



# The Masonic Philatelist

VOL. 27

SEPTEMBER 1970

NO. 1

## Famous American Hero



**General Douglas MacArthur**

Receiving the Grand Lodge of the State of New York Distinguished Achievement Award for the year of 1964 from Judge Froessel and Past Grand Master Harry Ostrov. (See page 3)

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Published By

The Ralph A. Barry - Al Van Dahl

PUBLICATION FUND

of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc.  
22 East 35th Street, New York, N. Y. 10016

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MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK, INC.  
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### THREE YEARS —

Phil Gold, Norman H. Sehlmeier, Stanley A. Salomon

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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

## EDWIN MAYER ELECTED TO SECOND TERM AS PRESIDENT

At the annual meeting of The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc., held on the first Friday of June, Edwin Mayer was re-elected as president to serve for the next twelve months. The members are looking forward to another successful year under his able leadership.

Louis Bernstein was also re-elected as first vice-president.

George H. Wettach, who has served as curator of archives and a member of the financial committee was elected as second vice-president.

Robert A. Smith, who did an outstanding job as secretary during the past year, was again elected to the same office for the next year.

Our able treasurer, Joseph Munk, was also re-elected to handle our finances.

Emanuel Reggel, one of the pillars of our organization, was honored by being elected to serve as chaplain.

Philip Gold, Norman H. Sehlmeier and Stanley Salomon were elected to the board of directors for a three-year term.

## PROGRAM — 1970-1971

1970

Sept. 11th—Members Get-Together  
Bring your recent acquisitions

Oct. 16th—Reports on the London International (PHYLIMPIA)

Nov. 6th—Past Presidents Night

Nov. 20th-22nd—A.S.D.A. Show  
Club Booth, Madison Square Garden, New York City.

Dec. 4th—Showing of Mulready's, Propaganda, Caricatures, and Pictorial 19th Century Covers., Brother Edwin Mayer.

1971

Jan. 8th—Members Competition.  
Prizes and Awards.Feb. 5th—Masonic Philately.  
Research and MemorabiliaMarch 5th—Swap Night and Auction  
Place to be announced.

April 2nd—Showing by Guest Study Group.

May 7th—Annual Dinner.  
Master of Philately Degree \*June 4th—Annual Meeting.  
Committee Reports.  
Election of Officers.

\* Open to all members. Further notice will be given.

## BROTHER DOUGLAS MACARTHUR TO BE HONORED BY U.S. STAMP



General Douglas MacArthur will be honored with a commemorative postage stamp, according to Postmaster General Winton M. Blount.

Design and date of issuance will be announced later.

"Almost from the moment of General MacArthur's death in 1964, there has been intense demand that a MacArthur stamp be issued," Mr. Blount said. "I am both honored and gratified to be in the position of complying with these requests. Not only was General MacArthur a man in war, but he was also a man in peace. The General's administration of post-war Japan certainly vaulted our foremost Asiatic ally into a position of economic dominance."

As Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers, in Tokyo, General MacArthur restored the shattered economy, liberalized the government and placed the country on the road to democracy. Commenting on these accomplishments, General MacArthur later said: "Could I have but a line a century hence crediting a contribution to the advance of peace, I would gladly yield every honor which has been accorded me in war."

The son of a general, Douglas MacArthur spent his boyhood moving from one military post to another, all the while seeping up army lore.

He was born June 26, 1880 at Little Rock, Arkansas. In 1897, he received an appointment to West Point, after previously failing a physical examination. At The Point, MacArthur early showed his stripes. He was named cadet captain, the highest honor, and he graduated No. 1 in his class.

His rise in rank was meteoric. By 1917 he was a colonel with the famed Rainbow Division in France, and a year later was boosted to brigadier general. At war's end, he held various posts in the United States and in the Philippines, and in 1930 was named Chief of

Staff, at 50 the youngest ever to hold that post.

General MacArthur retired in 1937. He was recalled to duty in 1941. A year later he spoke three words that are etched in history—"I shall return"—upon being evicted from Corregidor. And two years later, return he did.

On July 8th, 1950 he was named by President Truman to command the United Nations Forces during the Korean War, but in April 1951 he was replaced by General Matthew B. Ridgway because of his historic disagreement with President Truman regarding his proposal to attack Chinese forces across the Yalu River.

Douglas MacArthur was a member of Manila Lodge #1. He was a recipient of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York distinguished achievement award for the year of 1964.

He died on April 5th, 1964 and is buried at Norfolk, Virginia, his mother's home town.

### WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Membership Chairman Norman Sehlmeier reports the following new members have joined The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc.:

Dwight H. Barnes, Amity Lodge No. 559, Lansing, Mich.

Harry H. Greenfield, Delta Lodge No. 232, Irvington, New Jersey.

Robert H. Margeson, Huguenot Lodge No. 46, New Rochelle, N.Y.

Fred Gale Wells, Triluminar Lodge No. 767, Chicago, Ill.

### EDWIN MAYER TO RECEIVE HARRY L. LINDQUIST AWARD

The Society of Philatelic Americans have elected an award to be known as The Harry L. Lindquist Award. It is to be given to a philatelist, regardless of society affiliations and country that the philatelist resides in. The sole purpose of the award is for what the individual has done for the field of philately in general.

A committee of judges were appointed for the purpose of selecting the recipient.

Edwin Mayer was elected as the first, the 1970 recipient of this honor.

The award is to be presented at the annual convention of the society which will be held at BALPEX in Baltimore, Maryland, on September 12. The presentation will take place at their banquet at the Holiday Inn near the civic center.

# Jacob Perkins, Native Son, Master Mason, Engraved The Penny Black



St. Peter's Lodge, Newburyport, Mass.  
Initiated June 10, 1794

Passed and Raised June 15, 1794

Jacob Perkins was born in Newburyport, Massachusetts July 9, 1766. He had meager schooling but early showed promise of inventive talent. At the age of thirteen he was apprenticed to a goldsmith and worked at the trade until he was seventeen. He learned to engrave dies and made dies for copper coins minted by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He also did engraving of bank note plates. In the course of experiments he devised a steel check-plate for printing bank notes, which made counterfeiting more difficult.

In 1819 we find him in England, establishing the firm of Perkins, Fairman and Heath, a firm for the manufacture of plates for printing bank notes. With the introduction of the Penny Post, Perkins, now of the firm of Perkins, Bacon and Petch, made the master dies and printed the first British stamps, the famous "Penny Black".

The first prints of the penny black line engraved stamp were issued May 6, 1840 and was followed shortly afterward by the two penny blue. In 1841 the black penny stamp was discontinued and it appeared in various shades of red, orange and brown. From the correspondence of Perkins, Bacon and Petch, it appears that many experiments were made with inks which could not be eradicated and inks that would dissolve before the postmark, in the event of this kind of fraud being attempted to make the stamp appear unused.

In a letter of March 18, 1840 from H. L. Wickham to Rowland Hill, it was stated that Perkins, Bacon and Petch were to receive 7½ pence per 1,000 stamps, which included gumming the sheets, making the plates and every other charge except the paper which

was to be supplied watermarked by the government. Thus Jacob Perkins with his invention of the siderographic patent for transferring an engraving on steel to a stamp printing plate, assisted materially in establishing the first postage stamp. He died in London, England July 30, 1849 at the age of 83.

## GENERAL WINFIELD SCOTT



Winfield Scott was a Virginia boy born June 13, 1786 on the family estate "Laurel Branch" in Dinwiddie County, fourteen miles from Petersburg. He was a big fellow; at 17 he was six feet two inches and at 19 was six feet five inches, 230 pounds.

In 1805 he attended William and Mary College only a few months, then left to study law in Petersburg and was admitted to the bar in 1807. Perhaps he would have become a great lawyer but the course of his life was changed when he accepted a commission May 3, 1808 as captain of light artillery in the United States Army.

After the outbreak of war in 1812, Scott was promoted to lieutenant-colonel and sent to the Niagara frontier where he served throughout the war in numerous engagements against the British, rising rapidly through the grades to that of major-general, which was then the highest. Congress voted him a gold medal as a testament to his valor and conduct and Princeton College conferred the honorary doctor of laws degree.

Having been severely wounded at the Battle of Lundy's Lane, he was called to Washington, when partially recovered, to serve as president of the board on infantry tactics. He declined to act as Secretary of War. After a trip to Europe, he prepared "General Regulations of the Army" and "System of Infantry and Rifle Tactics".

During the nullification troubles in 1832-33, General Scott went to Charleston, South Carolina where his tact and judicious decisions prevented civil war. In like manner he negotiated the Black Hawk Indian War of 1832.

He completed treaties of peace in the Seminole and Creek campaigns of 1835-37. Then the Canadian boundary dispute of 1838 between Maine and New Brunswick demanded his attention. He conducted each of these important duties with great success, always finding an amicable settlement.

In 1841 he became senior major-general and was appointed as Commander in Chief of the United States Army.

General Scott's most noteworthy military achievement was his conduct of the main campaign in the war against Mexico in 1847. Landing at Vera Cruz, March 9, with only 5,500 men, he fought his way through hostile country to the capital city of Mexico which he captured September 14, thereby practically ending the war.

In 1855 the rank of lieutenant-general by brevet was conferred upon General Scott. He remained at the head of the United States armies in 1861, in spite of the secession of his state, until November 1 when he retired from active service on account of old age and infirmities without reduction of pay or allowances. He traveled for a time in Europe, wrote his autobiography, and died at West Point, N.Y. May 29, 1866 and was buried there.

Winfield Scott was made a Mason, presumably in 1805, in Dinwiddie Union Lodge No. 23, A.F.&A.M., which was located at Dinwiddie Courthouse in upper Dinwiddie County, Virginia. In that jurisdiction at that time, the son of a Mason might lawfully receive the degrees at the age of eighteen. He is listed in the returns of Dinwiddie Union Lodge for the years 1805 and 1806, but the Lodge did not make another return until 1810 when Scott was not listed, nor does he appear anywhere else in the records of Dinwiddie Union Lodge. The Lodge became dormant about 1820 and was later declared extinct.



General Scott's first appearance on a stamp was on the 24¢, No. 142, in 1870. He is also on the 2¢ Army commemorative

stamp No. 786 of 1936 along with Gen. Andrew Jackson. From 1873, when the franking privilege was abolished, until the penalty envelope came into use, a series of stamps of special design and color was provided for each of the following departments of the government: Executive, State, Treasury, War, Navy, Interior, Justice, Agriculture and Post Office. General Scott is on the 24¢ value of each.

—Marshall S. Loke

### GENERAL LA FAYETTE, MASON



After the painting by Court which is in the Versailles Museum in France is the design by Ervine Metzl for the 3¢ Lafayette issue for Sept. 6, 1957.

Where Lafayette was made a Mason has not been established. This is believed to have occurred in an Army Lodge at Valley Forge. He was an honorary member of the Grand Lodges of Delaware, Tennessee and New Hampshire and of Fredericksburg Lodge No. 4 (Washington's own). He was exalted in Jerusalem Chapter No. 8, R.A.M., New York and knighted in Morton Encampment No. 4, K.T., New York. He was also a Scottish Rite Mason.

Lafayette, Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de, (1757-1834) was born at the Chateau of Chavaniac, in Auvergne, France, Sep-

tember 6, 1757. At 13 orphaned, but a very, very rich orphan. At 16 he married Marie Adrienne Francoise de Noailles.

He was Captain of Dragoons when English colonies in America proclaimed their independence. He later wrote in his memoirs "at the first news of this quarrel, my heart was enrolled in it."

On Dec. 7, 1776, an arrangement was made by which Lafayette was to enter the American Armed Service as a major-general. When the British learned that he was fitting out a ship at Bordeaux with arms, their ambassador asked for the arrest of Lafayette, which was effected but he escaped from custody in disguise, and sailed from a port in Spain, where his ship had been sent from Bordeaux. He landed near Georgetown, South Carolina and from there went to Philadelphia.

At 19, he presented himself to Congress, and asked for the highest rank after the Commander-in-Chief. This refused, he offered himself as a simple volunteer, but because of his zeal, illustrious family and connections, he was given the rank of major-general. (Even in the early days, one could pull rank.) The next day, Lafayette met George Washington and they became lifelong friends.

In his first battle, Brandywine, September 11, 1777, he was wounded. When he recovered he secured command of a division as a result of a communication from Washington to Congress, November 1, 1777.

Early in 1778 he commanded troops detailed for the Canadian Expedition. His retreat from Barren Hill, May 28, 1778, was considered masterly and he fought at Monmouth on June 28. After England declared war on France, February 6, 1778, Lafayette asked permission to re-visit France, which he did on January 11, 1779 and remained away six months. The battle of Yorktown terminated his military career in the United States.

He then returned to France where he was active in securing a general peace. In 1781 he was promoted to the rank of Marechal de Camp (major-general) in the French Army. In 1784 he re-visited the United States as a guest of the nation.

In 1787, Lafayette joined the Assembly of Notables and became a leader in the French Revolution. On July 11, 1789 he presented to the National Assembly a declaration of rights, modelled on Jefferson's Declaration of Independence of 1776. By acclamation, on the second day of the new regime,

Lafayette was chosen colonel-general of the new National Guard of Paris. It was he who proposed the combination of colors of Paris, Red and blue and the royal white into the tri-color cockade of modern France.

In the Constituent Assembly he pleaded for the abolition of arbitrary imprisonment, for religious tolerance; for popular representation; for trial by jury; for emancipation of slaves; freedom of the press; abolition of titles of nobility and the suppression of privileged orders. He was the friend of liberty, as well as of order and when Louis XVI fled to Varennes, he issued orders to stop him. Shortly after he was made lieutenant-general in the army, he retired to private life.

However, in 1791, when three armies were formed to attack Austria, Lafayette was placed in command of one of them. But when he definitely opposed himself to the further advance of the Jacobin party in 1792, the assembly declared him a traitor. He fled to Liege, where, as one of the prime movers of the Revolution, he was taken and held as a prisoner of state for five years; first in Prussia and afterward in Austrian prisons. Napoleon stipulated in the Treaty of Campo Formio (1797) for Lafayette's release. He lived in retirement during the First Empire but returned to public affairs under the First Restoration and he took part in the political events of the Hundred Days. From 1818-1824, he was deputy for the Sarthe, speaking and voting on the Liberal side.

He re-visited America in 1824 where he was overwhelmed with popular applause and was voted the sum of \$220,000 and a township of land. When he returned to France in 1825, he sat in the Chamber of Deputies for Meaux. During the Revolution of 1830 he took command of the National Guard. In 1834 he made his last speech—on behalf of Polish political refugees. He died on May 20, 1834.

## UNITED STATES POSTAGE FIRSTS

By Joseph Nathan Kane

The first postage stamp of the United States having the same design as that of another country (Canada) was issued June 26th 1959. The inscriptions, denominations and sizes differed, however.

The denomination of the United States stamp was 4 cents, that of the Canadian stamp 5 cents. The design featured two interlocking links superimposed on a map of the Great Lakes with the St. Lawrence leading from them toward the sea. Within the left



leaf was a maple leaf, Canada's emblem, and within the right link was a bald eagle, the United States emblem. The stamps commemorated the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway.

The first postage stamp on which was inscribed the name of a living American was the issue of 1927, a 10¢ blue stamp which pictured the "Spirit of St. Louis", Colonel Charles Augustus Lindbergh's airplane, in flight, with "Lindbergh Air Mail" above it. In the background to the left appeared the coastline of the North American Continent with the words "New York" in small dark letters, and to the right the coastline of Europe showing Ireland, Great Britain and France, with the word "Paris" in small dark letters. A dotted line connected the two cities showing the route of the flight.

The stamp was first placed on sale June 18, 1927 in St. Louis, Detroit, Little Falls, Minn., and Washington, D.C. The issue included special booklets of six stamps which represent the first and only air mail stamps issued in this form. Rules provide that no living American may be shown on postage stamps.



The first postage stamp printed by the gravure method was a horizontal five cent stamp printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Washington, D.C., and issued November 2, 1967 at Washington, D.C. It was printed with red, yellow, blue and black inks and featured Thomas Eakins' painting of "The Biglin Brothers Racing" showing a sculling scene near Philadelphia, Pa. The design was surrounded by a metallic gold frame. The original picture hangs in the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

The first postage stamp to bear the likeness of a vice president of the United States issued by a foreign country was a green 2 sucre postage stamp issued by Ecuador on May 15, 1958: It bore the likeness of Vice President Richard Milhous Nixon and the flags of the United States and Ecuador.

The first postage stamp to reproduce a work of art in true color was a four cent stamp placed on sale October 4, 1961 at Washington, D.C. to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth

of Frederick Remington, artist of the West. Featured on the stamp is a portion of Remington's oil painting entitled "The Smoke Signal", which is the property of the Amon Carter Museum of Western Art, Fort Worth, Texas. It features gradations of red, blue and yellow on white paper.



The first postage stamp watermarked was the one cent green Benjamin Franklin issued April 29, 1895. The initials "USPS" were watermarked in double lined capital letters. (This was the same stamp as that issued October 10, 1894 on watermarked paper).

The first postage stamps commemorating the National Recovery Act (NRA) were sold August 15, 1933, in Washington, D.C. by Postmaster General James Aloysius Farley, who went behind the grille at the post office and sold 100 NRA stamps to Recovery Administrator Hugh Samuel Johnson.

The first postage stamp depicting scenes were the series of 1869, issued from March 1, 1869 to April 8, 1870. The designs were furnished by the National Bank Note Company of New York City, which received a contract on December 12, 1868 for furnishing the stamps. There were ten denominations. The 2 cent stamp depicted a post horse and rider, the 3 cent a locomotive, the 12 cent a steamboat, the 15 cent the landing of Columbus, and the 24 cent the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The 1 cent, 6 cent, and 90 cent stamps carried portraits of Franklin, Washington and Lincoln respectively. The 10 cent and 30 cent stamps pictured an eagle resting on a shield.

The first postage stamps depicting the American eagle were the 1 cent carrier's stamps in blue issued November 17, 1851.

The first postage stamps in coils were issued February 18, 1908 and were coarsely perforated 8½ holes to two centimeters. They were printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Washington, D.C., for the Post Office Department. In 1902 sheets of 400

stamps were cut into strips of 20 and spliced together into rolls which were prepared for vending and affixing machines by commercial organizations. These stamps were perforated on two sides only, either horizontally or vertically, two sides being imperforate.

#### **MASONS ON STAMPS**

**Sir Alexander Fleming**  
1881-1955

In September 1967 England honored the memory of Sir Alexander Fleming with a stamp representing penicillin. In 1969 the portrait of this great scientist appeared in Togo on a series together with other benefactors of mankind.

Alexander Fleming, the well-known British bacteriologist, did research in the field of wound infection as a mili-

tary doctor in World War One. In 1928 his research led to the discovery of penicillin. In 1945 his labor was rewarded by the Nobel Prize for medical science and physiology.

Brother Sir Alexander Fleming was initiated in Sancta Maria Lodge No. 2682, London, in 1909 and was Master of that lodge in 1911. He joined London Scottish Rifles Lodge No. 2310 in 1911; Misericordia Lodge No. 3286 in 1925 and was Master of that lodge in 1935. He was appointed to the office of Senior Grand Deacon in 1942, and promoted to the rank of Past Junior Grand Warden in 1948.

Stamps: England year 1967 and Togo year 1969.

Source: The Grand Secretary of the United Grand Lodge of England.

—Wessel M. Lans, The Netherlands

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