



The Masonic Philatelist

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JUNE 1997

NO. 2



MASONIC GOVERNMENT ISSUES
FRANC-MAÇONNERIE

The MASONIC PHILATELIST

VOL. 53

NO. 2

Dr. Allan Boudreau
Editor & Publisher

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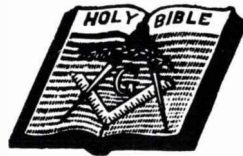
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REGULAR MEETINGS: 2:00 p.m., Second Wednesday each month except June, July, and August at:

THE COLLECTORS CLUB
22 East 35th Street
New York, New York 10016
Telephone (212) 683-0559
FAX (212) 481-1269



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.

The Editor invites all members to submit items of information and articles on the subject of Masonic Philately. Typewritten copy and/or camera ready items will result in the best possible presentation of your material if it is selected for use.

ASSOCIATION 5997

Philatélie ET FRANC-MAÇONNERIE



TOURS

Hôtel de Ville

16 MAI - 22 JUN 1997

Bureau Temporaire Hôtel de Ville de Tours
le 24 Mai 1997 9 h - 18 h

PHILATELIE ET FRANC-MACONNERIE

Exposition dans le Péristyle de l'Hôtel de Ville de Tours
du 16 Mai au 22 Juin 1997

bureau temporaire : samedi 24 mai 1997



TOURS COTY

flamme annonce



cachet temporaire

Parallèlement à l'exposition sur la Franc-Maçonnerie du Musée des Beaux-Arts de Tours, se tiendra, du 16 Mai au 22 Juin 1997 dans le péristyle de la Mairie de Tours, une grande exposition philatélique (environ 80 cadres) dont le thème principal sera la Franc-Maçonnerie.

L'universalité de cette dernière transparait bien à travers les timbres-poste, car de nombreux pays n'ont pas manqué d'honorer, grâce aux vignettes postales, des "hommes illustres" qui furent initiés à la Franc-Maçonnerie.

La Grande Bretagne fait figurer sur un timbre en 1946 le Roi Georges VI avec ses attributs de Grand-Maître de la Grande Loge d'Angleterre. Sait-on que Lindberg, qui figure sur de nombreux timbres, avait emporté dans son avion lors de la traversée de l'Atlantique, en 1927, un fanion remis par sa loge la "Keystone" de Saint-Louis. De même, lorsqu'il rejoint Neil Armstrong sur le sol lunaire, le Frère Edwin E. Aldrin dépose sur la lune un drapeau maçonnique. La liste serait longue de ces personnalités, hommes politiques (G. Washington, Paul Doumer, S. Allende), médecins (Dupuytren, Larrey), militaires (Ml. Joffre, G1. Pershing, Mac Arthur) ou vedettes (O. Hardy, Harry Baur).

La philatélie permet une approche des hommes et des idées qui, depuis près de trois siècles, essayent dans l'ombre discrète de leurs Temples de faire progresser les idées de "Liberté", d' "Egalité" et de "Fraternité".

La Mairie qui abrite cette exposition a été édifiée sur les plans de l'architecte Victor Laloux (1850-1937). Il fut initié Franc-Maçon le 8 septembre 1873 dans une loge de Tours "Les Démophiles", loge qui fête cette année son cent cinquantième anniversaire. Victor Laloux est présent dans nos collections grâce au timbre "Musée d'Orsay" de 1986, dont il fut également l'architecte.

Mairie de Tours

Service Communication, Expositions et Patrimoine
Tél : 02 47 21 65 47

LA PHILATELIE MAÇONNIQUE

La philatélie est un moyen de culture, malheureusement peu usité. Bien comprise, la philatélie permet un enrichissement culturel personnel de grande portée. La collection n'est pas le simple plaisir d'amasser un nombre d'objets ou de timbres-poste. Il faut que ceux-ci suscitent une curiosité, une envie de recherche. Ce timbre par exemple : d'où vient-il ? Pourquoi a-t-il été émis ? Où se trouve le pays d'émission ? Ce pays quels sont son histoire, ses grands hommes, ses paysages ? La philatélie peut bien souvent répondre à ces questions.

La philatélie peut ainsi être une approche pour le profane qui s'interroge sur la Franc-Maçonnerie.

De nombreux pays de par le monde ont honoré, par des timbres, les francs-maçons de leurs pays. En 1946, par exemple, la Grande-Bretagne fait figurer à côté de Georges VI, ses attributs de Grand-Maître de la Grande Loge d'Angleterre. Aux Etats Unis d'Amérique, chaque année, une flamme postale commémore l'anniversaire de l'initiation maçonnique de son premier Président Georges Washington en 1752.

En France, plusieurs timbres ont fêté des événements maçonniques : en 1973 le bicentenaire du « Grand Orient de France », en 1993 le centenaire de l'Ordre Mixte International « Le Droit humain », en 1994, le centenaire de la « Grande Loge de France » et en 1995 le cinquantenaire de la « Grande Loge Féminine de France ».

En 1989, pour le bicentenaire de la « Déclaration Universelle des Droits de l'Homme et du Citoyen », trois timbres évoquent la devise de la République Française : « LIBERTE, EGALITE, FRATERNITE », qui est depuis 1849 devenue également celle de la Franc-Maçonnerie.

De nombreuses personnalités qui figurent en effigies sur des timbres français ont été initiées à la Franc-Maçonnerie.

On peut signaler ; Montesquieu, qui fut initié à Londres en 1730 et que l'on considère comme le premier franc-maçon français. Nous trouvons ensuite La Fayette, Littré, le père du dictionnaire et plus près de nous Félix Eboué, Gouverneur Général des Colonies qui fut l'un des premiers à se rallier au Général de Gaulle en 1940, Jean Zay, Pierre Brossolette qui furent, avec tant d'autres, des victimes de la dernière guerre. La liste serait longue si l'on devait les nommer tous.

Les nombreux symboles qui se retrouvent sur les vignettes postales évoquent bien souvent des symboles maçonniques, il suffit de regarder et de réfléchir.

Voilà donc une approche que permet la philatélie, mais il en est bien d'autres, il suffit de se donner la peine de regarder et de collectionner.

Jean Claude ALLARD

Membre du Club J.T Desaguliers

Membre du Masonic Stamps Club of New York

FRANC-MAÇONNERIE, AVENIR D'UNE TRADITION

Quelques collectionneurs, la plupart membres du Club de philatélie maçonnique « Jean Théophile Désaguliers * » se sont réunis pour présenter cette exposition philatélique qui est une première par l'ampleur (80 cadres, plus de 900 pages d'album) et dont le thème est : la Franc-Maçonnerie. Beaucoup de timbres, des cartes postales anciennes, quelques vignettes et un cadre sur l'oéno-graphie maçonnique** seront présentés.

Le péristyle de l'Hôtel de Ville*** sert de cadre à cette manifestation.

Les premiers cadres sont consacrés à la Touraine et présentés par « l'Union Philatélique » de Tours qui a bien voulu assurer la logistique de cette exposition.

Un autre panneau rappelle que la ville de Tours abrite, depuis 1911, le musée du Compagnonnage. Ce dernier a bien voulu tirer de ses archives, les cartes postales présentées. Celles-ci feront l'envie de bien des amateurs.

Quatre panneaux présentent philatéliquement les principales obédiences maçonniques. Une collection donne les grands traits de la Franc-Maçonnerie suivie d'une évocation du symbolisme, outil indispensable de la connaissance et du travail en Loges****.

Laique et républicaine, la Franc-Maçonnerie respecte toutes les opinions philosophiques et religieuses. Quatre panneaux expliquent la République par la philatélie et un autre cadre, la part prise par les francs-maçons pour la défendre lorsqu'elle fut menacée. C'est en 1849 que la Franc-Maçonnerie adopta la devise de la République :

« LIBERTE, EGALITE, FRATERNITE ».

En 1871, les loges hissèrent leurs bannières sur les fortifications parisiennes pour essayer de faire cesser les combats fratricides entre versaillais et communards.

Lors de la dernière guerre, de nombreux maçons répondirent à l'appel du 18 juin du Général de Gaulle et fondèrent plusieurs réseaux de résistance, dont le plus ancien est le réseau « Patriam Recuperare ». Beaucoup y laissèrent leur vie.

De nombreux Frères ont leur effigie sur des timbres, tant français qu'étrangers. Des français comme La Fayette, Littré, Jean Zay, des étrangers comme G. Washington, premier président des Etats Unis d'Amérique, Fleming, découvreur de la pénicilline ou des écrivains parmi lesquels on compte le russe Pouchkine.

De nombreux artistes ont été initiés. Le plus illustre est sans conteste le Frère Mozart dont on peut voir sur un timbre à son effigie, l'équerre et le compas.

Plusieurs panneaux nous rappellent également la place qu'occupe les maçons- et la Franc-Maçonnerie dans divers pays aux quatre coins du monde.

Le début du siècle a été marqué par un engouement pour les cartes postales. La Franc-Maçonnerie n'a pas échappé à cette mode.

Partisans et adversaires se sont affrontés à travers cette imagerie très recherchée désormais par les collectionneurs. Plusieurs panneaux nous les feront découvrir. Quelques cartes modernes complètent cette présentation.

Quatre vitrines terminent la visite. La première est consacrée aux livres édités pour la philatélie maçonnique, dont « la Petite Encyclopédie de Philatélie Maçonnique ». Les deux suivantes sont consacrées aux journaux philatéliques. La dernière rappelle que certains francs-maçons ont suivi la mode passée de la « Pin'saumania ». Une centaine d'affiquets des quatre coins du monde y sont exposés.

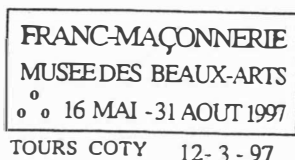
* Ce club de philatélie maçonnique a pris le nom de Jean Théophile Désaguliers, fils de Pasteur et physicien, corédacteur avec James Anderson du Livre des Constitutions de la Grande Loge de Londres.

** Oéno-graphie : collection d'étiquettes de vin

*** L'Hôtel de Ville de Tours est dû à l'architecte Victor Laloux. On lui doit également la gare d'Orsay à Paris. Il fut initié à Tours à la Loge « Les Démophiles » qui fête cette année son 150ème anniversaire.

**** Loge : synonyme d'Atelier ; ensemble de Francs-Maçons se réunissant et travaillant ensemble.

Exposition philatélique de Tours
16 mai - 22 juin 1997



Flamme d'oblitération mise en service au bureau de poste de Tours/Coty pour annoncer l'exposition maçonnique du musée des Beaux-Arts.



Oblitération qui sera utilisée au bureau temporaire installé à l'exposition philatélique le 24 mai 1997.

Des enveloppes souvenirs seront éditées pour chaque oblitération aux prix de 15 francs chaque.

Exposition philatélique de Tours.

16 mai / 22 juin 1997.

Timbres maçonniques français:



Grand Orient de France



Droit Humain (Mixte)



Grande Loge Féminine
de France.



Grande Loge de France



Devise de la République et de la Maçonnerie:

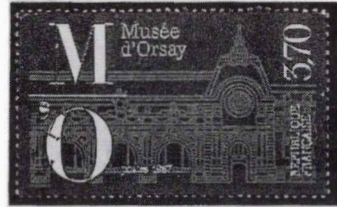
LIBERTE, EGALITE, FRATERNITE.

Exposition philatélique de Tours.

16 mai / 22 juin 1997.



Félix EBOUE
1884-1944
Initié en 1922
à Cayenne.



Victor LALOUX 51850-1937)
Architecte de la Gare d'Orsay
et de la Mairie de Tours.
Initié à la Loge de Tours
"Les Démophiles" en 1873.



Emile LITRE
1801-1881
Initié en même
que Jules Ferry
en 1875 à la
Loge: "La Clémentine
Amitié".



Jean ZAY 1904-1944
Initié en 1926 à
Orléans.
Assassiné par la milice.



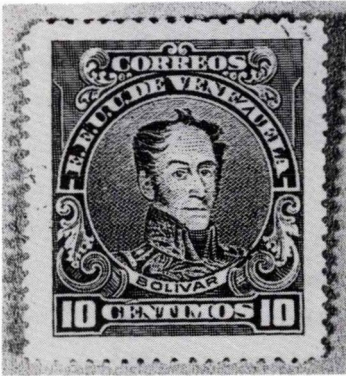
Rouget de Lisle
1760-1836



Charles de
MONTESQUIEU
1698-1755
Considéré
considéré comme
le 1er Fr-maçon
français. Initié
à Londres en 1730.

Exposition philatélique de Tours;
16 mai / 22 juin 1997.

La Franc-Maçonnerie dans le monde:



Simon BOLIVAR



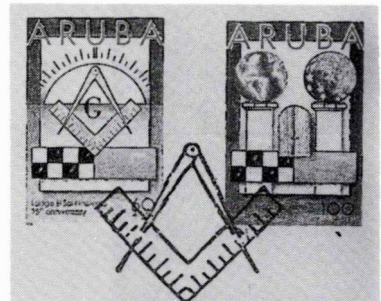
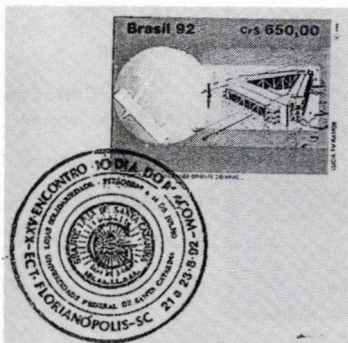
G. Washington



Temple maçonnique de
Tegucigalpa (Honduras).



G1. Pershing

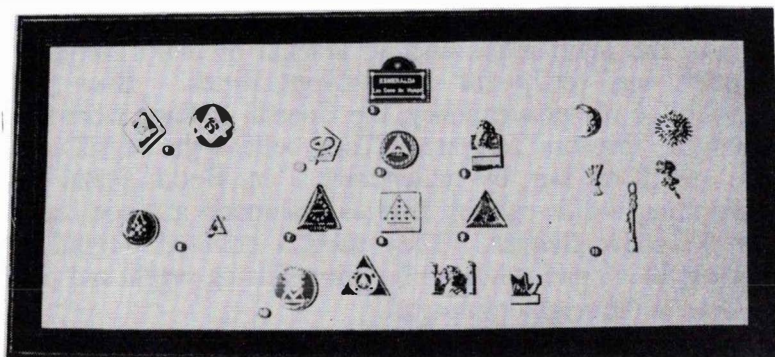


EERSTE DAG VAN UITGIFTE
ARUBA 25 JULI 1996

Exposition philatélique de TOURS.



Oenophilie maçonnique: Un cadre présente des étiquettes de vin à caractère maçonnique.



Dans une vitrine, quatre cadres présentent des pin's du monde entier.

THE S.S. *BEAVER*'s LODGE

by

Christopher L. Murphy

The *S.S. Beaver* was the first steamship to sail the North Pacific Ocean. She was built in 1835 for the Hudson's Bay Company and for over twenty years serviced posts on the Northwest Coast as a trading and supply ship. Between 1863 and 1870, she was chartered by the British Admiralty for use as a hydrographic survey ship. Her last years were spent as a towboat and she eventually was wrecked at the entrance to Vancouver Harbour on July 26, 1888. Here she rotted for many years, ravished by the elements and souvenir hunters. Today, a plaque on the Stanley Park seawall marks her final resting place.



A Canadian postage stamp issued in 1975 (Scott No. 671) honors the old ship and confirms her place in Canadian history.

In her early years, the *Beaver* had a fearsome reputation. Equipped with four brass cannons, muskets, cutlasses in racks around the main mast, and an arsenal of hand grenades, the *Beaver* was ready for most eventualities. Even without knowledge of her weaponry, the Coastal Indians were terrified when the ship first appeared. They believe the vessel carried a fire devil or ran by witchcraft. In Bella Bella, British Columbia, the awestruck natives fashioned a crude replica of the fearsome *Beaver*. They used a covered dugout canoe, painted black and powered by braves using bright red paddles, to imitate the frightening craft.

In 1924 a little part of the *S.S. Beaver*, found a new lodge. On March 6 of that year Brother Daniel Richard Gilbert of Zenith Lodge No. 104, Burnaby, B.C., presented his lodge with a

gavel made from the wood of the *Beaver*. The lodge minutes for that date quote a letter presented by Brother Gilbert from the Art and Historical Association. The letter reads:

Dear Sirs: (S.S. Beaver, Paddle Wheel)

She was built by Messers Green, Mignains, Gran at Blackwall by order of Hudson Bay Company, launched in the early summer of 1835. King William was present at launching and the Duchess of the Blood Royal christened her.

On the 29th August, 1835 under command of Capt. David Hume, the Beaver in company with the sailing vessel Columbia started on her voyage across the Atlantic for Fort Victoria Columbia River, "the first steamship on the Pacific Ocean." 4th April, 1836 she and the Columbia dropped anchors at Fort Victoria, headquarters of Hudson Bay Co. She shortly stranded exploring coast of Alaska, visiting trading posts etc. In 1837, she discovered Esquimalt Harbour and in 1838 tested the coal discovered in her furnaces; she carried miners up the Fraser in 1858 and the Cariboo goldfields. Her day was now passing and was sold to a commercial company to end her days as a common tug and after 53 years of active, distinguished service, her service was brought to a close on a summer night - July 26, 1888; with a boom of logs, was driven on the rocks at Prospect Point, Vancouver and wrecked; over a few years, fell to pieces, and the old Beaver launched by a King, christened by a Dutches, the first to double the horn and the Pioneer of the Pacific passed forever into history.

Curiously, Bro. Gilbert carved the letter "Z" backwards in the word "Zenith" when he inscribed the face of the gavel head. Yet, the carved inscription on the underside of the gavel head shows a correct "Z." There does not seem to be any explanation for this anomaly, although a backward "Z" is one of the Mason's marks on the stonework of the Kilwinning Abbey in Scotland. Kilwinning is the traditional home and mother lodge of Scottish Freemasonry. Coincident? Perhaps....





SCIPIO MASONIC LODGE
1797-1997 Bicentennial
Main Street Aurora New York 13026



Celebration Station
 Scipio Lodge No. 110
 Free and Accepted Masons
 Chartered 1797
 200 Years of Community Service
 March 22, 1997
 Aurora, NY 13026

FIRST CLASS
 32c

Bicentennial Celebration of Scipio Lodge No. 110 in Aurora. NY on March 22. 1997 featured a Masonic commemorative postal cancellation

Beautiful color post card with Masonic cancellation available for US \$2.00 from George Peter. POB 242. Aurora. NY 13026-0242



THE STANLEY CUP

By

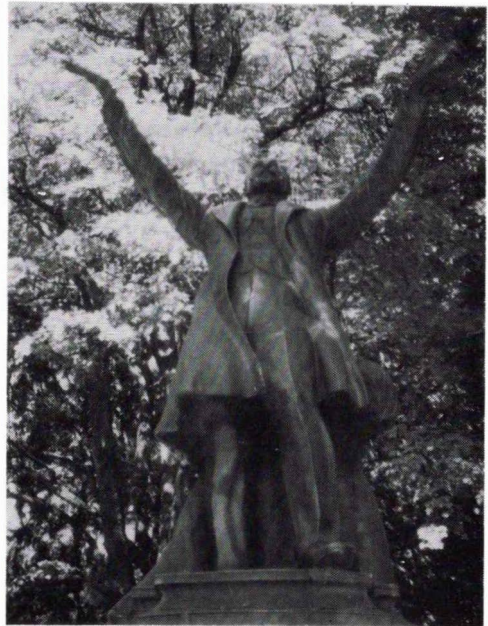
Christopher L. Murphy, BF

Each year millions of fans enjoy the the fast-action game of hockey for the coveted Stanley Cup. This prestigious award caps the season after the “best of the best” have battled for the winning goal.

The illustrated postage stamp (CDN Scott No. 1460) celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the Stanley Cup which was named after Sir Frederick Arthur Stanley of Preston, (1841-1908). Stanley was governor-general of Canada (1888-93) and a member of Royal Alpha Lodge No. 16, London, England.

Stanley was a close friend of Sir John A. Macdonald, Canada’s first prime minister, who was also a Freemason. A keen sportsman, Lord Stanley originated the Cup to encourage winter sports in Canada.

A monument honoring Lord Stanley and dedicating Stanley Park in Vancouver, British Columbia, graces the main entrance to this park. An inscription reads: **“TO THE USE AND ENJOYMENT OF PEOPLE OF ALL COLOURS CREEDS AND CUSTOMS FOR ALL TIME.”** The park itself is a legacy to the memory of yet another distinguished Freemason, Vancouver’s Mayor David Oppenheimer, who had the foresight to preserve this enormous tract of land for use as a park.



The Masonic Study Unit of The American Topical Association

The American Topical Association was organized in September 1949 by a handful of optimistic stamp collectors. Today, The American Topical Association (ATA) is the largest philatelic society devoted to a specific phase of stamp collecting. The official bi-monthly journal, *Topical Time*, contains 92 pages of illustrated and informative topical articles.

The Masonic Study Unit of the American Topical Association was one of the first study units organized. In 1977 Jerome Hudak served as facilitator for the re-activation of the Masonic Study Unit which had previously thrived under the leadership of Bro. Clarence Beltman in the 1960's and Bro. Nick Koutroulis in the 1970's. Prominent Masonic Philatelists were contacted to provide the nucleus for the group. Bro. Walter J. Kirby was appointed Editor and proceeded with the publication of a 10-page, bi-monthly *Newsletter* serving the growing membership. Bros. Marshall Loke and Richard Needham were significant contributors to the *Newsletter*.

Bro. Kirby was called to the celestial Lodge above in 1984 and Bro. Robert Domingue took on the Editorship. Since then the Unit has maintained a fairly constant membership - hovering around the 300 mark. The *Newsletter* has grown to 12 pages and is still published six times a year and distributed to members around the world. The Editor tries to make the *Newsletter* a publication of and by the members - counting on articles, bits of information, covers, stamps, etc. to satisfy the interests of the majority. Each issue tries to include a balance of stamps with articles on individuals pictured, Masonic Cacheted Covers, new world-wide stamps of interest to a Masonic Philatelist, Masonic post cards and other items considered to be of interest to the hobby as well as information on the membership.

The Unit is a correspondence group only - relying upon the *Newsletter* for its cohesion. Periodically some of the members do get together but not as a function of the MSU/ATA. Membership is US\$8.00 a year for North America and US\$14.00 for all others. Membership in the ATA is not mandatory nor is membership in the Masonic Fraternity. Applications should be sent to Otto Steding, 1033 Hollytree Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45231. Information requests can be forwarded to the Editor, Robert A. Domingue, 59 Greenwood Road, Andover, MA 01810.

59 Greenwood Rd.
Andover, MA 01810

March 5, 1997

Dr. Allan Boudreau
Masonic Stamp Club of New York
The Collectors Club
22 East 35th Street
New York, NY 10016

Dear Bro. Allan,

I do not want to appear to be a Masonic stamp broker but my roles as Editor of "The Philatelic Freemason" and author of "The Stamp Act" in "The Northern Light" place me as a focal point for many contacts. In addition to the stock of Masonic Cacheted Covers which I normally have for sale, I have been asked to dispose of a significant collection of Masonic covers formed by a member of both the MSU/ATA and the MSU of NY. I have also been asked by another Brother to mention a regular stamp/cover collection he is trying to sell with proceeds going to the Templar Eye Fund.

MASONIC COVER COLLECTION:

A collection of 639 covers, spanning the period of 1935 to 1993 housed in Nu-Ace Cover Albums. It consists of MSC of NY (115), GWMSC (345), David "C" (49), Beltmann (23), MSU/Kirby (6), MSU/Domingue (16), Denver MSC (41), La. Lodge No. 102 (22), Walsh (11), Lyre (4), NATSCO (2) and Misc. (5). The asking price is \$1100.00 for the entire lot and interested parties can request a detailed listing of the covers.

Associated with this collection are some 3-ring binders containing my Cacheted Covers Catalogs - US and Foreign, a complete run of "The Philatelic Freemason" by Walter Kirby and myself and copies of "The Masonic Philatelist" of the MSC of NY from December 1980 (V36,#4) to June 1995 (V51,#2). Anyone interested in these should contact me so we can "dicker over price".

STAMP COLLECTION: (Not Masonic oriented)

Hundreds of U.S. commemorative plate blocks, First Day Covers and full sheets - all in Mint condition at reasonable prices. All proceeds will go to the Templar Eye Foundation. Write or call the owner directly - Bro. Albin W. Johnson, Box 333, Randolph, MA 02368 1-617-963-3300.

I will appreciate any coverage you may be able to provide for these offers. Keep up the good work.

Faternally,



Robert A. Domingue

*Harold & Faye Jenkins
227 Holley Drive, Apartment 211
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402
Phone 419-353-2047*

January 27, 1997

Mr Marvin Runyon,
Postmaster General of USA
United Postal Service
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Sir:

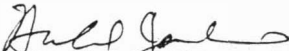
This letter is to respectfully request that you use your influence with the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee for their recommendation that a JOSE MARTI commemorative stamp be issued in the near future.

Brother Marti is a true hero in the fight for human freedom and it was due to his dedicated efforts that Cuba gained its independence and became a Democracy.

I grew up in a Spanish neighborhood in Tampa, Florida and during the 1930's at school and from first generation Cubans learned about Jose Marti and came to revere him as a great leader. Later in 1948 I became a Mason in Tampa and of course knew that he was also a Brother Mason. When I go back to my home town I always visit his shrine in the Ybor City section of Tampa and relive the fond memories of my childhood when I shared the hopes and dreams of the Cuban people.

Please accept my request as an American and Mason that you consider strongly the issuance of a commemorative stamp in memory of our beloved Brother JOSE MARTI
a true Champion of Liberty.

Sincerely yours,


Harold E. Jenkins 320

cc: Bro. Bernard Nathan, Secretary
Masonic Stamp Club of NY
22 East 35th Street
New York NY 10016

cc: Bro Aureliano Corcoba, President
Jose Marti Masonic Club
141 W. 226th Place
Carson, CA 90745

COLLECTORS CLUB PUBLICATIONS

UNITED STATES

	Price	Members Price
The Ten Cents Stamps of 1855-59, by Neinken (1960)	\$30.00	22.50
A Census of U.S. Classic Plate Blocks 1851-1882, by John C. Chapin (1983) with May 1984 Supplement	15.00	11.25
	(Cloth)	22.50
	(each)	16.85
1985 & 1986 Supplements in CCP Issues	6.00	4.50
United States Telegraph Stamps and Franks, by G. J. Kramer (1992)	(Cloth) 55.00	42.00
(Price of the Kramer books includes shipping charges)	(Full Leather) 85.00	68.00

FOREIGN

Afghanistan: Its Twentieth Century Postal Issues, by F.E. Patterson III (1964)	(Cloth) 25.00	18.75
Central America: Its Postal History & Prephilatelic Postmarks (1985)	40.00	30.00
Ecuador: Historia y Catálogo de Marcas Prefilatelicas, Spanish edition	25.00	18.75
Combined English-Spanish edition	(Cloth) 35.00	26.25
Honduras: The Black Airmail, by I. I. Green (1962)	5.00	3.75
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Executive Secretary
The Collectors Club
22 East 35th Street
New York, NY 10016

**The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc.
22 East 35th Street New York, New York 10016**

On January 13, 1934 a group of Masons gathered together in the Grand Lodge Library and Museum on 23rd Street in New York City and it was not for Masonry alone. All had another interest in common; they were philatelic enthusiasts. It wasn't long before the original group were joined by many more Brothers and the Masonic Stamp Club of New York was well on its way. The Club meetings were for the purpose of friendly discussions on the subject of philately, stamp collecting, postal history, and especially the many Masons involved.

Late in 1938 the Club petitioned President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mason, stamp collector, and member of the Club, to issue a commemorative stamp honoring the 150th anniversary of the inauguration of George Washington (also a Mason) as the first President of the United States. The following year this stamp (Scott's # 845) was issued. When it became known that the stamp would be released, the Club prepared a special envelope as a Masonic souvenir. On the day of issue, April 30, 1939, first day covers were mailed to Masons all over the world, who paid the sum of ten cents for each cover. The proceeds of this effort were contributed to support the George Washington Masonic Shrine at Tappan, New York.

The Club outgrew various meeting rooms at Masonic Hall and in 1944 initiated meetings at the Collectors Club in New York City where they meet today through the courtesy of the Collectors Club. In the early 1940's members of the Club initiated the serious of Masons on postage stamps and the term Masonic Philately was born. In March 1944 a small Club publication was begun and entitled, *The Masonic Philatelist*. This journal has grown to a substantial quarterly periodical and a well respected authority in the field of philately. Membership now numbers in the hundreds and is scattered all over the United States on six continents.

The first Masonic topical collection to draw a major prize was the Masonic Philately Exhibit during the May 1947 Centenary International Philatelic Exhibition (CIPEX) in New York City. Interest in the Masonic area of philately has grown to the extent that Masonic Philately is now a recognized specialty and exhibited at many of the major stamp shows. The American Topical Association (USA), British Thematic Association (England), and the American Philatelic Society recognize the Masonic Philately field of study. The Masonic Stamp Club of New York continues its long standing practice of participating in the major American Stamp Dealers Association events in New York City.

Over the years the Masonic Stamp Club has sponsored many first day covers as well as other cachets honoring Masons and Masonic events. George Washington, Fiorella La Guardia, Harry S. Truman, and the St. John's Lodge No. 1 (New York City) Bible are some of the more popular cachets issued. Many of these attractive mementos are given away and serve to develop a positive interest in Freemasonry. All proceeds from the donations received are directed to charitable objectives. The Club has encouraged the establishment of other stamp clubs and a source of Club pride was the establishment of George Washington Chapter No. 1 (Washington, D.C.), now the George Washington Masonic Stamp Club.

It may be well to mention at this point, that the Club is open to Master Masons in good standing with an interest in stamp collecting and especially to those interested in Masonic Philately. Brothers interested in membership which includes *The Masonic Philatelist* are invited to send a SASE (self addressed stamped envelope) to The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc., The Collectors Club, 22 East 35th Street, New York, New York 10016.

ENROLLMENT APPLICATION

THE MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK, INC., was organized in 1934 for the purpose of establishing bonds of good fellowship among Masons who are stamp collectors, and with the goal of encouraging discussion, research and study in Masonic Philately. The need for and the usefulness of the organization has proved itself through the years with a continuing supportive membership, a developing literature, widespread interest, and increased recognition of Freemasonry.

Membership is open to ail Master Masons throughout the world who are in good standing in a Lodge and Jurisdiction recognized by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

The Annual Dues of \$12.00 per year (\$15.00 for membership outside North America) bring to you *The Masonic Philatelist*, a quarterly philatelic journal published by the Club. All members of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York are eligible to receive the Degree of **MASTER OF PHILATELY**. This degree, which is NOT an official Masonic degree, is worked occasionally

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Name of Lodge..... No..... Location.....

Other Masonic Activity.....

Stamp Activities.....

Date.....Applicant's Signature.....

IMPORTANT: TO AVOID DELAY IN PASSING ON THIS APPLICATION, PLEASE INCLUDE SATISFACTORY PROOF OF MEMBERSHIP IN YOUR LODGE, SUCH AS A LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE LODGE OR A PHOTCCOPY OF YOUR CURRENT DUES CARD.

THE BRITISH LIBRARY

The British Library Philatelic Collections move to St Pancras

The Philatelic Collections will move to the new British Library building at St Pancras during November, December 1997 and January, 1998. This will be the largest move of philatelic material ever and in order to achieve this in a safe and orderly manner all services (including information services) will be closed for this period. They will reopen (with the exception of the exhibition) on 2nd February, 1998 at St Pancras. During the period of closure all communications will be acknowledged and will be replied to in February, 1998 or sooner if possible.

The philatelic exhibition, presently in the Kings Library gallery, will close between November, 1997 and early April, 1998 when it will reopen with new exhibits/material at St. Pancras.

Our address until 30th November, 1997 is:-

The British Library,
Philatelic Collections,
Great Russell Street,
London, WC1B 3DG

Telephone: 0171-412 7635/6
Fax: 0171-412 7745
E-mail: philatelic@bl.uk

Our address from 1st December, 1997 will be:-

The British Library,
Philatelic Collections,
96, Euston Road,
London, NW1 2DB

Telephone: 0171-412 7635/6
Fax: 0171-412 7745
E-mail: philatelic@bl.uk

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