



# The Masonic Philatelist

VOL. 27

JUNE 1971

NO. 9



GENERAL EMILIO AGUINALDO  
First President of the Philippines  
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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

## THE EDITOR'S COMMENTS

This issue completes my second year as editor of The Masonic Philatelist. Much to my regret, some of the issues were late in getting out. It is a big job to compile an eight-page magazine every month and try to publish items about Masons that were not printed during the 27 years our club has printed the magazine.

During the two-year period, we received articles from Marshall S. Loke, Edmund Forsythe, Edwin Mayer, Pat Herst, Dr. S. D. Swan, Jack E. Bettencourt, Wessel M. Lans, Joseph Nathan Kane, George W. Henderson, Allan Evans and Stanley Salomon. Assistance was also given by Manny Reggel, Dr. Irwin Yarry, Norman Sehlmeier and E. Milnor Peck. My special thanks to these fifteen Brothers who, without their aid, we would not have been able to continue The Masonic Philatelist.

These Brothers represent about two percent of our membership. We hope that during the coming years other members will write us enclosing articles about their stamp collecting interests. Remember, this is your magazine, and only with everybody's cooperation can we continue to print an interesting publication.

Articles should be sent to: Roy T. Ketcham, 1827 East 33rd Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11234.

## 37TH ANNUAL DINNER

The Masonic Stamp Club of New York tendered its annual dinner honoring many of its out-of-town members. In past years individuals were honored but this year Dr. Irwin M. Yarry decided to have the dinner and follow it with the Degree of Master of Philately.

The degree was open to all members who presented themselves and who did not receive it in the past. As a result there were nearly thirty brothers in attendance to receive it. A beautiful ceremony was performed with Norman Sehlmeier in the East, Stan Salomon in the West and Bob Smith in the South. Manny Reggel acted as marshal and Dr. Yarry as secretary. The degree was quite impressive and should remain with those who participated as a momentous occasion.

The preceding dinner was served in the Masonic Club and as usual was delicious and well served.

Pictures of Brothers who attended will be found on pages four and five. We apologize to any Brother who does not find his photo, but it was omitted only because some of the pictures may

not have come out as well as others and we only wanted to publish the best photos.

### KETCHAM'S KORNER

One of the greatest American artists of all time was John James Audubon. He is famous throughout the world for his paintings of birds. Yet he is the subject of a mystery that could be included with the Morgan Incident and other unanswered Masonic questions.

John James Audubon was born April 26, 1785 in Haiti. Audubon referred to himself as a "Mason and Brother" in his diary, but no proof has ever been found establishing his membership in the craft. His diaries and letters created a mystery about his background and parentage.

It is possible that sometime in his life he did join the Masonic Order. Documents prove that when he was 18, in 1803, his father by adoption, Jean Audubon, sent the youth to Mill Grove, near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. From there he went to Louisville, Kentucky where he opened a general store in partnership with Ferdinand Rozier. While Rozier conducted the business, Audubon wandered through the countryside in search of birds. In 1819 he was jailed for debt. He entered a plea of bankruptcy to gain his freedom.

In 1820, Audubon conceived the idea of publishing a collection of paintings of American birds. His family followed him to Louisiana where he painted birds in their natural surroundings.

Unable to find an American publisher, Audubon went to England and Scotland in 1826. His pictures created a sensation, and he published "Birds of America," a work of 87 parts containing 435 life-sized colored engravings made from his watercolors. He and William MacGillivray, a Scottish naturalist, wrote a text, "Ornithological Biography."

Audubon returned to the United States in 1839 and published American editions of his bird paintings. Later he worked with John Bachman on "The Viviparous Quadrupeds of North America," and made his last collecting trip along the Missouri River in 1843. He died on January 27, 1851.

A person might proclaim to be a Mason publicly, even though he was not, hoping to obtain some material gain. In Audubon's case during the early 1820's when he was trying to get his works published, this may have been the case, but no proof of this was established. The only indication was in his diary, which at the time of being

written was not of a public nature. Why should this have been entered if he was not a brother? On the other hand, being an artist and author, he may have had an exceptional imagination and, if he admired Masons of his day, he may have wanted to be placed in their category. To prove that he had an extraordinary imagination, passages in his diaries stated that he was the lost Dauphin of France. Records have disproved this statement. If Audubon was a Mason in an American, English or Scottish Lodge some able secretary would have announced it when he did gain fame, unless he was a member in a backwoods lodge which may have disbanded. As over a hundred years have passed since his death, it becomes harder and harder to substantiate his statement. The true answer is only known by the Great Architect of the Universe.

The United States has issued three stamps honoring this famous painter. The first one was a one-cent green, as part of the Famous Americans set issued on April 8, 1940. On December 7, 1963 his painting "Columbia Jay" was printed on a five-cent stamp as the third in the annual "American Painting" series. This picture was again repeated in 1967 on the 20¢ International Airmail stamp.

### THE STORY OF THE STARS AND STRIPES

The story of the origin of our national flag parallels the story of the origin of our country. As our country received its birthright from the peoples of many lands who were gathered on these shores to found a new nation, so did the pattern of the Stars and Stripes rise from several origins back in the mists of antiquity to become emblazoned on the standards of our infant Republic.

The first flag of the colonists to have any resemblance to the present Stars and Stripes was the Grand Union flag, sometimes referred to as "The Congress Colors." It consisted in part of thirteen stripes, alternately red and white, representing the Thirteen Colonies, with a blue field in the upper left-hand corner.

Many Americans believe that Betsy Ross made the first flag, although historians dispute this story. The Continental Congress passed a resolution that established the Stars and Stripes on June 14, 1777, but did not specify the arrangement of the thirteen stars on the blue union, except to say that they should represent a new constellation. After the admission of Kentucky and

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## STARS AND STRIPES

Vermont a resolution was adopted in January 1794, making the flag one of fifteen stars and fifteen stripes.

Realizing that the new flag would become unwieldy with a stripe for each new State, Captain Samuel C. Reid of the United States Navy, suggested to Congress that the stripes remain thir-

teen in number to represent the Thirteen Colonies, and that a star be added to the blue field for each new State coming into the Union. A law to this effect was passed April 4, 1818.

A 48-star flag came with admission of Arizona and New Mexico in 1912. Alaska added a 49th star in 1959 and Hawaii paved the way for 50 stars in 1960.

# General Emilio Aguinaldo

By Edmund Forsythe



General Emilio Aguinaldo, named first President of the Philippine Republic when independence was proclaimed on June 12, 1896, became a Freemason in the year 1895 and remained a Mason until his death on February 6, 1964 at the age of 95 years.

General Aguinaldo the Patriot led his nation in a revolution against the Spanish rulers which was, in fact, the first cry for freedom in all Asia. His competence and excellence as a military commander led to the expulsion of the Spanish Colonial Government from the Philippine Archipelago.

His original parent lodge was Logia Pilar No. 203 under the jurisdiction of Gran Oriente Espanol of Spain. Logia Pilar was located in the town of Kawit across the bay from Manila.

In the year 1915, several members of Logia Pilar No. 203, including the General, requested a dispensation from the Gran Oriente Espanol to form a new lodge to be named Magdalo which was the symbolic name used by General Aguinaldo during the hostilities with Spain. The Gran Oriente granted the request and the first Master of the new Logia Magdalo No. 371 was the Wor-

shipful Brother Emilio Aguinaldo. He was reelected Master the following year and served two terms as Master of the lodge.

Since "La Federacion del Gran Oriente Espanol", to designate it by its full and correct title, was not in full communication with the Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands, there was no manner of relationship between the members of the two Grand Bodies and their subordinate lodges. To correct this undesirable relationship and bring unity to Masonic activity, on February 13, 1917 Logia Magdalo No. 371 Ritos Escoscos Antiguos y Aceptados was accepted and admitted by the Grand Lodge of the Philippine Islands, designated as Magdalo Lodge No. 31 F.&A.M. The lodge at that time had a roster of 71 members.

The name Magdalo Lodge No. 31 was changed to Ibarra Lodge No. 31 on October 10, 1928. Ibarra is a name taken from the novel titled "Noli Me Tangere" (Social Cancer). The author of the novel was the patriot and martyr, Bro. Jose Rizal, presently honored as the foremost patriot and an outstanding freemason.

At a meeting of Ibarra Lodge No. 31 held on January 1, 1955 for the installation of officers, the Past Master General Emilio Aguinaldo was in attendance and reaffirmed his faith in the validity of Masonry. After his death his home and a large area of surrounding land was donated to the government and in compliance with the previous request of the General, the home was converted into the Aguinaldo Shrine. The body of the General and Mason is entombed on the grounds of the shrine.

After the death of the General, Ibarra Lodge No. 31 requested permission from the Grand Lodge of the Philippines to change the name from Ibarra to Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial Lodge No. 31. Permission was granted on July 1, 1964. This Lodge is presently located in the town of Kawit sited in Cavite Province.

It is pertinent to remember that the struggle for independence started by General Aguinaldo in 1896 was continued in Cavite Province during the Japanese occupation years 1942 through 1945. Colonel Emmanuel Baja, Past Master of Ibarra Lodge No. 31, headed the anti-Japanese guerilla forces unit until he was captured and executed by the Japanese military. His place was taken by another Past Master, Modesto Dayrit, who continued the fight against the invaders until the war's end.

Monsignor Gregorio Aglipay, the founder of the Philippine Independent Church, a patriot and a Freemason, veteran of the fight for independence from Spain, was also a lifetime member of Ibarra Lodge No. 31.

On January 23, 1969 the Philippine Government issued a three stamp set of commemoratives to honor the 100th birthday of General Aguinaldo. The present one-peso banknote carries on the reverse side a portrait of General Aguinaldo proclaiming independence of the Philippines from Spain. The location is the front balcony of the Aguinaldo residence which is still in existence at the Aguinaldo Shrine. At the same time the year 1969 was proclaimed The Aguinaldo Centennial Year.

### WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Our membership committee chairman informs us that the following Brothers have joined the Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc.:

C. Woolsey Lacy, Houston Lodge No. 1189, Houston, Texas.

Arnold R. Langston, Angleton Lodge No. 829, Angleton, Texas.

### FOREIGN MASONS ON POSTAGE STAMPS

The following is the second in a series of a checklist compiled by Marshall S. Loke, listing Masons who are pictured on foreign postage stamps. Following the name of the famous Mason is the nation that issued the stamp and the Scott Catalog number.

- Calvo, Francisco—G.L. of Costa Rica centennial stamp.
- Campo, Carlos Ibanez del — Panama C161.
- Campo, Estanislao del—Argentina 800.
- Cane, Miguel—Argentina 801.
- Carducci, Giosue—Italy 274, 728; Sweden 710.
- Carrington, Lord—New South Wales 86, 88, O31, O33.
- Castelar, Emilio—Spain 522, 538.
- Castelli, Juan Jose—Argentina 168, 478, C76.
- Castillo, Jose Abel—Ecuador 594-95, C282-86.
- Castro, David Fidanque de—Panama 454.
- Castro-Madriz, Jose Maria—Costa Rica 50, 66, 231, C86.
- Castro, Vicente Antonia de—Cuba 602.
- Cespedes, Carlos Manuel de—Cuba 273, 528, 616.
- Chenier, Andre de—France B249.
- Choiseul, Etienne Francois — France B237; St. Pierre & Miquelon.
- Christian X—Denmark 97, 132, 164, 210, 239, 259, 280, 294; Danish West Indies 51-58; Greenland 11-12; Iceland 108-28, 199-201.
- Churchill, Winston S.—Antigua 157-60; Ascension 96-99; Australia 389; Bahamas 224-27; Barbados 281-84; Basutoland 105-08; Bechuanaland 206-09; Bermuda 201-04; Brazil 1005; Br. Antarctica 16-19; Br. Guiana 297-98; Br. Honduras 191-94; Br. Solomon Is. 145-48; Brunei 120-23; Burundi B28-30; Cameroun C55-56; Canada 440; Cayman Is. 176-79; Chad C24; Colombia 520-22; Congo C30; Cook Is. 164-69; Dahomey C28; Dominica 189-92; Falkland Is. 158-61; Fiji Is. 215-18; Gabon C38; Gambia 212-14; Germany 982; Gibraltar 171-74; Gilbert Is. 106-09; Britain 420-21; Grenada 202-12, —, 375; Hong Kong 225-28; Jamaica 252-53; Jersey —; Liberia 432-33, C170; Mali C31; Malta 344-47; Mauritania C43; Mauritius 295-98; Monserrat 178-81; New Hebrides 112-15; New Zealand 371; Nicaragua 696, 698, 699, C272, C274, C584-87; Niger C51; Panama —; Paraguay —; Pitcairn Is. 56-59; Rhodesia 206, 222; St. Helena 184-87; St. Kitts 167-70; St. Lucia 201-04; St. Vincent 241-44; Salvador 609; Seychelles

222-25; Sierra Leone 300-05; South Arabia 19-22; Swaziland 119-22; Togo 529-30, —; Tristan da Cunha 89-92; Turks & Caicos 146-49; United States 1264; Upper Volta C32; Uruguay 728, C284; Venezuela C912; Virgin Is. 163-66. (Not listed by Scott: Albania, Kathiri, Manama).

Claudius, Matthias—W. Germany 917.  
Coleman, William David—Liberia 322.  
Connaught, Arthur, Duke of — Newfoundland 113.

Constantine I—Greece 389, 414, 593.  
Cornwallis, Edward — Canada 283.  
Coster, Charles de—Belgium B517.  
Cuza, Alexander Ioan—Romania 22-27, 1263, 1308, 1686, B88, B412.

Dabrowski, Jan Henryk—Poland 329, 343.

Danton, George Jacques—France B252.  
Dario, Ruben — Argentina 788; Brazil 1024; Chile C273; Cuba E11; Honduras C423; Mexico C312; Nicaragua 407, 687, 707, C57-60, C283, C287, C598-605, RA16, RA23; Paraguay 685-90; Spain 1467, 1502; Venezuela 913.

Davila, Carol—Romania 1152, 1468.  
Del Pilar, Marcelo H.—Philippines 535-36, 592, 855.

Derqui, Santiago—Argentina 76.

Dobrowski, Joseph—Czechoslovakia 575  
Doumer, Paul—France 292; Indo China 20-02, 253-55, C18.

Drago, Luis Maria—Argentina 717.  
Echeverria, Esteban—Argentina 666.  
Edinburgh, Philip, Duke of—Antigua 161-62; Australia 267, 352, —; Canada 315; 374; Cook Is. 284, —; Ecuador C396-97; Ghana 66; Kenya & Uganda 94-95; New Zealand 287; Paraguay C317-19; Pitcairn Is. —; Seychelles —; Tristan da Cunha —, —; W. Samoa —.

Edward VIII—Great Britain 127-50; Canada 89, 98; and most Brit. Crown colonies.

Edward VIII—Great Britain 230-33; Canada 193, 214; Newfoundland 78, 106, 148, 188-89; New Zealand 23.

Elizalde, Jorge Antonio de—Ecuador 229.

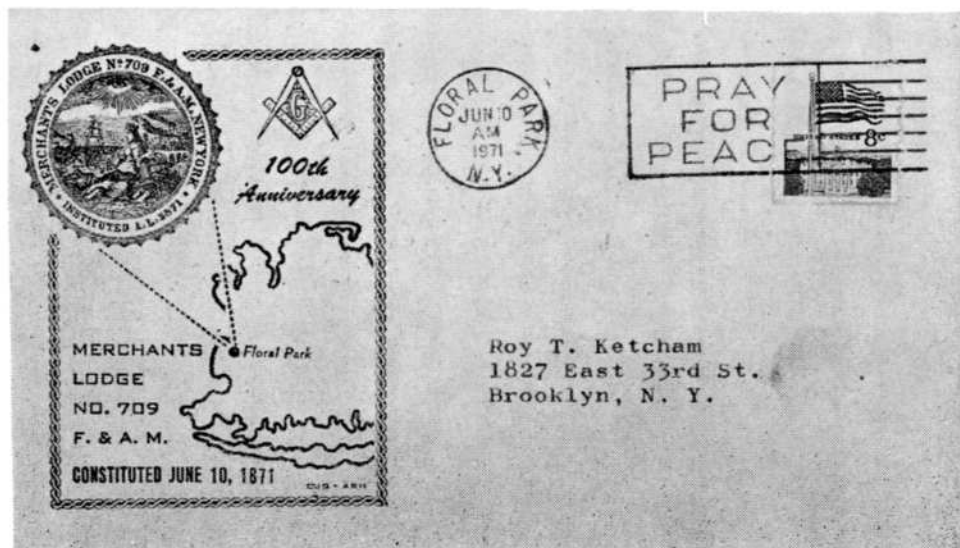
Elizalde, Juan Francisco—Ecuador 64, 66, 68.

Elsner, Joseph Xaver—Poland NB22.  
Esquivel-Ibarra, Ascension—Costa Rica C142.

Febres-Cordero, Luis de—Ecuador 227.

Fernandez, Prospero—Costa Rica 16-20, 23.

Ferry, Jules Francois Camille—France 644.



### 100TH ANNIVERSARY SOUVENIR

Merchants Lodge No. 707 celebrated its 100th anniversary on June 10, 1971.

In commemoration of the event, they issued a philatelic souvenir. Any Brother interested in obtaining the cover can contact Alex R. Hesse at 1715

DeKalb Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11237. They are available for 50¢ each plus a stamped self-addressed envelope. Alex is a member of our club as well as being a member of Merchant's Lodge, where he is very active.