NEW CLUB OFFICERS
The MASONIC PHILATELIST

VOL. 41 NO. 3

ON THE COVER

New Officers of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc. were elected and installed at the Annual Meeting of the Club on June 12, 1985.

Fortunately, veteran Club member and photographer Bernard Tepper was able to take time from his hectic schedule and attend with his camera. The photograph on our cover is the result.

From left to right in the cover photograph are: Past President and Correspondence Chairman George Wettach; Veteran member and active Philatelist, Krikor Dirgian; Past President and Publisher of the MASONIC PHILATELIST, Dr. Allan Boudreau; new President of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York and Chairman of our New Covers Program, Nicholas Batalias; and, at the far right, Past President, Secretary, and Editor of our MASONIC PHILATELIST, Dr. Irwin M. Yarry.

Regular meetings, 2:00 p.m., 2nd Wednesday each month except July and August at:

The Collectors Club
22 East 35th Street
New York, NY 10016
Phone (212) 683-0559

Please Address All Communications To The

MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF N.Y.
MASONIC HALL - Box 10
46 West 24th St.
New York, N.Y. 10010

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.
MASSONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK
By Nicholas Batalias, President

Masonic Clubs have been formed and chartered to bring Masons together, and to offer the members the means of becoming better acquainted with one another. Having the same ideas and hobbies makes it easier to spread the cement of Brotherly Love with Masons who share the same interests. These Masonic clubs include Veterans who have served in the armed forces, Luncheon Clubs, High Twelve International, Court House Square Club, etc. This is where businessmen, Lawyers, Doctors, Postal workers, and retired persons get together for lunch and talk about Lodge and Free Masonry in general. We also have Lawyers Clubs, and engineers, firemen, Marines, and Police Square Clubs. Masons who are of Scottish descent formed the Kilties of New Jersey. Members of some clubs are proficient in the ritual. They form degree teams and are invited to different Lodges to put on a degree or a different lodge program promoting good fellowship. A famous club in the early 1920's was the 233 Club. This organization consisted of members of Pacific Lodge #233, New York City who were employed in the entertainment field. They traveled to Hollywood, California where the film industry was growing rapidly. There the entertainers got together and formed this Club. If those of us who are over the age of 55 were to read off the names on the roster, we would recognize them instantly. Our fellow Masons appeared in the Silent Films of the 20's to the talkies in the 30's, to today's television, from Brothers Douglas Fairbanks, Sr. to Peter Sellers and Ernest Borgnine.

The Masonic Stamp Club of New York is no exception. In the Grand Lodge Library and Museum at 71 West 23rd Street in New York City several Masons, just like the other Masonic clubs mentioned before, all had the same hobby or interest. They were stamp collectors. On the 30th of January, 1934, the chairman who presided over this group was M. W. Charles H. Johnson, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York from 1930 to 1931. He was well known in Philatelic circles as well as in Freemasonry. M. W. Johnson went on to be Grand Lodge Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York from 1932 to 1946. So you see, the Masonic Stamp Club of New York was in good hands and off to a great start. Most of the meetings were for talks on stamps and stamp collecting. At one of the meetings in 1938, the Masonic Stamp Club of New York petitioned Brother and club member Franklin D. Roosevelt to issue a commemorative stamp in honor of the 150th anniversary of the inauguration of Brother George Washington, another Mason and 1st President of the United States. Brother Roosevelt, an avid stamp collector himself, was President of the United States at the time. The following year, on April 30, 1939, this Stamp was issued. The Masonic Stamp Club prepared a special First Day Cover for the occasion. These covers were mailed to Masons all over the world for the sum of ten cents each, with the proceeds from the Sale of the covers going to the George Washington Shrine at Tappan, New York.

The Masonic Stamp Club has always encouraged research and study of Masonic Philately, which promotes good fellowship among Masons. The membership is now well over 700 including Masons from all over the world.
Forty-three years later at the 225th anniversary of St. John's Lodge Number 1, New York City, on December 7, 1982, this writer, along with George Wet-tach the present High Priest of Fidelity #49 Chapter Royal Arch Masons New Jersey produced a cover commemorating the event. We purchased 200 stamps which originally sold for 3c in 1932. We paid fifty cents a piece to a stamp dealer and were glad to locate them, because it put the final touch to a beautiful anniversary catchet. Besides, the enjoyment of stamp collecting, it can be profitable. All the proceeds-$200-were donated to St. John's Lodge for the preservation of the Famous George Washington Bible which St. John's Lodge Ancient York Masons are the proud possessors of.

The Masonic Stamp Club outgrew various meeting rooms at the Masonic hall on 23rd Street in New York City. In 1944 the club moved to the collectors club on West 35th Street just off 5th Ave., in the fashionable Murray Hill section of Manhattan. The Collectors Club building was designated a New York landmark on September 11, 1979. The site won its place in history 200 years earlier as the estate of Robert and Mary Murrery where General Howe was detained, allowing General George Washington to proceed further northward, changing the outcome of the American Revolution. The building itself was constructed in 1901 and was the work of Stanford White, a leading architect at the turn of the century. It was purchased by the Collectors Club in 1936, and is an ideal place to meet, as many members of the Masonic Stamp Club are also members of the Collectors Club. After lunch at the Charlton Gardens, in B. Altman, the meetings start at 2:00 P.M., the second Wednesday each month except July and August.

In the early 1940s members of Masonic Stamp Club started serious study of Masons on postage stamps and the term Masonic philately was born. In March of 1944 a small publication was produced with the title of the Masonic Philatelist. This has grown to a quarterly publication now in its 41st volume edited by Dr. Irwin M. Yarry and published by Dr. Allan Boudreau. Through the year dozens of First Day Cachets honoring Masons and Masonic events have also been produced and sold to support charitable activities. One of the Highlights of the year is when the Philately Degree is presented and all members are welcome to enjoy this fun night.

When I go to New York to attend Lodge, I get to the Masonic Hall early so I could spend a few hours examining the remarkable displays in the Grand Lodge Library and Museum and using the research facilities. The fascinating exhibit of Masonic first day covers and other philatelic items led to my starting my own Masonic cover collection. The addition of new covers from time to time is expanding both my philatelic and my Masonic knowledge. I recommend that all Brothers consider suggesting an appropriate commemorative cover for a significant anniversary of their Lodges. They make nice philatelic souvenirs that can be admired for years to come.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Coils Masonic Encyclopedia
Collector Club pamphlet
Royal Arch Mason, Spring 1976
Masonic Philatelist, December 1981
Master of Philately Degree Night
May 8, 1985

On May 8, 1985 the Officers and Brothers of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York conferred the Master of Philately Degree in the magnificent French Ionic Room in Masonic Hall, 46 West 24th Street, New York City.

Members who received the Degree were John F. Fisk, IV, Continental Lodge No. 287 NY, Howard J. Lasker, Washington Lodge No. 85, NY, Frank C. Lepore, Mystic Brotherhood Lodge No. 21 NJ, Werner R. Busche, Alpine-Tilden Lodge No. 77 NJ, Harry Sielmann, Amos Fort Green Lodge No. 922 NY, and Avigdor Gornetzki, Goelet Lodge No. 918 NY.

Brother David Deutsch occupied the East for the ceremonies with Brothers Nicholas Batalias and Allan Boudreau serving in the other principal stations. Past President Joseph Nathan Kane delivered the oration before leaving to attend the ceremonies honoring him for his 60 years membership in King Solomon Beethoven Lodge No. 323 NY. Brothers Bernard Tepper, Official Club Photographer, assisted with the evening’s work.

Annual Meeting — June 12, 1985

New Officers were elected at the Annual Meeting on June 12, 1985. Brother Nicholas Batalias was the unanimous choice for President as was Brother John F. Fisk, IV for Vice-president. Our incumbent Secretary and Treasurer, Dr. Irwin M. Yarry and Aydin Y. Turkman were re-elected and roundly applauded for their services to the Masonic Stamp Club.

Brothers Yarry and Boudreau were commended for their work in editing and publishing the MASONIC PHILATELIST and several letters of commendation received from members praising the MASONIC PHILATELIST were read. A special thanks was extended to our newly elected Vice President Fisk for his work on the membership records and to President Batalias for the success of the new cachets program. Brother Bernstein is revising the back issues of the Club cachets and will soon have a new inventory listing available for distribution to members who wish to purchase these issues.
Masonic Stamp Club of N.Y.
Masonic Hall
46 West 24th St.
New York, N.Y., 10010

Brethren:

Please accept the enclosed set of three Western Shrine Association Covers with our compliments. It would be greatly appreciated if some mention of our project could be made in the next issue of "The Masonic Philatelist". We will be selling these covers at "The Mart" during WSA-Tucson-85 and although a limited number of these covers have been prepared, we do expect to have some left over in our stock to sell through the mail.

We are charging $5.00 for the set of three covers and will not break a set for individual covers. Payment to be made to "Sabbar Oriental Band" and a stamped self addressed envelope of adequate size (Suggest #10) will be furnished with order. Orders will be sent to:

Sabbar Oriental Band
c/o K. G. Flock
1530 S. Prudence Road
Tucson, Az., 85710

Orders will be filled in order of receipt until supply is exhausted.

We also have a supply of "Ladder of Smiles" seals, like on the envelope of this letter, that come in sheets of fifty seals and sell for a donation minimum of $1.00 per sheet. All income from these seals is forwarded to Shrine hospitals for Crippled Children and Burns Clinics through the Association of Shrine Oriental Bands.

Thank you for any help you can give in this matter.

Yours in the Faith,

Kenneth G. Flock
Treasurer
(Member Masonic Club of N.Y.)

Incl
W.S.A. '85 TUCSON
PARADE DAY

VAYA CON DIOS NOBLE!

Produced by Sabbar Oriental Band

W.S.A. '85 TUCSON
UNITS DAY
COMPETITION

PARTICIPATION LEADS THE WAY

Produced by Sabbar Oriental Band

W.S.A. '85 TUCSON
WELCOME NOBLES

Martin A. Lotersky, President
Holly W. Callahan, Sec'y/Treas.
Don D. Jones, Director General

Potentates of Western Shrine Association

Aabineh: Charles H. Murrey
Al Bahd: Donald G. Crooch
Al Jazeel: Jerry A. Young
Al Kady: Lyle D. Altmann
Al Malalah: Thomas M. Holen
Al Rabab: Frederick H. Overstreet
Al Taamm: Brent J. Zehnder
El Balah: Robert "Bad" Croxall
El Dehab: Steve Hattina
El Dujail: William J. Frye
El Gazzah: Gerald R. Cochran
El Zaribah: A. Marshall Austin
Hilliab: Harold M. Bush, Jr.
Islam: Charles L. White
Kerak: Leonard T. Howard, Sr.
Sabbar: Martin A. Lotersky
Tehribah: William R. Dawson
Zatrah: Walter A. Hempenbach

Produced by Sabbar Oriental Band
Gentlemen:

The Temple Stamp Club of Milwaukee, Wisconsin will issue a first day cover for the World War I Veterans Commemorative Stamp. The five color cachet will feature a late photograph of Brother John Pavlik, National Commander of the Veterans of World War I. Brother John is a native of Milwaukee.

Enclosed is a copy of the cover to be used. Price of the cover will be $1.25 each or three for $3.50. Covers with blocks of four stamps will be $2.00 each. A large, self-addressed, stamped envelope (#10) must accompany each order.

Thank you for publicizing our latest cover venture.

Sincerely,

Wayne E. Cleffin, President
TEMPLE STAMP CLUB OF MILWAUKEE

P.S. Please send orders to TEMPLE STAMP CLUB OF MILWAUKEE
Scottish Rite Cathedral
790 N. Van Buren Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53202

Encl.
MASONIC PHILATELIC CLUB (ENGLAND)
Trevor J. Fray, Secretary

SOME GENERAL GUIDELINES

Now that membership has been widened to include members of other Regular Constitutions, I feel that perhaps a note on what members can expect at the present time, would not be amiss.

Many Constitutions are more relaxed than others in their attitudes, so in order to be fair and keep our respectability, I intend to maintain our policy of trying to interest our members through the Newsletters.

All other areas of the hobby, such as producing covers, accepting advertisements from others who produce covers, etc., will not be considered, even if the entire proceeds are to be donated to Charity and the revenue from advertisements a boost to Club funds.

Any activity which may be misconstrued as being commercial or advertising Freemasonry, will not be considered, and stamp dealers in Masonic material will not be encouraged to become members.

News of happenings in areas related to our hobby will continue to be reported in our Newsletters. This may include news of Covers available, if space permits, from time to time, but these will be News items and not paid advertisements. As a service to our members, for a S.A.E. or international reply coupon, I am willing to supply the names and addresses of any one, member or not, who may be able to help an individual with his particular needs, and members who wish to exchange stamps and covers or have particular requirements will be listed, space permitting, but I cannot list members "for sale" items openly, in case the idea that certain members are using the Club for personal gain is given. This would bring the Club as a whole in to question, when the majority of members are only interested in our hobby, through their love of Masonry and stamps.

Any correspondence between members of various Constitutions must be related to Philatelic matters rather than Masonic.
MASSONIC PHILATELIC CLUB

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
(Please complete in Block Letters)

SURNAMExxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx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NAME OF YOUR LODGE

NUMBER OF YOUR LODGE

LOCATION OF LODGE
(Town and County)

YOUR CRAFT MASONIC RANK

SIGNATURE

I enclose remittance £___________ payable to the order of 'Masonic Philatelic Club'.

DATE _______________ 19

Please Leave for Club Use

Date received ________________________________

Amount remittance ________________________________

Membership Number ________________________________

Please return to Hon. Treasurer, Bro. G.R. Ewing, Macnaghten House, Compton Place, London, WC1H 9SD.

Bro. Ewing advises that Brothers applying from US may forward $11.00 US in cash for 2 year membership.
PERTINENT STAMP DATA

Date of issue :  February 21, 1985
Denominations :  45 c, 55 c and 100 c
Size of the Design :  22 x 33 mm
Size of the stamps :  25 x 36 mm
Perforation :  14 1/2
Paper :  without watermark
Gumming :  synthetic gum
Colours :  45 c. :  rose, light blue, yellow and black
         :  55 c. :  rose, light blue, yellow and black
         :  100 c. :  rose, light blue, yellow and black
Sheet of :  50 stamps each
Editions :  250,000 series
Printing process :  offset
Printer :  Joh. Enschedé & Zonen
          Grafische Inrichting B.V.
          Haarlem, Holland
Designer :  Mrs. Irene van Herksen
           Willemstad, Curaçao

The stamps will be available while supply lasts from February 21, 1985 up to and including February 20, 1986 and will be valid for an indefinite period.

HOW TO ORDER THE POSTAGE STAMPS

☐ Orders should be forwarded to:
   Postmaster,
   Willemstad, Curaçao,
   Netherlands Antilles

☐ Orders for US$ 100,—, or more, should be accompanied by a bank draft or a certified cheque. Personal cheques are not accepted.

☐ Letters containing money should be registered.

☐ Correspondence by air mail is recommended.

☐ Remittance should be sufficient to cover the amount of the order plus postage and bank charges, if any.

☐ International reply coupons are accepted at NAf 0.80 each.
POSTAL SERVICE OF THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES
SPECIAL ISSUE
NEW YORK, N.Y.

300th Anniversary of Founding of New York City by the Dutch

300th Anniv. of Borough Form of Government

Flag of State of New York

Statue of Liberty and New York skyline, circa 1945

Pages from the collections of Brother M.N. Collison PJGS, Toronto, Ontario donated to the Masonic Stamp Club of New York in commemoration of the bicentennial of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.
NEW YORK, N.Y.

N.Y. Coliseum and Columbus Monument at Columbus Circle, N.Y.C.

World's Fair at N.Y.C. 1939-40

World's Fair at Flushing, N.Y.C. 1964-65

Honoring all Masons Throughout the World

Commemorating the 1964-65 New York World's Fair
NEW YORK, N.Y.

Keel Laid
15 Dec. 1973

The Commissioning of nuclear powered
submarine USS New York City

Launched
18 June 1977

50th Anniv. of consolidation
of 5 Boroughs of Bronx,
Brooklyn, Manhattan,
Queens and Staten Island

Opening of
Verrazano Bridge
B'klyn to Staten Isl.

Fiorello H. La Guardia
99th Mayor, 1934-45
member, Garibaldi Lodge
SPECIALTY COLLECTING

Specialty collecting hasn’t anything to do with the subject matter of the stamps you collect. (Collecting stamps that have a particular subject is called topical collecting.) A specialty collection is a particular form of stamps, such as:

Blocks of Four A square block of four unused (mint), unseparated stamps, with two stamps above and two below. A block can come from anywhere on a sheet of stamps. This is the easiest block to collect.

Plate Blocks Usually plate blocks are four corner stamps with the printing plate number in the margin ( selvage) of the sheet. On January 1, 1981, the Postal Service started a new plate number system. Each color plate first used in the production of a stamp is represented by a number 1 in the group of numbers in the margin. Whenever a plate is worn out and replaced during the printing process, a number 2 replaces the number 1. The color of the number is the same as the color of the plate it stands for.

Copyright Blocks The U.S. Postal Service now copyrights all new stamp designs. The copyright C in a circle, followed by “United States Postal Service” or “USPS” and the year, appears in the margin of each sheet of stamps. The first copyright notice appeared January 6, 1978, in the margin of sheets of the Carl Sandburg stamp. Most copyrights are collected in blocks of four.

Booklet Panes Stamp booklets were first issued in 1898. Usually six or more of the same stamps are on a page, called a pane. Several pages of stamps are stapled in a cover. Most collections are of an entire pane.

Covers Covers (envelopes) stamped and postmarked with the date of the stamp’s first day of issue are collected by a large number of people. On page 12 you’ll find more information about first day covers and how to order them.

Souvenir Cards These 6" x 8" cards are issued as souvenirs of the philatelic (stamp collecting) events. They are distributed by the United States Postal Service, or the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. Some are available cancelled. They cannot be used for postage. Of special interest to American stamp collectors is the annual souvenir card for National Stamp Collecting Month each October, first issued in 1981.

Mr. ZIP Blocks The Zoning Improvement Plan—better known as ZIP Code—helps the Postal Service handle and deliver mail quickly. A Mr. ZIP cartoon and slogan were first printed on the Sam Houston stamp of 1964. Mr. ZIP blocks have become quite popular with collectors.
FIRST DAY COVERS

A first day cover is an envelope that has a new stamp cancelled with the date of the first day it was issued. For each new postal stamp or stationery issue, the Postal Service names one post office that is related in some way to the subject of the stamp. Each first day cover is cancelled at the post office that conducts the first day ceremonies.

Here's how you can get a first day cover through the Postal Service. You will get faster service if you buy the stamp yourself, and then send it to the first day post office for cancellation. When a new stamp goes on sale at your post office (usually the next day after the first day of issue), you can buy one and put it on your own envelope. Put the address in the lower right-hand corner. Leave plenty of room for the stamp and the cancellation. You can use a peelable address label if you don't want the address to remain on the envelope. Put your first day envelope inside another envelope. Mail it to "Customer Affixed Envelopes" in care of the postmaster of the first day city. The post office will cancel your envelope and return it to you through the mail. You may do this for 30 days after the issue date of the stamp.

Or, you can send an envelope addressed to yourself, but without a stamp. Put the addressed envelope into another envelope. Address the outside envelope to the name of the stamp, in care of the postmaster of the first day city. You must also include payment for the stamp or stamps that are to be put on your envelope. Do not send cash. You may send a check, a bank draft, or a U.S. Postal money order. Make it out to the U.S. Postal Service.

Do not send requests more than 60 days prior to the issue date. Usually you will receive your cancelled cover within three weeks after the first day of issue. If you don't, write to the postmaster of the first day city. Tell how the envelope was addressed, what kind of design or cachet it had, and how many stamps were ordered. If you ever get a first day cover that is damaged, send it back to the postmaster. A new one will be sent to you.

The U.S. Postal Service tries to get the first day covers into the mail just as soon as possible. To do this, it sends a special team of workers to a first day post office. Their job is just to work on first day covers. Of course, they can't do all that work on one day. Often it takes weeks. When there's an especially popular stamp issue, it may take even longer than usual to get all the first day covers out. For example, for the 1982 State Birds and Flowers issue 12,070,206 first day covers were cancelled.
Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., May 23, 1883 - December 12, 1939

"My commodity is the joy of living, that is what I capitalize on screen, and it is my chief stock in trade."

Douglas Fairbanks, Sr. was raised in Beverly Hills Lodge No. 833 on August 11, 1920 and was a member of The Two-Thirty-Three Club, an organization founded by motion picture people who were members of Pacific Lodge No. 233 in New York City.

Richard B. Russell

Governor of Georgia 1930-32, United States Senator from Georgia 1933-71. One of the most highly respected and influential members of the United States Senate. Initiated April 8, 1921 - Passed May 2, 1921. Raised June 14, 1921 - Elected Emeritus Member January 3, 1971. Winder Lodge No. 333 - Winder, Georgia.
Horace Augustus Moses
(April 21, 1862 - April 22, 1947)
Founder, Junior Achievement
Initiated - April 1, 1896
Passed - June 10, 1896
Raising - October 7, 1896
Springfield Lodge - Springfield, Massachusetts
Grand Lodge Veterans Medal 1947

Jerome David Kern
(January 27, 1885 - November 11, 1945)
"King of the American Musical Stage"
Initiated May 17, 1910
Passed June 23, 1919
Grampion Masonic Lodge No. 927
Bronxville, New York
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There is an old saying that "Money makes the mare go." Money also makes other things go. To be specific, it makes the Masonic Stamp Club of New York go. A Club, like any other undertaking, cannot be successful unless it is supplied with sufficient funds for carrying on its activities. Our Club is not a business venture. It is not organized for profit and no member is paid for his labors in carrying out the activities of the Club, but our Club does have a business side which is of the utmost importance.

Perhaps the average Club member thinks that the financing of the organization is a simple problem; he gives it no study and is not really concerned about it. Once a year he receives a statement of his dues and, sooner or later, he sends in his check.

With the officers it is a different matter. Printing and mailing the MASONIC PHILATELIST to over 600 members on a regular quarterly basis is a major Club activity. Printing costs have risen dramatically over the past few years. Postage has increased from 3¢ an ounce when the Club was first organized to the present first class rate of 22¢ an ounce, with the prospect of even higher rates in the near future.

Other expenses have increased but, fortunately, none at such a rate. Paper, envelopes, typewriter ribbons, typewriter repairs, stationery, and other items add to the ongoing expenses of operating our Club. The cost of actually printing the MASONIC PHILATELIST is over $1.00 for each copy. When we look back to the time Al Van Dahl printed our MASONIC PHILATELIST as his contribution to the Club and Club only paid for the cost of the postage we realize how sweet it was.

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