



# *the Masonic Philatelist*

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**NO. 4**



# The MASONIC PHILATELIST

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*M. S. C. Silver Anniversary*



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## BY THE SIGN OF THE GAVEL

Our last meeting proved to be another success. Thanks to the Brothers who participated! A more detailed report of it will be found elsewhere in this issue.

It is always good to receive the many nice letters from our out-of-town members, telling us of their activities and of their interest in the club. We hope that you will continue to write us and that others will do likewise.

At a board of Governors Meeting, a Publication Committee was elected: Bro: Carl H. Pihl, Chairman; other

## MEETINGS

Jan. 8, 1960—Members Exhibition  
Collectors Club Building  
22 East 35th Street, N.Y.C.

## IN MEMORIUM

BRO. JOHN H. EISEMAN  
BRO. FRED C. POST  
BRO. CHARLES MALY

May their souls rest in peace.

members, Bro. S. Duffield Swan, Bro. Sam Brooks and Bro. Dr. Irwin M. Yarry.

It gives me great pleasure, at this time to announce that we appointed Bro. Leo Passon, Editor of The Masonic Philatelist. I hope that you will give him your support by sending him news items and articles.

As this will be the last issue before the New Year, I want to take this opportunity, to extend to you and your families the **Season's Greetings**, and Best Wishes for a Healthy, Happy New Year.

—Emanuel M. Reggel.

## OUR COVER

The top photo shows Bro. Franklin R. Bruns, Gen. Director, Division of Philately, Post Office Department, Washington, D. C., addressing the audience at the opening of the A.S.D.A. National Postage Stamp Show in New York City at the 71st. Armory, Park Ave., and 34th Street.

The lower photo shows several of our Brothers, namely, reading from left to right, Fred Gommo, "Manny" Reggel, Ben Grossman, Russel Roane, Herman "Pat" Herst, Jr., Fred Hill, with "Pat" Herst, Jr., explaining the operation of Dispatching and Sack-Out to the gentlemen near him.

## NOTICE ON DUES

We had previously stated that we were keeping the yearly dues at \$2.00 instead of raising them to \$3.00. Those members that have sent \$3.00 will have \$1.00 credited to their next year's dues. To all other brothers that have not sent in their dues—please do so and help our beleaguered Treasurer keep his house in order! Thanks!

**MSC Silver Anniversary Year**

## Musicians and Freemasonry

Many years ago if your ear ached, your knee bothered you, or some other member of your anatomy gave you grief you went around to the family physician and he examined you and prescribed the proper medicine and advice and you went about your business with confidence. Today, though, medical science has progressed to the point that Doctors have become specialists and heaven forbid if you make the unforgivable mistake of not finding out beforehand exactly what part of your anatomy the Doctor you call upon for medical aid is a specialist in!

Similarly, stamp collecting has progressed today, to the point where certain specialist collectors look with disdain upon a person that collects stamps in general. Why, one collector that I met recently collects only *tete-beche* pairs and inverts!

But to get serious, and the above is written with tongue in cheek, for the very simple reason that stamps are being issued so profusely that if you had Rockefeller's money and Macy's warehouse you would soon run out of money and space to store everything that comes out. It is good to collect a limited amount of material and KNOW your specialty. Along that line, and by the way of introduction, here is a splendid article on "Musicians and Freemasonry" written by Walter J. Kirby, of 2204 Summit Ave., Little Rock, Ark. and first published in *Western Stamp Collector*:

### Musicians and Freemasonry

In collecting Musicians on Stamps, I have made a card file of persons on my check list of composers, lyricists and musicians, this file containing all information available. A Similar file has been made for Masons on Stamps, and many duplications are noted.

Few are aware that George Washington was an accomplished violinist. His violin, given him by his father, was autographed by its famous maker, Stainer. Washington was famous as a Mason, having been initiated in Fredericksburg, Lodge No. 4, Fredericksburg, Va. in 1753. He was first Worshipful Master of Alexandria Lodge No. 22, later renamed Alexandria-Washington Lodge.

Benjamin Franklin, in addition to exerting statesmanship of the highest calibre in the formation of the Re-

public, played the violin, harp, and guitar. He composed a number of songs, and was the first music publisher in America. He was initiated in St. John's Lodge in Philadelphia in 1732, and was elected Grand Master of Pennsylvania in 1734. While serving his country in Paris, he was a member of Loge de Neuf Souers (the Lodge of the Nine Sisters) and is said to have assisted in the initiation of the famous French philosopher, Voltaire, as well as officiating at his funeral.

John Philip Sousa, "the March King," became bandmaster of the United Marine Corps Band at the age of 26. He held this post for 12 years, then organized his own band, which became famous through his own compositions. In addition to his famous marches, he also composed waltzes and light operas, "The Queen of Hearts" being the best known. He was a member of Hiram Lodge No. 10, Washington, D. C., as well as a Royal Arch Mason, a Knight Templar and a Shriner.

Edward VIII, the British ruler who gave up his throne for the love of an American woman, composed and published a march for bagpipes, on which he was quite proficient. While Prince of Wales he became Worshipful Master of Household Brigade Lodge No. 2614. He was admitted to the Royal Arch and Scottish Rite Bodies in 1921. He was installed as Senior Grand Warden of the United Lodge of England on Oct. 25, 1922, the ceremony being conducted by his great-uncle, the Duke of Connaught, younger brother of Edward VII.

Frederick II (Frederick the Great), King of Prussia, was an ardent music student, the flute being his favorite instrument. He was quite proficient as a composer of music for it. He wrote the text for the opera, "Montezuma," with music by K. H. Braun. He was initiated into Freemasonry at Brunswick on Aug. 14, 1738, some two years before he ascended the throne, and was quite active in the work of the Craft.

Ludwig von Beethoven, one of the most famous of musicians, is thought to have been a member of a Lodge at Bonn, his birthplace. Three of his biographers state that he was a Mason, but neither gives further information on his membership. Masonry, during his lifetime, was sorely oppressed in Central Europe, and Lodge records

either were not kept or have been destroyed. He is also listed as a Mason in "L'Assaut de la Franc-Maçonnerie."

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was a musician of unrivalled precocity. At three his talent was discovered by his father, himself a musician and composer of note. At the age of eight he appeared in Vienna, Paris and London. His most famous operas include "Marriage of Figaro," "Don Giovanni" and "The Magic Flute." The latter, while making no direct reference to Masonry, is conceded to be a Masonic opera. He was made a Mason in 1784 in a Lodge variously referred to as Lodge Zur Wohltatigkeit, meaning "Charity," or Lodge Zur Gekronten Hoffnung, translated "Crowned Hope." Both are possibly correct, as these two lodges were consolidated about this time.

A more recent Mason and composer was Jan Sibelius, who died Sept. 20, 1957, at his home outside Helsinki, Finland. It was his tone poem, "Finlandia," that made Americans feel that they knew him before his visit to this country early in the century. His opera, "The Swan of Tuonela," became second in popularity among his works, at least in America. He was a member of Suomi Lodge No. 1 in Helsinki, and at the time of his death was organist of the Grand Lodge of Finland. He completely re-wrote the music for the Finnish Grand Lodge.

Wolfgang von Goethe, German poet whose works have been set to music by such notables as Gounod, Liszt, Massenet, Mozart, Schubert, Schumann and other composers, was initiated in Lodge Amalia at Weimar on June 23, 1780. As he died at Weimar March 23, 1832, his last audible words were "More Light," as he entered that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns.

There are other musicians and composers who were Masons. These will be discussed in a future article. Persons having Masonic data on these are asked to write me at 2204 Summit avenue, Little Rock, Ark.

### THE A.S.D.A. SHOW

For those members that were unable to attend the show at the 71st Regiment Armory (34th Street and Park Ave., New York City, on Friday Nov. 20th our heartfelt sympathy, with reservations!

This was, to paraphrase Dickens, not one of the worst shows, and not one of the best shows, not one of the

quietest crowds, and not one of the noisiest, not one of the friendliest, and not one of the coldest.

The dealers were besieged by crowds of milling youngsters intent on pushing up to the front counters of the booths with their small change gripped tightly in their hot little hands looking for stamps to buy. A few years older bunch of youngsters were "shopping" and comparing and looking for "buys." Older men met friends that they had not seen for some time and surprisingly enough their conversation was on family matters, health of the immediate family and last a discussion on recent acquisitions that rounded out a collection or filled that empty space on a particular page that every one asks "Why don't you have the stamp for that space in your U. S. Airmail collection with the air plane up side down?"

The "Court of Honor" was in the central display area of the exhibition and was by far and away the best thing of the show. This was the piece-de-resistance of the U. S. Post Office Dept. and presented the postal history on stamps of the U. S. Gov't. A model of the Regulus I Missile which carried the first successful Missile Mail last June was shown, and a program of free films, including the films featuring the St. Lawrence Seaway stamp, was provided.

There was a parcel post acceptance machine that weighs, computes the cost of postage to any zone, adds in the prescribed insurance, takes money, gives change and whisks the parcel into the mail system on a conveyor belt.

The show also featured automatic vending machines that sell almost anything needed from post office-money orders, stamps, postal cards and so forth. It totals up purchases and returns proper change.

### MINUTES MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF N. Y.

November 6, 1959

Bro. Brooks gave the invocation, followed by one minute of silent prayer for Bro. Charles Maly and Theodore R. Lockwood.

The minutes of the last meeting were read.

Dr. Swan was reported as being sick in bed with laryngitis. A card to get well was passed among those present for their signatures, to be

sent to Bro. Russell B. Roane, who is recovering from an operation.

Bro. Frank Cale of Bryn Mawr, Yonkers, visited us for the first time, altho he is a member of the club.

Bro. Reggel announced Leo Passon of 1250 Ocean Avenue, Brooklyn 30, N. Y. has been appointed our new editor of the Masonic Philatelist. Everyone is urged to help by sending in articles and any other information pertaining to Masonic Philately.

Bro. Reggel spoke briefly on the British Circle Study group due for our next meeting.

A discussion on the get-together planned for December brought the following comments, Bro. Yarry offered his office, but it would not be large enough to accommodate, Bro. Reggel suggested his home, but it is not conveniently located, the club is unable to finance such a get-together, finally Bro. Brooks suggested a committee be appointed to study the situation and make suggestions.

Bro. Peck discussed Masonic Cachets for 1960 and suggested the Credo series, which will have Masonic background.

Bro. Ferola, chairman of the swap committee, said we are having poor attendance for dinner before swapping begins, it was stated some of the swap enthusiasm has been lost possibly by having swap nights too often. Unless these extra meetings are patronized, they may prove worthless and we would be forced to drop our swap nights. Everyone is urged to attend. Who knows what you may swap for or get. The Collector's Club forbids swapping, selling or commercializing, so come on out to the German Masonic Temple. The swap group needs your support.

Do we have any Father-Son members in our club? Drop a short note to the secretary and let us know.

Because of Dr. Swan's indisposition, the meeting was turned over to Bro. Brooks. "Uncle" Jake Glaser, the first speaker showed his "Waste Basket" collection, referred to as such because nothing in it cost over 5¢. The collection consisted mostly of Masonic corner card covers and came from the waste basket of the Pine Tree Lodge of Maine, while some of the other covers were from firms using elaborate corner addresses and advertising. Bro. Glaser described some of these illuminated covers, very elaborate as compared to today's corner cards. The

collection also contained lodge notices with elaborate frontispieces. He continued by urging members to pick up old covers and other items that may be of interest at the forthcoming A.S.D.A. show starting November 20th to 22nd.

Dr. Yarry spoke on his auction find. Attending an auction sale a week past, he bid about four times the estimated value on a mystery carton of stamps etc. The reason was he, upon examining the carton, found about 50 covers addressed to the Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the state of New York. Having known the Secretary personally, he had great interest in acquiring these covers, but felt he had overpaid. He examined the carton after bringing it home and discovering some other items he had overlooked in his initial examination, Bro. Yarry now feels the covers are almost a gift. His great interest in these covers stems from their origin. Grand lodges from all continents were well represented, most addressed to Dr. Charles H. Johnson, when he was Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

Bro. Sanna was next on the list to show some of his collecting, amongst which were a complete set of Famous American cacheted covers, a complete collection of Duck stamps, a letter from Churchill, a letter from the Queen of England and items too numerous to mention. He ran out of time and still had about four suitcases full of his collecting activities to show. Bro. Sanna spends all his time on his collecting activities and probably gets a bigger kick out of it than any other member in the club. Sorry Charley, hope we have more time for you soon.

Philatelist Night was held at Fort Greene Lodge, Brooklyn Masonic Temple, whence for the first time, Bro. Sam Brooks and Bro. Duffield Swan, two of the most qualified speakers on the subject of stamps as related to Masonry, together addressed a Masonic group. Bro. Brooks spoke on Masonry on Stamps, while Bro. Swan followed with his address on Masonic Cancellations on early U. S. Stamps. Inasmuch as Bro. Swan was unable to attend our meeting tonight, Bro. Brooks took the floor and showed us his CIPEX prize winning collection. He explained to those present how he formed a Masonic collection based on historic Fort Green, which he presented to Fort Greene Lodge. Bro. Brooks Masonic collection stampwise might cost forty dollars, but research

wise, it took hours, days and possibly weeks of effort to complete. He mentioned Masons on stamps—Oglethorpe, Franklin, Paul Revere, Nathaniel Greene, John Stark, Von Steuben, John Sullivan, John Paul Jones, Pulaski, Washington, Rufus Putnam, Henry Knox, Gen. Anthony Wayne, Jackson, Winthrop, Sargent, John Marshall, John Whistler, DeWitt Clinton, Thomas McDonough, Henry Clay, Monroe and numerous others. Several streets in Brooklyn around the Fort Greene Section are named after famous Masons.

Bro. Brooks continued his namedropping of Famous Masons with Sam Houston, Austin, Winfield Scott, Mark Twain, John Philip Sousa, Auguste Bartholde, Schley, Luther Burbank, Charles Lindbergh, Cmdr. Richard E. Byrd and Will Rogers, all shown in his collection.

Bro. Passon, Jr. M. C. of Fort Greene Lodge said everyone attending their Philatelist Night had nothing but high praise for the talks on Masons and Stamps as given by Bros. Brooks and Swan. Some even enjoyed it more than the Middle Chamber Lecture.

The meeting was closed at ten P. M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Fred J. Gomme, Secretary

## EDITORIAL

By Bro. Leo Passon

The October issue and November issue were put forth without an editor so that is with no small amount of fear and trepidation that I assume the new duties of the illustrious Masonic Philatelist. Help will be needed and it will be your HELP that I will need to make the Masonic Philatelist something to look forward to opening when the mailman delivers it to you. For those members that live far away from New York and cannot attend the meetings of the Masonic Stamp Club, I felt that it would add something to your knowledge and possibly create interest to make you want to come to New York City and attend one of the meetings and see what the boys in the back room are doing. Following are the minutes of the meeting of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York held on Nov. 6th, 1959:

The most common cancellation on the 1847 first U.S.A. stamps was a pen "X" for a cancellation.

## UPSIDE DOWN



**Kenya-Uganda-Tanganyika stamp with the Owen Falls Dam inverted.**

The moment you move away things happen! The editor, Leo Passon, went to New Brunswick High School, New Brunswick, New Jersey and was an active member of the Rutgers University Stamp Club for many years. He later married a local New Brunswick girl and moved, because of business affiliations to Brooklyn. Lo and behold! a New Brunswick, N. J. dealer is presented with a stamp from a country that is famous for lion safaris and not much else by a school boy and it turns out that an expert, who else, but our own Masonic Stamp Club member Herman "Pat" Herst, (shown on the front cover of this month's "Masonic Philatelist") says it has a value of \$5,000 and if no more copies are found the value might go as high as \$20,000! So you see what I mean by moving away! you just can't win!

The stamp, for our British Colonial collecting fraternity, is the 5¢ stamp of the current pictorial series of Kenya Uganda Tanganyika with inverted vignette. The vignette (nice word!) pictures the Owens Falls dam in Kenya.

Jan Masaryk (Czechoslovakia #98-#108) 32 degree, attended a joint communication of Golden Rule Lodge #770 and Elbe Lodge #893, New York City, June 10, 1942. He was the guest of honor and the principal speaker.

## Using Your 'Masonic Philatelist'

There are many catalogues, pamphlets, magazines, brochures, newspaper articles, and etc., that we stamp collectors save and sometimes our family begins to wonder if we are not becoming garbage collectors instead of our avowed high-minded intention of collecting stamps and our little nephew calls us "fiwatalist."

The one magazine that the little woman had best not throw out if she knows what's good for her is of course the "Masonic Philatelist."

Bro. Marshall S. Loke, 56 Langford Road, Rochester 15, N. Y., has come up with a novel and unique idea and I think its best if I use his words in his letter to me:

"Here is a copy of a sort of index I made for the 'Masonic Philatelist' covering the years 1957-58 and 59 up to the current issue.

I have had occasion to refer back to various articles many times and leafing through nearly 30 back numbers was a very inefficient way to find what I wanted. So, I indexed the items relating to Masonic Philately, and omitted those on club activities and personnel.

I used month and year instead of Volume and Number, (the latter perhaps might have been preferable. Anyway the index will be a convenience in looking up information. I really use my "Masonic Philatelists."

Fraternally, Marshall S. Loke

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## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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James B. Ruhl #731, Cleveland, Ohio

### MASONS ON STAMPS

We are indebted to R. M. Needham for the following three articles dealing with U.S. Stamps and Masonry.

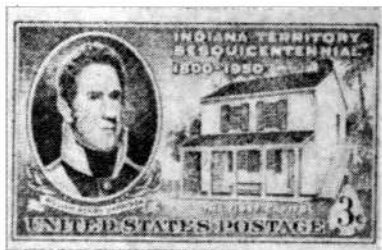


### DANIEL CARTER BEARD, A MASON

Depicted on the 3¢ Boy Scouts issue of the United States of 1950 (Scott's #995—Minkus #CM337), in the left center portion, are a group of three boys, typifying the three-age level programs of the Boy Scouts of America, viz., exploring, boy scouting, and cub scouting. In the background, just to the right of the group, is a reproduction of the Statue of Liberty, symbolizing the organization's crusade to "Strengthen the Arm of Liberty." In the right-center portion appears the Tenderfoot emblem, which is the basic membership badge of the Boy Scouts of America.

As there was no portrait appearing on this stamp with which to connect to the Masonic fraternity, boys of scouting age being too young to be Masons, the writer placed the first National Scout Commissioner and one of the founders of the Scout Movement to this stamp. This man was Daniel C. Beard who, prior to the boy

scout founding, was the prime leader in a boys group (the name of which escapes me at this writing). He was a member of Cornucopia Lodge #563, Flushing, N. Y. Brother Beard was National Scout Commissioner from the founding of the Scouts in 1910 until his death in 1941.



### JONATHAN JENNINGS A MASON

Depicted on the 3¢ Indiana Territory Sesqui issue of the United States of 1950 (Scott's #996—Minkus #CM338), is the likeness of its first territorial governor, William Henry Harrison (later 9th president of the USA) on the left, and the first capitol building on the right.

Altho the first territorial governor was not a Mason, several Masons played leading roles in developing Indiana territory. George Rogers Clark, member of Abraham Lodge #8, Louisville, Ky. led a force which captured Ft. Sackville (now Vincennes) from the British in 1778. The first Masonic lodge, now Vincennes #1, was chartered there in 1809. Its membership included leaders in the territorial government, and when Indiana became a state in 1816, the first governor. Jonathan Jennings, a Mason, became in 1823-4, Grand Master of the Indiana Grand Lodge.



### CHRISTOPHER "KIT" CARSON A MASON

Depicted on the 3¢ Kansas City, Mo., Centenary stamp, issue of the United

States of 1950 (Scott's #994—Minkus #CM336), is the Kansas City skyline of 1950 in the upper portion and the Settlement of Westport Landing of 1850 in the lower portion. This stamp was issued primarily for the Midwest Centenary—Gateway to the West celebration being held at Kansas City during that year.

Altho there were no known Masons having had anything to do with the founding of Westport Landing in 1850, due to the fact that this site was a natural gateway to the West, many persons, among them Masons, passed thru this area, on their way westward. One such Mason was Christopher Carson, commonly known to history as "Kit" Carson, frontiersman and scout under John C. Fremont who passed thru these "portals" when the Fremont Expedition made its way westward on its exploration trip.

"Kit" Carson was made a Master Mason on December 26, 1854 in Montezuma Lodge #109, at Santa Fe, N. M. Terr., which was under the jurisdiction of the Missouri Grand Lodge at that time. He died May 24, 1868, at the age of 59.



### THEODORE ROOSEVELT A New Checklist

To bring Bro. Teddy Roosevelt up-to-date, we must add the new issues of Cuba, Panama and the Canal Zone. Previously we had given the following:

U.S. #830, 856, 1011, 1023 and 1037. These did not include Rough

Riders #973 nor the recent Conservation Stamp, though there is no question about their being part of a T.R. collection.

Canal Zone #74, 86, 103 and 138.  
Panama #403 and C61.

On Oct. 27 Cuba issued a 4 centavos stamp with a portrait of T.R. as a Rough Rider and a 12 centavos stamp depicting the famous Battle of San Juan Hill. As of Nov. 15, Panama issued the Panama Roosevelt set 5¢, 10¢, 15¢ and \$1. Also a souvenir sheet of all 4 of these stamps. We have not seen them, but that is the date set for issuance. On November 15, a 4¢ commemorative honoring Bro. Roosevelt, was issued by the Canal Zone.

### THE REAL MASON

Frank E. Baer, 32°

4568 Mendocino Ct., Los Angeles 65,  
Calif.

My Brother, Masonry means more  
Than just to wear a pin,  
Or carrying a dues receipt  
So the Lodge will let you in.

You wear an emblem on your coat,  
And on your hand a ring,  
But, if you're not sincere at heart,  
This doesn't mean a thing.

It's just an outward sign to show  
The world that you belong  
To this Fraternal Brotherhood  
That teaches right from wrong.

What really counts lies buried deep  
Within the human breast;  
Masonic teaching brings it out  
And puts it to the test.

If you can do outside the Lodge  
The things you learn within,  
Be just and upright to yourself  
And to your fellow men;

Console a brother when he's sick,  
Or help him when in need,  
Without a thought of a reward  
For any act or deed;

Conduct yourself in such a way  
The world without can see  
None but the best can meet the test  
Laid down by Masonry;

Respect and live up to your trust  
And do the best you can;  
Then you can tell the world you are  
A Mason and a Man!



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