



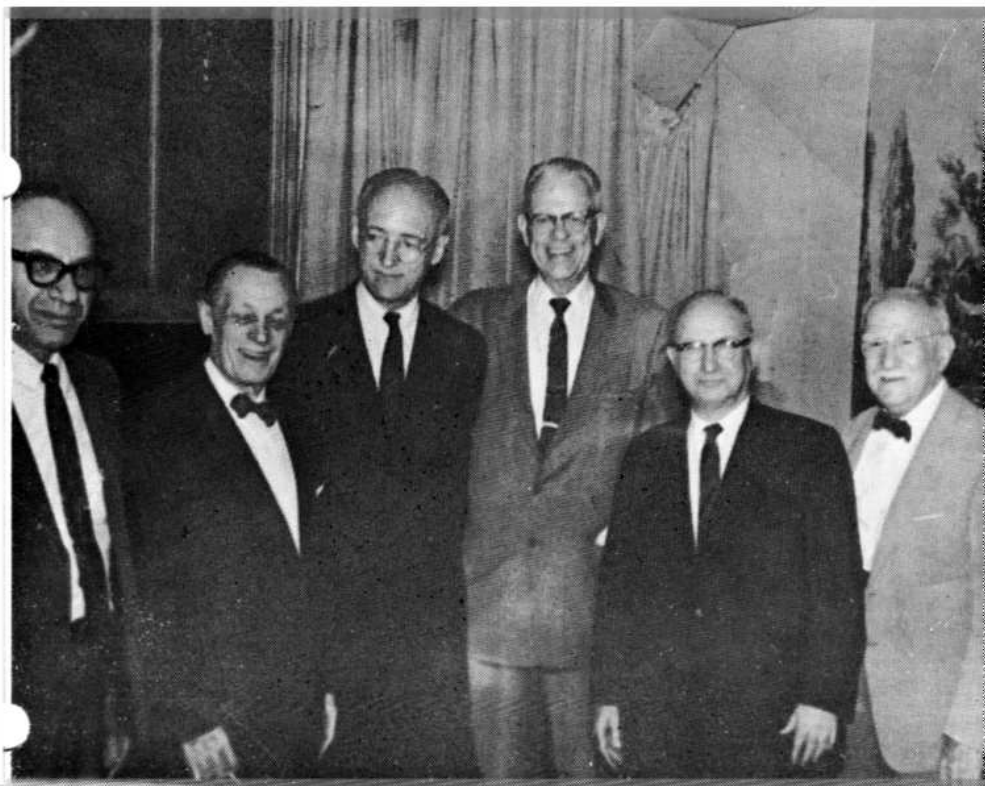
The Masonic Philatelist

VOL. 19

SEPTEMBER 1962

NO. 1

'A Good Time Was Had By All Present'



Shown in the above picture are some of the VIPs (in Masonic Philately) who attended our Annual Dinner on May 25, 1962. Third from left is Rt. Wor. Wendell K. Walker, our guest speaker, whose address is printed herein. The others are Past Presidents Yarry, Pelander, Swan, Brooks and Glaser.

The MASONIC PHILATELIST

VOL. 19 NO. 1
SEPTEMBER 1962

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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

As you can all see from the confirmed dates for our program for the ensuing year, a copy of which is enclosed with this issue of The Masonic Philatelist, our Club has been and is still going to town in a great way to provide outstanding speakers for your entertainment. It is my fervent hope that this will be the biggest year for our Club in many a year.

Let us all do our part to increase the constantly growing interest and attendance at our monthly meetings. Plan now to be with us the rest of the year. Spread the good word all

★ MEETINGS ★

First Friday of Each Month
Collectors Club Building
22 East 35th Street, N. Y. C.
1st Meeting—September 7, 1962
Get together—Show Summer
acquisitions

over the country. If every member would bring in a new member, our roster would grow like our attendance is growing.

Let your Masonic friends know about our fine programs, and remind them that the cost is low for the enjoyment you get out of the meetings and the study of Masonic Philately, the interest in which is world-wide. A reminder from our Treasurer,—don't forget to help our treasury by paying your dues when due.

Information regarding any phase of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York may be readily obtained by merely contacting any one of your officers whose names and addresses appear on the masthead above.

—Shelton W. Osterlund.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

GERALD L. BETTMAN

Rte. 1, Box 127

Los Molinos, California

Molino Lodge No. 150, Tehama, Calif.

DONALD EARL CRAFT

P. O. Box 613

Austin 63, Texas

T. Neal Porter Lodge No. 1354 (Austin)

EDIMAND C. GILBERTSON

3055 Brook Street

St. Paul 19, Minnesota

Rochester Lodge No. 21, Rochester, Minn.

EDWIN A. JENKINS

151 India Street

Brooklyn 22, New York

WAYNE S. MARTIN

4577 Santa Rita Road

Richmond 11, California

NICHOLAS G. KOUTROULIS

4659 Sandalwood Street

New Orleans 27, Louisiana

E. S. MATHESON

438 Fundy Drive

Lancaster, New Brunswick, Canada

Carleton Union Lodge #8, St. Johns

PHILIP J. NITZBERG

163 Ocean Avenue

Brooklyn 25, New York

Wm. McKinley Lodge No. 840

KENNETH HENRY PETTIT

861 W. Lewiston Avenue

Ferndale 20, Michigan

Ferndale Lodge No. 506

JOHN F. H. STERNBERGH
433 East 272nd Street
Euclid 32, Ohio

OUR LAST MEETING

Our Annual Meeting was held on June 1, 1962.

The Treasurer's Report and that of the Auditor were read and accepted; a vote of thanks was given to Bros. Munk and Sehlmeier for their good work in handling the finances.

Bro. Yarry reported on the Annual Dinner,—35 members attended and a grand time was had by all. A vote of thanks was given to the Dinner Committee.

Bro. Warren Ehrig presented a gift to the Club consisting of four books for the Club Library, donated by Bro. Ken A. Griffen of Bayside Lodge No. 999. A vote of thanks was given to this good brother.

Election of Officers for the year 1962-1963:

Shelton Osterlund was unanimously elected President. A single ballot was cast, as required by our By-laws.

Norman Sehlmeier was unanimously elected 1st V. P., a single ballot being cast by the Secretary.

Stanley A. Salomon was elected 2nd V. P. and Secretary.

Joseph Munk unanimously elected Treasurer.

The Board of Governors was elected for the terms indicated:

Eliot M. Nordheim — 3 years

Jose Rueff — 2 years

E. Milnor Peck — 1 year

Bro. Swan delivered a wonderful "Swan song," apologizing for his not being able to continue for a second year as president due to his health, but promising to continue to aid the Club in any way that he can.

Bro. Osterlund was duly installed and spoke about his coming year as President. He said that he would endeavor, with the help of the past presidents and the other members, to increase the membership and promised that we would have a dynamic and resting year.

Bro. Brooks suggested that we print up a program, listing all of the coming events for the entire year, in the form of a syllabus. (Effect has been given to this recommendation, and a separate enclosure is included with the mailing of this issue, giving complete program for the coming year. Please keep your copy handy for future reference).

Bro. Sehlmeier reported receipt of advice from Bro. Harold Norton, regarding the recent passing of Mrs. Ralph A. Barry, the widow of one of our Past Presidents and founders. It was directed that a letter of sympathy be sent to the surviving daughter and son.

Bro. Yarry suggested that a letter of congratulations be sent to Bro. Franklin Bruns on his appointment as Curator of the Cardinal Spellman Philatelic Museum. A vote of thanks was given to Bro. Harold Gunter for his continuing active services in behalf of our Club.

—Stanley A. Salomon.

OUR 28th ANNUAL DINNER

Our Annual Dinner was held on May 25, 1962, at the Masonic Club, New York City. It was the usual success and was well attended by 35 members who were particularly interested in the message delivered by our guest speaker, Rt. Wor. Wendell K. Walker, who is Director of the Grand Lodge Library and Museum, as well as Assistant Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. He spoke on the History of Freemasonry and its probable beginnings. In view of the interesting and authoritative nature of this address, we are printing it in The Masonic Philatelist for the benefit of those members who were unable to be present at the dinner.

Bro. Sam Brooks was the toastmaster for the evening and did a splendid job.

First day covers with the three new United Nations definitives were given to each member present, together with a descriptive brochure of these stamps.

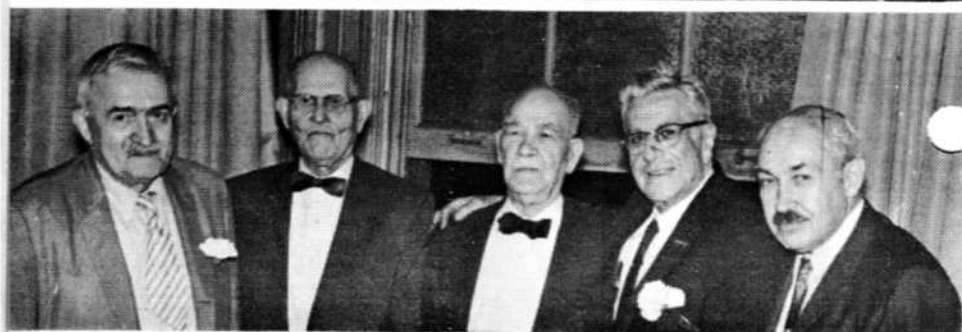
A number of excellent pictures were taken by our official photographer, Bro. Eliot Nordheim, some of which are reproduced herein.

Among those welcomed were Rt. Wor. Arnold Osterlund, PGCHGL of New Jersey, Bro. Edgar Donner, charter member of the Club, Harry Effinger of the Connecticut Philatelic Society and Milton G. Tunick, President of Bergen County Philatelic Society.

A rousing cheer and vote of thanks were given to the dinner committee, Bros. Irwin Yarry, Emanuel Reggel and Norman Sehlmeier, for their wonderful work in making the affair such a memorable evening.

—Stanley A. Salomon.

Photos of Annual Dinner





ADDRESS DELIVERED AT OUR ANNUAL DINNER

By Rt. Wor. Wendell K. Walker

Brother Toastmaster, Brother President, Brother Pihl, members and guests of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York:

Long before your kind invitation for me to speak here tonight, two of you asked me repeatedly, and also very kindly, to write something about the Grand Lodge Library and Museum for publication in **THE MASONIC PHILATELIST**. Your editor, Brother Norman Sehlmeier, and one of your Past Presidents (then President) Brother Emanuel Reggel, were very patient as well as very insistent. Therefore my opening remarks, which will be quoted from a Library and Museum report, are gratefully addressed to them.

The Grand Lodge Library and Museum "perform functions and accomplish purposes which are essential to the best interests of the Fraternity in general and this Grand Lodge in particular: (1) collecting as much as possible of the important record made by Freemasonry in the world, especially in New York; (2) organizing that record and correlating it with pertinent information from outside the Fraternity; and (3) facilitating the use of the organized record, as current Masonic knowledge, by Grand Lodge officers and committees and by Lodge officers and members."

That statement is from both the 1954 and 1962 reports to Grand Lodge, and will appear again in this fall's issue of **THE EMPIRE STATE MASON**. It has been kept as a guide all these years, and as a Library and Museum goal.

Now, what is the Fraternity, in the world and in New York, that its records should be so preserved and so used? What is our Grand Lodge, that it should maintain such a Library and Museum? What is your Masonic Stamp Club, that its members should be interested.

To answer the first question I am going to quote again, this time at some length, from an article prepared for the Grand Historian, Rt. Wor. Charles F. Gosnell, to be submitted to the publishers of a new encyclopedia.

Masonry or Freemasonry (The Masonic Fraternity) originated among British stonemasons in the 14th Century or earlier but developed its characteristic lodge and grand-lodge organization in 18th Century Western Europe and British Colonial America. It is the prototype of most modern fraternities

and service clubs but differs from all of them in the exclusiveness of its concern with character building and good works, without insurance benefits, and with no political, racial, religious, or economic programs or prohibitions. Membership is estimated between five and six million, in about 32,000 lodges belonging to around 130 Grand Lodges, in most parts of the world not dominated by the communist powers, but with a large numerical majesty in the United States and the British Commonwealth. Each Grand Lodge has always been completely independent of every other, with no central or higher authority, fraternal contact and historical continuity being maintained by a traditional system of official recognition and correspondence among grand lodges.

"Freemasonry has been variously defined, most often as a system of morality veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols. The allegory is based on King Solomon's Temple, and the essential symbols are stonemasons' tools, such as the square and compasses. The earliest surviving Masonic document, the Halliwell MS. (British Mus. Bibl. Reg. 17 A1), makes Masonry synonymous with geometry, has St. Alban bring it to England, with him as its secret knowledge, and has King Athelstane confirm fraternal possession of it at York in XXX 926, and concludes with "charges" or exhortations to moral conduct. These "old charges" and some ritualistic secrecy remain in modern Masonry, although the legendary history did not survive the scientific historical criticism of the 19th Century. The lodges, organized groups of Masons for whose use the Halliwell MS and similar documents were produced from the 14th through the 17th centuries, gradually evolved from labor organizations with philosophical or speculative overtones to social and philosophical groups with an operating background.

"In the early 18th Century the initiatory ceremonies were systematized in a series of three degrees, later known as craft degrees or "blue lodge" degrees to distinguish them from proliferation of so-called higher degrees which were introduced at various times and places in the 18th and 19th centuries. These latter included what became a series of thirty-three degrees called the Scottish Rite, or Ancient Accepted Rite, and three groups of named degrees (Royal Arch, Royal and Select Masters, and Knights Templar) known as the York Rite, or

American Rite. The first three degrees and the lodges in which they are conferred remain fundamental to all Masonic membership, and a majority of Masons go no further.

"Four lodges in London formed the first grand lodge about 1717, and similar organizations followed in Ireland and Scotland, and, with modifications, on the European continent. Provincial and district grand lodges were formed all over the known world, from many of which grew independent grand lodges, one of the earliest being in Virginia (1777) and the most recent in India (1961). The "book of constitutions" published by the first grand lodge in 1728 was reprinted in 1734 in Philadelphia by Benjamin Franklin.

"Masonic lodges were permitted only occasionally in such 18th century autocracies as Russia and Austria, and not at all in modern authoritarian states such as Nazi Germany, Fascist Italy, Spain, and the "iron curtain" countries. Political anti-masonry never developed in Britain, and only once in the United States, when the Anti-masonic Party became strong enough to hold one national convention (1832). A papal bull in 1738 (In Eminenti) set the policy of the Roman Catholic Church against the fraternity, and a few of the more fundamentalist Protestant denominations have also taken positions against it. French and Belgian lodges developed anti-clerical features which took most of them out of the fraternity entirely, their grand orients not having been recognized as Masonic since the 1870s. Negro lodges developed a separate unrecognized existence in the United States but progressed normally in the West Indies and some other British territories.

"In addition to the regular lodge and grand-lodge organization, and the related York and Scottish rites, there are many groups basing their membership directly or indirectly on Masonry, especially in the United States." Not the least of these, we like to think, is The Masonic Stamp Club of New York. As well as you, like to consider this more than ordinarily significant Masonic organization, if only because I, like you, have some degree of personal identification with it. I am not and never have been a member, but I was in the Library and Museum at the Club's beginning there, and always have been interested in its work and in its members.

The work, as its members well know, is in no way limited to New

York. It is in fact the least restricted in its interests of almost any Masonic organization we can name. Any subject, personal or institutional, which has ever been represented anywhere, any time, on any postage stamp of any country in the world and which can by any stretch of the imagination be given even the slightest Masonic significance, is a matter of studious interest to The Masonic Stamp Club of New York. Its work is truly universal.

Its members, some of them, have been and are my friends, many others have been much admired acquaintances.

Of the former I shall not say very much because I do not want to embarrass either them or myself by too much sentimentality. We are here together this evening and that is enough.

Of the latter, the first two who come to mind are your first President, Wor. Arthur W. Deas, and one who may perhaps be called your founder-patron, Most Worshipful Charles H. Johnson. Brother Deas was a Past Master from Staten Island, retired from business, or nearly so, and in 1934 and the years immediately following he gave the Club the genial leadership it needed to get started.

Most Worshipful Brother Johnson was in 1934 at the height of his powers, Masonically and personally. Past Grand Master and Grand Secretary in New York, one of the most accomplished speakers the Fraternity has ever known, he was a national and even a world figure.

But although the Club was organized in 1934, that was not the beginning of stamp collecting in the Grand Lodge Library and Museum. As early as 1932, according to THE NEW YORK MASONIC OUTLOOK, "a few rare old stamps found their way into the Grand Lodge Museum. They were put on display in an improvised case, where they immediately began to attract attention."

To be continued.

Our sympathy goes out to Bro. Earl I. Stockhus of Peoria, Illinois, in the loss of his wife and helpmate, Ada Stockhus, who for more than 40 years was his rule and guide through life.

A REMINDER

DUES are due. Have you remitted yours to Joe Munk? If not, he would appreciate your prompt action in order to help him with his book-keeping.

GEORGE WASHINGTON CHAPTER NO. 1

The last stated meeting was held on June 10, 1962. In the absence of the President, the 1st Vice-President presided. The Chairman briefly reviewed the events of the first year's work of the Chapter on returning to light from darkness and remarked on the growing membership of the Chapter and its sound financial condition. Excellent relations have been maintained with the main Club and the other Chapter.

The meeting unanimously accepted Mr. Arnold D. Belcher's application and welcomed him to membership. The Chapter thus closed its year with 25 active members with Bros. Merz and Weeks on the sick list.

The nominating committee presented a slate of officers for 1962-63 and the following were elected: President, J. N. Wong; 1st Vice-President, W. E. Salomon; 2nd Vice-president, L. W. Christenson; Secretary and Treasurer, P. W. Weeks.

On behalf of the Chapter, the Chairman thanked Mr. and Mrs. Weeks for their kindness in allowing us to hold stated meetings in their stamp shop. He also thanked Bro. Franklin R. Bruns, Jr. for his interest in supporting and bringing the Chapter from darkness to light and serving his term of office despite heavy demands on his time and energy. In order to express their appreciation, the membership moved to hold a dinner in honor of Bro. Bruns at his convenience, he presently being in Boston. It was agreed to hold the first stated meeting of the new Chapter year in September.

On June 19, 1962, the Washington Star carried a report that Bro. Paul D. Weeks passed away on June 16th at the Doctor's Hospital. This news came as a shock to the brethren as plans had been made to confer the M. P. degree on Bro. Weeks. In view of this tragic event, the President appointed Bro. L. W. Christenson as acting Secretary and Bro. J. N. Wong as acting Treasurer. The Chapter gladly accepted Mrs. Weeks' offer that we may continue to use the stamp shop for our meetings.

During the coming season, the membership plans to strengthen the Chapter by making some changes in its charter and then publishing it with a roster of members. Plans are also underway to print new membership cards which will be sent to all members as soon as they are ready. The Chapter is presently in urgent need

of more active members and would appreciate support from those living in the Washington area. Anyone interested in helping, can write the Secretary, P. O. Box 406, Washington 4, D. C.

—L. W. Christenson, Secretary

LAKE ERIE CHAPTER

The regular third Wednesday of the month meeting of Lake Erie Chapter #2 of MSCNY was held in May at the Masonic Temple, 3615 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.

The usual Dutch Treat dinner at the Temple dining room was again enjoyed by many members.

The meeting was opened at 8:00 P.M. by our President Mr. Jaeger.

We were honored by a visit of Bro. Forrest Ellis of Pearl River N. Y. who was able to add much information to our program.

Our members activity in other clubs continues. Bro. Lou Brown took first on his Ben Franklin in the U.S. at the East Cleveland Stamp Club exhibit. Bro. Gordon Cole took 2nd with his Topicals on Lincoln at the Lakewood Club exhibit.

After a short business meeting Bro. Edgar Kroehle 33 gave a talk. The main speaker of the evening was Bro. Carl Schroeder. He exhibited and spoke on his collection of U.S. postal cards. This exhibit took first at the Garfield Perry Stamp Club exhibit.

At our next meeting Bro. Alan Coatoam will talk on an appropriate subject. The main speaker will be Bro. Dr. Joseph Schneider who will continue his previous enjoyable talk on the United States stamps of 1857. His exhibit has many rare specimens and are worth the effort to come and see them.

—Harry A. Pahl,
Corresponding Secy.

COMING EVENT

Please make a notation in your date book, and endeavor to attend on October 10, 1962, when our distinguished authority, Brother Sr Brooks will lecture on the subject "Masonic Philately," at Albion Lodge No. 26, which meets at 71 West 23rd Street, New York City.

Brother Eliot Nordheim, newly elected to our Board of Governors, is a member of that Lodge and will officiate as Master of Ceremonies. He guarantees a warm welcome and enjoyable evening for all members who attend.

Silver Anniversary Week End

Schedule of Events

Friday, June 5th, 1959
Collectors Club
22 East 35th St., N. Y.
at 8:00 P. M.

[Annual Meeting, Election of Officers. Members
[Exhibition (Non-Competitive) Limited to 12 pages
[per exhibit. Members not attending send Insured
[to: Carl E. Pelander—545 5th Ave., N. Y. 17.
[All exhibitors will receive a Certificate.

Saturday, June 6th
10:00 A. M.—5:00 P. M.

[Exhibits will be on display all day at the Col-
[lectors Club for viewing.

Saturday, June 6th
German Masonic Temple
220 East 15th St., N. Y.
Between 2nd & 3rd Aves.

[Cocktail Hour 5:30—6:30
[Dinner served at 7.00—Informal.
[Master of Philately Degree will be conferred
[on all members so requesting.

Sunday, June 7th
Sight-Seeing Bus
Tour of Masonic
Interest in N.Y.C.

[Plans will be announced at the dinner pending
[requests of members.

During the Silver Anniversary Week-End Celebration, members will have use of a parlor room made available by the Club at the Vanderbilt Hotel at Park Ave; and 34th St; for members convenience, Refreshments.

This is a stag dinner and all inclusive cost with cocktails at \$5.00.

The Club is going to a great added expense to make this Silver Anniversary Week-End a Memorable one. Please send remittance with your reservation.

— — — — —
To: Brother Jacob S. Glaser—Dinner Chairman
845 East 13th Street
Brooklyn 30, N. Y.

Phone: CLOverdale 8-1839

Enclose my remittance of \$5.00 for reservation and cost of dinner at the German Masonic Temple—220 East 15th St; N.Y.C., on Saturday June 6th at 5:30. Cocktails included.

[] I will go on sightseeing bus trip.

[] I wish to receive the Master of Philately Degree.

Name

Address

— — — — —
To: Brother Carl E. Pelander—Exhibition Chairman
545 Fifth Avenue, New York City 17, N. Y.

I will send an exhibit to you insured. It will be in your hands by Monday, May 25th. Otherwise I will personally show my exhibit.

Name

Address