
[View as webpage](#)

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

February 1, 2022



MEDIA CONTACT
Mark Sawchuk
(415) 777-5455 ext. 8
mark@glbthistory.org

March LGBTQ History Programs Highlight 1970s Queer Film Footage, LGBTQ People in Newspaper Advice Columns

San Francisco — The program series for March 2022 sponsored by the GLBT Historical Society will highlight rare 1970s film footage produced by the Queer Blue Light Collective and LGBTQ content in classic American newspaper advice columns. All events take place online; registration is required for access to the video link. For more information, visit www.glbthistory.org/events.

Mighty Reels

Shining Queer Blue Light on LGBTQ Life

Friday, March 4

6:00–7:30 p.m. PT

Online program

Admission: \$5; free for members

Last year the GLBT Historical Society digitized a unique archival collection, the Daniel A. Smith and Queer Blue Light Videotapes, which consists of nearly 100 half-inch videotapes recorded by the Queer Blue Light (QBL) Collective. QBL was a grassroots guerilla project that documented the politics and culture of the local LGBTQ community in the 1970s. While the majority of the tapes document QBL activities, they also contain footage by QBL members of friends relaxing together and living everyday life. In this installment of our “Mighty Reels” program series, we’ll screen some of our favorite tapes and speak with John Carr, a longtime friend of Daniel Smith, who is featured in the footage as the host of a 1980 “Leap Day” dinner party. He will discuss how viewing the footage was like “finding the Rosetta Stone” of his life in 1970s queer San Francisco. Complete information is available at <https://bit.ly/3AmR92k>. Tickets are available at <https://bit.ly/3tU5kL9>.

Highlighting home movies, drag performances, amateur documentaries, and interviews with queer history-makers, “Mighty Reels” is a quarterly program series that provides an intimate look at the LGBTQ past straight from the camera lens. Each program in the series features a screening of footage from the archives, followed by a discussion with historians, community members and activists on the significance of these images.

Author Talk

Dear Abby, I’m Gay: Advice Columnists and Homosexuality

Friday, March 18

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Online program

Admission: \$5; free for members

Advice columns were among the most popular sections of American newspapers for decades, but for many LGBTQ readers, they were a lifeline to escape isolation and find community. Communications professor Andrew Stoner will present a talk discussing his newest book, *Dear Abby, I’m Gay: Newspaper Advice Columnists and Homosexuality in America* (McFarland & Company, 2021), which chronicles some of the most popular and widely circulated newspaper columns from the 1930s through the 2000s, including Ann Landers, Dear Abby, Helen Help Us, Dr. Joyce Brothers, the Worry Clinic, Dear Meg, Ask Beth, and Savage Love. The book traces the evolution of straight Americans’ attitudes toward LGBTQ people, as well as the gradual development of a more inclusive journalism that began to consider previously ignored, marginalized members of the public. Complete information is available at <https://bit.ly/3Adt9i1>. Tickets are available at <https://bit.ly/3GILeHd>.

-- end --

ABOUT THE GLBT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The GLBT Historical Society is a public history center and archives that collects, preserves, exhibits and makes accessible to the public materials and knowledge to support and promote understanding of LGBTQ history, culture and arts in all their diversity. Founded in 1985, the society is recognized internationally as a leader in the field of queer public history and maintains one of the world’s largest archival collections of LGBTQ historical materials. Our operations are centered at two sites: the GLBT Historical Society Museum, located in the heart of San Francisco’s Castro neighborhood; and the Dr. John P. De Cecco Archives and Research Center, open to researchers in the Mid-Market district. For more information, visit www.glbthistory.org.

GRAPHICS

The following images may be reproduced only in association with coverage of

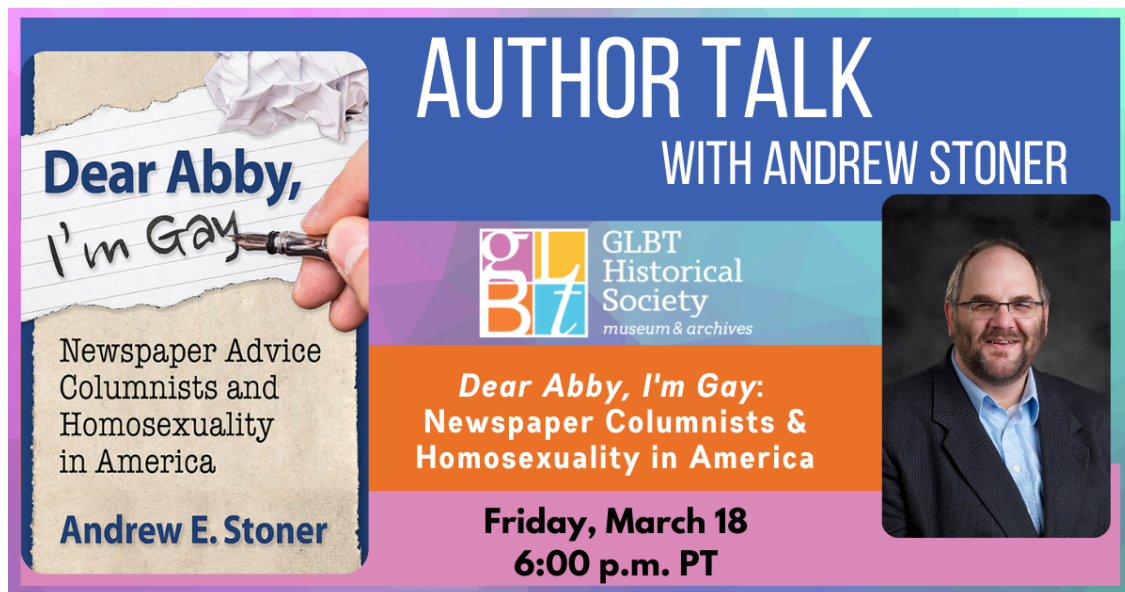
the GLBT Historical Society program series. Credits noted in captions are mandatory.

Mighty Reels 3/4



Stills from various Queer Blue Light tapes, ca. 1975–1981; Daniel A. Smith and Queer Blue Light Videotapes (1999–52), GLBT Historical Society.

Author Talk 3/18



Cover image for *Dear Abby, I'm Gay: Newspaper Advice Columnists and Homosexuality in America*, courtesy McFarland & Company. Headshot of author Andrew E. Stoner courtesy same.

(415) 777-5455 | info@glbthistory.org | www.glbthistory.org
989 Market Street, Lower Level
San Francisco, CA 94114



Facebook



Twitter



Instagram



Website

Copyright © 2022 GLBT Historical Society, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).