

# *The Masonic Philatelist*

PUBLISHED BY THE MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK

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## BY THE SIGN OF THE GAVEL

With the Christmas season upon us, it is a little unfortunate that it is not practical to have a meeting of the Club during the holiday period. Were it not that each of us is so busy at this time, it would be a real pleasure to get together and exchange greetings. Since we will not meet, I would like to take this opportunity to wish for each of you and yours good cheer, good health and good fortune, and may the spirit and joy of Christmas be with you throughout the coming year. And May our fraternal association be a continuing source of enjoyment.

Last month the PHILATELIST was late getting to you because of an inexplicable delay at the post office. The issue was mailed November 24th, which should have been in ample time for delivery. Enclosed was a short questionnaire which you are urged to fill out and return promptly to Bro. Carl Pihl. As soon as the returns are in the Club will issue a new roster.

Again the best wishes of the season:

MERRY CHRISTMAS

oOo

HAPPY NEW YEAR

ARTHUR I. HEIM

## • *Meetings* •

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

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- Jan. 4 7:30 Board of Governors Meeting.  
8:00 Quiz Night. Submit questions, and the answers on a Postcard to Major T. Phillips, 41 Fifth Avenue, New York City 3, and do it NOW before you forget.
- Jan. 25 Disquisition on 'MY FAVORITE STAMP'. Five minutes allotted to each member to root for his favorite stamp telling what and why. Dig' em up!

## THE MASONIC PHILATELIST

Published by  
The Ralph A. Barry Publication Fund  
of  
The Masonic Stamp Club of New York

### EDITOR

P. L. Ellis, 2120 E. Tremont Avenue  
New York 62, N. Y.

### OFFICERS

|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Arthur I. Heim      | President          |
| Carl H. Pihl        | 1st Vice-Pres.     |
| Thomas Phillips     | 2nd Vice-Pres.     |
| Dr. Irwin M. Yarry  | Secretary          |
| 31-12 54 Street,    | Woodside, N. Y.    |
| Harry M. Konwiser   | Treasurer          |
| 181 Claremont Ave., | New York 27, N. Y. |

### *Obit.* Carl E. W. Welcome

CARL ELIJAH WESLEY WELCOME, 68, accountant, tax consultant and philatelist, well known throughout the Connecticut Valley, died Oct. 25, 1951, at his home in Westfield, Mass., following a brief illness.

Starting a collection of stamps at the age of eight, he had amassed a vast amount of stamps and materials connected with his philatelic hobby. His collection is believed to be the largest in the area of Westfield.

His name appeared frequently in STAMPS as one of the active collectors in the field. He is one of those who had subscribed to STAMPS from its inception and right up to the time of his death.

Besides the stamp collection, Mr. Welcome also was a collector of many other interesting items and, according to close friends, had amassed tons of material at his home. He is said to have the second oldest collection of leather postal cards in the United States.

Mr. Welcome was permanent secretary of the Westfield Stamp Club, a member of the Springfield Chapter of the American Air Mail Society, a former member of the Springfield Stamp Club, second oldest club of its type in the country, and was active in the Connecticut Valley Pre-cancelled Stamp Club, in addition to many other philatelic organizations.

Besides his wife, Mary E. (Harries) Welcome, he leaves a son, Carl H. of Lincoln, R. I., a granddaughter, Mary L. Welcome of Lincoln, and a brother, Ernest H. Welcome of Westfield.

—GEORGE E. BRADY

## Arthur W. Kirk Dies After Long Illness

Arthur W. Kirk, well known philatelic professional in the New York City area died Nov. 10 after a long illness, Sylvester Colby reports.

Mr. Kirk was New York City representative for Western Stamp Collector for several years. He was well known in the stamp trade and had been employed by several of the larger New York City auction firms and retail shops. In recent years he had acted as a broker in private treaty transactions and had been auction agent for a number of well-known collectors.

Funeral services were held Nov. 10 from Mr. Kirk's late home in Clifton, N. J.

### NEW MEMBER

Al Van Dahl, P.O. Box 493  
Albany, Oregon  
St. Johns Lodge #17  
Albany, Oregon  
Publisher of Western  
Stamp Collector and  
Covers.

Merry  
Christmas  
and a  
Happy  
New Year

Willimam H. Peters ( Captain Bill Peters ) now residing at Interlaken, Florida. writes, while remitting his 1952 dues to the Masonic Stamp Club: 'Hope I'll be able someday to get my Masonic Stamp Club degrees, when I'm in New York, sometime soon.'

Jose Rueff, in remitting a check for \$5 writes to credit his dues for the year and to apply the balance to any of our pet undertakings.

Charlie Lott, now hailing from Buffalo, N.Y. showed some of his 19th century United States stamps at the Buffalo Stamp Club.

Irwin M. Yarry reported the special meeting held for Bro. P.A. Wilde of Cardiff, Wales and of Hong Kong fame, in the 'Stamp Collectors Fortnightly', London, November 17, 1951. The meeting was held when Bro. Wilde was in New York, prior to his trip to Toronto, where he visited the CAPEX

One of our members - let us be specific - it is H.J. Mandeville of Pittsburgh, in paying his dues adds something to his \$2 dues ' for the Barry Publication Fund'.

Bro. Will Henry of Northhampton, Ohio, made a donation for the same cause, a year or so ago, and Bro. Milnor Peck donated a lot of first day of issue of the Alexandria six cent airmail stamp, which was sold for a net of \$22.50. This was the same member who start off our bank account by his dividend from the sales of the Masonic cacheted covers at CIPEX. We still have most of this money in the bank.

Others who have contributed to the rublication Fund- or have in the past, per the Treasurer's books: Robert Pech, George Camnitzer, Jose Rueff, and Sam Brooks via covers sent him to be sold and various club auctions.

Adresses wanted, Harold J. Snyder, Max A. Weintraub and Arthur Vollman.

Jewell Potter, a brother residing in Oneida, N.Y., is a stamp hobbyist because if he wasn't would he be a member of the Masonic Stamp Club? Jewell writes he enjoys reading his Masonic Philatelist, which he writes, 'a good job'. Right now Jewell Potter is interested in the activity to be publicized in the early days of June, 1952. At that time Oneida Lodge, No. 270 will celebrate its centennial and pay off the mortgage on their Temple. There will be a three day celebration.

Arthur Heim, President of the Masonic Stamp Club, is among the top specialist collectors in Belge-Congo postage stamps and the markings used in the Belge-Congo postal system. His research is being made available through the columns of the western Stamp Collector.

Wm. Dabel, 3182 Mission Street, San Francisco 10, California, writes his Hawaii precancel collection received a first Award at the recent Hawaii Philatelic Exposition, and likewise a similar award at the recent Missouri State Fair, Philatelic Division. Just recently he started collecting foreign revenues members interested in the Dabelisms should write him

Sid Barrett, as treasurer of the Association for Stamp Exhibits, rendered his report at the recent quarterly meeting, indicating 'there is money in the association', truthfully quite more than is in the Masonic Stamp Club treasury.

Harry Lindquist presided at the meeting, as president of the group, with Dick Bohn paying strict attention to all the doings since he is scheduled to become the next head of the Association which conducts the International stamp exhibits. The next one, scheduled for New York, 1956.

R.M.Needham of Lancaster, Ohio, sent the treasurer a first day Battle of Brooklyn cover, carrying there in his 1952 club dues. Long Island, sez you and let the Brooklynites have their amusement.

Bro. Walter R. McCoy was named as President of the American Philatelic Congress recently held in Chicago



John Ferguson of Calmar, Alberta, Canada, writes- I am sorry that distance precludes any possibility of my being an active member but I assure you I do get enjoyment out of our club magazine. Some day I am looking forward to being able to visit you at your meetings. I have just finished up a very busy year as District Deputy Grand Master for this masonic district and I can say that I thoroughly enjoyed it.'

Gordon S.Dills, who operates the Creek Chub Bait Co. at Garrett, Indiana, makes the famous Pikie Minnow- declared to be a super bait to catch fish. Gordon went fishing one recent day and got three rabbits. Seems, our member in good standing, happened to have his gun along with him, he says, but nothing is said about the fishing part, meaning to city folks, the use of a rod, reel, bait and a pond.

At the meeting on December 7, at which the bourse was held, Bro George Wray donated some fine U.S. stamps to the Club. The stamps are mostly earlier issues and are characterized by some very interesting cancellations, including a Kicking Mule. Although quite reasonable, the prices set for these stamps were somewhat higher than the Brothers in attendance wanted to pay at that time.

Therefore, in addition to the regular program on Friday, January 4th, these fine stamps will be auctioned for the benefit of the Club. The Club is greatly indebted to Bro. Way for his contribution. You can help, too, by bidding liberally for these fine stamps.--Heim

Many of us has been privileged to have seen the fine collection of match and medicine revenue stamps of our Past President Bro. Henry Holcombe, but his collection of harem beauties, as Potentate of Mecca Temple is really some thing to see.

At the annual meeting of the New York state Shrine Association held at Rochester on September 29, Bro. Holcombe was chosen as Vice President.

The Treasurer reports that one member asked to pay his current dues, replies that he hesitates to do so because he has received his Masonic Philatelist but once since becoming a member in December of 1950. He believes himself slighted, etc. He writes " \*\*\*\* it is not due to the difference in address \*\*\*\* since I live right around the corner from the other."

Evidently the Masonic Philatelist, usually mailed in regular manner, not always first class sealed mail, does not get proper delivery. The member was advised to complain to his post office or better still bear in mind that the mailing office of the Masonic Stamp Club is an unpaid job and can not mind read changes



The postponed visit to Montrose Veterans Hospital is planned for Saturday, January 12, 1952

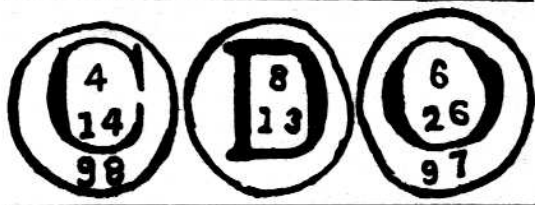
Our president Bro. Arthur I. Heim is arranging to escort as many brothers as he can in his car, as a delegation from the Masonic Stamp Club.

The first member's stamp bourse held during the meeting of December 7, provided an evenings fun and a grand profit of \$11.33 for the Ralph Barry Fund.

Our sincere thanks to Mr. Sylvester Colby for his many fine deeds on behalf of our club- his latest- \$22.50 from the sale of surplus- first day of issue covers that had been donated by Bro. Milnor E. Peck.

Bro. William Schumacher request a change of address to Schumacher Stamp Co. Box 32, Nyack, N.Y. He has entered the professional ranks. Good luck to a real fine member of the Masonic Stamp Club. Bro. Schumacher never fails to attend all functions of the club.

YARRY



Marcus White, one of our members, who rates as one of the foremost collectors of United States postal stationary, has an unusually fine lot of covers with markings of the type herewith illustrated.

These are registry letters (postmarks) used at New York in the 1884-1901 period, and are best known on incoming Foreign Registry letters. Jere Hess Barr, who is completing his story on these registry markings for an early publication together with Harry M. Konwiser looked at these covers recently and were able to expand their knowledge of the different letters in the White collection.

In a recent issue of Western Stamp Collector, Dennis Way notes that Bro. White had purchased B. Hounsell-Dammers' monumental work in mss. dealing with British postal stationary after the death of the President of the British Postal History Society.



A committee under the chairmanship of our good Secretary, Brother "Doc" Yarry, is working on a proposed revision of our by-laws. Nothing serious, just a few minor changes to streamline our procedures. As the committee is expected to make its report at the next meeting on January 4, 1952, as many as possible are urged to be present; your consideration of the proposed changes and your advise will be appreciated. And besides, Tom Phillips has a good program cooked up. ----- Heim.

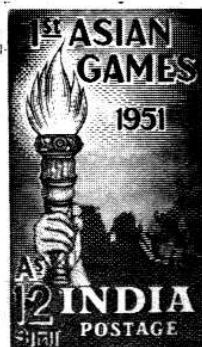


## FROM MIRT'S BACK PORCH

A number of recent issues of foreign countries are of interest to Masonic stamp collectors. Chile on



March 16 issued two stamps to commemorate the centenary of the death of Gen. Jose de San Martin, a Mason. One shows a portrait, the other shows him the central figure on horseback.



For the collector of symbolisms, there is an India issue--"Let there be Light and there was Light." France on March 17 honored Jules Ferry, statesman, whose efforts resulted in free, non-clerical education. He was a Mason. A widow



and orphan stamp of the Philippines is a reminder of a Masonic obligation. An Austrian stamp

shows an operative mason at work. For the Shriner there is an Israel stamp (#42) showing a desert scene--"the hot sands." -- John A. Mirt.

## HONOR FOR SOUTH AMERICAN MASONS

Venezuela issued a 15-value set on April 18 in commemoration of the rededication of the statue of Simon Bolivar, which was moved from Central Park in New York to a plaza at 59th street and the Avenue of the Americas. Bolivar, national hero of a number of South American countries, was a Mason.

A statue of Jose de San Martin, another Mason and South American hero, will be dedicated in the same plaza on May 25. A series of stamps to mark the event is possible.

Nicaraguan postal authorities have approved an issue to honor the National Air Force, initiated by the Masonic president, Anatosia Somoza. --Mirt.