

# The Masonic Philatelist



VOL. 19

DECEMBER 1962

NO. 4

*We Were At The ASDA Show Nov. 16-18, 1962!*



The above photo, taken by Adrien Bouirelle, shows a few of the members who attended at this event. In uniform are William Zvonchek and Lt. Jack Fisher, U.S. Army Ret., who conducted the New York Post Office Band at the opening ceremony. Others are Brothers Shelton Osterlund, Norman Sehlmeier, Emanuel Reggel, Sol Glass, S. Duffield Swan, Irwin Yarry and Ben Grossman. A full report on our participation will appear in the January issue.

# The MASONIC PHILATELIST

VOL. 19 NO. 4  
DECEMBER 1962

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## *By the sign of the Gavel*

We had a good turnout of members and guests at our November meeting—Past Presidents' Night Brother Glaser handled the entertainment part of the evening. My thanks to him and the other Past Presidents who helped to make the evening so enjoyable.

Our participation at the ASDA Show turned out to be most worthwhile. A full report on our activities there will appear in the next issue. In the meanwhile we show on our current cover page one of the photos taken at this event. My thanks to the committee

### ★ MEETINGS ★

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

Fourth meeting December 7, 1962  
Exhibit and talk on his prize  
winning airmails by Henry  
Goodkind.

and the other numerous members who helped to make this so successful!

At our December meeting we will be honored by the presence of Mr. Henry Goodkind, Editor of the Collectors Club Philatelist, and world renowned collector, who will show his prize-winning collection of Airmails including the U.S. 24¢ invert.

I join my fellow officers in extending to you and yours our best wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

—Shelton W. Osterlund

### INTERESTING HISTORICAL DATA FOR DECEMBER

December 2, 1823—Monroe Doctrine proclaimed.

December 4, 1943—Teheran Conference.

December 7, 1941—Pearl Harbor bombed.

December 8, 1941—U.S. declared war on Japan.

December 10, 1898—Peace Treaty with Spain.

December 11, 1941—U.S. declared war on Germany and Italy.

December 12, 1901—First wireless across Atlantic.

December 14, 1799—Death of George Washington.

December 16, 1773—Boston Tea Party.

December 21, 1620—Landing of the Pilgrims.

### LAKE ERIE CHAPTER NO. 2

On Wednesday, Nov. 21st, 18 members of Lake Erie Chapter #2 of the MSCNY met at the Masonic Temple, 3615 Euclid Ave. Cleveland, Ohio for the regular monthly meeting of club.

Twelve members attended the Dutch Treat Dinner at the Masonic Temple Restaurant before the meeting.

The meeting was opened at 8.00 P.M. by Pres. Richard Jaeger. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Welfare Chairman reported that Bro. Kittinger was in Lakewood Hospital and the members present signed

a get well card which was sent to him. Bro. Edgar Kroehle 33 lost his mother. A letter of condolence was sent.

Annual report of all Officers and Committees were read and accepted for entry into the records.

The color slides taken by Bro. Lambert of the officers and candidates at the conferring of the "Master of Philately" Degree were projected for our entertainment.

The following officers were elected to serve the Chapter for the ensuing year. Pres. Bro. Gordon J. Cole, Sr. First Vice Pres. Bro. James R. Lambert. Second Vice Pres. Bro. Laddie J. Pesek. Treas. Bro. Edgar W. Kroehle 33. Recording Secy. Bro. Lou B. Brown. Corresponding Secy. Harry A. Pahl. Trustee for 3 years Bro. L. W. Christenson. Bro. Ray Runt, due to his good reporting to all the various publications, was reappointed to continue the task of getting our notices in the various publications. All officers were elected by acclamation.

The regular auction was held. A good supply of first rate material was offered. Many purchases were turned back to be sent to the Crippled Childrens Hospitals. Many thanks to the Brothers.

Bro. Richard D. Jaeger gave a 5 minute talk on DeWitt Clinton.

Bro. Dr. Joseph N. Schneider then gave a continuation of his previous subject, U.S. Stamps of 1861. He showed us a very interesting portion of his valuable collection.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Harry A. Pahl,  
Corresponding, Secy.

#### AN INQUIRY FROM BROTHER BRUDER

"It has been a long time since I have been able to attend a meeting at the Club, as I have been working at Gimbel's in Philadelphia. I certainly miss the Club.

By the way, I was going through a collection of seals and revenues of the world, when I came across the enclosed photographs of the \$1 in red and the 6¢ in blue, as far as I know there were about 15 to 20 sets in this collection. I was only able to get 3.

Through The Masonic Philatelist, I thought if we produced one of the pictures, some one may know when they were issued and who issued them. I showed them to several Masonic Collectors and all agreed that they were very unusual.



By the way, I miss, the meetings; there is nothing doing down here. I am making an application for LuLu Shrine. Give my regards to everybody."

Can any member answer this inquiry from Bro. Richard Bruder?

Sir CHARLES KINGSFORD-SMITH



Australia's famous flier of the late twenties and early thirties, Charles Edward Kingsford-Smith, was a pioneer in long distance flying. Affectionately known as "Smithy," he was only 38 years old at his untimely death.

"Smithy" was born in Brisbane, Queensland, on February 9th, 1897, the youngest of seven children. From his earliest years he was interested in things mechanical. After two years in the Sydney Technical High School studying electrical engineering he was apprenticed to the Colonial Sugar Refining Co.

In 1915 on his eighteenth birthday he enlisted in the A.I.F. and served as a despatch rider in Egypt. The following year his unit was in France and he was promoted to Sergeant in the motorcycle section. A few months later his application for transfer to the R.F.C. was granted, and after being commissioned he was actively engaged in air combat against the Germans, for which he was awarded the Military Cross. At the end of the war he was demobilized in England.

After spending some time at Oakland, California, where his eldest brother had settled and become an American citizen, Smithy returned to Australia (1921) and joined the flying staff of Australia's first air line, the Western Australia Airways, flying the longest regular air route in the world at that time, Perth to Derby.

Ever since his visit in America, Smithy had made plans for a Pacific flight from America to Australia. In 1928 in company with Charles Ulm and two Americans, Lyon and Warner, the first crossing of the world's widest ocean was made in the "Southern Cross."

Almost immediately he announced he would attempt crossing the Tasman Sea. A previous attempt by two New Zealanders had ended in disaster. Smith and Ulm decided to make the flight by night in order to reach New Zealand by daylight. A few hours after takeoff a bad storm blew up, the driving rain changed to ice, lightning put the radio out of service, and the engines ran badly. At dawn they sighted land, circled Wellington, then flew on to Christchurch and landed after 14 hours, 25 minutes. The New Zealand government entertained the two fliers as guests for a month.

Charles Kingsford-Smith was the first flier to make an equatorial round-the-world flight. He made the first flight from Australia to the United States, and twice set England to Australia records. His last flight was an attempt to beat the record but on the night of November 7th, 1935 he disappeared over the Bay of Bengal.

"Smithy" was initiated into Freemasonry in Gascoyne Lodge No. 62, Carnarvon, West Australia, on April 9th, 1925; passed July 1st and raised September 3rd, 1925. His M. M. apron was presented to A. I. F. Memorial Lodge No. 289, U. G. L. Q., by his brother, Wor. W. Kingsford-Smith, on August 16th, 1945. It is used in their Anzac Memorial Service each year on April 25th. Smith was, of course, an

Anzac, and this use is most appropriate. (Masonic data furnished by Bro. Allan Evans, Brisbane).

Stamps showing Kingsford-Smith are Australia #310, and N.Z. #321.

—Marshall S. Loke

## MUSINGS OF AN OLD "HAS BEEN" Article No. 2

Want to lose a friend? One sure way is to forget to answer his letter. Too many of us are busy people caught up in the whirlpool that turns out money, and our interests hold too much to the job. When you read this, take a piece of paper and jot down the names of those old friends who used to write once in a while, but from whom you now have not heard in a year or more. Then just send a short note, and casually mention your hobby—"Stamps." You'll be surprised at the numbers of answers you'll get and you'll probably get commemoratives on them.

I did that just a short time ago, and the first reply was from a "long lost friend" who, it developed has a lot of foreign correspondence. The envelope contained over a hundred very good present day foreign stamps. As a result some boy scouts will reap the benefit.

While on the subject of correspondence, our officers have been asking for ideas of how we can make our organization more interesting for you and other members away from New York. All we got was questions on what we can give to the members. We still would like to hear any ideas you have that will create interest to you. Sometimes ideas that do not seem good in one place would go across fine in another.—So just send in your ideas to our Editor and he'll take them up with the proper officer.

## BOOK REVIEW

Mr. Les Schriber, Sr., Box 567 Wall Street Station, New York 5, N.Y., has presented our library with a copy of his recently published book entitled "The Encyclopedia of Designs, Engravers, and Artists of United States Postage Stamps 1847-1900, written by him and edited by James M. Cher, editor of The American Philatelist." This comprehensive work is well written in interesting style, and its three sections, covering eighty pages with many illustrations, fully describe the art and artists, and the designers and engravers of our postage stamps.

The first section lists the source material used for each portrait or vignette, the designer and engraver of each postage stamp issued. The bio-

graphical section has sketches for all persons whose work was used for the finished stamp. Many of these have never appeared before in philatelic print.

Of special interest is the Special Notes section. There are historical notes for all the bank note companies manufacturing stamps for the government at that time; also that of the World Fairs. There are many interesting references.

This work will serve as a valuable ready reference for students when annotating their collections. The Encyclopedia is highly recommended for all philatelic libraries. Copies at \$2.00 each postpaid may be obtained from Mr. Schriber.

### GEORGE WASHINGTON CHAPTER NO. 1

The first stated meeting of this Chapter, for the current season, was opened in due form September 25, 1962 at 8 P.M. in the Almas Temple, Washington, D.C. Reports of the Treasurer and Secretary were read.

The President reported a successful 1961-62 year and is looking forward with confidence to an even better 1962-63 year. For Washington's birthday in 1963, the Chapter has made tentative plans for a pilgrimage to Mt. Vernon and a dinner afterward, if the response from the membership is sufficient. On the same date, Linn's Weekly Stamp News will again issue a special edition on Masonic Philately. The brethren are cordially invited to contribute articles to this special issue. All manuscripts must reach the Chapter (% James N. Wong, P.O. Box 406, Washington 4, D.C.) by the end of the year. A large number of free sample copies are available by sending us gummed, addressed labels.

Also, plans are underway for holding a huge stamp exhibition in Washington, D.C., in connection with the dedication of the new building for the Smithsonian Institution. The Chapter should start now making plans for participation in this activity.

Under new business, the Chairman entertained a motion that combined initiation and life membership fees of the Chapter be re-set from the present \$3.00 back to the original nominal sum of \$1.00 as fixed when the Chapter was founded. In the ensuing discussion, it was pointed out that members pay annual dues of \$3.00 to the Club and there is no present reason for the Chapter to charge anything additional. The Chapter could always raise funds

for any purpose by voluntary contributions (not assessments). The motion was thereupon passed unanimously, effective as of September 25, 1962.

The Chairman submitted a proposal that the Chapter elect a Board of Directors modelled after that of the Club. He explained that since the membership of the Chapter is widely scattered, it is difficult to obtain a large percentage of members present at meetings, and therefore it is more feasible to elect a Board of Directors to conduct the routine business of the Chapter.

The members approved the proposal to organize a Board of Directors for the Chapter as of September 25, 1962. The following persons were elected to the first Board of Directors: J. N. Wong (Chairman), W. A. Salomon and L. W. Christenson. The Board will determine its rules of procedure. The Chairman called a meeting of the Board in connection with the next stated meeting in November, 1962.

An application for membership in the Chapter was submitted by Brother Richard A. Bruder, a member of the Club in good standing, and of Dunton Lodge #1017 in New York. His application was duly accepted.

The Chairman reported a need to change our meeting place in view of the fact that Week's Stamp Shop is now under new management. Many members favored going back to meetings at Almas Temple, so future meetings may be scheduled there. For the second stated meeting, Mr. Salomon offered the use of his house on November 7, 1962.

—James N. Wong

### OUR LAST MEETING

Our Nov. 2nd meeting, Past Presidents' Night, was called to order by President Shelton Osterlund, who greeted the past presidents and other members and guests who were present.

A motion was passed to request Bro. Milton Greenbaum to allow the Club to have copies made of the photo slides of his Masonic collection, which he loaned to us for exhibit at the ASDA Show.

Bro. Reggel announced that Bro. Harold Gunter is ill in Queens General Hospital, and a get-well card was signed by all present and sent to him.

A guest, Mr. Les Schreiber Sr., AFS, came to the meeting and brought his new handbook "An Encyclopedia of Design, Designers, Engravers and Artists of U.S. Postage Stamps, 1847-1900."

Bro. Sehlmeier read a letter from Bro. Koutroulis informing us of the formation on a Masonic Stamp Club in the State of Louisiana. Our best wishes are extended to this new organization.

Bro. Sehlmeier brought to the meeting some of the recent Masonic cachets which had been listed in this publication, and they were made available to those present who had not ordered directly. He also read a letter from Bro. James Wong of the George Washington Chapter announcing that a special Masonic edition of Linn's would be published on February 22, 1963 and requesting that our members send him By January 1st any special articles dealing with Masonic philately, for the paper.

The meeting was turned over to Bro. Glaser who introduced the Past Presidents who had brought special material from their collections for the entertainment of the members present. Bro. Sam Brooks showed and spoke on his first day covers of the Republic of China. He also showed some older U.S. covers, including a very fine Wells Fargo cover.

Bro. Reggel showed in the frames some choice selections of his comprehensive collection of Great Britain and described his material in knowledgeable detail.

Bro. Yarry had some choice pages from his Fiji collection, mounted in the frames. He described the stamps and remarked that he favored these stamps because he felt that they are among the ugliest ever issued and have the most unattractive cancellations. He also demonstrated his new method of bringing out cancellations in better relief by using red, yellow or green colored cellophane as a filter.

Brother Sanna exhibited his exchange of letters with General Shoup of the Marine Corps, and also showed some collateral material.

Brother Jake Glaser concluded the meeting, after relating his experiences many years ago while engaged in the building of the hospital on Governors Islands, and of his discovering some British cannon balls during the course of the excavation work. He told of giving these "finds" to the Revolutionary Society who in turn gave them to Fraunces Tavern in New York City, where they are on display with the proper credit given to Uncle Jake. He also showed his belatedly received honorary membership certificate in the Society.

—Stanley A. Salomon

## MASONIC SIGNALS

By Col. A. C. Townsend

They met in Italy during the war; and it was only about a month later when, sitting on a bench in the moonlight, the Corporal said to the Sergeant softly, "Sergeant, may I call you Grace?" And in another month they were engaged, waiting for the discharge and planning happily for the future. Fred was to go back to his old job in the electrical firm until he could set up in business for himself. "I'm a pretty good electrician," he said to Grace, "and with the experience and training the Army has given me. I know I can handle and repair any car made and do almost any electrical repairing they can hand me."

"Of course you can," replied Grace proudly. "And I'll go back to the old home and get a position, if I can get that lady to still stay and take care of Auntie, and we'll bank all the money we can until you find the proper opening and buy a business of your own. How wonderful it is that we are from the same city and neither of us have parents! You'll have to take a room somewhere until we can marry but then you are sure you will be satisfied to come and live in that old house? It's awfully old and rather shabby."

"It will be perfect," Fred said. "It will save us a lot of expense and make our money pot that much larger in a short time." And then he took a mean advantage of her. "Attention, left dress!" he commanded his superior, and when she dutifully turned her head left and sat rigid he kissed her in a most unmilitary manner, and then they went on planning happily for their future.

But it didn't turn out quite right. Grace was discharged first and went home. She wrote him happy letters; Auntie was in pretty good shape for a woman over ninety, but was living a lot in the past. She could remember more names and vivid details about events half a century ago, but often called even her by the wrong name, and always referred to him as "Joe." It was comical; correct her and she would say, "Oh yes, Fred." And five minutes later she would ask something more about Joe! The lady was glad to stay with them until the wedding, and Grace had a good position and started their bank account, putting in his remittances and her small savings.

And then Fred got his discharge and hurried home and was stunned to find that his firm had recently sold out

to another concern and he had no good job waiting for him. He quickly got a pretty fair position but at a lower starting pay, and was very blue over it. Grace cheered him nobly, and was willing to be married at once anyhow, but he insisted he wanted to be settled in a life business before he asked her to share his lot and uncertainties. It was hard to wait, but Fred was firm that it would be better so.

One night he came to the house highly enthused, as well as cast down. A friend had come to him with the proposition that they set up an electrical store themselves in a good location he found, a well located hardware store that could be bought out, and they could put in a line of electrical supplies. It looked like a sure field but required \$1,500 on his part to match his friend's investment—and he only had about a thousand.

They talked and talked. Couldn't he get a GI loan? Probably so, but it took too much time unwinding red tape and the place was sure to be sold very soon. Auntie listened and chipped in with a few bright tales of Ed Peters and Harry Jenkins who had each started in business with only about a hundred dollars and both had become wealthy. But that was back in the 1850's! And other such tales with minute details, but that didn't help.

She finally decided she had better go to bed, but as she rose she exclaimed, "Oh Martha, you were going to ask Joe to bring down that old trunk from upstairs so we could empty it. That was Jenny's grandfather's trunk, Joe, and it has been sitting up there since about 1868 and hasn't been open for I don't know how many years. Would you get it down, Joe, so we can empty it and get rid of the old things and pack some winter clothes in it?"

So Fred lugged the old curved top and hooped trunk down to the living-room and Auntie sat on a hassock and began dragging out this, that, and the other thing, exclaiming over items and giving long and minute details regarding them. It was pretty hard for the young folks but even Fred loved the dear old lady and they let her ramble on. It was quite a while before she uncovered and pulled out quite a bunch of letters and sat back and squinted at the address and the corner card on the top one.

"I do declare! Here are all those letters your grandpa used to get from his chum Howard Matthews. They were close friends for years and went

into Masonry together and then Howard got interested in the oil field that was being developed around some Pennsylvania town—Corry, I'm almost sure it was—and he packed up and went there to make his fortune. He used to write glowing letters to Papa about things there at first but then he gave up the oil business. He said it was in the hands of two real big men and there was no show for a little fellow, so he got a job in the post office. Papa kept all his letters because they were so interesting and because Howard made up some Masonic cancelling stamps to use on his letters to Papa. I remember Papa used to chuckle over their cleverness and he used to show them at the club or camp or whatever it was. Howard died suddenly of a fever about 1869 and Papa put all the letters away. And they have been lying in that trunk—What is it Joe? Have you got to go?"

For Fred had risen to his feet, his face alight with interest. "May I look at those letters, Auntie? I used to be a stamp collector and some of the boys at the office are now. One of them was talking to me the other day and gave me a stamp paper to look over at noon and I saw something about a Masonic Stamp Society of folks who are nuts over those cancellations."

Auntie handed over the packet and said, "I hope they may be of some value, Howard. If they are they belong to Jennie—I mean to Grace—and it would be splendid if they brought you in a dollar or two when you need money so much. I'll go to bed now."

"I'm almost afraid to look," said Fred as he carefully untied the packet, fortunately nicely squared up and tied with the old flat red tape in use so long. "That chap told me that Masonic cancels were worth from ten dollars up if they were clear and the letters not spoiled in opening them."

"Good heavens!" Grace exclaimed. "I had no idea of that. Oh wouldn't it be wonderful—Sit down at the table here and hurry up." She snuggled up against him at the table as he carefully untied the package. The first half dozen bore 3¢ 1861's with ordinary cancellations but then came another with a beautiful square and compass in blue, squarely on the stamp and a little over on the sides to tie it on. "Ten dollar," he whispered as he handed it to Grace. "And another, and another!" The next one had a queer cancel. "Looks like a trowel," he said to Grace.

"Do you think it is any good?" she



asked. "I'm afraid to say yes, but it ought to be some sort of Masonic symbol or emblem or whatever they are called. We'll hope so." Then he laid two more with common cancels, and gasped as he saw the next one. The cover bore three 1¢ stamps and another queer cancel, apparently a walking stick with a large dot on each side of it, and it was carefully impressed in red on each stamp, making a lovely cover. "I don't know what it is, but it must be Masonic with all the trouble he went to. Isn't it a beauty?"

There were more walking sticks and trowels and more of the square and compass, and one of the last was another strip of three and the cane cancel in red, and staring at it Fred saw that the stamps were grilled. He explained to Grace that they were several times as valuable as the other 1¢ and with that cancel might be quite valuable. Counting the ones they only hoped were Masonic, Fred took them to the office with him the next morning and later in the day Grace was surprised to get a telegram from Fred, "Going to New York, wait up for me."

About midnight he hurried in. His friend had enthused over the covers, had told him of a man on Claremont Avenue in New York who he was sure would buy them, and Fred had taken the afternoon off and gone to see them. And then he produced and showed Grace a check that astounded her. They could meet his friend's \$1,500 and buy the store, and the future looked like a bed of roses.

#### LETTERS TO TREASURER JOE MUNK

From Bro. LE ROI CRANDALL: "All is well on the West Coast in the great town of Los Angeles. My Lodge activities and duties as Junior Warden are keeping me busy and it will get worse the next two years. Still find time for stamps though."

From Bro. GEORGE W. STARLING, 332 Cherry St., Timmins, Ontario, Canada: "Please convey to the officers and members my greetings and best wishes. Very sorry that I am so far away and unable to attend meetings, but always very interested in the news in The Masonic Philatelist, my only wish being that there was more about us Lone Ranger members, who live so far from New York City."

From Bro. COLONEL ARTHUR W. HODGES, 88 Corthell Road, Laramie, Wyoming: "I regret very much that my military duties keep me away from the New York area, thus precluding

my attending the regular meetings. Nevertheless, I certainly have enjoyed the philatelic and fraternal content of The Masonic Philatelist over the years, and continue to do so. Please convey my best regards to the brothers."

From Most Wor. Bro. J. WILLIAM J. STEDMAN, 2877 Santa Paula Court, Sacramento 21, Calif.: "I am afraid I cannot give you any news of stamp activities that I participate in, but I did attend the annual Grand Lodge Communications of both Oregon and Washington (I am a Past Grand Master of Washington 1942-43). I also had the pleasure of attending the World's Fair in Seattle. Hope sometime to be in New York when the Club meets. So far this has not been possible, but I am living in hopes. Regards to you all. I have a few friends in the Club as I used to live in Brooklyn in 1947-1950."

## NEW ISSUES CALENDAR UNITED STATES

- Jan. 9—5¢ American flag definitive, Washington, D. C.
- \*Feb.—5¢ Emancipation Proclamation commemorative stamp.
- \*July 1—5¢ Battle of Gettysburg Civil War Centennial commemorative stamp.

#### The 1963 program includes:

- 8¢ airmail honoring Amelia Earhart.
- 15¢ air honoring Montgomery Blair, leader for the first Universal Postal congress held in Paris in 1863.
- Commemorative for the 300th anniversary of the Carolina Charter.
- For the 100th anniversary of West Virginia statehood.
- Food for Peace issue.
- Gettysburg centennial.
- For 100th anniversary National Academy of Science.
- 6¢ airmail for air postal cards and 6¢ airmail card.
- 1¢ regular picturing Andrew Jackson
- Another famous American painting.
- Christmas stamp in a new design.

Collectors should refrain from submitting requests for first day covers for any of the items preceded by an asterisk (\*) until pertinent details are officially announced. Orders for first day covers must not be grouped when sent to one city.