

VOL. 17

MAY 1961

NO. 9

By The Board of Governors of The Masonia Stamp Cub of New York

-To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting-

Know Ye, that five or more members of The Masonic Stamp Club of New York having submitted written application to the Board of Governors for approval to form a local chapter, and having also submitted their own by-laws for approval; that after due examination of the said application and by-laus, the group has been found qualified to act as a local chapter; and that at the January 23x 1961 meeting of the Board of Governors it was unanimously approved that this charter be now issued unto the

Lake Erie Chapter No.2

The Masonic Stamp Club of New York

and that they are duly authorized to operate as a chapter of The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, according to their own by-laws and the by-laws, rules and regulations of The Masonic Stamp Club of New York. + + + + +

In Witness Whereof,

I, Emanuel M. Reggel, Chairman of the said Board of Governors, have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of said The Masonic Stamp Club of New York to be hereunto affixed this 15thday of March in the year one thousand nine hundred and sixty-one.

Chairman L

rest: Fredla Com

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The MASONIC PHILATELIST

MAY 1961

VOL. 17

NO. 9

Published by The Raiph A. Barry - Al Van Dahl **Publication Fund** of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York

22 East 35th St., New York 16, N. Y. * * *

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Member of the National Federation of Stamp Clubs

By the sign of the Gavel

A report about our last meeting appears elsewhere in this issue, but special thanks go to that prominent Silurian, our Past President Carl H. Pihl for so ably substituting for our Program Director, Dr. S. Duffield Swan, who had been hospitalized. This is nothing new for Brother Carl, as he is always so willing and capable in assisting when requested. I am glad to report that Brother Swan is now on the road to recovery.

Our next meeting is set aside to honor our past presidents, who will

take over the program.

This is my last opportunity to suggest that all who can should attend

★ MEETINGS ★

First Friday of Each Month Collector Club Building 22 East 35th Street, NYC. 9th Meeting - May 5, 1961 Past Presidents' Night

our Annual Dinner on May 26, 1961 at The Masonic Club, 71 West 23rd Street, New York City. This affair is always one of the highlights of our Club year. As it is not limited to members, you may wish to bring a friend along with you. If you have not al-ready done so, please mail in your reservation promptly.

Any member desirous of receiving the degree of Master of Philately should notify us, as this will be con-

ferred after the dinner.

I have received many letters stating how much pleasure they have derived from our Club, and it was suggested to me that each member should endeavor to recommend another brother for membership, so that he may also enjoy Masonic Philately.

In our March 1961 issue, an invition was extended to all members attend a meeting on May 17th of the Collectors Club. Please note that this has now been postponed due to the absence abroad of Dean Woodward.

—Emanuel M. Reggel.

ROCHAMBEAU

The Count of Rochambeau, commander of the French forces in America 1780-82 during the war for independence, and pictured, with Washington and DeGrasse, on the Yorktown stamp of 1931 (U.S. Scott No. 703) is believed to have been a Mason. His membership has not been established, but it is recorded that the and Lafayette and nearly 100 other visiting Masons were present at the institution of the Lodge of St. John de Candeur at Paris on October 25, 1775.

Rochambeau (1725-1807) entered the French army at the age of 17 and served in the campaigns throughout Europe. He was in command of French expeditionary forces sent aid General Washington in America. The combined French and American forces brought about Cornwallis' surrender of Yorktown.

Gen. Rochambeau later became Mar-shal of France and head of the army 1801, and Napoleon appointed him grand officer of the Legion of Honor in 1804.

—Marshall S. Loke.

HONORED MEMBER



Carl H. Pihl, Past President and Past Treasurer of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York, last year was honored by being listed in Volume 31 of "Who's Who In America." Bro. Pihl is Secretary of the Copper

Brass Research Association in New ork City, coordinating all industry activities in advertising, sales promo-

tion and public relations.

He is a veteran New York newspaperman and after serving as Secretary of the Society of the Silurians, New York newspapermen's fraternity, he was recently elected First Vice President of that organization.

Bro. Pihl is a Past President of the Scandinavian Collectors Club and for several years edited its journal, The Posthorn. He is a Director of the Association for Stamp Exhibitions, and during FIPEX was Vice-Chairman in charge of public relations. His collecting specialties are Norway and Sweden, and he has won numerous medals in competition.

After four years service during World War II, Bro. Pihl recently re-tired from the U.S. Army as a Lieuservice during

tenant Colonel

Right now, like many of us, he is ing to find time to work on his mps.

LAKE ERIE CHAPTER #2

The officers and members of the Chapter were very happy to receive their charter, which made the club an official branch of the parent New York group. The charter itself is a handsome and artistic piece of work and drew much praise from those present at the

March 15th meeting, when it was first presented. It will be on permanent dis-

play in the Cleveland Masonic Library, 3615 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio. The Chapter was organized in No-vember of 1960 as a result of a special meeting held by members of the Masonic Library Cleveland who enjoy philately avocation. By-laws were formulated and the following officers elected: President, Donald W. Goertz; First Vice President, Richard D. Jae-ger; Second Vice President, Gordon J. Cole; Recording Secretary, Nathen S. Tucker; Corresponding Secretary, Harry A. Pahl; Treasurer, Laddie J. Pesek; Trustees, Mark G. Snow, L. W. Christenson and William R. Pringle. Application for the charter was then made to the New York club and the charter grant was received early in March.

Membership has grown since the first meeting, which was held in December of last year. Charter membership was held open until the close of the March meeting, at which time, thirty-five charter members were on the roll. The meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 8:00 p.m. at the Cleveland Masonic Library, and visiting members of the

Craft are always welcome.

The May 17th meeting will feature a prize winning collection of the stamps of Czechoslovakia as presented by Bro. Laddie J. Pesek. A club auction will precede the feature entertainment.

R. H. Runt, Publicity Chairman 9619 Rosewood Ave., Cleveland 5, Ohio.

EDITOR'S NOTE: A greatly reduced reproduction of the Charter referred to above appears on the cover page. This beautiful, illuminated manuscript was the artistic handwork of our own good brother, Van Elkan, who is always so willing to assist us in matters pertaining to his specialty, the Graphic

OUR APRIL MEETING

Meeting opened at the appointed time. Invocation by Sam Brooks.

Bro. Reggel welcomed Uncle Jake back from Florida; also greeted Bro. Carl Pihl and the other members who were present.

Illness reports: Bro. S. Duffield Swan underwent surgery for ulcers; now recuperating; Bro. Charles Sanna in with Brother hospital pneumonia. Holcombe also convalescing Henry after surgery.

Letter was read from Naval Lodge re: Bro. Fred Wendell award to be

presented on May 24th. Letter from Bro. Wendell Walker re: attending our dinner in honor of Sam Brooks.

A photostat copy of the Lake Erie Chapter #2 Charter was passed among the members. Vote of thanks given to Bro. Van Elkan for his work in pre-

paring this.

Bro. Pihl discussed the Lake Erie Chapter #2 conferring of Master of Philately Degree, suggesting that a group drive out in his car this summer to visit them and to perform the degree. Date to be agreed upon later.

Approval given for purchase of stor-

age cabinet for Club records.

Bros. Brooks, Yarry and Pihl were appointed a committee for the purpose of nominating officers for 1961-62.

Meeting was then turned over to Bro. Pihl, in the absence of Bro. Swan, for showing of members' collections. In deference to Carl's reportorial ability, I shall let him relate what next occurred.

—Fred J. Gommo, Secretary.

EASTER EGG HUNT BIG SUCCESS

Proving that we are all kids at heart, I guess, was the fact that there was a splendid turnout for the meeting of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York held on Friday evening, April 7th at the Collectors Club in New York City. For this was a night that was billed as an "Easter Egg Hunt," and just about everything except a collection of brightly-colored Easter eggs turned

In the first place, there were a goodly number of brethren in attendance and why not?—we have had excellent attendance all winter long despite the rugged weather, snow up to here, sleet

and whatnot.

Most of the members present even paid attention during the business part of the meeting which involved final plans for the Annual Dinner to be held on May 26, 1961, and discussion of a possible safari to Cleveland to confer the Master of Philately degree on brethren of the Lake Eric Chapter No. 2. This will be arranged if at all possible.

Well, sirs and brothers, then they trotted out the eggs-and, do you know something?—not one of them smelled (or looked) bad at all. First, there was "old reliable" Jake Glaser himself, looking like a Rhode Island Red, tanned brown and healthy looking as he should having just returned from umpteen months in Florida. Brother Jake showed us a selection of recent water

color paintings and they were excellent. Honestly, for those who can evaluate painting, Jake is improving with age.

So far there is nothing philatelic to report, but the next chick—Bro. M. Schwarz-exhibited a collection Canadian covers that were out of the country, at least. Bro. Sam Brooks showed some miscellaneous items including free franks of famous persons were believed to have been Masons. The latter were accompanied by erudite discourse which explains why Brother Sam is known as Mister Masonic Philately. Well, following this, Bro. Jose Rueff showed some Panama first days covers; Dr. George Cam-nitzer smiled and showed his teeth (also some stamps); Bro. Gordon T. Shoup exhibited some interesting covers and Dr. Benjamin Grossman displayed his latest operation . . . also some interesting commemoratives.

Well, nobody had found an egg yet. Bro. Fred Wendel certainly didn't produce any eggs, but he showed us a fine collection of the British West Indies Federation—a new stamp issuing entity for you guys who haven't been paying much attention lately. "Doc" Irwin M. Yarry (competing non-copetitively, as if he could win a prize anyway. P.S. There weren't any prizes) showed us some interesting stuff from Anguilla. A couple of those present thought that this was a new disease caused by smoking cigarets, but Doc explained that it was an island some-

Still no eggs, but our Prexy, Emanuel "Manny" Reggel showed a splendid collection of stamps of the United Nations that had been sent in by Bro. Huxell of Montreal, Canada. (All Manny showed was his barren pate.) Things started to liven up a bit now (approaching the New Frontier, and all) as Bro. Harold Gunter displayed some stamps from Thailand (Siam, for you old-timers) which is perilously near to Laos, then Bro. Joseph Munk (our es-teemed Treasurer) showed some UN stuff from the Congo. Bro. Richard Bruder eased everyone's concern—we were literally sitting on eggs-when showed us his collection of Maso stamps (ah! this was more like it).

Five brothers who shall be nameless did not bring anything to exhibit and the Program Chairman (pro tem) fined them each one dollar, which was duly collected by the Treasurer to be applied to good and welfare. That'll teach 'em. C.H.P.

Masonry On Postage Stamps

By John A. Mirt



The Canadian 4¢ stamp of 1948 commemorating "Responsible Government" is of Masonic interest. It bears the portrait of King George VI, a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Scotland and an honorary Past Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England. He was crowned a 33° Mason before he became a king.

But there is another interesting point about the stamp—one that is perhaps little known today because it occurred yer a century ago. It is an episode volving the Canadian Parliament Building, shown on the stamp. I came across the story in the "Freemason's Monthly Magazine" of October, 1860, a little over a century ago. It concerns the then Prince of Wales and later King Edward VII. The article said: "His Royal Highness attended the

ceremony of laying the cornerstone of the new government building in this city today. The attendance of spectators was very large, but the Masonic Fraternity did not participate in the ceremony . . . The prince laid the stone, and the ceremony was concluded in an appropriate manner by the civil authorities.

The November 1860 issue of the magazine amplified the account by quoting from the "Toronto Globe," which had reported that about 600 Masons had appeared on the summons of the Grand Master to take part.

"They were informed that though ey were welcome to appear in their galia, they would not be permitted to take part in the ceremonies," the Globe said.

The restriction aroused the indignation of the Grand Master, G. M. Harington, and he said the Masons would

not appear. He explained:
"The real reason we apprehend to
be that the Roman Catholic Church permits none of her sons to be Masons

and as a matter of course must have objected to the connection of the Order with a ceremony in which Catholics would take part."

The "Freemason's Monthly Magazine" criticized the action of the Grand Master, saying: "It is not thought necessary by the government to make this a Masonic ceremony; and as a loyal subject Bro. Harington should have been satisfied with their de-

The Prince of Wales was not a Mason at that time. He was raised when he made a visit to Stockholm, Sweden, in 1868. King Charles XV of Sweden, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Sweden, played a conspicuous part in conferring the degrees. The Prince joined Opollo University Lodge No. 357, Oxford, and served as its Master in 1873. He also joined Royal Alpha Lodge No. 16 and became its Master in 1874. He occupied a similar office in Prince of Wales Lodge.

Elected as Grand Master, he was installed at Royal Albert Hall in Kensington, April 28, 1875. Previous to that (1871), he was made Patron of

Scottish Freemasonry.

As Prince of Walcs, he was ready to promote every worthy cause. He appeared in public on frequent occasions and everywhere he went he was received with enthusiasm. He was exemplary in the discharge of his duties and kept aloof from party politics. In 1897, he established the Prince of Wales (afterwards King Edward's) Hospital. He ascended to the throne in 1901, after the death of his mother, Queen Victoria.

In 1903 King Edward began a series of noteworthy diplomatic journeys that extended over the period of his reign, and his diplomacy earned for him the popular title of "Edward the Peacemaker." He died on May 6, 1910, after willing of recognity through the peacemaker. an illness of scarcely three days' duration. Among the distinguished mourners at his funeral, besides the English



royal family, were the rulers of Germany, Greece, Norway, Spain, Denmark, Bulgaria, Portugal and Belgium; former Pres. Theo. Roosevelt, as Special Ambassador of the United States, and delegations from all the British colonies.

The picture of King Edward VII appears on Canadian stamps Nos. 89-95 (Series of 1903-08) and No. 98 (Series

of 1938). With the exception of the 1898 Map stamps (Nos. 85 and 86), all previous stamps of the "Dominion of Canada," back to 1868, bore the likeness of Queen Victoria. Stamps is 1951 by the "Province of Canada" from 1851 to 1868 contained other designs, addition to several with Queen V toria's portrait.—Adapted from "The Freemason," Toronto, Canada.

Free Masonry in California in Gold Rush Days

By Sam Brooks

January 24, 1848, at Sutter's Mill, in California, gold was discovered by a man named James W. Marshall who was in the employ of John A. Sutter. To commemorate this event the Post Office Department issued a new stamp exactly 100 years later.

The central design is a reproduction of Sutter's Mill at Coloma. In the upper right corner are a pick and shovel crossed, on which is superimposed a

prospector's pan.

Two years later, on September 9, 1950, another new Centennial Stamp was issued, commemorating the onehundredth anniversary of the admission of California to Statchood. It is noteworthy that 1950 also marked the centennial year of the Grand Lodge of the State of California.

The central design portrays a miner panning gold, to the right of which is a pioneer man and woman standing before a covered wagon drawn by

oxen.

The story of the finding of gold and the following "Gold Rush" has been told in the press and may be found in every school history book. Our interest lies in the story of Freemerson. terest lies in the story of Freemasonry in California in the period prior to and just after the discovery of gold. The full story has been ably written in several books, notably "Fifty Years of Masonry in California" by Edwin A. Sherman, and "Masonic Beginnings in California and Hawaii" by John Whicher These books are available in Your cher. These books are available in your Grand Lodge Library. We here present some of the facts to enable you to write up a page or two for these stamps.

As always when a new territory was opened up, Freemasons were among

the pioneer settlers.

Early in 1843, a Philadelphia Mason, Carter M. Carew, arrived in Yerba Buena (now San Francisco), and in a letter to his brother, also a Mason, dated June 14, 1843, advised him of his





arrival and of conditions in and near the town. He wrote that some Americans had spoken to him about forming a "Society of Freemasons," but he advised against it at that time. He stated that most of the trading was with the priests of the Missions, and that they would probably resent it. He added that some day there would be "a strong Society of our Order here" be "a strong Society of our Order here. How prophetic were his words! Grand Lodge of California was organized only seven years later, in 1850.

Brother Carew wrote another letter to Philadelphia on June 27, 1848. Ho ever this time conditions were different. Gold had been discovered early that year, and now San Francisco was deserted. Carew was a trader, but could not dispose of his cargo. What was wanted were blankets and shovels and food. And the (gold) madness was upon him. "I go to a Godless place," he wrote, "and one where I shall doubtless need all the teachings of our great Brotherhood to walk uprightly among men amid the madness of this land."

According to Grand Lodge records, the first Master Mason to settle in California, was Abel Stearns, from lem, Mass. He resided at the pueblo

Los Angeles in 1829. In 1842 he shipped the first gold mined in California, to the Philadelphia Mint. This gold find apparently created little in-

terest.

Other known Masons of the period were Kit Carson, who carried the first overland mail from Taos, New Mexico, to Monterey, in 1842. He also was with Fremont at the Capture of Sonoma in 1846. George Yount, an associate of Kit Carson, built the first log fort in California. John K. Barton and Hillard P. Dorsey were active in organizing Los Angeles Lodge No. 42. Benjamin D. Wilson was Mayor of Los Angeles in 1851. Myron Morton was active in writing the Constitution of California. Robert Semple was Editor of the first newspaper published in that State. He was the first Treasurer of Benicia Lodge. Commodore John D. Sloat raised the American flag at Monterey July 7, 1846. Lieutenant John Warren Revere, a grandson of Jo Grand Masters, Paul Revere and Joseph Warren, had the honor of lowering the Boar flag and prising the

Joseph Warren, had the honor of lowering the Bear flag and raising the American flag at Sonoma on July 9, 1846. Colonel John W. Geary was appointed Postmaster of San Francisco and took his post on April 1, 1849. He later was Governor of the Territory of Kansas and in 1866 was elected Governor of Pennsylvania; he was the first Secretary of California Lodge

No. 13.

Peter Lassen, who came to California in 1840, is generally credited with bringing the first Masonic charter to California. However it is believed that this honor rightfully belongs to Saschel Woods who organized Western Star Lodge from a charter dated May 10, 1848, issued by the Grand Lodge of Missouri. Both Lassen and Woods left their marks on the early life of California.

Polk was President when the news rived of the gold strike and he soon pointed two aides to take care of the postal faciloties in the new territory. Both were members of the Craft. These brothers applied for and received a charter for the formation of California Lodge No. 13, from the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia. It was dated November 9, 1848.

Other charters and dispensations were brought into the Territory and

on April 17, 1850, at Sacramento, a meeting was held to form the Grand Lodge of California. The next day, officers were elected, with Jonathan D. Stevenson as Grand Master. Freemasonry in California was in good hands, and has prospered during these 111 years.

It is interesting to note that John A. Suttor, the proprietor of Sutter's Mill, where gold was first found, was elected to receive the degrees in Marysville Lodge No. 9, September 1, 1853, but so far as known was never initiated.

When a new town formed at the seat of a gold strike, it was not long before a lodge was organized. Many of these lodges closed when mining activities ceased, and the town reverted to one of the so-called "ghost towns." A list of extinct lodge towns includes the following names:

Indian Diggings, Iowa Hill, Manzanita, Mokelumne Hill, Newville, Oro Fino, Pilot Hill, Poor Man's Creek, Quartzburg, Rough & Ready, Fiddletown Gold Hill, Tombstone, Gold Run, Drytown, Virginia City, Duncans Mills, Bidwells Bar, Chinese Camp.

Have you any covers or postmarks

from these towns?

WE GET LETTERS

From Bro. Le Roi Crandall, 534 North Ave. 67, Los Angeles 42, Calif. "In my searchings for stamps that can be tied in with Masonry either directly or indirectly, I came across this 1959 Italy (Scott No. 770).



"I feel that it is quite appropriate for the quotation 'For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease.'

"I wonder if any other brother has noticed this? Keep the stamp with my compliments, and must say that I enjoy very much reading the 'Masonic Philatelist'."

From Bro. J. Wallace Fraser, D.D., Dayton United Presbyterian Church, Dayton, Pennsylvania:
"I am enjoying the Magazine a great deal, in fact have enjoyed everything about the Masonic Work that I have taken. Sometime I hope I can be in the City and take your special degree on stamps. I wish that you would put more information in the Philatelist about this degree. What are the fellows doing who receive it? What special assignments do you give these men with the "extra degree?" Oh there is so much that you could write which would be of real interest to some of us.

"I have enjoyed the articles about 'Masons on Stamps.' I had no idea that so many were honored in this manner —guess some members have been doing a lot of research to gather all that material. As I am frequently called upon to address some Masonic meeting, I often draw on your materials for these speeches. Regards to all the brothers."

From Bro. Charlie Schuldt, Laredo Stamp Club, P. O. Box 94, Laredo,

"I haven't seen any mention any-where of Pres. Adolfo Mateos of Mexico, shown on Bolivia (A142) and Brazil C92, nor Pres. Cortines of Mexico on Panama C170.

"I have been informed by officers of the Lodge across the river that both are Masons, but I do not have their Masonic history. Perhaps you have access to this, but if not, let me know, and I will try to get it here.

"I have just written a letter to Bro. Bruns, suggesting that it might be nice to have a "Champ" on the 150th anni-versary of the death of Hidalgo of Mexico, August 1st, 1961.

"I have started assembling a Masonic Stamp Collection, which I plan to leave to our Grand Lodge Museum in Waco."

From Bro. Cecil G. Gaston, 224 Lawrence Ave., Mamaroneck, N.Y.:

"In the December 'Philatelist' you quote from the 'Royal Arch Mason Magazine' that Jacob Perkins engraved the 'Penny Black,' England's first post-

age stamp.
"While I don't claim to be an expert and don't wish to detract from Bro. Perkin's fame, I can't help but wonder, since 'The Postage Stamps of Great Britain 1840-1853,' Second Edition published by The Royal Philatelic Society (London 1950), attributes the engraving to two Heaths, Charles and Frederick, father and son.

"Mr. Perkins was probably a member of the firm Perkins, Bacon & Petch, who printed the stamps. This may have caused the confusion in the article referred to. If I am incorrect, I apologize."

From Bro. Fred Jelsema, 810 St. Joe

St., Rapid City, South Dakota:
"I have been re-reading some of the older copies of "The Masonic Philatelist.' In the December 1960 issue I was interested in the letter of Bro. Huxsel of Montreal, Canada. In it he made mention of being JW in the Royal Arch Masons. Perhaps the ritual is different in Canada than in the United States, but in the ritual that I have there is no JW except in degree work. Perhaps some Bro. R.A.M. can explain.

The local Stamp Club donated \$46.23 to the YMCA Building Fund. The Club will also participate in National Library Week, and through exhibits and talks will tie in collecting with reading.

I am still a candidate for the office of Secretary for the A.P.S., which is an honor.

To all Royal Arch Masons who are stamp collectors, I would heartly recommend that they subscribe to the Royal Arch Magazine.

Our local club expects to have its stamp show and exhibit on June 24-25th, and among others, I plan to show some items from my Masonic Stamp collection."

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

HARRY L. BURNETT 2503 Cruft Street Terre Haute, Indiana Sullivan #263 (Sullivan, Ind.) THOMAS G. CESTA 985 Newbridge Road No. Bellmore, New York Wantagh #1112 (Bellmore, N.Y.) EDGAR W. KROEHLE 6101 Brookside Drive Cleveland #9, Ohio Brooklyn #454 (Cleveland, Ohio) LEROY G. LEIGHTON 5123 Spencer Road Cleveland, Ohio Ornan #652 (Cleveland, Ohio) THORENS G. MELKERSON

1295 East 134th Street East Cleveland 12, Ohio

Pentalpha #636 (E. Cleveland, Ohio) F. A. WILSON

2138 Waterbury

Lakewood 7, Ohio Ashlar #639 (Cleveland, Ohio) (Correction: The correct name of Bro. Maynard L. Betts' Lodge is Sea and Field #3-974 (Auburn, N.Y.)