



# *the Masonic Philatelist*

VOL. 13

JUNE - JULY 1957

NO. 10



OUR LATE BELOVED PRESIDENT  
BROTHER THOMAS PHILLIPS  
Died June 12, 1957

(Photo taken at our annual dinner May 21 by Bro. Carl Pihl)  
Masonic Stamp Club, New York City.

# The MASONIC PHILATELIST

JUNE - JULY 1957  
VOL. 13 NO. 10

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Philatelist—Harold E. Gunter  
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## WELCOME !!

A warm welcome to our new members:

JOHN C. GIBSON  
Box 202, Ocean Falls, B.C., Canada  
Mt. Caro Marion Lodge #140, Ocean Falls

PAUL HOLMBERG  
Public Works Dept., Navy 138  
c/o FPO, New York, N.Y.  
Civil & Military Lodge #726, Hamilton, Bermuda

MARSHALL S. LOKE  
56 Langford Rd., Rochester 15, N.Y.  
Medina #336, Medina, N.Y.

Can any one of our members supply us with the new and correct addresses of the following brothers:

FREDERICK L. SCHLOZ  
194 Eliot Place, Bronx 52, N.Y.

NORMAN L. SHEPPARD  
13640 Racine, Paramount, Calif.

## MEETINGS

First Friday of Each Month  
Collectors Club Building  
22 East 35th St., N.Y.C.

Next Meeting: Sept. 6, 1957

## In Memoriam

Brother R. P. Scholte

Brother Thomas Phillips

## OUR LATE BELOVED PRESIDENT TOM PHILLIPS

On June 7, Brother Tom Phillips presided at the annual meeting and election of officers and it was obvious that he did so under much pressure, for our President was not well, but with his usual good humor he made every effort to close his tenure of office befitting the soldier that he was. Much praise was given him for during the past two years in office he hit two high spots: FIPEX with all the effort it required to make it such a success; and the surprising result of the cachets commemorating the 175th Anniversary of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. Brother Tom was most active in both endeavors and both were successes for which he could take most of the credit. And on this Friday night, as we have done on the other meeting nights, we drove him to his apartment and bade him "goodnight and a pleasant Summer." He then admitted that he needed much rest, but he looked forward to an active year on the "sidelines," unburdened by the work of his office. But on Wednesday night, June 12, Brother Tom Phillips went to his eternal rest. We will miss him very much.

Brother Phillips was Entered, Passed and Raised in Full and Ancient Form on March 16, 1918, the sole candidate, the work being authorized by Special Dispensation of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. Later, while stationed at West Point, Bro. Phillips took the various degrees of the York rite. While stationed in San Antonio, Texas, he received the Scottish Rite and became a member of Alzafar Temple of the Shrine. As an officer of the

U.S. Army, he served in World Wars I and II. He had been retired as a result of disability incurred in line of duty and held the rank of Major. He is survived by his wife, Blanche Lyon Phillips and his son, Major Thomas Phillips III, U.S. Air Force, who is stationed in Washington.

### ANNUAL DINNER MASONIC CLUB MAY 24, 1957

Despite last minute arrangements, and short notice, the 23rd annual dinner drew a nice turnout of members at the Masonic Club, 71 West 23rd Street, New York City. To Bro. Reggel, much credit must be given for having arranged the dinner so quickly and efficiently, and to Brother Sidney Barrett for obtaining such an interesting speaker, Winthrop Boggs. "Win" Boggs spoke of the "Old timers" who met at the Collectors Club and the stories he told about John Luff, and especially Albert Lichtenstein kept the members in a most amusing frame of mind. Bro. Barrett remembered other collectors and their foibles or idiosyncrasies which were amusing and most interesting.

A most interesting contrast in attendance was noted when Bro. Ascher Kleiman was again present, having missed no annual dinner in 15 years and it was the first meeting attended by Bro. Norman Sehlmeier. Curious to know why we had not had the pleasure of Norm Sehlmeier at either the meetings or the dinners, he rewarded us with the novel reason: "Because I am a bachelor." Pressed further we learned that Friday evenings were "date" nights, especially with such handsome bachelors as "Norm" (he sports a neat crew cut) and while the married men get Friday night "off," it would mean disappointing a fair damsel if Norm attended meetings.

Of course, Bro. Harold Gunter was present, despite the distance he travels to come into town (and Bro. Gunter will be 80 years young in September). We learned at the dinner that Bro. Carl Pihl was elected Secretary of the Silurians, a New York newspaper group.

Bro. Tom Phillips was master of ceremonies and introduced the speakers.

Although the gold rush days are gone, Alaska still yields more than 8 million in gold each year, more than the entire purchase price when bought from Russia in 1867.

### ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS JUNE 7, 1957

The officers recommended by the Nominating Committee at the previous meeting were those elected at our Annual Meeting. It was most significant that some major changes took place when Brother Yarry, after serving 12 years as Secretary was honored with the Presidency. In his place was elected a new and able Secretary, Alvin D. Lurch. Bro. "Russ" Roane, from whom you have been receiving your dues notices for 10! these many years, found business pressures necessitating the relinquishment of the office of Treasurer, and Bro. Carl Pihl will now take over. It was befitting that on our outgoing President, Tom Phillips, much praise was bestowed, for it was during his two terms as President that such fine jobs were done at FIPEX and with the cachets commemorating the 175th Anniversary of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

The officers for the 1957-1958 season are as follows:

PRESIDENT.....Dr. Irwin M. Yarry  
1st VICE

PRESIDENT.....Emmanuel Reggel  
2nd VICE

PRESIDENT.....Dr. S. Duffield Swan

SECRETARY.....Alvin D. Lurch

TREASURER.....Carl Pihl

#### Board of Governors:

3 years.....Herman S. Kerstein

2 years.....Dr. Benjamin Grossman

1 year.....Charles Lott

Committees will be announced in our next issue.

In the September issue, we shall wind up the series of "MASONS ON STAMPS" by Brother Clarence Beltman, whose check lists originally appeared in TOPICAL TIMES published by the American Topical Association. For topical collectors, this magazine is a "must" and for the benefit of our members who might be interested, we suggest they write for a sample copy. ATA is located at 3306 North 50th St., Milwaukee, Wisc., and if you write, tell them you are a member of the MSC of NY.

Bro. Luther Van Buskirk of Denver calls attention to a 3c stamp of Guatemala issued in 1948 (No. 136) which shows a kneeling man with his hand on a Bible. Incidentally, congratulations to Bro. Van Buskirk on his appointment as Grand Tyler of the Grand Lodge of Colorado.—Mirt.

# Masonic Cancellations On Early U. S. Stamps

By DR. S. DUFFIELD SWAN

Since the completion of the article on Masonic Cancellations last year, further information has been gathered and corrections made as indicated in the following list. Changes are in bold type.

Post Office	Stamp	Postmaster	Mason	Type	Rarity
Alleghaney, Pa.	158	<b>John A. Hyler</b>		IV	1
Alliance, Ohio	65	Humphrey Hoover		IV	<b>2</b>
Augusta, Me	158	<b>Horace H. Hamlin</b>		I	1
Bethel, Me.	158	<b>Samuel R. Shehan</b>		IV	2
Bridgeton, N. J.	147	<b>Joseph S. Miner</b>		V	1
Brookville, Pa.	65	<b>Barton F. Hastings</b>		I	1
Cadiz, N.Y.	114			II	1
Center Barnstead, N.H.	158	<b>Geo. W. Neuse</b>		V	1
Chariton, Ia.	158	<b>Albert W. McCormick</b>	<b>M</b>	IV	1
Cornwall Bridge, Conn.	184	<b>James A. Bierce</b>		XIV	1
Derby, Conn.	65	<b>Robert C. Narrimore</b>		IV	1
East Nantmeal, Pa.	U228	<b>Annie M. Stringle</b>		IV	1
Holly Springs, Miss.	184	<b>Solomon Baer</b>		IV	1
Island Park, Nobel County, Ind.	184	<b>Charles G. Cornell</b>		XIV	1
Kopperl, Texas	184	<b>Rice Maxey</b>		III	1
Liberty, Kan.	210	<b>Amos F. Johnson</b>		V	1
<b>Little Falls, N.Y.</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>William Dorr</b>		IV	<b>2</b>
Little Georgetown, W. Va.	210	<b>Eli Fleming</b>		IVb	1
Manhasset, N.Y.	158	<b>Joseph F. Hamilton</b>		XV	2
McMinnsville, Tenn.	145	<b>Richard Kennedy</b>		IVb	1
Newton, Kan.	145	<b>Alvarado C. Frederick</b>		I	1
Norwich, Vt.	65	<b>Franklin L. Olds</b>		V	1
Oriskany Falls, N.Y.	114	<b>Stephen R. Howe</b>		III	1
Painesville, Ohio	114	<b>Seth Marshall</b>		V	1
<b>Rutland Vt.</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>John B. Kilburn</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>IX</b>	<b>1,3&amp;4</b>
Richmond, Va.	65			IV	1
St. Joseph, Mich.	65	<b>Henry W. Gustin</b>		IV	1
Salem, Mass.	158	<b>George H. Pierson</b>		IB	2
Sharon, Pa.	(1930)	(Paul Wentz, a collector)	<b>M</b>	IB&XV	5
South Wilbraham, Mass.	65	<b>Horton H. Hendrick</b>		I	2
Warren, N.H.	65			I	1
Wolfborough, N.H.	136			I	1

## MASONIC INTEREST?

Three of the stamps in the regular series are of questionable Masonic philatelic interest. These are the Patrick Henry, Alexander Hamilton and the Monticello stamps.

"Monticello" was the home of Thomas Jefferson, who is included in some lists of Presidents who were Masons. However, it seems that the "evidence" offered is too slim to sustain the claim. The plaques of Masonic Presidents in the Washington Masonic Memorial at Alexandria, Va., do not include one of Jefferson.

Alexander Hamilton has frequently been referred to as having been a Mason, but proof is lacking. Bro. J. E.

Burnett Buckenham, librarian of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, made a thorough search of records some years ago and concluded: "I have always doubted Alexander Hamilton being a Mason, for if he had been, some mention of it would have been made at the time of his death."

The same doubt may be raised concerning Patrick Henry.

Woodrow Wilson, President during World War I, was not a Mason. Neither was Gen. Robert E. Lee, who commanded the Southern forces during the Civil War. The remaining stamp pictures a woman, Susan B. Anthony, a pioneer crusader for equal rights for women.—Mirt.

## Masonic Cancellers

By DR. S. DUFFIELD SWAN

Accumulating data concerning the Masonic Cancellations used in the early postage stamp days, has brought many interesting facts to light, which give us some idea of the nature of the individuals who devised the cancellers. Many of the postmasters who were responsible for these cancellations were in small villages where they were the only postal employee and frequently they combined a general store with the post office.

We find one such in Putney, Vt., where Alexis B. Hewitt operated a general store and was postmaster from 1862 to 1882.

Another interesting report showed George S. Silsby as postmaster of Winterport, Me. A local history reports him as "a very religious man, a good dresser who sang in the choir of the Congregational Church."

In Douglas, Kansas, J. B. Ives was a school teacher, "an excellent, artistic penman,"—samples of his records are still held for their beauty.

William B. Darlington of Westchester, Pa. was a Major in the Civil War who lost a leg in the battle of the Wilderness. "He was known for his whittlings,"—(wood carvings).

At Painted Post, N.Y., Henry D. Edwards, according to a local history was "a dealer in and repair of watches, clocks, jewelry, etc., also engraving."

Again, W. S. Miller, the postmaster of Ludlow, Mass. claimed his masonic connections in Chicopee, Mass. He probably was inspired to produce a masonic canceller by Capt. Andrew S. Hunter, postmaster of Chicopee, who was one of the early users of Masonic Cancellations. These latter cancellations are quite common.

Actual connection of most of these men in Masonic circles is difficult to establish. Local lodges of the day have been superseded by those organized after the 1885 period, and the old records have been lost. In other known cases members claimed their affiliation with lodges in different cities. It is reasonably safe to assume that they all were "brothers" who were loyal to the fraternity and were demonstrating that loyalty by the use of the special designs in cancellers.

One of the earliest users of Masonic Cancellers was Cambridge, Ohio, according to Carl J. Rech. It seems that C. L. Madison was secretary of the local "Blue Lodge" in that period as

well as postmaster. He was closely associated with Killian H. van Renasslear, who was Deputy for Western Pennsylvania and Ohio for the A.A.S.R. Masons. Van Renasslear also was superintendent of construction of the "Central Ohio R.R. (now a part of the B & O)." These two men were responsible for the organization of the Cambridge Scottish Rite Masonic body—the ninth one in the U.S. Masonic cancellers of various designs are reputed to have been used by Postmaster Madison, but the only one we have observed was the square and compasses.

### DOMINICAN REPUBLIC SERIES TO HONOR MASON

Dominican Republic issued a series to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the "Era of Trujillo." The stamps pay homage to Gen. Rafael L. Trujillo, an ardent Mason whose administration as president earned him the title "The Great Benefactor."

Although Gen. Trujillo did not take part in the political upheaval which resulted in the overthrow of the government of President Estralla Urena in 1930, he was offered the presidency of the republic.

During three terms, he carried on a large program of public works and gave public education impetus by establishing hundreds of new rural schools. He retired from office but remained active in public affairs. In 1942, he was inaugurated again for a four-year term.

—Mirt

### THEODORE ROOSEVELT

The 6¢ stamp of the regular series honors Theodore Roosevelt, one of the greatest builders of this nation.

Roosevelt, a member of Matinecock Lodge No. 806, Oyster Bay, N.Y., was an ardent Mason. He saw in Freemasonry the spirit of democracy of which he was a champion. As President, and afterwards, he enjoyed the simplicity and fellowship of lodge attendance. He appeared in Masonic garb publicly on many occasions.

Speaking in 1902 before the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, he said: "Masonry should make, and must make, each man who conscientiously and understandingly takes its obligation a fine type of American citizenship, because Masonry teaches him his obligations to his fellow men in practical fashion."

## FOUR OUT OF SEVEN



On March 26, the Stamps Advisory Committee was named by Postmaster General Summerfield to "advise the Post Office Department on matters relating to the subject matter, design, production and issue of postage stamps." We are justly proud that four of the seven-member committee are members of the Masonic Stamp Club of N.Y. We list the committee (left to right) and emphasize the names of our club members:

**Robert E. Fellers**, Director of the P. O. Dept. Division of Philately; **Abbott Washburn**, Deputy Director, U.S. Information Agency; **Franklin R. Bruns, Jr.**, Curator, Division of Philately and Postal History, Smithsonian Institution; **Harry L. Lindquist**, chairman, National Federation of Stamp Clubs; **Sol Glass**, president, Bureau Issues Association; Postmaster General Summerfield; Arnold Copeland, president, Westport Artists, Inc.; Ervine Metzl, president, The Society of Illustrators; (not pictured) William H. Buckley, president, New York Art Directors' Club and L. Rohe Walter, special assistant to the Postmaster General.

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### BRO. LINDQUIST HONORED

The Collectors Club announced last week that the Alfred F. Lichtenstein award for 1957 . . . "for distinguished service to philately" has been bestowed on Bro. Harry L. Lindquist. The Lichtenstein award will be formally presented at a ceremony to be held at the Collectors Club in September. We recently outlined Bro. Lindquist's activities in a biographical sketch, but he keeps adding so many kudos that he soon makes any such list of his activities obsolete. We still wonder where he finds the time to engage in so many avocations.

### IN THE GOOD OLD SUMMERTIME:

So many things happen during the summer months, and our members would like to know about them. Drop your editor a line or two if you happen to have any items of interest, be they Masonic, Philatelic or just personal. In the forthcoming issues we plan to "Who's Who" about six members in each issue, just so that we will know each other. No long biographies, just short sketches, and a passport size photo for identification. Be sure to send these photos along when we ask for them. In the meantime . . . have a pleasant summer.



## IN APPRECIATION

With this, the last issue of Volume 13 and the one that marks your Editor's first "go-round," we are deeply grateful for the help that we received spiritually and/or physically. We are grateful for the many letters received during the year from our members and others, some brick-bats but mostly bouquets, enabling us to exert extra efforts to keep the MP on a high plane, both informative and interesting. Many thanks for the interesting articles from our two contributing editors John A. Mirt and Richard M. Needham, who spend many hours on research so that our readers might have the best information of Masons on stamps; but especially are we giving a deep bow and a humble "thank you" to that lovely lady, Mrs. Alma McLing of the Van Dahl Publications. Although over 3,000 miles away, she guides our hand, ties together the loose ends, gives us her time, gratuitously, and we quote she "enjoys every minute of it."

## BROTHER GENERAL LAFAYETTE

On September 6, there will be issued a stamp commemorating the 200th anniversary of the birth of the Marquis de Lafayette, that great General and Mason. It is the present plan of the Masonic Stamp Club of N.Y. to take cognizance of this occasion and plans are now in the making for the issuance of a First Day Cover. We are trying to issue a cachet showing the hand-embroidered apron made by the Marquise, wife of Lafayette and presented to his brother Mason, George Washington. In our next issue we shall dwell upon the arrival of Lafayette in the United States and some of his Masonic activities. Any incidents, anecdotes or stories from our members would be greatly appreciated, and we ask that you send them in on time, for we go to press again, the middle of August. Full details about the sale of these cachets will be in the next issue, which we are planning to sell at a nominal amount, with the proceeds going to a Masonic charity.

## INDEPENDENCE HALL HANDIWORK OF MASONS

Independence Hall, in Philadelphia, the cradle of American liberty, is the handiwork of Masons. Its history makes it a Masonic, as well as a national, shrine.

The land on which it stands was purchased by William Allen, Grand Master of Pennsylvania. Building was

started in 1733 when the ground was staked out by a Mason, Edmund Woolley. Thomas Boude, the first secretary of St. John's Lodge, Philadelphia, and later Deputy Grand Master, was the brick mason. Undoubtedly, under the circumstances, there was some Masonic ceremony in connection with the laying of the cornerstone, but documentary evidence is lacking.

Four Masonic governors occupied the State House, as it was first called. On July 4, 1776, the historic Declaration of Independence was signed (No. 120). The first signer was John Hancock, a member of the Lodge of St. Andrews, Boston. Four days later, a Philadelphia Mason, Andrew McNair, rang the bell to call the populous to hear the Declaration read. The bell (shown on No. 627) cracked when it tolled the death of Chief Justice John Marshall, Past Grand Master of Virginia, in 1835. (See next item.)

Independence Hall was used as the meeting place of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in 1800-1802. In 1926, Columbia Lodge No. 91, Philadelphia, raised one of its candidates there.

The building will be pictured on the 10¢ stamp of the new regular series.—Mirt.

After the series of "MASONS ON STAMPS," now appearing on our back cover, we shall issue new lists, from time to time, adding the names not included in these lists by Bro. Beltman. It is almost impossible to issue a complete and infallible list of MASONS ON STAMPS, and such subsequent lists are no reflection on the fine work of Brother Beltman, for witness the Masonic Cancellation lists issued by Dr. S. D. Swan. After having published five lists in the MP, we show a new list on Page 5 of this issue.

Mount Vernon, shown on the 1½¢ stamp of the new regular series, was the home of George Washington, first President of the United States and an outstanding Masonic leader. He received his degrees in 1753 in what is now Fredericksburg (Va.) Lodge No. 4, and became first master of Alexandria (Va.) Lodge No. 22, chartered in 1788 by the Grand Lodge of Virginia. He was buried with Hasonic rites at Mount Vernon, December 18, 1799.—Mirt.

Fifty years of the telegraph in Iceland is noted with a 2.30 kr. commemorative picturing a map with zigzag flashes.

## Masonry On Stamps

The following check list of "MASONRY ON STAMPS" is third in a series that has appeared in the MASONIC PHILATELIST through the kind permission of the author, Clarence W. Beltman, a member of the MSC of NY, and the publishers of TOPICAL TIME, the publication of the American Topical Association. Bro. Beltman ran a series of these checklists, and we are pleased to bring them to the attention of our dealers.

### BOLIVIA

Antonio Jose de Sucre	# 87	President 1825-28
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### COLOMBIA

General Antonio Narino	#552	President
Simon Bolivar	#443	South American Liberator
Dr. Jose Castiltory Rada	# 89	President
Francisco de P. Santander	#475	Soldier, Statesman
General Rafael Undanta	#393	Ven. President
Dr. Rubino Cuervo	#348	President
Dr. Manuel Murette Toro	#514	President

### COSTA RICA

Manuel Aguilar	#227	President
Dr. Jose Maria Castro	# 50	President 1847-49

### CUBA

General Jose Marti	#264	Soldier, Statesman
Carlos Manuel de Cespedes	#273	First Pres. of Cuba, Provincial
Fernando Figueredo	#455	Secretary of Interior, Soldier
Tomas Estrada Palma	#270	Soldier, First Pres. of Republic
Ingacio Agramonte y Loinaz	#242	Soldier
Narcisco Lopez	#459	Statesman

### GUATEMALA

Dr. Lorenzo Montufar	#218	President of Supreme Court
Analasia Somoza	#C95	President of Nicaragua
Jose Maria Orellana	#238	President
Manimiliano Hernandez Martinez	#C97	President of El Salvador

### MEXICO

J. M. Pino Suar	#611	Vice President
Francisco Madero	#614	President
Miquel Hildalgo Costillo	#107	Father of Mexican Independence
Benito Juarez	#666	President
Augustin de Iturbide	#632	Soldier
Vincente Guerrero	#632	Soldier
Miquel Aleman Valdez	#C199-02	President

### PERU

Augusto B. Leguia	#220	President 1919-1930
Juan Gregario de Las Heras	#224	Soldier

### VENEZUELA

Gen. Jose Antonio Paez	Revenue Stamp of 1911	First Pres. 1831-35
Gen. Antonio Guzman Blanco	Revenue Stamp of 1911	President 1870-72
Diego Bautista Urbaneja	#357	President
Jose Maria Vargas	Revenue Stamp of 1911	President
Francisco de Miranda	#250	Soldier