



L A M B D A
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ESTADOS UNIDOS



The Lambda Philatelic Journal is published quarterly by The Gay and Lesbian History on Stamps Club (GLHSC), an official study unit of the American Topical Association, membership number 458.

The objectives of the club are:

To promote and foster an interest in the collection, study and dissemination of knowledge of worldwide philatelic material depicting:



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 having prominent homosexual behavior.

Even though emphasis is placed on this aspect of stamp collecting, the club strongly encourages other philatelic endeavors.

MEMBERSHIP

Yearly dues \$6.00 per calendar year for U.S. and Canada residents; \$8.00 or 10 IRC per year for foreign residents (cover higher postage cost).

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The Lambda Philatelic Journal thrives on philatelic articles (original or reprinted) and alternative viewpoints for publication. Members are also encouraged to place free advertisements of philatelic interest.

MATSUO BASHO
by Judith Beckett

The great Japanese haiku poet Matsuo Basho was born southeast of Kyoto in Ueno in 1644. He was called Basho in honor of the tree by that name (a wide leafed banana tree) given to him by an admirer. He lived in a hut under its leaves most of his life

Basho's father was a low-ranking samurai of Ueno's ruling family. When his son was nine, he placed him as a study mate to the young shogonate heir. They studied the art of linked verse together under Kigin (1624 - 1705), who was attributed with a collection of poetry (Iwatsutsuji or Rock Azaleas) celebrating homoerotic feelings. Basho wrote his first poems for Kigin. In 1666, when his young friend died at age 25, Basho asked to resign. Refused, he ran away to Kyoto.

Some say that in Kyoto Basho had a mistress, a nun named Jetei, and a child or two, but few credit this. Basho himself, later in life, wrote, "There was a time when I was fascinated with the ways of homosexual love."

Homosexual love may have been brought to Japan from China by the Buddhist priest Kukai (774 - 835). During Basho's time, homosexual relations between a man and a boy were practiced among the Samurai whose lives exemplified the ideals of boy love; priests of certain Buddhist sects practiced it as a religious ritual. In theater districts, Kabuki actors served as boy prostitutes. Wealthy

townsmen who lacked social status and sought to acquire it by imitating their betters also enjoyed it. In his writing, Basho uses both Kukai and "rock azaleas" as iconographic symbols, clues to his homosexual life.



In Kyoto, Basho studied calligraphy and the Japanese and Chinese classics. After editing and publishing his first anthology of poetry in 1671, he relocated to Edo (Tokyo) where he soon published several more books with his students and other poets.

In 1680, he settled into his first Basho hut, built for him by a wealthy supporter. He began to attract, not students, but "disciples" who gave him the name of Basho. From 1673 - 1684, Basho studied Zen under the Buddhist priest Buccho (1643 - 1715), entering a period of meditation, self-scrutiny and gradual withdrawal which influenced both his poetry and the haiku form.

Haiku poetry began as witty court poetry used to express homoerotic sentiment and to describe nature. Basho's haiku was different, expressing Zen aesthetic ideals.

Agony and despair in Basho's haiku increased with the burning

of his first hut in 1682, and the death of his mother a year later. In 1684, he made his first journey, traveling on foot, perfecting his writing and meditating on nature. Thereafter, he traveled extensively. In his travel diaries, he brought his writing and the haiku form to perfection. His Narrow Road to the Deep North, or Oku no hosomichi, written about a journey begun in 1689, is considered one of the classics of Japanese literature.

He made his last major journey in 1694. Basho died in Osaka on October 12th of that year of some type of dysentery.

In 1989, the Japan Postal Ministry began the Oku no hosomichi series of 80 stamps commemorating Basho's journey to the deep north. This is the largest series of stamps that they've ever issued. Basho's haiku, written on this journey appear in calligraphy on the right-hand stamps of these set-tenant pairs. Both stamps of each pair display designs by the same Japanese artist, his or her interpretation of the poem. All eighty of these stamps deserve to be collected and studied by those interested in gay and lesbian history on stamps.

For further reading:

Basho, Matsuo: The Narrow Road to the Deep North and Other Travel Sketches.

Basho, Matsuo: On Love and Barley: Haiku of Basho.

Ihara Saikaku: The Great Mirror of Male Love.

Makoto Ueda: Matsuo Basho.



AIDS UPDATE

France issued in 1987 a stamp to commemorate the centennial of the Pasteur Institute. Much research on AIDS has been performed at the Institute.



Spain released a stamp for the bicentennial of Las Hijas De La Caridad. This group of nuns run hospices that serve AIDS patients in Spain.

Brunei and Sri Lanka have issued stamps in 1990.

Guinea Bissau also released an AIDS issue in 1990.

The Philippines used a cancellation in September 1989. It is in a rectangular box and reads "Protect your loved / ones

from AIDS / know the facts / September 16-30 1989". Any information or copies would be appreciated. Contact Editor.

Brazil issued a stamp for a rock star, Cazuza, in January of this year. He died in 1990 of AIDS.

For an updated AIDS checklist, send an sase to the editor.



NEWS FROM THE EDITOR

This is my first official Journal. I would like to thank Ed and Paul for expressing their confidence in me. I hope that all of you enjoy this and future issues of the Journal.

I have several ideas for the Journal. This column is one of those ideas. I've also chosen a different layout for the Journal. Please let me know what you think of it. You may see many different styles in future issues. So, be sure to write me with your opinions.

In past issues, there have been several mentions of changing the name of the Club. It appears from the response that no matter what the Club's name is changed to, there will be unhappy members. The more that I think about it, and have talked it over with others (both members and non-members), the more I feel that there is no need to change the name. As with most

things in life, you cannot please everyone. The only exception that I see to this would be to add the word "international" to the name.

On the last pages of this issue, you will find a questionnaire. Please take the time to fill it in and return it to me as soon as you can. One reason is so that I may get a feel for what

you would like to see and what you wouldn't like to see. Another reason is that I would like to start a member column. In each column, I hope to introduce a few members to everyone. Keeping this in mind, be sure to include your favorite stamp, cover, cancel, cachet, postmark, etc. I'll include it in the column with your bio. Just let me know so I can obtain a copy to use.

I'm excited to be working as editor for the Journal. I'm here in Dallas waiting for feedback from all club members!

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BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS West Indies

THE POSTAL HISTORY OF
ROBERT BAUMAN
by Joe Petronie

In the previous issue, the postal history of Congressman Jon Hinson appeared as the first in a series on gay Congressmen. Although Mr. Hinson left office denying his being gay and under fire from his constituents, he has since accepted his lifestyle. His new life is hard, having been thrown into the open with his sexual identity. Currently, he is working in the DC area and has divorced his wife. Another Congressman is currently travelling a similar road in life.



Robert Bauman was the congressman from Maryland's First Congressional District. He was (and still is) a conservative, and a staunch supporter of Ronald Reagan.

A book on Abraham Lincoln read by Bauman was to be his catalyst. His political career began in earnest in 1952. Later in the same decade with the election of Eisenhower, he became a page for the US House of Representatives. He was to spend the next sixteen years in various staff positions for the House.

Robert Bauman was a founder of the American conservative Union. He and his wife also helped to organize Young Americans for Freedom. The Bauman duo was very active in Republican politics. In 1971, Bauman served in the Maryland State Senate.

Bob Bauman was sworn in as a member of the US House of Representatives on September 3, 1973. It was in this body that he left his mark. Being an arch-conservative, he railed against anything with the slightest hint of liberalism. He was known as a spoiler in a Democratic House. His votes also tended to be highly anti-gay.

The 1980 elections were for what Robert Bauman had worked his entire life. Unfortunately for him, he was not to share in this conservative Republican victory. On September 3, 1980, just months prior to the elections, he was informed by the FBI that he was under investigation for soliciting sex from a teen-age boy.

Once the story broke, Bauman's career and marriage were ruined. The initial blame for his "problems" were a Democratic vendetta and alcoholism.

Congressman Bauman had a hard time accepting that which he had been dealt by life. Part of the problem seems to be that he was forced out before he was able to reconcile his true feelings. Another fact was that he was a devout Catholic and a conservative. These facts tend to be at odds with a gay life style.

The ten plus years since the story broke have been tumultuous for Bob Bauman. It appears that he has learned to love himself for what he is, not what others want him to be. He is currently practicing law in Washington, DC. The Catholic Church and Republican party are still dominant in his life.

The first two Congressmen were ruined by the revelations of their being gay. The next articles in this series will focus on two Congressmen who have been re-elected since coming out. Both are current members of the US House of Representatives.

For further reading:

Robert Bauman: The Gentleman From Maryland.

Perry Deane Young: God's Bullies.

The Advocate, March 3, 1987.

CHRISTINA, QUEEN OF SWEDEN

by Elizabeth

Christina Adolphus was born on December 8, 1626. It was reported at first that she was a boy, because she was covered from her head to her knees by a caul (membrane) that left only her face, arms and lower legs free. Moreover, she was covered with hair. When her true gender was discovered, her father noted: "She should be clever, since she has deceived us all." While growing up, Christina refused to act and dress in a

feminine manner, although she did look a little feminine. She loved to hunt, ride horses and swore constantly. Her mother sometimes wondered if she had truly given birth to a son.

Christina became Queen of Sweden at the age of six, but did not rule until she was 18. While on the throne, she could not fulfill her longing to explore and travel. She could, however, fulfill her longing for love. In 1645, Christina met Countess Ebba Sparre (called "Belle" by Christina), with whom she fell in love. The Queen did not try to conceal the fact that Belle was her lady-in-waiting. Responding to a question, she once answered, "Belle is my bedfellow." Pope Alexander VII had noted: "Christina was born a barbarian, barbarously brought up and living with barbarous thoughts." Nevertheless, she and Belle remained active lovers until sometime in 1654 when Christina abdicated the throne and went into exile. Belle did not follow.

While in Brussels and Rome, Christina wrote to Belle. "My happiness," she wrote, "would be second to none if I was allowed to share it with you and if you would witness it." On another occasion, she wrote: "I am condemned to the fate of loving you always, but never seeing you." The political problems that sent Christina into exile prevented her from seeing Belle, but failed to quench her love.

Although the Queen had hoped for a reunion, Belle fell ill and died in 1662. 27 years later, on April 19, 1689, Christina followed.

AIDS in Brazilian Philately

by Luiz Mott

Brazil is the largest country in Latin America, with more than 140 million inhabitants. It has the third largest number of AIDS cases at 14,000 reported.

Officially, the first Brazilian victim of AIDS was a famous dressmaker. However, important magazines have speculated that the modern Brazilian cinema director, Glauber Rocha (1939-1981) died of AIDS. He was a known drug user and had several symptoms of AIDS prior to his death. He was honored by the Brazilian Post Office with a 1986 stamp issue.

Another rumored person with AIDS (PWA), with identical symptoms and a mysterious death, was the Cardinal of Salvador, Bahia. D. Avelar Brandao Vilela, in his 50th year of priesthood, was honored with a cancellation showing his ecclesiastical armory. Since his time in the seminary, he had been known to practice "the love that dare not speak its name." He wrote a letter to Grupo Gay de Bahia, and was the first catholic authority to declare that AIDS was not a punishment from God.

In January of 1990, a commemorative postmark was used during the XI National Exhibition of Philatelic Literature held in Sao Paulo. The translation reads: "AIDS: It depends only of you." April 4th of the same year marked the issue of the Brazilian AIDS stamp.



Brazil became the 15th country to follow the World Health Organization lead. The double heart in the design symbolizes "the hope to recuperate the love without fear."

The latest philatelic item issued by Brazil was the Rock in Rio II se-tenant pair. It was released January 8, 1991. It features Cazuza and Raul Seixas. Cazuza was born in Rio de Janeiro in 1958. He was considered the prince of Brazilian roksingers. He was an open drug user and bisexual. He refused for a long time to acknowledge that he had AIDS. He died July 7, 1990.

The "First Philatelic World Exhibition on AIDS", an initiative of the newly established Brazilian Gay Postal Association (APGB), was held in February of this year. It contained 36 philatelic pieces, including maximum and post cards. The opening cocktail party was attended by over one hundred persons. The Director of Philatelic Department of the Bahia Post Office and the founder of the Postcard Museum of Bahia were among those attending. Four newspapers and all local TV channels ran publicity for the event. The

APGB wishes to exchange FDC and maximum cards on AIDS and homosexuality from Brazil with similar material worldwide. The address is:

APGB
C. Postal 2552
40.020 - Salvador, Bahia
Brazil



Parade Magazine ran a question regarding Laurence Olivier and Danny Kaye. Supposedly, a novel is to be released shortly with regards to this. Any members with any information? San Marino recently issued a set of stamps on Olivier.

PTT Jugoslavija issued a set of four stamps, "Flora '91". The high value depicts CROCUS ADAMII Gay. The flowers represent the Balkan endemic species of the genus Crocus L. (saffron).

Paul Hennefeld's collection "Alternate Lifestyles of Famous People...Out of the Closet" won the vermeil at Interpex '91 in New York City. Congratulations!

The USPS will be releasing the Cole Porter commemorative on June 8, 1991. This is an ideal time for the stamp, as June is Gay Pride Month. Paul and Ed will be issuing a cachet for the stamp. They would like to hear from others who are planning to issue related material, or those who are interested in their cachet.

Club member in St. Petersburg, Florida won an award for his exhibit on VD. Congrats to him!

TOPEX '91: June 21-23,
Aurora(Denver), Colorado
Arrangements must be made
through :

Mr. Richard Collins
TOPEX'91 Activities Chmn
PO Box 440074
Aurora, CO 80044
(303)755-9328

You may also contact Ed Centeno.

TOPEX '91 will be held at the
Radisson Hotel Denver Southeast.

MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONNAIRE

Collecting Interests: _____

Organizations: ATA _____ (ATA No. _____)
APS _____ (APS No. _____)
Other _____

Do you read other Philatelic materials? _____ Please list: _____

Collecting Level: Beginner _____ Intermediate _____ Advanced _____

Would you be interested in exchanging/trading with foreign members? _____ Country Preference(if available) _____

Journal Matters:

What would you like to see more of? _____

Suggestions for future articles? _____

Would you be willing to help write/perform research? _____

Are there enough graphics? _____

Does the Journal need more pages? _____ Would you be willing to pay \$10 for dues to help cover the cost? _____

AIDS Updates: Quarterly _____ Annually _____

New Issue Updates: Quarterly _____ Annually _____

Cash Report: Quarterly _____ Annually _____

Membership Report: Quarterly _____ Annually _____

Should there be a separate AIDS Newsletter? _____

Other suggestions: _____

Should dues be increased, regardless if size of Journal is increased?
_____ To what amount? \$10 _____ \$12 _____ \$15 _____ Other _____

PLEASE RETURN PROMPTLY TO:

Joe Petronie, Editor PO Box 515981 Dallas, TX 75251-5981

Your response is needed, and would be greatly appreciated.