

# *The Masonic Philatelist*

PUBLISHED BY THE MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK



VOL. V No. 2 September 1948



## WELCOME TO OUR NEW OFFICERS

At our last meeting on June 25th, the order of business was "Election of Board of Governors". That was over quickly and with the addition of three new names to the group, the Board was called into session by the retiring president, Jacob S. Glaser.

In accordance with our By-Laws, which provide for the election of officers by the board, we now have a new slate of executive officers. Fortunately for the Club, both Irwin Yarry and Harry Konwiser were re-elected as Secretary and Treasurer. We do hope these two able gentlemen will continue to serve the Club for many years.

In selecting Russel Roane and Arthur Heim for Vice-Presidents, the Board exercised good judgement by returning both of these old-timers to active duties. Russel has been on the Board for sometime and could always be counted on for any tough job. Arthur was secretary for several years until war work took him to Washington. Since returning to New York he has given much time to the Club.

Our new President, Ferrars H. Tows, brings to the job many years of activity in our Club as a member of the Board and as a vice-president. In every Masonic and philatelic activity Ferrars has given a good account of himself. We look forward with much interest to the administration of this fine gentleman.

---- Sam Brooks

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## *• Meetings •*

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FIRST AND LAST FRIDAY EACH MONTH - COLLECTORS CLUB BLDG., 22 E. 35th Street

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SEPT 24 START OF THE SEASON

Come and meet your friends: swap stories  
and stamps.

# THE MASONIC PHILATELIST

Published by  
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of  
The Masonic Stamp Club of New York

EDITOR  
Sam Brooks, 905 Anderson Ave.,  
New York 52, N. Y.

## MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK

### OFFICERS 1948-1949

Ferrars H. Tows	President
Charles H. Johnson	President Emeritus
Russel B. Roane	1st Vice President
Arthur I. Heim	2nd Vice President
Dr. Irwin M. Yarry	Secretary
61-23 Roosevelt Ave. Woodside, N.Y.	
Harry M. Konwiser	Treasurer
181 Claremont Ave. New York, 27, N.Y.	

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS

<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Bert Ehrenberg	Richard S. Bohn	Forrest S. Ellis
Harrold Matters	Harry M. Konwiser	Carl H. Pihl
Russel B. Roane	Ferrars H. Tows	Morris Strauss

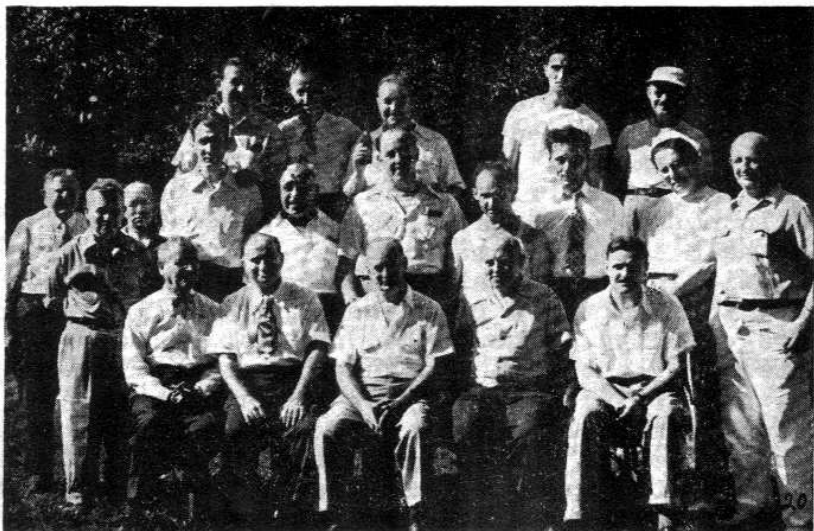
### PAST PRESIDENTS

Arthur W. Deas	1934-38	George Camnitzer	1943-45
Ralph A. Barry*	1938-39	Sam Brooks	1945-46
Henry W. Holcombe	1939-41	Jacob S. Glaser	1946-48
Carl E. Pelander	1941-43	( * deceased )	

### COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

<u>Membership:</u> Carl E. Pelander	<u>Exhibition:</u> Dr. George Camnitzer
<u>Program:</u> Carl H. Pihl	<u>Entertainment:</u> Harrold Matters
<u>Publicity:</u> Arthur I. Heim	<u>Auction:</u> Henry M. Friedman
<u>Correspondence &amp; Exchange:</u>	Harry O. Henneman

These Brothers, through whom most of the work of the Club will flow, need your active assistance. If you care to help in any of the Club's activities get in touch with our president or any of the Committee chairmen. Help to translate your good wishes into a job well done.



Masonic Stamp Club Outing, reported elsewhere in this issue by Harry M. Konwiser, Treasurer, who is seated at the direct left in front row above. Others in the front row, seated, left to right, are Sam Brooks, Chairman M.S.C.; John J. Britt, Chairman Collectors Club; Peter Keller, Chairman A.S.D.A.; Donald Haverbeck, Secretary C.C. Second row, J. Asher Kleinman; J. Peck; Otto Hahlweg; Robert Dempsey; Mortimer De Groot; John Nicklin; A. August Tiger; Franklin R. Bruns; David Lidman; Frank Zeltman. Last row, Jack Pomerantz; Leo Daigle; Murray Simnock; J. Meyers; and Jack Hoffberg.

#### "STAMPS" AUGUST 25th

So you missed the PICNIC ??? Take a look at those smiling faces. Especially that of Bob Pech, who ran the show for the Club. He's standing next to Harry Konwiser. You should have seen the job Bob did with about 50 kids. That's right, and with about 200 of the big kids. It was a grand day and a grand party. And it's a shame that more of you didn't come out. These picnics are getting better each year, thanks to men like Bob Pech, John Nicklin, and Pete Keller. Plan to be there next year.

EXACTLY 256 men, women and children attended the fourth annual picnic conducted at the George Washington Shrine, New York, August 14, under the auspices of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York and the New York Division of the American Stamp Dealers Association. One of the features of the affair was a seven-inning ball game between a team of collectors managed by John Britt, and Peter Keller's team, representing the stamp dealers. The official box score will appear in the next issue of the *Stamp Dealers Bulletin*, according to John Nicklin, who declares the dealers won with the fifteen runs against the fourteen made by the collectors.

Games for the ladies and kiddies, under the direction of Bob Pech developed many prizes, with consolation prizes to the losers for trying, all provided by the Masonic Stamp Club.

—HARRY M. KONWISER.

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Dr. S.D. Swan writes "sorry to have to tell you that my new address is c/o The Dentists Supply Co., York, Pa. Maybe I will be able to attend sometimes. We hope so too, Doc. Were going to miss you."

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## SOME NOTES FROM JOHN A. MIRT

An interesting account of "How Freemasonry Came to Oregon" is presented in the July issue of "Oregon Freemason." The history of Masonry in Oregon and the territory and state of Oregon go hand in hand. Multnomah Lodge No. 84 at Oregon City, held its first meeting U.D., on Sept. 11, 1848, within a month after Oregon became a territory (commemorated by a stamp on Aug. 14 issued at Oregon City). The Lodge, now No. 1, was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Missouri in Oct., 1846, but travel difficulties prevented the charter from being delivered for more than a year. Masons played an important part in the development of the country, although neither Dr. John McLoughlin or Jason Lee, pictured on the stamp, were members of the Craft so far as is known.

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A new 15-centavos stamp of Colombia honors the Mason, Simon Bolivar, liberator of South America from the Spanish yolk. The stamp pictures a stamp of Bolivar and is inscribed with his birth and death years, 1783-1830.

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An interesting historical account of Andrew Jackson and Freemasonry in Tennessee will be found on pages 117-123 of the 1948 proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee. It also tells of the visit of Lafayette to the Grand Lodge in 1825.

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The Masonic Service Association, 700 Tenth Street, N.W., Washington (1) D.C., has put out a 52-page booklet entitled "A Masonic Stamp Collection," by George B. Clark, who I presume is the same G. B. C. on the membership list of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York. As one who has delved into Masonic history, particularly as it relates to philately, I believe the booklet, costing \$1, should be a "must" for every Masonic philatelist. It is well illustrated and well authenticated.

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If any members of the club are collectors of coins,

they may be interested in three articles on "Coins of Grand Masters of Christian Knighthood" -- 1319-1798 -- which appear in 1879 issues of "Voice of Masonry (Vol. 17, page 764, October; page 827, November; page 919, December). The articles, by Robert Morris, are illustrated "with plates and descriptions from Langlois's, De Sauley, Friedlander and other authors." Your Grand Lodge library should have the magazine.

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Here is an item I ran across in "Voice of Masonry", September, 1865. It concerns Maj. Gen. John J. Sullivan, pictured on a 2-cent stamp issued in 1929 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of his expedition against the Indians in upper New York State:

"In the Year 1779 General Sullivan, a New Hampshire officer and a zealous Mason, was sent into the Susquehanna country by General Washington to check the inroads of the Indians. Col. Proctor, of the artillery, had secured a warrant from the G.L. of Pennsylvania to form a military lodge. Almost every night, after the halt and refreshments, this lodge was opened. At Tioga Point a large tent was prepared for the purpose and, on clearing away the leaves, an old iron square, very rusty, was found, which coincidence so pleased the brethren that they used it for Masonic purposes all through the campaign."

Gen. Sullivan was raised in St. John's Lodge, Portsmouth, N. H., in 1767. He was Master of his lodge in 1789 and was elected Grand Master with the formation of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire in 1790, during his last term as Governor of the State. He was buried with Masonic honors at Berwick and later was interred in the Congregational Cemetery near Portsmouth, N. H.

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A note in "Stamps" advises that Brother Clarence W. Hennan of Chicago, has been elected President of the Essay Proof Society at their recent convention. Brother Andy Rasmussen received a second award at the convention show. Congratulations Brothers.

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**MASONIC POST OFFICE NAMES**  
by Harry M. Konwiser

During a recent idle spell, mindful of the Editorial requirement for copy and more copy, looking through United States Post Office Guides, from 1798 through 1846, for Masonic "names" and "words" quite a few came to light.

Naturally the "Mason" comes to mind first. The record shows that in the 1808-1825 period there was a post office named "Mason" in New Hampshire, also Mason Hall, in North Carolina, and Masonville N.Y.

The 1831 Post Office Guide (it was called "Table of Post Offices" in that year and other years), shows Mason, N.H.; Mason Hall, N.C.; Masontown, Pa.; Mason Village, N.H., also Masonville, Ala.

In 1836-1837, the previously named were listed, as they were in 1842, with the new offices as Mason, Ohio; Mason Centre, Mich.; Mason Hall, Tenn.; Mason Grove, Tenn.; also Mason, Miss.; Masonic College, Mo.; and Masonic Grove, Tenn.

Other words (or names) familiar to craftsmen, in the 1798-1846 period, listed as post offices were: Ash, N.C.; Centre, Ind.; Centre, La.; Centre, N.Y.; Centre, Georgia; Centre, Ala. Clay is seen in Kentucky, and Missouri, as well as in New York, Ohio, and Michigan. Chalk Level was a post office in N.C., also in Tenn., and Virginia.

Chaplain is seen in Conn., and Kentucky, and there are several Chaplin offices. Cowansville appears as in North Carolina, with Deposit showing up in New Jersey, New York, and Mississippi.

Flat Rock shows up in Virginia, with Friendship listed in many States.

Hale, Ohio, was discontinued as a post office in 1842. Harmony is often seen, in many States, while Hat was a post office in Pa., in 1836. Hill is in New Hampshire. Hiram shows up in Maine as well as in Ohio, in 1817. Holly was a New York office, and there were many Hope offices in the period. Joy is listed as a Maine office.

Offices named Laurel appear as in Delaware, Virginia, Iowa and in other States. Lilly is in Ohio, Lime Stone shows in Miss.; Level, in Ohio, Long Level, in Virginia.

Mine Shibboleth was a post office in Missouri, and Mystic shows up as in Conn.

North East, N.Y. and North East, Md., and North East, Pa., might be proper entrants to this sort of a cover collection, likewise North End, Va., and North West, Ohio.

Olive shows up in N.Y., Ohio, and in Tenn., with Oil Creek, in Pa., and Oil Spring, in New York. Pilot, Ill., seems to be "all alone" in the period, likewise Plumb Grove, Mo.

Saint John shows up in Ind., while Saint Johns was in Missouri Territory, also in Missouri (later), with a Saint Johns office in Ohio and in North Carolina.

South East, was in New York, with South Hill showing up in N. Y. also in Pa. Starr appears in Ohio, Starrville in Ga.

(The) Square was a post office in New York; Temple in N. H., Tyler in Ill. and Penna., with Tyre showing in N. Y.

Some of these offices were in operation after 1846, of course, and collectors are advised to consult current Post Office Guides for present offices with Masonic names (or words).

More later--perhaps.

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#### Edward Finnegan's Stamp Collection

The stamp collection owned by the late Ed Finnegan may be put on sale soon, it is said. The estate has been appraised for tax purposes, and Mrs. Finnegan is considering selling the very fine collection of United States 1847's - on and off covers; also the China collection, and several other groups. It is probable the Hong Kong collection will not be offered for sale, as this group is fancied by Mrs. Finnegan, likewise a collection on Railroads. The stamps were appraised by Brother Sid Barrett.

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During our pleasant summer, which included a heat wave or two, we received notes from some of our vacationing Brothers. Harold Matters and his wife celebrated their 25th Wedding Anniversary by making a cross-country tour by car. We heard from Harold several times. In Niagara Falls they accidentally met Brother and Mrs. Charles Lott, and were the recipients of every form of hospitality.

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Well-Charlie is a nice fellow to know. And thanks Charles for that first day cover.

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Brother and Mrs. Camnitzer made their usual summer trip and we received a nice masonic souvenir from him, from Central City, Colorado.

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But fellers--you missed the picnic!

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Forrest Ellis sends his regards with a nice cover showing a Masonic Corner card. Thanks, it's a beaut!

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Brother Francis A. Coleman, in a note to Harry Konwiser, regrets that his occupation keeps him from the meetings. "I long for the time when I can be present and put my shoulder to the wheels of real activity. Regards to all the Boys". We miss you Francis, and a lot of the other "old-timers." We'll get together some day soon.

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Brother John A. Mirt of Chicago is a very busy gent and is keeping us well supplied with material for future issues. But in sending his greetings to all of you, he would welcome a buzz from any of you who may be in Chicago. His addresses and phone numbers follow:

OFFICE--75 E. WACKER DRIVE -- FRANKLIN 6960  
HOME -- 426 BELMONT AVE. -- LINCOLN 0614

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He would welcome suggestions for articles on any stamp with a Masonic background. John is doing a big job of research for a Masonic book on stamps, and we know it's going to be good.

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"Stamps" for July 3rd, has a very interesting review of an article on Columbian Envelopes,



written by Brother Forrest L. Ellis for the "Stamp Specialist." This book is published by Brother Harry L. Lindquist. If you have any interest in Envelope collecting, you must read this article. The review written by Mr. Prescott H. Thorp, suggests a major award to Forrest for the article. Congratulations Brother Ellis, we knew you could do it.

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Elmer E. Magee (left), new grand master . . . with Edward Huwaldt, past grand master.-

Morning World-Herald,  
Omaha, June 10, 1948.

See the fellow on the left in the picture? That's our Boy, Elmer E. Magee. Just been elected Grand Master of Masons in Nebraska. Brother Magee is one of our newer members, and we don't know of his collecting activities; but we do know that he's tops in Freemasonry in Nebraska and in his spare time he runs the largest Department Store in Lincoln. Good Luck and God Bless You, Most Worshipful Sir.

We need information about your collection. Why dont you write it up for the pleasure of your fellow-members. Send us news items and stories for your paper.

## A PHILATELIC PROPHECY

Can one believe that a strange prediction of a series of stamps issued by our country in 1938 was first mentioned in 1902? This is a true story and can be verified.\*

Mr. Albert Hall, writing an article for "The Adhesive," commented on the fact that the "residents predominate among those pictured on United States stamps. He suggested: "Here is a chance for us to teach the people of other lands that our nation was established in 1789, that it is a government of the people, that its chief magistrate is chosen every four years, and that civilians as well as soldiers can hold office." Mr. Hall's sample list of what can be done with one president—one postage stamp follows:

Mr. Hall's Prediction			Today's Scott #
1¢	George Washington	1789-97	804
2¢	John Adams	1797-1801	806
3¢	Thomas Jefferson	1801-09	807
4¢	James Madison	1809-17	808
5¢	James Monroe	1817-25	810
6¢	John Quincy Adams	1825-29	811
7¢	Andrew Jackson	1829-37	812
8¢	Martin Van Buren	1837-41	813
9¢	William Henry Harrison	1841	814
10¢	John Tyler	1841-45	815
11¢	James A. Polk	1845-49	816
12¢	Zachary Taylor	1849-50	817
13¢	Millard Fillmore	1850-53	818
14¢	Franklin Pierce	1853-57	819
15¢	James Buchanan	1857-61	820
16¢	Abraham Lincoln	1861-65	821
17¢	Andrew Johnson	1865-69	822
18¢	Ulysses S. Grant	1869-77	823
19¢	Rutherford B. Hayes	1877-81	824
20¢	James Garfield	1881-	825

The dates and values used are exactly as Mr. Hall suggested, and in spite of the comment on the unusual denominations (11,13,17,19¢) being extremely odd for the 1902 period, Mr. Hall further states that those values would be useful and acceptable. Further comment states "that in a few decades, the U.S. would have too many presidents and not enough stamps." It took almost forty years for this prediction to

(continued on next page)

\* - From "Stamp Collectors Fortnightly" #178  
Volume VII, January 4, 1902.

A PHILATELIC PROPHECY - continued

occur, and in spite of four decades, the number of presidents were enough to cover the full series up to the \$5.00 value.

The other odd values ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , and  $4\frac{1}{2}$ ) Scott's #803, 805, 809, are not presidentials, and therefore would not be included.

—Dr. Irwin M. Yarry.



Will Rogers and View of Managua



Rogers beside a Plane



Leaving Aviation Field Office



Rogers and American Marines



View of Managua after Earthquake

Will Rogers -- Was made a Mason in Claremore, (Okla) Lodge No. 53, March 13, 1906; became a 32° at McAlester, Okla., April 16, 1908, and was a life member. Became member of Akdar Shrine Temple Tulsa, November 20, 1914, and was an honorary member of Bedouin Shrine Temple, Muskogee, Okla. Was a member of the advisory board of Holland Chapter, Order of De Molay from 1921 to his death, Aug. 1935. He attended his last meeting among Masonic Brethren at Fairbanks, Alaska, where Nile Temple of the Shrine was conducting its ceremonial just before the crash in which he died--From "New Age", December, 1935.

Among the souvenirs in the Rogers Memorial at Claremore (erected by the people of Oklahoma at a cost of \$200,000) are his petition for membership in Claremore Lodge and the Bible on which he took his obligation.

As you perhaps know, Nicaragua in 1939 issued a series of five airmail stamps commemorating Will Rogers' flight to Managua.

John A. Mirt

Dear Bro. Brooks:

Here is an item which may interest the members of the Club at your next meeting.

I wonder if some distinctive Masonic cachet can be gotten up which could be used for first day covers bearing stamps with Masonic interest? I'll make an effort to dig up the information as soon as a stamp is announced; perhaps other members might volunteer to do likewise. The cachet could be the emblem and the name of the club; beneath, in type -- changeable each time -- could be for instance: "The cornerstone of the Gettysburg National Cemetery Monument was laid with Masonic ceremonies by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, July 4, 1865." Will appreciate your comments and those of other members.

---- John A. Mirt

( A very interesting suggestion, but requires much thought and planning. Any ideas and offers of assistance ? ) Ed.

Another letter about early Masonic Postmasters. This one from Mrs. Myra L. Young of Toledo, Iowa, Tama Co.

My grandfather Dr. J. B. Louthan was married in New Madrid, Ohio, lived in Pebble Co., and Miami Co., Ohio--came to Tama Co., Iowa in covered wagon in 1855.

He was appointed Post Master December 17, 1875, of Helena, Tama Co., Iowa. I have the commission signed by-acting P.M. General, J. N. Marshall of the U.S.A.

He was a Mason as long as I can remember him. Was Master Mason of Ascolon Lodge June 16, 1883, A L 5883 D<sup>ist</sup>art Iowa Lodge #393. A. F. & A. M. This was signed by T. L Parvin Grand Sec.

I have a cover mailed at Helena 12-8-75 before he was postmaster, I think "altho he served two terms". Looks like his writing Helena 8 and the stamp just a scratched X to cancel. And I have one cover signed by him across the stamp LOUTHAN. There has not been a post office there now for more than 35 years.