea to be submerged,
Boat without pole star,
Body without pole star to drown in its blond light.

He worked briefly as a reader in Spanish at the University of Toulouse. After returning to Madrid and after the foundation of the republic, Luis made a statement in support of Communism in the revolutionary review *Octubre*. He studied and translated poems of Friedrich Holderlin. Abandoning surrealism, his most famous book, *La realidad y el deseo* (*Reality and Desire*) was published in April 1936. When Civil War broke out, he managed to leave the country briefly as secretary to the republican ambassador to France. In 1938, he obtained a post at the Cranleigh School in Surrey before becoming lecturer at the University of Glasgow. During World War II, Luis taught at Cambridge. From 1945 until 1952, he taught at Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts.

While teaching in Massachusetts, he vacationed in Mexico where he fell in love. Love poems ap-

peared in “Poemas para un cuerpo” (“Poems for a Body”) addressed to someone, possibly named Salvador. He chose to remain in Mexico and started teaching at the University of Mexico. His last book of poetry, *Desolación de la quimera* (*The Disconsolate Chimera*), was completed in 1962, containing his poem “Ludwig of Bavaria Listens to ‘Lohengrin’.” He lectured at UCLA and was a visiting professor at San Francisco State College. He returned to Mexico in 1963. Luis Cernuda died of a heart attack on 5 November 1963.



Known stamp design featuring Luis Cernuda: Spain 3163

Coming this Summer: *Topical Adventures*

ATA members are excited about a new handbook coming out this summer: *Topical Adventures – A Guide to Topical and Thematic Stamp Collecting*. It includes chapters on choosing a topic, selecting stamps and other items, organizing and displaying a topic, exhibiting and much more. This is a book that will be a useful resource to consult often. The book will be available this summer from ATA and at the show in Hartford.



GLHS Membership

Membership fees are \$10 a year.
Payment by check or money order,
payable to the club, GLHS
1020 E. Hemlock St. Kent, WA 98030

Gay Ventures

A Philatelic Column - Larry Crain

The rainbow flag, symbol of gay pride waves over the corner of Castro and Market Streets in San Francisco and also around the world. The six colors -- red, orange, yellow, green, blue and violet -- are also used to establish gay identity. The flag was designed in San Francisco by artist Gilbert Baker on a challenge by Harvey Milk, and its first version flew at the Gay Freedom Day Parade June 25, 1978.



8-color version 1978

But not all rainbow flags are gay flags, however. The flag of Cuzco, Peru is 7 colors. It is without the hot pink of the first row and the third row from the bottom is a sky blue. Also flown in Bolivia and Ecuador, it reflects the 18th Century indigenous people's desire for identity and freedom.

Varieties of rainbow flags around the world have religious or political meaning or can show cooperativeness, neutrality or peaceful intent. Of course, all come from the natural event of sun and water drops which symbolize growth, hope, beginning . . .

What follows is a brief philatelic study of rainbows, gay or not:



Rainbow, Oregon



Finland 1986
International
Peace Year



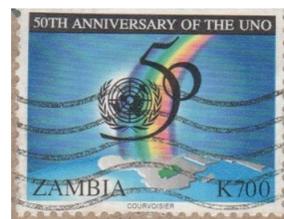
Russia 1963
Universal Declaration
of Human Rights



Bolivia 2000
the Millennium



Austria 2010
gay pride



Zambia 1995 United Nations

Chain Cards

By Lisa Foster

Chain cards are a fun activity that is growing in popularity amongst individuals who may not consider themselves philatelists. Chain cards are traveling postcards that collect stamps and postmarks. Chain card projects are completed between a set group of 4-6 people. Each participant sends one postcard and it will circulate around to each of the other participants collecting stamps along the way. Often they are international, with one participant per country.

To find a project to participate in, go to Instagram and search and join #chaincard, #chaincardproject, #chaincardgroup, or #chaincardswap, to name a few. Once you find a project that interests you, read the specifications for that project. The host lists the number of participants they are looking for, and the requirements for participation. They may indicate how many stamps (1-2) per participant.

Once you have chosen a themed stamp, ensured you have enough copies for all the participants, contact the host of the project you would like to join. Private Message (PM) the host with your home country, state, a photo and measurement of the stamp(s) you plan to use. If accepted, the host will add you to the chain and to a group message with all other participants. The host will ensure no one else is using the same stamps. The host and/or group will plan what order the postcard will travel.



Choose a sturdy, rectangular card that is big enough to fit all the anticipated stamps. To prepare your card, add washi tape to the four edges of the postcard to prevent tearing when it goes through the cancelling machine. If you wish, cover the photo side of the card with paper to protect it. Write the Chain Card Project name and Instagram username

on the paper or in small letters on the back side of the postcard. Add the themed stamp(s) to the back of the card. Add the address of the person you send it to on a removable piece of paper (or attach with washi tape). If you need additional postage, add it to the piece of paper, not the chain card. Mail the card.



When you receive a card, carefully remove the address label, add your themed stamp(s). Share a photo of it to the project group. Cut a piece of paper to the size of the postcard. Cut out a window so your stamps will not be covered and can be cancelled. Attach the piece of paper with washi tape. Write the address it to the person you are sending it to, and any extra postage on the paper. Mail the

card. Months later, when you receive the completed chain card post it on the project post for all to see.

Editor's note: Readers are encouraged to send in their completed Chain Card(s) for publication in a future journal.

Former U.S. Representative Aaron Schock

By John P. Stefanek

For those collecting LGBTQ-related US Congressional Free Franks, there is another name to add to the list: Aaron Jon Schock. On 5 March 2020, the former Republican U.S. Representative from the state of Illinois announced publicly that he is gay. He represented Illinois' 18th congressional district (based in Peoria) from 2009 until 2015 when he resigned amid a scandal involving his use of public and campaign funds. At the time he entered Congress, he was the youngest member.

<https://aschock.net/>

“Former GOP Congressman Aaron Schock comes out in leaked chat with gay supporter,” by Bil Browning, LGBTQ Nation, 12 August 2019



Spring into Uncertainty

It is the second week of March as I contemplate the next couple of months.

At a stamp show the fall of 2019, the following comment was heard from a fellow club member: “Stamp collecting...it’s the ultimate ‘Hermit Hobby’”. When I heard the statement, I was amused as I am a self-described introvert who much prefers to be in the back of the room – not in the front standing up. However, my philatelic path for the last 20 years has mostly evolved as me standing in the front of the room.

As the virus with the ‘cute’ name COVID-19, is ravaging the world -- almost every aspect of my philatelic involvement has come to a screeching halt. No shows, no club meetings, no personal interactions – nothing. I am in shock. While the main parts of my philatelic world have come to a standstill other ancillary parts are also impacted. The twice a month pre-meeting dinner that I have shared with a rotating group of club members for over 15 years, where food and fellowship are first and foremost – are on hold for now. The personal satisfaction of helping a club member to identify a stamp or assisting a visitor to evaluate a collection are also on hold.

So now what?

It would seem -- that I get to finally work on my own collections for a change -- and complete some tasks that have been stuck in limbo for many years. I would like to finally get around to transferring the new pages into my U.S. collection to replace the 50 year old pages that have foxing and tropical staining (I lived in South Florida during the 1970s and this is a problem common to subtropical and tropical areas). Do I have enough mounts to do this? I hope so!

The second project involves placing all the material purchased over the last 8-10 years that has been in a ‘holding bin’ into my collections – to finally fill the holes that have mocked me for far too long. The final project is to at last index and organize my philatelic reference collection that numbers in the range of 350 volumes. The objective is to be able to find a reference volume without have to search through everything on the shelves.

How much of this will be achieved will depend on how long this philatelic shutdown goes on. As I contemplate the statement that opened this column – I have to agree that this hobby at least for the foreseeable future is going to be a ‘Hermit Hobby’.

The other option is one my husband has been voicing – “let us do yardwork”. First, I hate dealing with blood sucking mosquitoes the size of small planes that are unfazed by repellent and secondly, my troublesome knees are a problem. So, I will endeavor to stay inside where there is air conditioning and a soft chair.

I will look forward to the return of normal sometime in the future. Meanwhile I will be happy to listen to my favorite music from the 1960s and 1970s while writing or dabbling with my collections.

What do you have in mind to do?

Until next time, be good and practice kindness. Pay it forward.



Out of this World -Kent WA By Lisa Foster



The Lunar Rover STEM Festival was held in Kent WA on November 14th, 2019. The festival celebrated the region’s legacy of aero and outer space innovation by memorializing its role in the development of the Lunar Rover.

The three operational Lunar Rovers used in NASA’s historic Apollo Missions 15, 16 and 17 between 1971 and 1972, were designed, built, and tested by Boeing at its Kent Space Center. A fourth operational rover was built, but it was used for spare parts when Apollo 18 was canceled. Boeing also built several test versions. One of these is on display at the Museum of Flight in Seattle.



The Lunar Rover, commonly referred to as a “Moon Buggy”, was the first crewed surface transportation system designed to operate on the moon. The vehicle enabled astronauts to roam far from their landing site and explore more of the moon than possible on foot. All three Lunar Roving Vehicles are still on the moon today.

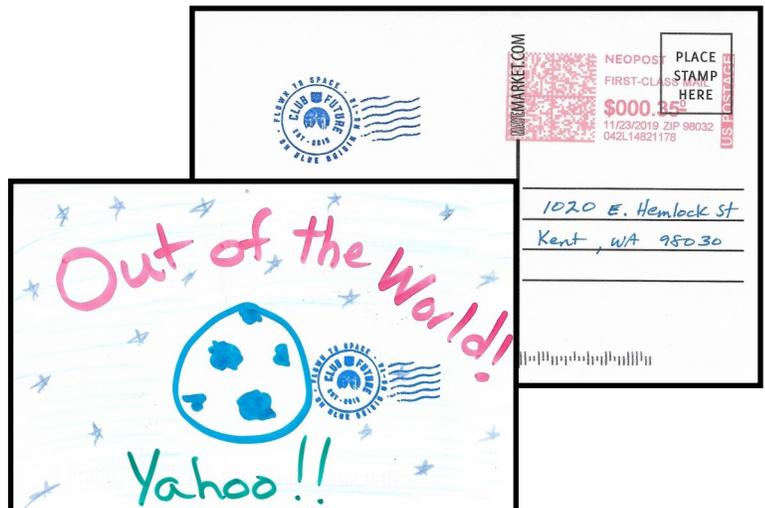
The Lunar Rovers were designated as historical landmarks by the King County Landmarks Commission In the summer of 2019. Only three states, Washington, New Mexico and California have lunar objects in their state historic registers.

An interactive Lunar Rover replica built mostly of metal, was unveiled ceremoniously. The replica will be installed in Kent’s downtown Kherson Park by 2022, the 50th anniversary of Apollo 17’s

last moon buggy ride. A 1,500-pound, life-size Astronaut figure, used to raise funds for the park will also be installed at the park. The figure is made of fiber reinforced concrete. The space-themed park will celebrate Kent’s role in aerospace innovation while inspiring youth to pursue out of this world opportunities.



At the Lunar Festival, Blue Origin, in alignment with their mission, “to build a road to space with reusable launch vehicles, so our children can build the future”, had a booth where they sent postcards into space. Attendees were instructed to draw or write their vision of millions of people living and working in space on a postcard. The postcards were then flown into space aboard Blue Origin’s suborbital New Shepard rocket, and returned to the attendees by mail. On January 6, 2020 Blue Origin opened their new headquarters and Research and Development buildings in Kent, WA.



Philately in a Pandemic by Lisa Foster

This past week I, as a newly elected club President, had to contemplate the difficult decision of whether to cancel my local stamp club's meeting in March, and/or the Spring Stamp Show in April. In both cases most of the attendees fall into a high-risk group, those over 60 years of age. If I chose to go on with the show, would any attend, or would they continue to practice social distancing as directed? How would I set up the bourse to ensure attendees were able to follow the mandated six-foot distancing? Thankfully the decision was taken out of my hands, and both were cancelled by the venue, which closed in accordance with guidelines set forth by the Washington State Governor and local health officers. I have since noticed that many other stamp shows are being cancelled.

2008 Centenary of Quarantine.

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mandated six-foot distancing? Thankfully the decision was taken out of my hands, and both were cancelled by the venue, which closed in accordance with guidelines set forth by the Washington State Governor and local health officers. I have since noticed that many other stamp shows are being cancelled.

GLHS will not be attending London 2020 as planned. Their show committee also had to cancel the event. A travel ban has since gone into effect and planes are being cancelled.



Wash Your Hands Poster Stamp from France.

Due to the nature of my career choice, I still go to work daily. The weekends will be spent at home as all events in town have been postponed or cancelled. I have an extensive to do list, including preparing exhibits, taxes and household projects, but I will miss the social aspect of philately.



March 2020 Iranian stamp commemorating "the sacrifices of the country's medical staff as front-line efforts to fight the coronavirus."



United as One in Fighting SARS, July 1, 2003

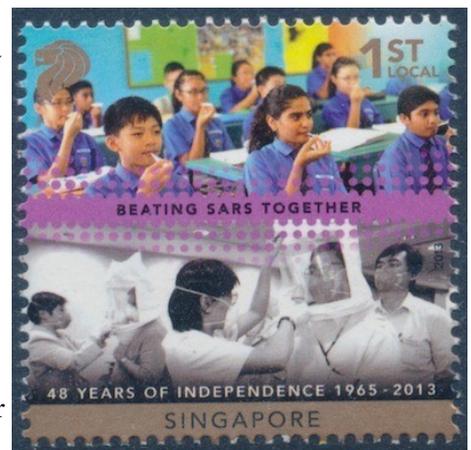
There are online stamp clubs including "StampoRama, The Stamp Club for People Who Love Stamps", and the "Virtual Stamp Club". There are chat boards including, "stampcommunity.org", and "Stampboards.com" (see page 5).

There are many YouTube videos on stamp collecting, including "Exploring Stamps" which has regular episodes on a variety of topics. There are podcasts available, including "Stamp Show Here Today", and "APS Stamp Talk." You can also take a virtual tour of the Smithsonian National Postal Museum at <https://postalmuseum.si.edu/virtual-tour>.

This is also a good time to organize your stamp room, put those acquired stamps into an album, and/or start an exhibit. Send your wish list to a stamp dealer whose shows were cancelled.

In your daily activities, when you find something fun, and/or learn something new, consider writing it up for publication in next quarter's journal.

2013 Screening for SARS. Now schools are closed, employees are checking temps upon arrival to work. The lower picture reminds me of getting fitted for N95 Respirator Mask in March



"The Lavender Palette: Gay Culture and the Art of Washington State"

By Lisa Foster



In January 2020, I went to the Cascadia Art Museum in Edmonds to see an exhibition of work by early-to mid-20th century gay and lesbian artists from the Pacific Northwest, who were active from 1910 through 1970. The exhibition was the first of its kind, exploring how the state's artistic culture was shaped by the Northwest's gay artists and how they brought national and international attention to the region.

A painted wall introducing the exhibit stated, "Several artists included

in this exhibition had regional, national and international careers in their lifetimes, but most had to hide their sexual orientation and emotional identities for fear of reprisal. While certain aspects of the creative output exist in public collections, art with subject matter illustrating their personal lives was often destroyed or weeded out in museum collections in order to preserve a sanitized version of their lives."

As you entered the gallery, the first collection, compiled by photographer David Chapman and his partner, Dave Berryman, consisted of 50 black and white mug shots of individuals who had been arrested for sodomy in Washington State between 1893 and 1913. The convicts ranged in age from 18 to 63 years and served long sentences, of 10 years or more.

One room of the museum was cordoned off for those 18 years and older. Although the room included male nude photos and drawings, they were all artistic, tasteful and not considered pornographic. I could not figure out why these pieces were sectioned off.

The exhibition covered a large range of mediums, including painting, drawings, photography, ceramics, architecture, and rugs. In addition, Letters and

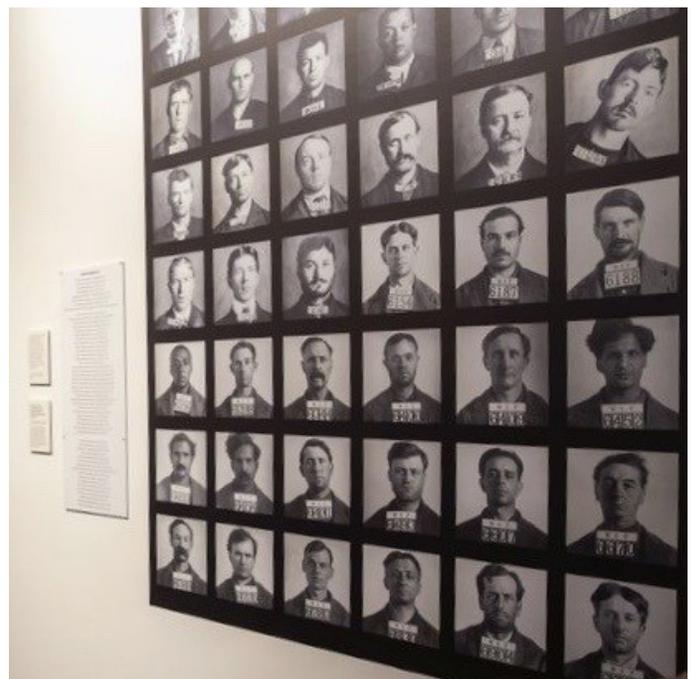
diaries of some of the artists were also available for viewing.

The exhibition included famous artists such as Morris Graves (1910-2001), Mark Tobey (1890-1976), and Guy Anderson (1906-1998), three of four of The Northwest School of artists, who were featured in an article, "The Mystic Artists: A Puget Sound Quest" in the September 28, 1953 issue of Life magazine. Works by painter Malcom Roberts (1913-1990), the "Seattle Surrealist" were also shown.

Lesser known artists included Abstract painter Leo Kenney (1925-2001), Frank Macoy (Mac) Harshberger's (1900-1975) art deco illustrations, Sara Spurgeon's (1903-1985) painting and drawings, Sherrill van Cott's gouache paintings, Watercolors by Lionel Pries, head of the University of Washington architecture department in the 1920's and works of Leon Derbyshire, teacher and artist, whose relative sold most of his paintings at a yard sale after he died in 1974.

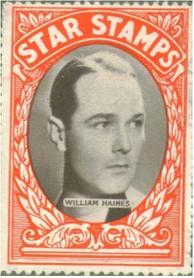
Additional artists in the exhibition included, Orre Nelson Nobles (1894-1967), Delbert J. McBride (1920-1998), Thomas Handforth (1897-1948), Ceramicist Virginia Weisel (1923-2017), Ward Corley (1920-1962), Jule Kulberg (1905-1975) and Illustrator Richard Bennet (1899-1971).

Many of the pieces of art were from private collections and not previously exhibited. Some were on loan from major institutions including the Smithsonian American Art Museum, many from local institutions, libraries, and family collections.



William “Billy” Haines: Hollywood’s First Openly Gay Actor. By Arthur P. von Reyn

If the U.S. Postal Service recognized gay notables like it does with the honorees in the Black Heritage series, then William “Billy” Haines (1900 –1973), the first openly gay movie star, would be at the top of any list. Haines acted in 50 films between 1922 and 1934, becoming the number one box office draw by 1930.



Born on January 2, 1900 in Staunton, Virginia, Charles William Haines was the third of cigar maker George Adam Haines’ seven children. Although he developed an athletic build and a deep voice, young Billy shared the interests of his mother Laura: sewing, cooking and interior decoration. However, due to his masculinity, he was rarely teased for such proclivities, learning to fight back with wisecracks; “The wisecrack is my skill, my protection,” he said.

Young Billy also became fascinated with theatre and movies at an early age. But as to his life before age 14, he once quipped, “I never discuss my life before fourteen, things that happened after fourteen are so much important because one is conscious of sex.”

Running away from home at the age of 14 with another youth he called his "boyfriend," the pair ended up in Hopewell, a town outside Richmond known as a center of depravity. Both got jobs at the local DuPont factory and also opened a dance hall. After his parents tracked him down, he refused to return and instead sent them money, as the family business had gone bankrupt. In 1915, much of Hopewell burned to the ground, prompting Haines to move to New York City. It is not known whether his boyfriend accompanied him.

With his family in need due to his father having suffered a mental breakdown, Haines was compelled in 1917 to move back to Virginia and help support his parents.

After his father recovered and regained employment in 1919, Haines returned to New York City, settling in Greenwich Village, which was fast becoming the epicenter of gay and lesbian culture in America. There he worked in a variety of jobs, including as a model and kept man for an older woman. Spending much of his time with the theatre crowd, he met the likes of future film director

George Cukor, costumer designer Orry Kelley and Archibald Leach, later known as Cary Grant.

Haines was discovered as part of the Goldwyn Pictures’ “New Faces of 1922” contest. He signed a \$40-a-week contract and headed off to Hollywood. After working either as an extra, or playing uncredited bit parts, he attracted enough attention in 1923’s *Three Wise Fools* for the studio to begin molding him into a future star. While on loan to Fox later that year, he played his first significant role in *The Desert Outlaw*. In 1924, Goldwin lent Haines to Columbia Pictures for a five-picture deal, with the first, *The Midnight Express*, receiving excellent reviews and Columbia offering to



buy Haines’ contract. Goldwin Pictures, by then known as Metro-Goldwin-Mayer (MGM), refused. Haines continued to play bit parts until the 1926 film *Brown of Harvard*. In this comedy, Haines found his first great success and a persona that served him well for numerous subsequent films: a young wisecracking, arrogant smart aleck who receives his comeuppance and in doing so wins the heart of the heroine.

While waiting for the film to be released, he returned to New York City, where he met James “Jimmie” Shields, who had been released from the navy. The pair hit it off and Shields accompanied Haines back to Los Angeles, the only other place where gays could really lead an open, free life. They soon began living together as a committed couple.

With Hollywood being neither conservative, conformist or homophobic during the 1920s, Haines and Shield were invited everywhere, even the Randolph Hearst’s castle at San Simeon, where the twosome were the only unmarried couple allowed to share a bedroom... aside from Hearst and his mistress.

During his early days at Metro, Haines met a new contract player, Lucille LeSueur, whom he began to coach and soon co-starred with. When the studio insisted LeSueur change her name of Joan Crawford, Haines quipped, “Crawford is not so bad, they could have called you “Cranberry” and served you with turkey.” Thereafter, Haines always addressed Crawford as “Cranberry,” and Crawford eventually signed notes to Haines as “Cranberry.”

(Continued on page 17)

(Haines, Continued from page 16)

Unlike many stars of the silent era who had incomprehensible foreign accents, Haines was able to make the transition to “talkies,” having been forced to take elocution lessons for an appearance in 1928’s now lost part-talking *Alias Jimmy Valentine*. His string of successful films continued the next year with the all-talking film *Navy Blues*.

Haines’ career crested in 1930 when he was listed as the number one box-office attraction by the Quigley Poll, a survey of film exhibitors.



Incredibly, his career took a disastrous turn that same year. He took his most queer role ever, as an effeminate carnival barker in

Way Out West. The film was a total flop; by then the nation had tumbled into a depression with no place for the outrageous, flippant styles and the loose morals and frivolity of the 1920s.

Well before the depression, various religious, social and political groups concerned about the loose morality in the movie industry campaigned for a cleanup, setting up mostly ineffectual censorship boards on local and state levels. The movie industry finally responded in 1930 with the Motion Picture Production Code, which governed what could be seen on the screen and promoted “traditional” values. In addition to general principles the code had a set of specific applications, one of which was sexual perversion, which was understood to include homosexuality.

Although Haines starred in seven more MGM pictures after *Way out West*, promotional support from the studio began to wane. Films with tough guy roles, played by James Cagney, Clark Gable and Edward G. Robinson, became box office draws. Universal Pictures churned out horror classics like *Dracula*, *Frankenstein*, *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, *The Mummy*, and *King Kong*. Over at Warner Brothers, outsized musicals choreographed by Busby Berkley gave relief to depression era audiences.

In 1933, Haines was arrested for indecency, which the studio managed to cover up. Louis B. Mayer, MGM’s head, told Haines to choose between his lover Shields or a sham marriage. Legend has it that Haines told Mayer “I’ll be glad to give up Jimmie, just as long as you give up your own

wife.” Haines was later fired and his contract terminated. Another gay MGM actor, Ramon Novarro, refused to marry and his contract was not renewed. Other actors rumored to be gay, notably Cary Grant, quickly found wives.

Studios for the most part ignored the Motion Picture Production Code until mid-1934, when it began to be rigidly enforced. The last two films featuring Haines were released that year by Mascot Pictures, a B-movie studio, after which he retired from acting and declined any other roles.

By that time, Haines and Shields had already carved out side jobs as interior designers and antique dealers. The couple had redone Joan Crawford’s home in what became known as the Southern California Regency style, mimicking the sets seen in contemporary movies. With Haines unemployed, Crawford promoted her friend feverishly. Haines offered to redecorate Carole Lombard’s residence for free, where lavish parties were attended by the Hollywood elite. Upon completion of the project, commissions poured in.

In May 1936, Haines and Shields were dragged from their rented Manhattan Beach home and beaten by a mob of around 100 men after a neighbor claimed the pair had propositioned his son. In fact, Jimmie had paid the child six cents to quit chasing his dog on the beach and go home. Although encouraged to do so by close friends, the pair never filed charges. However, the widely reported incident broadcast Haines’ homosexuality nationwide, a scandal that resulted in ostracization by the Hollywood community and a plummet in decorating commissions.

Joan Crawford came to the rescue, ensuring Haines and Shields stayed on her invitation list and in the film industry’s eyes. Haines’ name began to reappear on other invitation lists and in society columns. After Jack L. Warner bought his estate in 1937, Haines was hired and soon reigned again as Hollywood’s premier interior decorator.



In 1945, Haines hired young Ted Graber as a partner, who became like a son and expanded the business into custom designed furniture. The business continued to receive high-profile commissions from the likes of Betsy Bloomingdale, Ronald and Nancy Reagan, Lee and Walter Annenberg and many other notables.

(Continued on page 18)

(Haines, Continued from page 17)

Haines and Shields settled in the Hollywood community of Brentwood, and also maintained a home in Palm Springs. Joan Crawford described them as “the happiest married couple in Hollywood.”

Haines died on December 26, 1973 from lung cancer. Several months later, Shields took an overdose of sleeping pills, with a note pinned on his bedroom door reading in part “Goodbye to all of you who have tried so hard to comfort me in my loss of William Haines, whom I have been with since 1926. I now find it impossible to go it alone, I am much too lonely.” They are interred side by side in Woodlawn Memorial Cemetery in Santa Monica.

William Haines Designs remains in business today, mainly offering reproduction Hollywood Glamour furniture that fits the Southern California Regency style Haines pioneered. Haines’ most famous quote is “I can only tell you this: I would rather have taste than either love or money.”

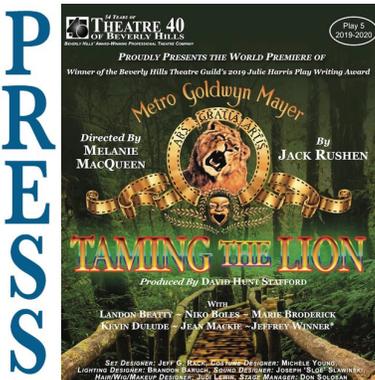
More reading on Haines can be found in the 1998 biography *Wisecracker: The Life and Times of William Haines, Hollywood's First Openly Gay Star* by William J. Mann. Haines’ designs are the subject of Peter Schifando and Haines associate Jean H. Mathison’s 2005 book *Class Act: William Haines Legendary Hollywood Decorator*.

Haines was the subject of *Out of the Closet, Off the Screen: The Life of William Haines*, a 2001 documentary that premiered American Movie Classic channel. Although there are some inaccuracies, it is worth viewing, being widely available on the internet.

A biographical drama, *The Tailor-Made Man*, by playwright Claudio Macor, debuted in London in 1992 and has had sporadic revivals over the years, most recently in 2017, in London.

A two-act play, *Taming the Lion*, based on Billie

Haines’ tangle with MGM executives opened at the Theatre 40 in Beverly Hills, California, on March 20, 2020, but quickly went on hiatus due to the Coronavirus outbreak. It is due back when the pandemic ends.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Haines

<https://www.peoplesworld.org/article/taming-the-lion-tells-the-story-of-openly-gay-mgm-actor-william-haines/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Motion_Picture_Production_Code

http://www.slate.com/articles/arts/you_must_remember_this/2015/10/the_story_of_william_haines_the_silent_film_star_and_gay_icon.html

<https://www.history.com/news/gay-culture-roaring-twenties-prohibition>

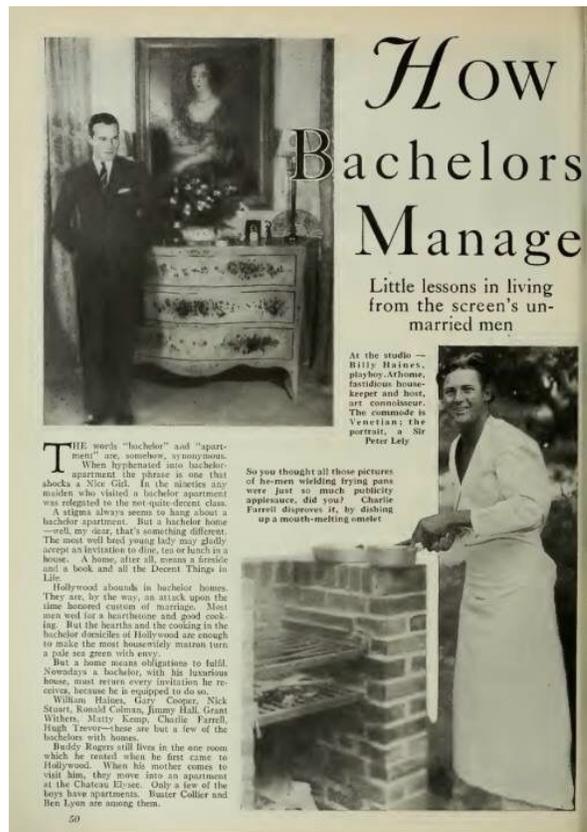
<https://www.vanityfair.com/hollywood/2017/03/joan-crawford-feud-william-haines>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Busby_Berkeley

https://lgbthistoryproject.blogspot.com/2012/02/hollywoods-first-openly-gay-star_11.html

<https://www.architecturaldigest.com/story/haines-article-012000>

<http://www.williamhaines.com/about>



New Issues

By John P. Stefanek

On 26 March 2020, Jersey released six stamps and a souvenir sheet commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the Birth of **Ludwig van Beethoven**.

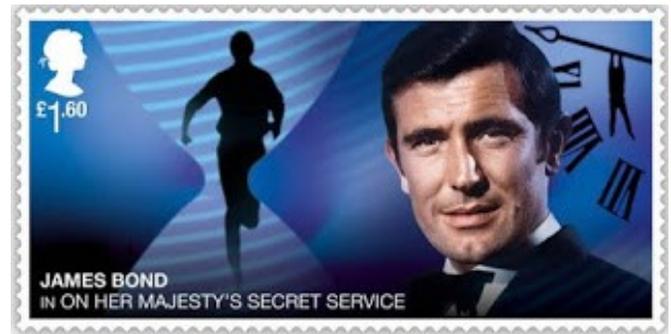
On 25 March 2020, Gibraltar released three stamps commemorating Birth Anniversaries, including one stamp featuring **Florence Nightingale** and one stamp featuring **Ludwig van Beethoven**.



On 17 March 2020, the United Kingdom released six stamps, a miniature sheet, a retail booklet, a prestige booklet, and a Collector's Sheet commemorating 60 Years of James Bond Films, including one stamp featuring *Goldfinger* co-written by **Paul Dehn**, one stamp featuring *On Her Majesty's Secret Service* partially written by **Simon Raven**, and two stamps featuring *Skyfall* co-written by **John Logan**.



Paul Dehn (1912-1976) was a British screenwriter best known for writing *Goldfinger*, *The Spy Who Came In from the Cold*, four *Planet of the Apes* sequels, and *Murder on the Orient Express* (1974). He attended Brasenose College, Oxford, and during World War II, he was stationed at Camp X in Canada, operated by the Special Operations Executive to train spies and special forces teams. He took part in missions in France and Norway. Paul met his lifelong partner, composer James Bernard, in 1944. He and James won Oscars in 1952 for *Seven Days to Noon*, and Paul was nominated again for *Murder on the Orient Express* (1974).



Simon Raven (1927-2001) was a British writer known for his louche lifestyle. He was expelled from boarding school for homosexual activities before completing national service and attending King's College, Cambridge. From duty, he made clear, he married Susan Kilner, then subsequently abandoned her (though he supported the education of their child). He rejoined the Army and was later allowed to resign quietly to avoid scandal. He became one of Britain's most prolific writers in a range of genres including fiction, essays, theatre, screenplays, and journalism. He wrote the ten novel sequence, *Alms for Oblivion*, and a novel dealing with army homosexuality between officers and "other ranks," *The Feathers of Death*.

John Logan (born 1961) was born in San Diego and graduated from Northwestern University in 1983. He was a successful playwright in Chicago before receiving a Tony Award in 2010 for *Red*. He received screenplay Oscar nominations for *Gladiator*, *The Aviator*, and *Hugo*. He obtained a Golden Globe Award for writing *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*. His longtime partner is screenwriter Marty Madden.

On 17 March 2020, the United Kingdom released eight country definitive stamps, including one stamp for Wales and Monmouthshire featuring a Daffodil (**Narcissus**).



On 16 March 2020, Australia released a stamp pack commemorating the 35th Anniversary of *Neighbours*, the long-running television soap opera, including one stamp depicting

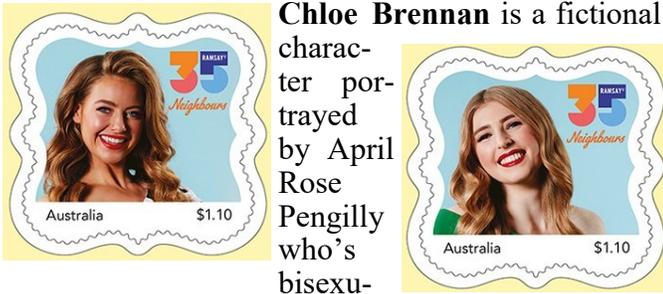
Chloe

Brennan Mackenzie Hargreaves (portrayed by **Georgie Stone**), one stamp depicting **Aaron Brennan**, and one stamp depicting **David Tanaka**.



(Continued on page 20)

(New Issues, Continued from page 19)



Chloe Brennan is a fictional character portrayed by April Rose Pengilly who's bisexu-

ality has been introduced via an unrequited love for character Elly Conway, including an on-screen kiss, and via the appearance of former girlfriend Melissa "Mel" Lohan (and another on-screen kiss).

Georgie Stone (born 2000) is an Australian actress who joined *Neighbours* last year to portray the character **Mackenzie Hargreaves**, the first ever transgender character on the show. Georgie, transgender herself, at the age of ten was the youngest person to receive hormone blockers in Australia. Her hormone replacement therapy began at age 15. She continues to advocate for transgender children.

Aaron Brennon and **David Tanaka** are fictional characters, portrayed by Matt Wilson and Takaya Honda, respectively, who married on 3 September 2018 in Australia's first ever on-screen same-sex wedding.



On 5 March 2020, Ireland released five stamps commemorating Pioneering Irish Women, including one stamp featuring **Sarah Purser (1848-1943)**. She attended the Institution Evangélique de Montmirail, Switzerland, learning fluent French, and the Dublin

Metropolitan School of Art. She studied at the Académie Julian in Paris where she met lifelong friend, painter Louise Catherine Breslau. She worked mostly as a portraitist and regularly exhibited. She financed a stained-glass cooperative and ran it from 1903 until 1940. In 1924, Sarah became the first female Member of the Royal Hibernian Academy. For many years, she hosted a Tuesday afternoon "salon" at her home on the

banks of the Grand Canal.

On 4 March 2020, Lebanon released a sheet of 20 different stamps commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the Birth of **Ludwig van Beethoven**.

On 2 March 2020, Germany released a stamp commemorating 50 Years of *Sesamstrasse*, featuring **Bert and Ernie**.

On 28 February 2020, Pitcairn Islands released a miniature sheet commemorating the 200th Anniversary of the Sinking of the *Essex* which inspired **Herman Melville** to write *Moby Dick*.

On 26 February 2020, Portugal released a stamp and a souvenir sheet commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the Birth of **Ludwig van Beethoven**.



On 12 February 2020, Jersey released eight stamps commemorating Jersey Artists – **Claude Cahun (1894-1954)**. She was a French surrealist photographer, sculptor, and writer, best known for her androgynous self-portraits. Born Lucy Schwob in Nantes, France, she attended a private school in Surrey, UK, before attending the University of Paris, Sorbonne. She began making photographic



self-portraits as early as 1912. She adopted the gender-ambiguous name of Claude Cahun in about 1919 and during the 1920s settled in Paris with lifelong partner and step-sibling Suzanne Malherbe, who subsequently adopted the pseudonym Marcel Moore. They collaborated on written

(Continued on page 21)

(New Issues, Continued from page 20)

works, sculptures, photomontages, and collages. In 1937, they moved to Jersey where they became resistance workers and propagandists during World War II. They were arrested and sentenced to death, but the island was liberated before the sentence could be completed.

On 10 February 2020, North Macedonia released a stamp commemorating the 500th Anniversary of the Death of **Raphael**.

On 10 February 2020, North Macedonia released a stamp commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the Birth of **Ludwig van Beethoven**.



On 6 February 2020, the Philippines released four stamps celebrating Valentine's Day, including one stamp featuring a rainbow heart with the text, "Love Knows No Gender."

On 29 January 2020, Bosnia & Herzegovina (Banja Luka/Serb/Srpska) released a stamp commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the Birth of **Ludwig van Beethoven**.

On 28 January 2020, Turkey released two souvenir sheets commemorating the Centenary of the National Sovereignty featuring **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk**.



On 22 January 2020, Finland released a booklet commemorating Oursea, including six stamps featuring Moomins created by **Tove Jansson**.

On 21 January 2020, Guernsey released a stamp commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the Birth of **Ludwig van Beethoven**.

On 14 January 2020, Ukraine released a stamp commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the Birth of **Ludwig van Beethoven**.

On 7 January 2020, Romania released six defini-

tive stamps depicting Flowers, including one stamp featuring a **Narcissus**.

On 2 January 2020, Germany released a stamp commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the Birth of **Ludwig van Beethoven**.

On 30 December 2019, Malaysia released three miniature sheets commemorating *Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker*, including one stamp featuring **Lando Calrissian**.

On 30 December 2019, Sierra Leone released a miniature sheet and a souvenir sheet commemorating Scouts, including two stamps and the souvenir sheet featuring **Robert Baden-Powell**.

On 30 December 2019, Sierra Leone released a miniature sheet and a souvenir sheet celebrating Nude Art, including one stamp featuring **Aphrodite** and **Eros** and the souvenir sheet featuring work by **Antonio Canova** depicting **Aphrodite**.

On 27 December 2019, Turkey released a miniature sheet and two souvenir sheets commemorating the Centenary of **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk's** Arrival in Ankara.



On 21 December 2019, Central African Republic released a miniature sheet and a souvenir sheet commemorating the 90th Anniversary of the Birth of Grace Kelly, including one stamp featuring **Alec Guinness**, one stamp featuring the film, *Rear Window*, based on a short story by **Cornell Woolrich** with costume design by **Edith Head**, and the souvenir sheet featuring the film, *To Catch a Thief*, in the selvaige starring **Cary Grant** with costume design by **Edith Head**.

(New issues, Continued on page 22)

(New Issues, Continued from page 21)

On 21 December 2019, Central African Republic released a miniature sheet and a souvenir sheet celebrating Nude Paintings, including one stamp depicting **Aphrodite**, one stamp featuring *Adam and Eve* by **Albrecht Dürer**, and the souvenir sheet depicting **Aphrodite** and **Zephyrus** in *The Birth of Venus* by **Sandro Botticelli** and another **Aphrodite** in the selva.

On 11 December 2019, Guinea released a souvenir sheet commemorating Marilyn Monroe Cinema, depicting art by **Andy Warhol** on the stamp and the film, *Some Like It Hot*, with gown by **Orry-Kelly (1897-1964)** in the selva. He was born in Kiara, Australia, the son of a tailor and moved to Sydney at 17 where he developed an interest in theatre. In 1921, he moved to New York and shared an apartment with Cary Grant, with whom he had an on-again, off-again relationship until the 1930s. He designed costumes and sets for Shubert Revues and George White's Scandals on Broadway before moving to Hollywood in 1932. He was chief costume designer at Warner Bros. until 1944. He won three Oscars for *An American in Paris*, *Les Girls*, and *Some Like It Hot*, and was nominated for a fourth for *Gypsy*.

On 5 December 2019, Vietnam released a stamp commemorating the 500th Anniversary of the Death of **Leonardo da Vinci**.

On 1 December 2019, Curaçao released six stamps celebrating Biblical Figures, including one stamp featuring King **David** of Israel.



On 28 November 2019, Sierra Leone released a miniature sheet commemorating the 90th Anniversary of the Birth of Grace Kelly, including

one stamp featuring the film, *Rear Window*, based on a short story by **Cornell Woolrich** with costume design by **Edith Head**.

Cornell Woolrich (1903-1968) was born in New York City, attended Columbia University, and published his first novel in 1926. He moved to Hollywood and engaged in “promiscuous and clandestine homosexual activity” and an unsummated marriage. He turned to pulp and detec-

tive fiction, writing successfully many novels under pseudonyms. He wrote “It Had to Be Murder” in 1942 (the source for the 1954 Alfred Hitchcock film).

On 19 November 2019, St. Thomas and Prince Islands released a miniature sheet commemorating



Marilyn Monroe, including one stamp featuring her in the film, *Bus Stop*, based on the play by **William Inge (1913-1973)**. He was born in Independence, Kansas, and graduated from the University of Kansas and the George Peabody College for Teachers. He taught at Stephens College and at

Washington University in St. Louis. He wrote his first play in 1947, and his first Broadway play was *Come Back, Little Sheba* in 1950. In 1953, he received the Pulitzer Prize for the play, *Picnic*. He received Tony nominations for *Bus Stop* and *The Dark at the Top of the Stairs*. He won an Oscar in 1961 for writing the film, *Splendor in the Grass*. Three of his plays either have an openly gay character or address homosexuality directly. His major plays contain homoerotic subtext. William, himself, was closeted.

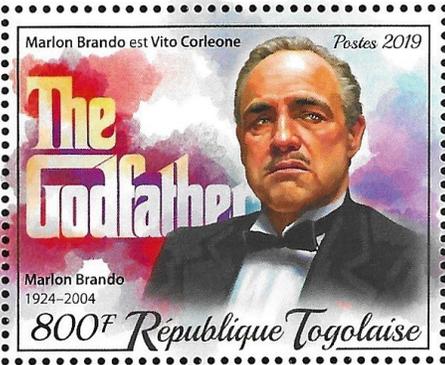
On 18 November 2019, Mongolia released seven stamps celebrating Wild Landscapes of Mongolia, including one stamp featuring the horse species *Equus przewalskii* “discovered” by **Nikolay Przhevalsky**.

On 5 November 2019, Togo released a miniature sheet commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Publishing of *The Godfather* by Mario Puzo, including one stamp featuring **Marlon Brando (1924-2004)**. He was born in Omaha, Nebraska, and became close friends with Wally Cox while they were both pre-teens in Evanston, Illinois. He moved to New York to study acting and made his Broadway debut in 1944 in *I Remember Mama*. His breakthrough performance as Stanley Kowalski in *A Streetcar Named Desire* came in 1947. He made his film debut in 1950 in *The Men*. He received Oscar nominations for *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Viva Zapata!*, *Julius Caesar*, *On the Waterfront*, *Sayonara*, *The Godfather*, *Last Tango in Paris*, and *A Dry White Season*, winning for *Waterfront* and *Godfather*. He was known for his

(Continued on page 23)

(New Issues Continued from page 22)

large number of sexual partners and (at least eleven) children. In a 1976 interview he said, “Like a large number of men, I, too, have had homosexual experiences, and I am not ashamed.” He told another journalist, “If Wally had been a woman, I would have married him and we would have lived happily ever after.” When Wally Cox died in



1973, Marlon kept his ashes. After Marlon’s death, their ashes were scattered in Death Valley where the two had gone rock hunting.

On 5 November 2019, Togo released a miniature sheet and a souvenir sheet commemorating the 90th Anniversary of the Birth of **Anne Frank**.

On 5 November 2019, Togo released a miniature sheet and a souvenir sheet celebrating **Raphael**, including the souvenir sheet depicting **Aristotle**, **Leonardo da Vinci**, **Michelangelo**, **Socrates**, **Il Sodoma**, and **Zeno of Citium**, and depicting **John the Apostle** in the selvage.

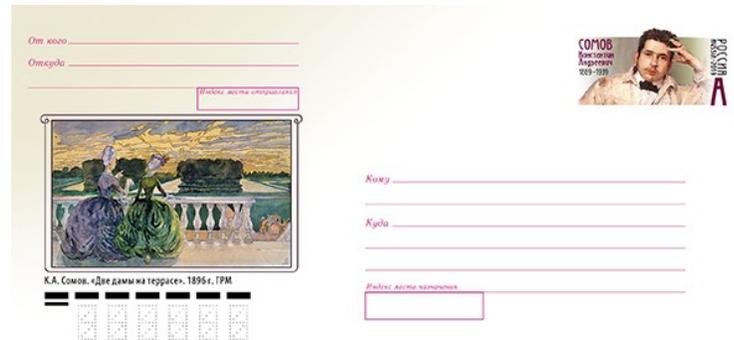
On 5 November 2019, Togo released a miniature sheet celebrating Pablo Picasso, including one stamp depicting **Max Jacob**.

On 5 November 2019, Togo released a miniature sheet celebrating Peter Paul Rubens, including one stamp depicting **Aphrodite** and **Eros** and the souvenir sheet depicting **John the Apostle** in the selvage.

On 5 November 2019, Togo released a miniature sheet commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Woodstock Music and Arts Festival, including one stamp featuring **Janis Joplin**.

On 4 November 2019, Niger released a miniature sheet and a souvenir sheet commemorating the 500th Anniversary of the Death of **Leonardo da Vinci**.

On 24 October 2019, Russia released a stamped envelope commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Birth of **Konstantin Somov (1869-1939)**. He studied at the Imperial Academy of Arts under Ilya Repkin from 1888 to 1897. In 1898, he helped found the *World of Art* artistic group, many of whom were homosexual. He contributed to the *World of Art* magazine, co-founded the following year by Sergei Diaghilev. Konstantin’s masterpiece was *Lady in Blue*. He produced several, private homoerotic studies. Writer Mikhail Kuzmin’s diary records a sexual experience that included Konstantin. After the Revolution, he emigrated to the United States, then Paris.



On 22 October 2019, St. Thomas and Prince Islands released a miniature sheet celebrating German and Austrian Composers, including one stamp featuring **Franz Schubert**, one stamp featuring **Robert Schumann**, and one stamp featuring **Richard Wagner**.

On 20 October 2019, Maldives released a miniature sheet and a souvenir sheet celebrating Princess Diana, including one stamp and the souvenir sheet selvage featuring images based on a photo by **Anthony Armstrong-Jones**.

On 20 October 2019, Maldives released a miniature sheet and a souvenir sheet celebrating German and Austrian Composers, including one stamp featuring **George Frideric Handel** and one stamp and the souvenir sheet selvage featuring **Ludwig van Beethoven**.

(Continued on page 24)

(New Issues Continued from page 23)

On 16 October 2019, Japan released a miniature sheet commemorating the 150th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations with Austria, including one stamp featuring a statue of **Prince Eugene of Savoy**.

On 16 October 2019, Guinea released a souvenir sheet on wood celebrating Art featuring work by **Leonardo da Vinci**.

On 24 September 2019, Thailand released a stamp commemorating the Centenary of the Thai Public Health Service featuring the Rod of **Asclepius**.

On 18 September 2019, Dominican Republic released a stamp commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the Birth of **Alexander von Humboldt**.

On 3 September 2019, Russia released four stamps commemorating the 300th Anniversary of the State Fund of Precious Metals of Russia, including one stamp featuring a badge depicting **Peter the Great**.

On 8 July 2019, Hungary released a souvenir sheet commemorating the Sevso Treasure, including one stamp featuring the **Achilles Plate**.

On 26 June 2019, Niger released a miniature sheet commemorating Marilyn Monroe Cinema, including one stamp featuring the film, *Some Like It Hot*, with a gown designed by **Orry-Kelly**.

On 27 February 2019, Djibouti released a miniature sheet commemorating the 90th Anniversary of



the Birth of Grace Kelly, including one stamp featuring the film, *High Society*, directed by **Charles Walters (1911-1982)**. He was an American

film director and choreographer most known for his work on Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer musicals. He made his Broadway debut in *New Faces of 1934*, dancing with Imogene Coca, then choreographed Cole Porter's *Let's Face It!* In Hollywood, he danced with Judy Garland in *Girl Crazy* before directing *Ziegfeld Follies*, *Good News*, and *Easter Parade*. He received an Oscar nomination in 1953 for directing *Lili*. From the 1930s to the 1950s, his lover was actor John Darrow.



The Great American Stamp Show 2020 is co-hosted by the American Philatelic Society, the American Topical Association and the American First Day Cover Society. It will be held in Hartford, Connecticut August 20-23. There will be 800+ frames of exhibits, 75+ dealers, 35+ Meetings & Seminars.

It's time to enter the Great American Stamp Show. Thematic exhibits, as well as exhibits that are treated thematically (in other words, they tell a story) will be entered in the ATA portion of the show. Take a look at the beautiful awards pictured on the ATA website (www.americantopicalassn.org). See the APS website at www.stamps.org for the entry form. The deadline is April 15, 2020.

Gay and Lesbian History on Stamps will be hosting a general meeting on a date and time to be announced. The GLHS quarterly e-journal will be entered in the Literature exhibits.

If anyone would be willing to organize a GLSH Social event send an email volunteering to glhstamps2@gmail.com.