



The Masonic Philatelist

A QUARTERLY

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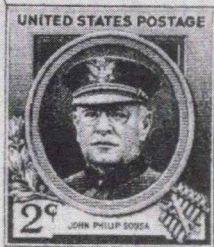
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NO. 4

Stars and Stripes

Forever

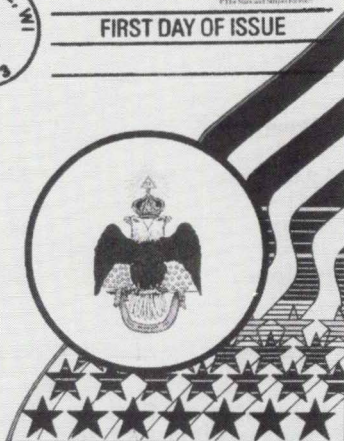


Honoring
Bro. John Philip Sousa

ANCIENT & ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY, S.J.
BIENNIAL SESSION + WASHINGTON, D.C.
OCTOBER 5-7, 1997



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE



The MASONIC PHILATELIST

VOL. 53

No.4

December 1997

Dr. Allan Boudreau
Editor & Publisher

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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.

The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc.

Annual Report 1997

Nicholas Batalias, President

I am pleased to present to the Membership this Annual Report of The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc. for the year 1997. The active Officers, Directors and members have enjoyed a good year of Masonic philately. Another Masonic Government issue postage stamp was produced by the Government of Chile, commemorating 50 Anos de la Confederacion Masonica Interamericana. We have acquired a small quantity of the First Day Covers and offer them, as noted on the cover of this issue of *The Masonic Philatelist*, to the members on a first come first served basis until the supply runs out.

Enclosed with the September 1997 issue of *The Masonic Philatelist* was the 1998 MEMBERSHIP DUES FORM. We have followed this procedure for several years as it saves the Club the costs of postage and mailing for a separate dues bill. I thank all of the Brethren who have already sent in their 1998 dues. A special thanks to all who have added an extra donation to help keep the club operating. As you all know, we will never drop a member because of money. With the difficult times some of our veteran members face in struggling to meet the rising cost of living, while on a fixed retirement income, we carry an ever increasing number who have difficulty paying their annual dues.

**If you have not yet sent in your 1998 MEMBERSHIP DUES -
Please do it today.
Save our Club the costs of sending out another reminder!**

The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc.

We will once again send a selection of philatelic items of interest to all members who send in a Self-Addressed #10 envelope (SASE) with 55c US postage affixed. Members outside the US who do not have US postage stamps available should add a small amount to their donation to help cover the cost of overseas mailing.

We again appeal to every member to please carefully check your address on this mailing envelope. Changing Post Office regulations require that periodicals such as The Masonic Philatelist must have the complete nine digit Zip code to assure prompt delivery. We will soon be converting this nine digit Zip code to the machine readable destination bar code. Please, all members in the United States, send in your full nine digit Zip code.

E-mail is rapidly becoming a very popular and much used method of communications. Dr. Allan Boudreau has written about this elsewhere in this issue of The Masonic Philatelist. Please send in your E-mail address and we will publish a directory in a subsequent issue.

One of the highlights of the past year was the 1896-1996 Anniversary Philatelic Exhibition (ANPHILEX) commemorating the 100th Year of the Collectors Club. The exhibits were in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City November 28 -December 2, 1996. The feature attraction was an exhibition of the finest philatelic material in the world. Dr. Allan Boudreau was awarded a Silver medal for his exhibit of Masonic Government Issues. Congratulations Dr. Boudreau!!

Several of our Members serve as our Correspondents in foreign countries and their important work is very much appreciated. We appreciate their efforts in the field of Masonic Philately.

Austria	Dr. Herbert Schmid
Brazil	Mario R. Krausz
Canada	Christopher L. Murphy
England	Trevor J. Frey
France	Jean Prouteau
Japan	Yuya Hirose
Netherlands	M. F. Smit

New Zealand	Victor Fabian
Philippines	Carlos L. Inductivo
Spain	Juan Sabater Pie

On a sad note I report the loss of our Past President and long time International Correspondent, George Wettach. George was a philatelist of the old school with a discerning eye and an encyclopedic mind. He brought joy to all who had the good fortune to meet him. George was also an internationally known bank examiner and the founder of the Midtown Auditors Club here in New York City. All of us who knew him miss him.

I must again point out that the expenses of the Club are an important subject that must be discussed. Annual Dues have never paid all the necessary Club expenses. We are fortunate that member volunteers who receive no reimbursement, except our sincere thanks for a job well done, carry out all the tasks required to keep the Club functioning. I especially extend the thanks of all of us to Vice President Christopher L. Murphy for his quality articles, Vice President Jim Dougherty for his excellent covers and articles, our Club Secretary, Bernard Nathan and our Past President, Editor and Publisher, Dr. Allan Boudreau for their untiring efforts in keeping the Club operative.

We are fortunate that Club members have donated their time, efforts, dollars, and even their philatelic collections to help the Club. This personal generosity has been a major factor in keeping the Club operating. We have been advised that several members have included **The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc.** in their wills. This is important long range help that will make a big difference and it is very much appreciated! Should you want to assist in this manner please consider adding to your will the statement. "I give, devise, and bequeath to The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc., 22 East 35th Street, New York, New York the sum ofdollars."

We keep the Club dues as low as possible, hopefully enough to cover the cost of printing and mailing *The Masonic Philatelist*. In fact, all of your dues goes toward these expenses. The costs include the actual cost for printing, the cost of envelopes, and especially the postage (domestic US and

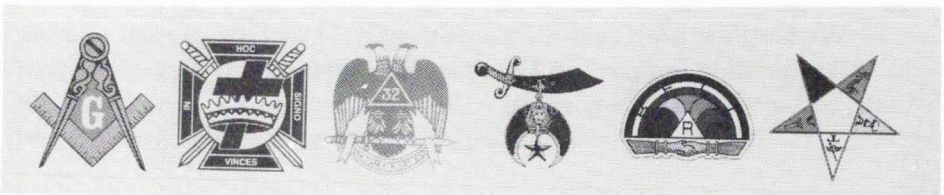
foreign). There will not be a raise in dues this year. Thanks to the generosity of several Brothers.

The Club Lounge will continue at the American Stamp Dealers Association (ASDA) Shows in New York City. This is the largest and most comprehensive philatelic event in the world. A visit to this is well worth the effort!

Please think about writing something for our Club magazine, *The Masonic Philatelist*. Members like to hear about what other members are doing. We urge you to let others know what you are working on and what you are looking for. Your contribution to the publication process will enrich your own philatelic activities. Writing a one page item is a good beginning. You will get real enjoyment from your hobby and at the same time help the Club to put out a magazine that is "member oriented."

The Masonic Stamp Club has met at the Collectors Club on 35th Street in New York City for many years. We support the Collectors Club in all their activities and many of our Masonic Stamp Club members were and are members of the Collectors Club. Following this report I am presenting the schedule of philatelic presentations at the Collectors Club. You are invited to attend and enjoy these philatelic exhibitions and discourses in the company of the world's foremost philatelists. Refreshments commence in the Collectors Club lounge beginning 5:30 PM followed by the topic for the evening.

In closing, on behalf of the Officers and Members of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc. I thank every one of our members for their ongoing support. May each and every one of you enjoy many more years of pleasure and enjoyment in your pursuit of the world's greatest hobby, philately!



The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc.

PEARL HARBOR

Freemasons and the *Day in Infamy*

by

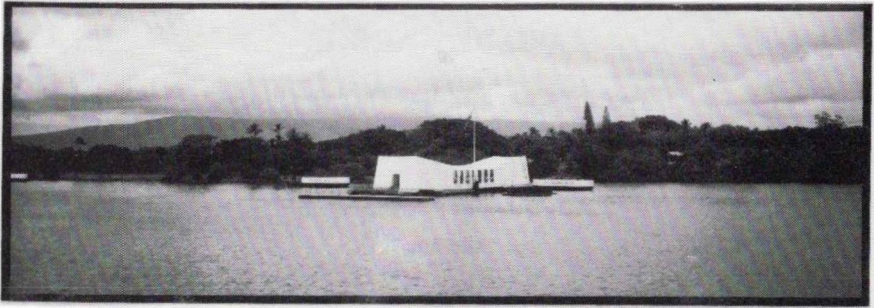
Christopher L. Murphy, BF



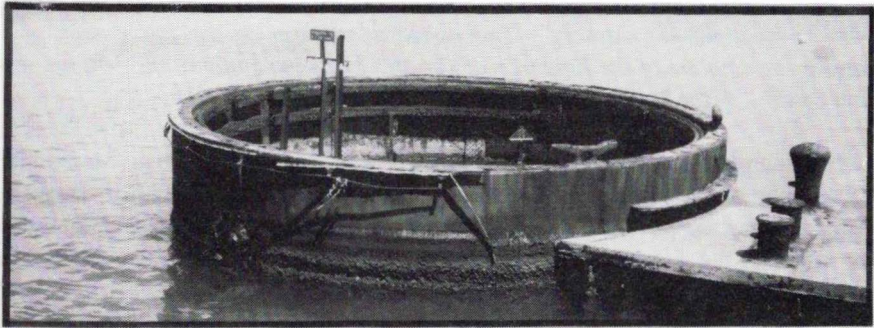
On December 8, 1942, Imperial Japan issued the illustrated postage stamp (Scott No. B7) to commemorate its successful attack on Pearl Harbor. The stamp design was obtained directly from a photograph taken during the attack by a Japanese pilot. The inscription at the top of the stamp reads, "Great Imperial Japan Makes a Surprise Attack." The circular emblem at the top center of the stamp is the emblem of the Emperor of Japan. The inscription at the bottom of the stamp reads, "First Anniversary - Greater East Asia War."

On a sunny afternoon in March, 1997 I visited the *USS Arizona* Memorial in Pearl Harbor. As I gazed into the clear water and traced the outline of the rusting *Arizona*, I reflected on that *Day in Infamy*, when 2,409 military people and civilians were killed in the Japanese surprise attack. Indeed, 1,102 crewmen are still entombed in *USS Arizona* and 54 men rest in *USS Utah*. I wondered how many brother Masons were among those killed on that fateful day - possibly many, certainly some. It is unlikely the number will ever be known.

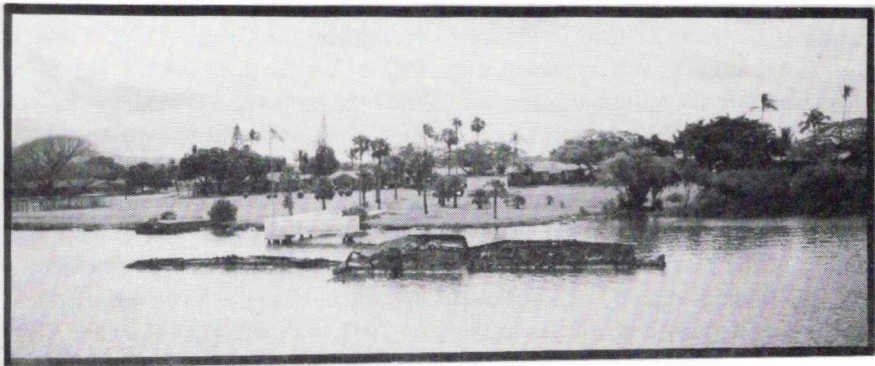
We do know, however, that Masons measured prominently in the military history of Pearl Harbor and played decisive roles in the aftermath of the Japanese attack. The story might well begin with **President William McKinley** who in the 1890's set aside large tracts of land in Honolulu for use by the United States Army and Navy. A milestone in aviation was set in 1927 by **Lester J. Maitland** who piloted the first plane from California to Hawaii. When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941, **Joseph B. Poindexter** was Governor of Hawaii, and was called upon to cooperate in the implementation of extreme measures to protect the Hawaiian Islands. **Franklin Delano Roosevelt** was President of the United States and effected a declaration of war against Japan. **William Franklin Knox** was United States Secretary of the Navy and conducted a personal investigation into the incident, reporting his findings directly to Roosevelt. President, **Harry S Truman** effected an abrupt end to Japanese hostilities in August, 1945 with deployment of the atomic bomb. The terms of Japanese capitulation were arranged by General **Douglas MacArthur** in that same month and were signed in September, 1945.



The *USS Arizona* Memorial. Dedicated in 1962, the memorial building straddles the sunken ship with no part of the monument touching the ship. Markers in the water indicate the ship's bow and stem.



USS Arizona - base of gun turret No. 2. This structure is the largest portion of the ship that breaks the surface of the water.



The *USS Utah* Memorial. Dedicated in 1972, a white memorial pier showing the ship's name overlooks a part of the capsized vessel.

Certainly, volumes have been written on the Pearl Harbor attack. There are reasonable and sound answers as to *why* it took place, however, we are still left to wonder as to *how* it was possible. Specifically, how did the Japanese manage to send a massive striking force from Japan to Hawaii without prior detection by the United States? Further, why was the entire Pearl Harbor base in such a state of unreadiness when the attack occurred? We must remember that most of the rest of the world was at war in 1941, providing sound reason for the base to be on the alert. Historians note that the mind-set of the forces at Pearl Harbor in 1941 was that the base was just too big and strong to be subjected to attack. In some ways, this thinking reminds me of the *Titanic*, which was thought to be unsinkable.

Unlike the *Titanic*, however, Pearl Harbor did get two very distinct warnings that something was amiss on the fateful morning of December 7, 1941. First, a midget submarine was spotted in the Pearl Harbor area at 3:42 a.m., *four hours and thirteen minutes before the actual attack started at 7:55 a.m.* This same submarine, or perhaps a different vessel, was destroyed with gunfire and depth charges at 6:45 a.m. Also, around 6:45 a.m. an Army radar unit reported the approach of first one plane and then many planes. Even at this point, there was still plenty of time to prepare the base for a possible attack. Unfortunately, communication delays on the submarine report rendered the message useless and the radar images were assumed to be American planes. At 7:55 a.m. the first bombs struck Ford Island, which is in the center of the harbor. With virtually no resistance, the Japanese quickly and decisively reduced America's proud Pacific Fleet to a shambles.

Certainly, the first sighting of the midget submarine should have prompted questions on the location of the vessel's mother ship. This suspicion alone should have justified top priority communications - ironically, there was probably enough time for hand-delivery. With regard to the radar warnings, subsequent inaction is somewhat justified. At that time, radar technology was in its infancy with questionable credibility. Also, given the "blips" were real, the assumption that American plans were being detected was reasonable.

When the actual attack occurred, one might question as to why there was not more activity in the harbor at that late hour (7:55 a.m.). Normally, crewmen would be up and on duty much earlier. Indeed many crewmen (especially those on the *USS Arizona*) were still in their bunks. Well, as it happened, December 7, 1941 was a Sunday and, as it were, everyone was a little "laid-back." Those crewmen on the *USS Arizona* had been given special permission to sleep-in as a reward for the ship's band taking second place in competitions the previous night.

When we look at the whole ordeal in retrospect, we see that there are many minor excuses for a major blunder. One feels compelled to look for more solid justification, such as communications sabotage, willful compliance with the enemy or blatant negligence. But such was not the case; history has proven otherwise. There

was certainly a lesson - the Boy Scouts' motto, *Be Prepared*. And there was a major breakthrough - America's involvement in World War II. Nevertheless, with Pearl Harbor, we cannot say, *all's well that ends well*, the price was far too high.

A fitting addition to the *USS Arizona* Memorial is currently being planned. The *USS Missouri* will soon be permanently docked in Pearl Harbor as a museum. It was on this ship that the Japanese signed the instrument of surrender, ending the Pacific War. The presence of this ship will certainly reflect a strong element of purpose for the many lives that were taken on the *Day in Infamy*.

MASONIC NOTATIONS:

William McKinley (1843-1901); Canton Lodge No. 90, Canton, Ohio.

Lester J. Maitland (1899 - ?); Kenwood Lodge No. 303, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

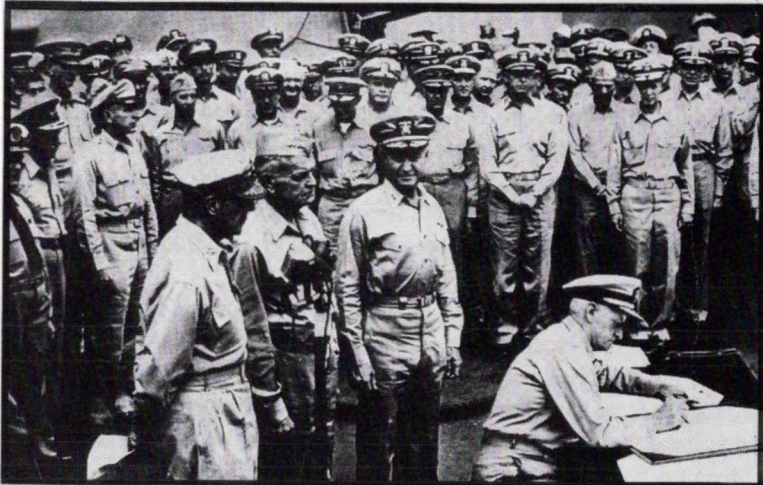
Joseph B. Poindexter (1869-1951); Dillon Lodge No. 16 Dillon, Montana.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1882-1945); Holland Lodge No. 8, New York City, New York.

William Franklin Knox (1874-1944); Bethel Lodge No. 358, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

Harry S Truman (1884-1972); Belton Lodge No. 450 Grandview, Missouri.

Douglas MacArthur (1880-1964); Manila Lodge No. 1, Manila, Philippines.

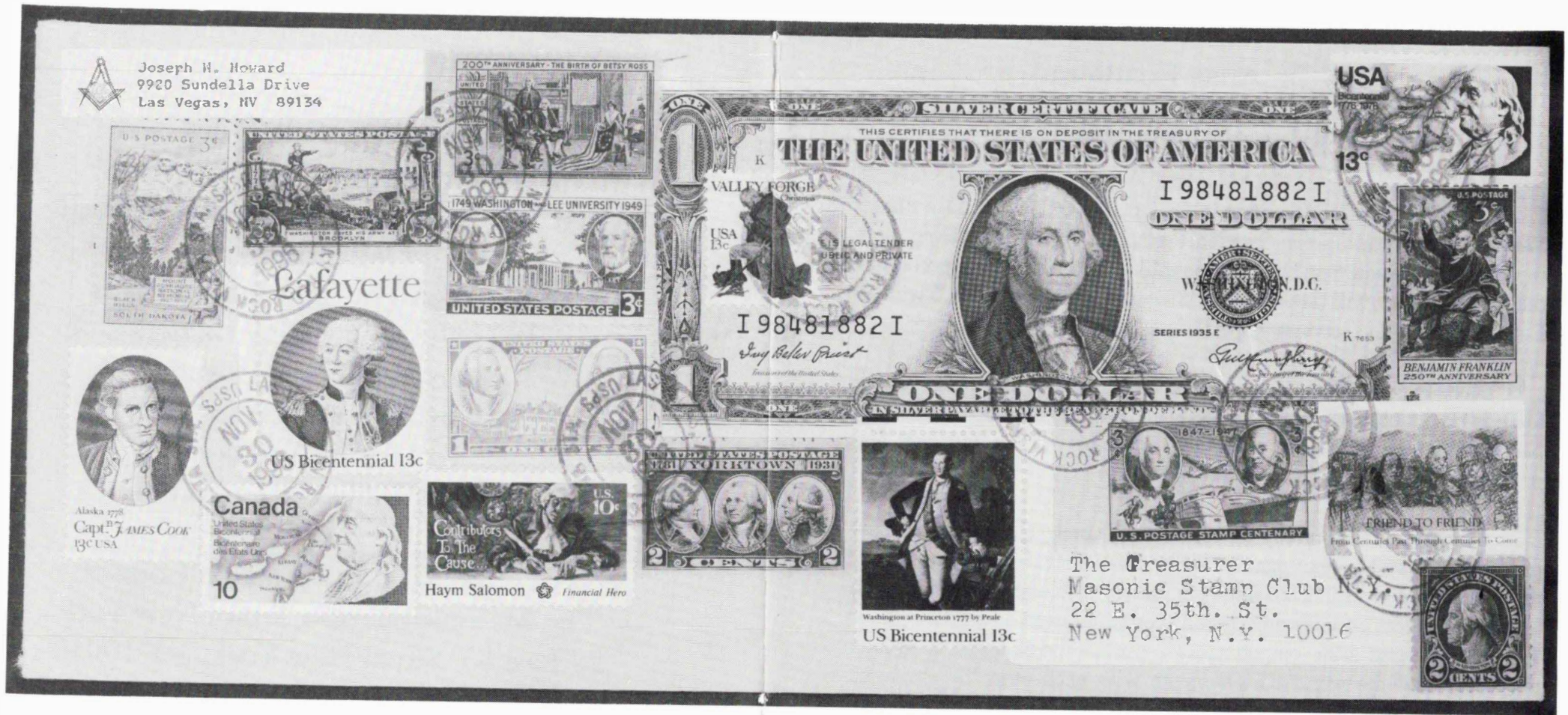


Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz signing the Japanese surrender document on the *USS Missouri* in Tokyo Bay. Directly behind Nimitz are (L to R) General Douglas MacArthur, Admirals William F. Halsey and Forrest P. Sherman, September 2, 1945.

The Masonic Philatelist

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Brother Joseph Howard, who created the remarkable cover displayed above, is collecting Masonic notices of all kinds; Lodge, Chapter, Consistory, Shrine, etc. Please send any items you can spare to Joseph Howard, 9920 Bundella Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89134

The Masonic Philatelist

E-mail

by Dr. Allan Boudreau

aabnyc@juno.com

Many of us noticed the item in the October 6, 1997 issue of *Linn's Stamp News* reporting that Sweden Post may soon be delivering more messages by E-mail than by a traditional letter carrier. The report states that Sweden Post will provide every Swedish citizen over age 6 with an E-mail address and services as part of its postal service.

Here in the United States we haven't reached that point yet but there is no doubt that E-mail is already an essential and rapidly growing part of the daily business operations of many of our business and professional activities.

Electronic mail, briefly described as E-mail, is a marvelous new procedure or system that enables us to communicate with our friends throughout the world. Communicate almost instantaneously and at an unbelievably low cost. E-mail permits computer users to send messages via their modems from computer to computer. Today, some 40 million people around the world communicate with each other by electronic mail. Devices are now available where you can send and receive E-mail without a computer. For example, the Uniden E-mail Phone features a speakerphone with a built-in modem, standard keyboard and flip top LCD screen.

E-mail is the most popular activity on the internet. In fact, you do not need to be on the internet to use E-mail. Until recently most

The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc.

The Masonic Philatelist

computer users could not utilize E-mail without paying a monthly charge to an Internet Service Provider (ISP) for a variety of other services. Today, E-mail can be free for anyone who has a computer running Windows and a modem. We will give the complete details on this FREE E-mail later.

Many of us are using E-mail. We have found it to be an amazingly swift way to carry out our correspondence. All of the reports received are positive. Last week, on a rainy evening, I wrote seven E-mail messages to destinations throughout the world. I placed all the messages in my computer outbox. When I was ready to send the messages out to their destinations I simply clicked my mouse on the "send and receive mail" icon and, presto, the words were on their way! The following day I checked my computer inbox and the replies were there. It all seems like magic to me.

Now, getting back to the details on the **FREE E-mail** offer. JUNO is the leader in the field of **FREE E-mail**. The system includes a spell checker, folder storage of messages sent and received, an address book for both individuals and groups that you send your E-mail to and the ability to work off-line. You write up all your messages, batch them in your outbox, and send them all out at the same time.

We are considering printing an E-mail address directory of members of the MSCNY. If you want to be listed send in your E-mail address to the number listed at the heading of this article. Please include any special collecting interest. Should you want a copy of the JUNO software send \$5.00 to the MSCNY to cover the costs of packaging and Priority Mail delivery.

The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc.



Southern California Research Lodge Web Site

at

<http://www.freemason.org/scrl>

Give it a try!!!

We are continually updating the information on our Web Site but Masonic information is always needed and welcomed plus there is always a great listing of Books available for sale.

Attention Web Masons

The SCRL Web Team is in need of members who can contribute some time and effort to keeping our Web Site up to date. If you have some experience with *Microsoft Front Page 97 or the 98 Beta* version, or if you have run across some interesting articles while on the Web, or elsewhere, please E-Mail me at webmason315@elcic.com or, if you live in Southern California, you can call me at (562) 921-1511.

Thank You,

Larry Williams - Chairman, SCRL Web Team

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MASONIC BOOKS (1-1-97)

IMPORTANT: ADD \$1.75 (\$3.00 foreign) for first title and 50 cents (\$1.00 foreign) for each additional title for shipping.

IMPORTANT: If shipped to a California address ADD 7 3/4% sales tax.

IMPORTANT: No quantity discount as most books are discounted, usually 20%.

ALBERT PIKE - The Man Beyond The Monument by Jim Tresner, hard cover, 254 pages, \$19.95, but due to **SPECIAL PURCHASE** we offer it at \$12.00 postpaid, USA and Canada. Albert Pike, Freemason, Frontiersman, Civil War General, Philosopher, his complete story. Guarantee the opening chapter will give you a different perspective on him. If reading this creates a desire for *Morals & Dogma*, see page 3.

THE BEST OF WILL ROGERS by Bryan B. Sterling, soft cover, 262 pages, \$9.95. Not a Masonic book.

Over 1,000 observations by a Freemason as biting today as in his time.

BLACK SQUARE & COMPASS by Joseph A. Walkes, Jr., hard bound, 192 pages, \$13.56. Written by a Prince Hall Mason. A must as twenty states, including California, recognize Prince Hall.

BORN IN BLOOD - The Lost Secrets of Freemasonry by John J. Robinson, hard bound, 376 pages, \$15.96.

Caused more Freemasons to think than any other book or author. Reading it has caused non-masons to apply. SCRL sales over 1,700.

BOY WHO CRIED WOLF by Richard P. Thorn, M.D., hard bound, 243 pages, \$15.16. Excellent treatment of religion and Freemasonry from a medical missionary, fundamentalist Christian and Past Master. Have Bible handy while reading.

BROTHER TRUMAN by Allen E. Roberts, hard bound, 300+ pages, \$11.60. An insight into the life of one who admits Freemasonry influenced him. Brother Truman's definition of Freemasonry: "Freemasonry is a system of morals which makes it easier to live with your fellow man whether he understands it or not." Particularly important at this time due to the controversy over the atom bomb end of World War II.

THE BUILDERS by Joseph Fort Newton, hard bound, 345 pages, \$15.60. An outstanding classic of Masonic literature. Bibliography, index, illustrated. Many lodges present it to newly raised brethren.

THE CLERGY AND THE CRAFT by Dr. Forrest D. Haggard, soft cover, 159 pages, \$7.50. A nationally known minister and Past Grand Master gives his views.

COIL'S MASONIC ENCYCLOPEDIA [REVISED AND UPDATED 1995]. Available now. Publisher Price \$69.50, our price \$55.60 but due to weight shipping is \$3.25 USA, \$7.00 foreign.

Many have hoped and waited a long time for this, now hope ends in fruition.

COMPREHENSIVE VIEW OF FREEMASONRY by Henry W. Coil, hard bound, 256 pages, \$11.60. A fine one volume history and background of Freemasonry. With this, *The Craft And Its Symbols and Pilgrim's Path* one can discuss Freemasonry with non-masons.

THE COURTS AND FREEMASONRY by Alphonse Cerza, hard bound, 105 pages, \$10.00. Answers to those who belittle Freemasonry by judges.

THE CRAFT AND ITS SYMBOLS by Allen E. Roberts, hard bound, 92 pages. \$9.50 publisher, our price \$6.60 to insure your purchase. SCRL's 9,300 to date is testimony to its value to the non-mason, candidate and Freemason. Suggestion: Loan your copy to those who question you about Freemasonry.

DUNGEON, FIRE AND SWORD by John J. Robinson, hard bound, over 500 pages, \$19.96. Follow up to *Born in Blood*, history of Knights Templar, 50 pages on DeMolay.

FACTS FOR FREEMASONS by Harold V. B. Voorhis, hard bound, 237+ pages, \$7.60. Storehouse of Masonic knowledge in Question and Answer form.

FRATERNALLY YOURS by Barbara Franco, soft cover, 80 pages, \$11.90. Examines the major fraternal organizations in America. Profusely illustrated.

THE FREEMASON AT WORK by Harry Carr, hard bound, 448 pages, \$21.30. Seventh edition, completely revised by Frederick Smyth who worked closely with Brother Carr when he was editor of the

- transactions of Quatuor Coronati Lodge of Research. 200 questions and answers to educate brethren when no degree work or for 200 Stated Meeting short talks. One of our more highly regarded books.
- FREEMASONRY - A Journey Through Ritual and Symbol*, W. Kirk MacNulty, 96 pages, soft cover, 8"x11", heavy glossy paper to enhance the 133 illustrations, 17 in color, \$12.76. Because of the beauty of the illustrations many overlook the analysis of each of the three degrees. Don't you. A best seller at work shops because to see it is to want it.
- FREEMASONRY AT THE TOP* by John E. Beaumont, soft cover, \$8.76. How one Master revitalized his lodge, attracted new members, involved old and young members and had committees who really functioned. A work and idea book for Masters and Wardens. Our Senior Grand Warden wrote a highly complimentary review and on that basis we suggest that this book is excellent for lodge officers.
- FREEMASONRY IN AMERICAN HISTORY* by Allen E. Roberts, hard cover, 504 pages, \$15.60. Emphasizes Freemasonry's part in our history. Good for a student. A wonderful story that should not be overlooked.
- FREEMASONRY - Its Hidden Meaning* by George H. Steinmetz, hard cover, 215 pages, \$10.00. Analyzes the lectures and symbols so they can be understood.
- THE FREEMASONS* by Eugen Lennhoff, 387+ pages, hard bound, Lewis Masonic price £24.95 (\$40.00) our price \$32.35. Published in Austria in 1928 as *Die Freimaurer*, two English editions, 1934 and 1978 and as still in demand, published in 1994 in England. Harry Carr commented: "Deals in some detail with the rise of Freemasonry in the different countries in Europe and the Americas. A few historical inaccuracies are outweighed by the interest of the work as a whole." On this basis could be considered a classic.
- FREEMASONS AT GETTYSBURG* by Sheldon A. Munn, soft cover, 8 1/2"x11", \$7.95. Story of the Friend to Friend Monument at Gettysburg plus many biographies.
- FUNDAMENTALISM AND FREEMASONRY: The Southern Baptist Investigation of the Fraternal Order* by Gary Leazer. Ph. D., \$15.96. The author is not a Freemason. Overcoming dictates of anti-masons, he came up with a favorable opinion of our fraternity. **One of the most important books of our time.**
- G. WASHINGTON - Master Mason* by Allen E. Roberts, hard cover, 208+ pages, \$9.20. Much of the story in Washington's own words for human interest.
- A GLOSSARY OF THE CRAFT AND HOLY ROYAL ARCH RITUALS OF FREEMASONRY*, A.C.F. Jackson, hard cover, pocket size, 140 pages, \$8.10. Very interesting.
- THE GRAND DESIGN* by Wallace McLeod, hard bound, 200+ pages, \$14.80. One of the best records of the Old Charges whence came the teachings of Freemasonry, causes of ritual divergence, how to write a short talk, and much more. Could be classified as the bargain of the year.
- THE HIRAM KEY* by Christopher Knight & Robert Lomas, English origin, hard cover, 384 pages, \$19.96. **New to us, have a copy, not as yet reviewed but we have had a number of calls for it.** The authors, Freemasons, say they that when set out to find the origins of Freemasonry they had no idea they would find themselves unravelling the true story of Jesus Christ and the original Jerusalem Church. **(Important: Please read comments on this book in enclosed Fraternal Review No. 753 before ordering)**
- HOUSE UNDIVIDED* by Allen E. Roberts, hard bound, 384 pages, \$18.36. The story of Freemasonry and the Civil War, the human side, brotherly love. Our sales of this book increased after the Friend to Friend monument at Gettysburg was dedicated and their (Armistead and Bingham) story can be found in this book.
- IS IT TRUE WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT FREEMASONRY?* By Art deHoyos and S. Brent Morris, soft cover, 59 pages, \$3.50 **postpaid**. Excellent tool to use when answering some of our more vitriolic anti-masons.
- LEADING CHANGE* by James O'Toole, hard cover, 282+ pages, index. \$20.00. Not a Masonic book but should be in the library of every person in a position of leadership however minor. If you are not in a position of leadership you can be a better participant. Best part for us is information on resistance to change and how Frances Hesselbein turned Girl Scouts membership decline into an increase. Every Grand Master and Master should read this, preferably before becoming such.
- LIGHT AFTER DARKNESS* by Chief Ranami Abah, hard cover, 114 pages, \$9.60. An insight into our Craft from one who knew persecution. Some different ideas will fascinate you.

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The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc.

**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 all 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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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 PHOTOCOPY OF YOUR CURRENT DUES CARD.

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