



The Masonic Philatelist

VOL. 26

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NO. 3



John Paul Jones

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The Masonic Stamp Club of New York was organized in 1934 for the purpose of encouraging research and study in Masonic Philately, and to establish bonds of good fellowship among Masons who are stamp collectors. The need for the organization has proved itself through the years with its ever increasing membership and the formation of other Masonic stamp clubs in the United States.

★ MEETINGS ★

First Friday of Every Month
(Except July and August)

COLLECTORS CLUB BUILDING
22 East 35th St., N.Y., N.Y. 10017

OUR LAST MEETING

The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc. held its October meeting at The Collectors Club on October 3rd as scheduled.

In accord with President Edwin Mayer's policy, there was no regular business discussed. All business is now handled at the monthly Board of Directors meeting. The minutes of the September Board of Directors meeting was read however, to keep the membership aware of what was going on in the club. An announcement was made informing the Brothers that a series of articles regarding famous Masons on postage stamps would be published in "The Empire State Mason", the Grand Lodge of the State of New York's magazine. Various members agreed to write articles.

The guest speaker for the evening was Bernard Aaronstein. Mr. Aaronstein is president of the Bronx County Stamp Club. His subject for the evening was "Stamps of Great Britain." Though he has collected stamps for over 50 years, he has specialized in those of England for less than three years. In this short time he has become an authority on this subject. He has compiled seven volumes of which he brought three to show our members. The albums displayed were 90 percent complete.

Mr. Aaronstein stressed the point that if he obtained another stamp he would not hesitate to remove a page, take the stamps out of the mounts and set up an entirely new page, so that his newest item would be in its rightful place. The pages in the books displayed were laid out in a very eye-appealing manner.

The stamps exhibited were both newer releases as well as those from the 19th century. Included were covers, plate blocks and singles. It was pointed out by Mr. Aaronstein that the older stamps did bear hinge marks as good stamps come out of collections, and in the past the large selection of mounts that are available today were not manufactured.

The lecture was both interesting and educational.

OUR CLUB TREASURER'S DREAM

Joe Munk fell asleep the other night
And while had his snooze,
He dreamed each member stepped
right up
And promptly paid his dues.
But when he found it was a dream
He nearly had a fit.
It's up to you to make it true
(Suggestion to the few)—
Brethren, please remit.

THE EDITOR'S TROUBLES

Getting out this magazine is no picnic,
If we print jokes, people say we are
silly,

If we don't, we are too dry.

If we stick close to the office all day,
we ought to be on the job at the
office.

If we don't accept contributions, we
don't appreciate genius.

And if we do print them the paper is
filled with junk.

If we edit the other fellow's write-up,
we are too critical;

If we don't, we are asleep.

If we clip them from the papers we are
too lazy to write them!

If we don't, we are stuck on our own
stuff.

Now, like as not, some sharp critic will
say we swiped this from some other
bulletin.

We did.

WANTED

Articles for the Masonic Philatelist
are always needed and welcome. This
edition has several contributions sent
us by Marshall S. Loke. Readers of our
publication have been reading and en-
joying his items of interest for many
years.

We wish to thank him for his time
and effort in researching and prepar-
ing these facts on famous Masons who
have been honored on postage stamps.

Any reader who wishes to write an
article on his hobby can send it to:

Roy T. Ketcham, 1827 East 33rd St.,
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11234.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

ON NEW ZEALAND STAMP

Few churches have a connection
with Freemasonry, but the Collegiate
Church of St. Peter in Westminster,
England, commonly known as West-
minster Abbey, is outstanding in this
respect. In it have been consecrated
many Masonic bishops and many of its
deacons have been Masons. Two Kings,
Masons, were crowned in the Abbey.
It is the resting place of many Masons
of fame.

The historic building dates back to
1250. Sir Christopher Wren, the last
Grand Master of Operative Masons in
England, had a part in the construction
of its last addition in 1722-1740.

The ancient shrine is reproduced on
the 8d value of New Zealand's Corona-
tion series of 1953, also on overprints
for use in New Zealand dependencies.

SLIDES AVAILABLE

The Masonic Stamp Club has three
sets of slides which will be loaned on
request to lodges. They are interesting
to both the philatelist and the non-
stamp collector. The club will gladly
arrange to provide a speaker to nar-
rate.

The programs available are: George
Washington, Masonic Symbols on
Stamps, and Masonic Postmarks. Lodges
interested can contact the club. This
should be done at least two months in
advance.

These slides are loaned free of charge.
Inquiries should be made to The Ma-
sonic Stamp Club of New York, Col-
lectors Club Building, 22 East 35th St.,
New York, N.Y. 10017.

GEN. PEDRO SANTANA

1801-1864

General Santana was a leader of the
revolution by which Santo Domingo
separated from Haiti in 1844. He served
as the first president of the Dominican
Republic from 1844-48, 1853-56 and
1858-61.

When the Supreme Council A.A.S.R.
was organized there in 1851, Pedro San-
tana, who was a 33rd degree Mason,
served as its first Grand Commander.

Stamp: Dominican Republic (1949)
No. 432.

—Marshall S. Loke

DUKE ELLINGTON

Edward K. (Duke) Ellington, the
prominent composer and arranger,
whose music is known by concerts and
recordings, not only in America, but
throughout Europe and much of the
world as well, was made a Master
Mason (Prince Hall) in Social Lodge
No. 1, Washington, D.C. on May 5, 1932.

In 1967 TOGO honored Duke Elling-
ton on its musical development set with
his portrait on the 15fr. and 30fr. stamps,
Scott No. 601 and 603.

—Marshall S. Loke

Germany in 1950 issued a 20pf stamp
(No. 9N68) to publicize the European
Recovery Plan, more commonly known
as the Marshall Plan. Italy in 1949 is-
sued a series of three stamps (No.
515-517) for the same purpose. The
program was developed by Gen.
George C. Marshall, who was made a
"Mason at sight" on December 16, 1941,
by M.W. Bro. Ara M. Daniels, Grand
Master of the District of Columbia.



JOHN PAUL JONES

A Mason

John Paul Jones was not only the most distinguished sea fighter in the war of American independence, but was also a Freemason. Although not especially notable as a Mason, his association with our Fraternity must have made him a better man than he otherwise might have been. His admission into Masonry at the age of 23 was in the town of Kirkcudbright (pronounced "Kirkcoobry") some 25 miles from his birthplace.

John was born July 6, 1747 on the estate of Arbigland (where his father, John Paul, Sr., was a gardener), in the parish of Kirkbean, in the stewarty of Kirkcudbright, Scotland.

At the age of 13 John Paul Jr. went to sea on a trading vessel bound for Barbados and Virginia and by the time he was 21 he was master of a merchant vessel in the West Indies trade.

A short time after returning to Kirkcudbright near the end of 1770 with a cargo of rum, sugar, cotton and ginger, Captain John Paul applied for admission to the Master, Wardens and Brethren of Free and Accepted Masons of St. Bernard Lodge No. 122 (now St. Cuthbert Lodge No. 41). His petition, attested by James Smith, was read in Lodge and John Paul was "initiated into the mysteries and privileges of Ancient Freemasonry" on November 27, 1770. He was passed to the second degree on February 28, 1771, but there is no record that he was raised in that Lodge or that he subsequently visited Kirkcudbright.

Most authorities agree that he took the Master Mason degree somewhere in America, but where or in what lodge has not been ascertained. Some think that it was in Royal White Hart Lodge No. 2 at Halifax, Province of North Carolina, where he lived for a time after assuming the name of "Jones" and before receiving his commission in the new navy. Unfortunately the Lodge records of that period are lost, but if those lost records are ever found, it is believed the tradition that Jones was a visitor of this Lodge will be found true.

His membership in St. Bernard Lodge later helped Paul Jones to establish

himself wherever he stayed and to meet important people. He was a close friend of Dr. John K. Read who later was instrumental in founding the Grand Lodge of Virginia. Two of his friends, Joseph Hewes and Robert Morris, both Masons and members of the Marine Committee, were influential in procuring his appointment as first lieutenant in the new Continental Navy. Throughout his naval career he retained the confidence of such men as Benjamin Franklin, the Marquis de Lafayette, Thomas Jefferson and others.

During the war Jones fought 23 naval battles, made seven attacks on English ports and coasts, fought and captured four great warships larger than his own and took many valuable prizes to the loss of England and the glory of America. His capture of the English frigate "Serapis" in the greatest naval victory of the war raised his fame to the highest degree. It was, in fact, the toughest and hardest fought of all naval battles in days of sail.

In the spring of 1780 at the pinnacle of his fame, Commodore Paul Jones went to Paris on some business and was about to return to his ship when pressure was brought upon him to prolong his stay. He became the lion of Paris honored by everyone from the King down. He was acclaimed and applauded by people in the street. He was invited to dine with great men, and lovely women almost threw themselves into his arms. The King intended to decorate him and his brother Masons wished to induct him into the Lodge Les Neuf Soeurs (The Nine Sisters), the most famous Lodge in France.

At a special communication of the Lodge on Monday, May 1, 1780 Bro. John Paul Jones was introduced to the Lodge by Bro. M. de la Dixmerie who made the welcoming oration. No sooner had Jones been made a member than the assembled brethren commissioned sculptor Jean Antoine Houdon to do a superb portrait bust of him, which was exhibited at the Salon of 1781 and of which several contemporary replicas have been preserved.

Louis XVI, on permission from the American Congress, invested him with the Order of Military Merit and the rank of Chevalier. An even greater honor conferred on him by the King was the presentation of a gold-hilted sword which now rests near his tomb at the U.S. Naval Academy.

Jones returned to Paris for the last time in May 1790. He rented an apartment at No. 52 (now re-numbered 19) Rue de Tournon, conveniently situated

for attending meetings of the Lodge of the Nine Sisters. Failing health curtailed his activities and he died July 18, 1792 at age 45. His body was sealed in a lead coffin and taken to the little cemetery of St. Louis that had been set aside for the burial of foreign protestants outside the city boundary. The funeral rites were very simple.

All of Jones' American and Russian uniforms, the gold medal presented by Congress and other effects were sold at auction. The only objects owned by him at the time of his death that have been preserved are the sword mentioned above, a coat of arms, two miniature portraits, a small pistol, his commission as Captain U.S. Navy and his certificate of membership in the Society of Cincinnati.

After a long search his grave was found in 1905. Identification of his remarkably well preserved corpse was positive, made the more unmistakable by comparison with the Houdon bust. President Theodore Roosevelt sent a squadron of four U.S. cruisers to bring the body to Annapolis. Commemorative exercises were held on April 24, 1906 with addresses by the President and others. Congress finally appropriated money for a sarcophagus of marble and bronze in a crypt of the Naval Academy chapel where Paul Jones' body was placed on January 26, 1913.

A 1¢ stamp with portraits of Jones and his friend, John Barry, was placed on sale at Washington, D.C. on December 15, 1936. Scott No. 790.

—Marshall S. Loke

DOM PEDRO I

Dom Antonio Pedro de Alcantara Bourbon was born at Lisbon, Portugal, October 12, 1798. His father was John, the Prince Regent of Portugal.

When Dom Pedro was nine years old and Napoleon was resolved upon the invasion and conquest of Portugal, Prince John, having no means of resistance, took refuge in the Portuguese colony of Brazil accompanied by the royal family, officers of state, a large part of the nobility and numerous retainers.

The prince regent was crowned at Rio de Janeiro in 1816 as King John VI of Portugal and Brazil and in 1821 returned to Portugal leaving 21-year-old Pedro in Brazil. Rather than allow him to follow his father to Portugal, Jose Bonifacio Andrada e Silva, leader of the ultra conservatives, demanded that Dom Pedro remain in Brazil as king. The latter, really a Brazilian since he had few memories of Portugal, gladly

accepted on January 9, 1822 with Andrada e Silva as his Prime Minister.

That same year the Lodge "Commercio e Artes" in Rio de Janeiro divided into three lodges in order to form a Grand Orient with Jose Bonifacio Andrada e Silva as its first Grand Master. Dom Pedro was initiated in the Lodge "Commercio e Artes" on August 12, 1822 and a month later on September 14, 1822 he was elected Grand Master. He succeeded Andrada in office as second Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Brazil on October 4, 1822. Soon thereafter Dom Pedro ordered the Grand Orient to cease its labors and for ten years all Freemasonry in Brazil was dormant.

Emperor Dom Pedro proclaimed independence of Brazil on September 7, 1822 and composed and wrote the first national anthem.

On the death of his father, John VI, in 1826, Dom Pedro fell heir to the Portuguese throne which he renounced in favor of his young daughter Donna Maria da Gloria. Opposition to Pedro eventually developed and in April 1831 he was forced to abdicate, turning the throne of Brazil over to his five-year-old son, Dom Pedro II, who was proclaimed Emperor for whom a regency was set up. He was declared of age in 1840 when he was only 16 and was crowned Emperor in July 1841. Dom Pedro I, soon after he abdicated, went to Europe and died in Lisbon September 28, 1834.

Stamps: Brazil (1922) Dom Pedro and Jose Bonifacio 200 reis.

Brazil (1965) Portrait of Dom Pedro I 500 cruzeiro.

—Marshall S. Loke

21st A.S.D.A. NATIONAL POSTAGE STAMP SHOW November 21, 22, 23, 1969

The National Postage Stamp Show, largest and most popular of all annual attractions of America's stampdom, will attain its majority when the twenty-first one will open in New York, on November 21st for its three-day weekend stand. The huge event, with its plenitude of attractions, will be held in the Madison Square Garden Center's Exposition Rotunda, whose ultra-modern facilities are unmatched for the comfort and convenience of visitors.

In making the announcement, Phillip F. Robbins, executive officer of the A.S.D.A. and general manager of the show, stated that the Exposition Rotunda has been selected again because of its popularity last year. Despite a

few unforeseen "bugs" that developed during the 1968 show — because it was the first to be staged in the brand new Madison Square Garden Center, the thousands of visitors were unanimous in their praise of the dignity found there.

With every imaginable facility available, the 1969 event is certain to represent a philatelic dream. Benefiting from experience, the show's layout will be slightly modified to make the 135 dealers' booths even more accessible to visitors for the optimum ease of examining stocks of stamps, covers and accessories. The display area, too, will be relocated to provide an absolute minimum of distraction for those who wish to view the treasures on display, or for the trade and its clients in the Bourse sections.

The theme of the show this year will be "Fifty Years of International Air Mail."

"Although aircraft have carried souvenirs or regular air-mail before then, 1919 really was the year in which this service got off the ground as a new postal service. In all parts of the world, from the frigid areas of Canada's great Northwest, to tropical South America; from the United States to many parts of the European continent, air-mail routes were opened and extended. In fact, it was just a half century ago that the first attempts and successful crossings of the Atlantic Ocean were made.

In view of the fact that Switzerland, Germany, Great Britain, Canada and other nations, in cooperation with their postal administrations and philatelic leadership, all have not only issued golden jubilee stamps, but dramatically re-enacted 1919 pioneer flights within their own boundaries and to foreign destinations, it was only natural that the National Postage Stamp Show should recognize this facet of mail transportations beginning," Mr. Robbins stated.

Again this year the Masonic Stamp Club will have a lounge. All our brothers and friends are invited to visit us when attending the show.

The Madison Square Garden Center stands above the ground level of the Pennsylvania and Long Island Railroad Stations; all of Manhattan's major subway and bus lines have stations or stops at one of the Plaza's four corners.

Three of the city's largest hotels — including the official Hotel New Yorker — are just across the street and the Times Square theatrical district is within a five-minute stroll. Restaurant facilities are many and varied, both

within the Garden Center and within a few steps for those who wish more extensive gastronomic treats outside. (Arrangements have been made for readmission without having to pay for re-entry to the show after dining.)

DUKE OF WELLINGTON

Arthur Wesley (or Wellesley), who later became the great military leader the Duke of Wellington, was made a Mason December 7, 1790. He was born of a wealthy family April 29, 1769 at Dangan Castle, the family's home at Trim, County of Meath, Ireland.

He attended school at Eton only a few months, then removed and was placed under a private tutor at Brussels for one year. Next he went to a celebrated French military academy at Angers where he remained until gazetted to a commission in 1787. He was rapidly pushed by family influence through the lower grades of the service until in 1793 he purchased the lieutenant-colonelcy of his regiment with money advanced by his eldest brother.

It was while he was a young lieutenant of the 12th Light Dragoons that Arthur Wesley was initiated in St. John's Lodge No. 494. The Warrant for the Lodge at Trim was issued May 7, 1772 without specifying the hostelry which was to give it shelter. The Lodge sometimes met in the Grand Jury Room of the Court House and sometimes in Dangan Castle itself at the convenience of the Worthy Master. On the night of December 7, 1790 when Arthur Wesley paid his admittance fee and was initiated, the ceremony took place in Dangan Castle. He was the third member of his family to join the Trim Lodge; his father and one brother were already members. There is no record that he ever took the second or third degrees or that he ever attended lodge again. His dues were paid until December 1795 when his membership ceased.

Many years later (1838) when there were scarcely enough members left to keep the lodge going, the Warrant was transferred to Dublin. As soon as the Lodge had been reorganized as Dublin Lodge No. 2, the new secretary, Bro. Edward Carleton, an eminent Dublin attorney, wrote to the Duke of Wellington, soliciting his patronage and asking permission to call the Lodge by his Grace's name. The Duke replied:

London, Aug. 13, 1838

"The Duke of Wellington presents his compliments to Mr. Carleton. He perfectly recollects that he was admitted to the lowest grade of Free Masonry in a

Lodge which was fixed at Trim, in the County of Meath.

"He has never since attended a Lodge of Free Masons. He cannot say that he knows anything of the Art.

"His consent to give this Lodge his Name would be a ridiculous assumption of the reputation being attached to Free Masonry; in addition to being a misrepresentation.

"The Duke of Wellington hopes, therefore, that Mr. Carleton will excuse the Duke for declining to comply with this suggestion."

The Duke of Wellington died of apoplexy at Walmer Castle, Kent, September 14th (?) or 22nd (?), 1852. He received a magnificent funeral and was buried near the tomb of Nelson in the crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral, London. DUBAI issued a stamp Nov. 13, 1967 with a royal portrait, by Goya, of the Duke of Wellington. This is a non-Scott item as Dubai is on the "black list". It is Minkus #218.

—Marshall S. Loke

Ketcham's Korner

On November 27th our nation will celebrate Thanksgiving Day. Do you you realize that Congress only made this day of thanks a national holiday commencing in 1942?

Four men have gone down in history relating to this holiday. Three of them, presidents of the United States, are pictured on postage stamps, of whom two were Masons.

For thousands of years people in many lands have held harvest festivals. The American Thanksgiving probably grew out of the harvest-home celebrations of England. The first American Thanksgiving Day was held during the second winter the Plymouth colonists spent in the New World. Governor William Bradford decreed that December



13, 1621 be set aside as a day of feasting and prayer to show the gratitude of the colonists.

During the Revolutionary War eight special days of thanks were observed for victories.

On November 26th 1789 President George Washington issued a general proclamation for a day of thanks, the first for the United States as a nation. For many years after this, however, our country did not have a yearly thanksgiving holiday. Some individual states did proclaim it but many did not. New York state made Thanksgiving a state holiday in 1830.

In 1863 President Abraham Lincoln issued a proclamation setting aside the last Thursday in November "as a day of thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father". Each year afterward, for 75 years, the President of the United States formally proclaimed that Thanksgiving Day should be celebrated on the last Thursday of November. But in 1939 President Roosevelt changed the day to the next to the last Thursday. His purpose was to help business by making the shopping period between Thanksgiving and Christmas longer. Congress finally ruled that after 1941 Thanksgiving Day would be the fourth Thursday of November and it would be a legal holiday throughout the country without presidential proclamation.



While our country and others have issued stamps commemorating Christmas over the past few years, none have been issued for this day of thanks. The Pilgrim tercentenary stamps were issued in December 1920 but while this can be related to Thanksgiving they were not printed for that purpose. A topical collection could be made up by stretching the imagination. For example the wild turkey stamp of 1956 could be included. Other stamps most likely could be brought in the same way. Naturally the Washington, Lincoln and Roosevelt stamps would fit in.

The year 1971 will be the 350th anniversary of the first Thanksgiving held in what is now the United States. This would be an ideal opportunity for the Post Office Department to issue a commemorative stamp for this important American holiday.

To all of our members and friends, a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.



Man's Greatest Accomplishment — He Conquers the Impossible

The Post Office Department issued a very attractive multi-colored stamp in honor of this most auspicious event. The "FIRST MAN ON THE MOON" Stamp was canceled on the First Day of Issue with TWO Cancellations. The First Day of Issue was September 9, 1969. The other Cancellation is July 20, 1969 — the day our Astronauts landed on the MOON. The die for this cancellation was carried to the Moon. A history making cover and a Real Collector's Item.

The Masonic Stamp Club of New York is honoring our Brother ALDRIN with a specially designed Cachet. Lest you forget, it was Brother ALDRIN who placed "Old Glory" on the surface of the MOON. Our Cachet is beautifully engraved and will be mailed to you unaddressed and in a separate envelope, arriving in your hands in clean, perfect condition.

The Price ONLY \$1.00 each SIX for \$5.00

Write for special prices on larger orders

These covers are now ready to mail.

We will supply MINT Plate # Blocks of 4 stamps at \$1.00 each.

Matched Sets of 4 Positions \$5.00.

Brothers, don't miss these outstanding souvenirs.

These will most certainly be "Collectors' Items."

Please send in your orders AT ONCE, as supplies are limited.

MASONIC CACHETS — Pleasantville, New York 10570

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