Masonic Musicians
Part 2 Cohan - Haydn
MASONIC MUSICIANS

 Freemason Musicians on Postage Stamps

Allan Boudreau, PhD, BF (NY)
Christopher L. Murphy, BF (BC)
Robert A. Domingue (MA)

With valuable contributions from:

Trevor Fray (UK)
Norman Lincoln (OH)
Massimino Morgantini (Italy)
Antonio Guilherme de Paiva (Brazil)
Jean-Claude Vilespy (France)
Clifford K. Cyphers (VT)
Captain George Trovas (Greece)

PART TWO

Cohan, George M. (1878–1942). American composer. He was known in the decade before World War I as "The man who owned Broadway." He is considered the father of American musical comedy. His life and music were portrayed in the Academy Award-winning film, Yankee Doodle Dandy (1942) and the 1968 musical George M! A statue of Cohan is in Times Square, New York City. Pacific Lodge No. 233 New York City, New York, USA. Member of the Valley of New York, A.A.S.R. and Mecca Temple No. 1 A.A.O.N.M.S. (USA #1756)

Cole, Nathaniel "King" Adams (1919–1965). American pianist and vocalist. His father, Edward Coles, became a Baptist minister and Nathaniel learned to play the organ from his mother, Perlina Coles, the church organist. His first performance, at age
in the English-speaking world are, *The Dollar Princess* and *Madame Pompadour*, which had successful runs in London and New York and remained in the repertory in Germany and Austria throughout the 20th century. His *Der liebe Augustin* (known as *Princess Caprice* in London, 1912) is reported to have been given an unprecedented 3,360 performances. His opera *Der goldene Vogel*, which was performed in Dresden in 1920 with Richard Tauber and Elisabeth Rethberg was less successful. Freundschaft Lodge; Pressburg, Austria. (*Austria #1021*)

**Franklin, Benjamin** (1706–1790). American statesman with notable musical accomplishments. He played the violin, harp and guitar. He was a printer by trade and went on to become a noted scientists and inventor. He became postmaster general of British North America (prior to the American Revolution). A man of action by all accounts, he composed a number of songs and was the first music publisher in America. St. John’s Lodge, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was elected Grand Master of Pennsylvania in 1734. (*USA #1030*)

**Frederick II (Frederick the Great)** (1712–1786). King of Prussia (German Kingdom) and noted composer. He was an ardent music student, the flute being his favorite instrument, and became proficient as a composer of music for the flute. He wrote the text for the opera *Montezuma* with music by H. Braun. Frederick II was initiated into Freemasonry at Brunswick, Northern Germany, on August 14, 1738, some two years before he ascended the throne of Prussia. (*Germany #355*)

**Gilbert, Sir William Schwenck** (1836–1911). English dramatist, librettist, poet and illustrator best known for his fourteen comic operas produced in collaboration with the composer Sir Arthur Sullivan, of
While Prince of Wales he was initiated in, and later became Worshipful Master of, Household Brigade Lodge No. 2614, London, England. He was admitted to the Royal Arch and Scottish Rite in 1921. He was installed as Senior Grand Warden of the United Grand Lodge of England on October 25, 1922. The ceremony was conducted by his great uncle, the Duke of Connaught, younger brother of Edward VII. (CDN #214)

**Ellington, Edward Kennedy, "Duke"** (1899–1974). American composer, pianist, and big band leader. He wrote over 1,000 compositions. A major figure in the history of jazz, Ellington's music stretched into various other genres, including blues, popular, classical, gospel, and film scores. His career spanned more than 50 years. Social Lodge No. 1, Washington, D.C., USA (USA #2211)

**Elsner, Jozef** (1769–1854). Polish composer, teacher and music theoretician. He studied at the Gymnasium and University in Breslau, and conducted in Warsaw and Livov. He was also a music publisher, critic, teacher. He founded several music schools. He composed 8 symphonies, along with string quartets and other chamber music Lodge Bouclier, Warsaw. Poland (Poland, General Government, #NB22)

**Fall, Leopold** (1873–1925). Austrian composer and conductor. He studied at the Vienna Conservatory and then played and directed theater orchestra and wrote stage music in Berlin. Upon his returned to Vienna, he gained success in composing operettas. In all, he composed 3 operas, 20 operettas, waltzes, songs and overtures. His best known operettas...
four, was of *Yes! We Have No Bananas*. He first achieved prominence as a leading jazz pianist. However, he owes most of his popular musical fame to his soft baritone voice, singing in big band and jazz genres. He was one of the first African Americans to host a television variety show, and has maintained worldwide popularity even after his death. Thomas Walker Lodge #49 (Prince Hall), Los Angeles, California, USA. (USA #2352)

**Crisp, Donald** (1882–1974). English opera singer, film actor, early motion picture producer, director and screenwriter. While traveling on a ship to America in 1906, Crisp’s singing talents during a ship concert caught the attention of opera impresario John C. Fisher, who immediately offered him a job with his company. Crisp spent his first year in New York in Grand Opera and the following year as a stage director. It was while touring with his company in the United States and Cuba that he first became interested in pursuing a career in the theatre. By 1910, now using the name Donald (he retained George as a middle name), he was working as a stage manager for the renowned entertainer, composer, playwright, and director George M. Cohan. It was during this time he met film director D. W. Griffith. When Griffith ventured west, to seek his fortune in Hollywood in 1912, Crisp accompanied him. From 1908 to 1930, in addition to directing dozens of films, he appeared in nearly 100 silent films, though many in bit or small parts. One notable exception was his casting by Griffith as General Ulysses S. Grant in Griffith’s landmark 1915 film, *The Birth of a Nation*. Another was his role in Griffith’s 1919 film, *Broken Blossoms*, as Battling Burrows, the brutal and abusive father of the film’s heroine, Lucy Burrows (played by Lillian Gish). He played a supporting role as Burkitt in *Mutiny on the Bounty* (1935). He won an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor in 1942 for his performance in *How Green Was My Valley*. Harry S. Orne Lodge #458, Pasadena, California. (Tonga #607b – Crisp is seen second from the left.)

**Edward VIII** (1894–1972). British king and composer who gave up his throne for the love of an American woman. He composed and published a march for bagpipes, on which he was quite proficient.
which the most famous include *H.M.S. Pinafore, The Pirates of Penzance*, and one of the most frequently performed works in the history of musical theatre, *The Mikado*. Harmony Lodge #255 Hampton Court, Middlesex, Great Britain. *(GB #1461)*

**Goethe, Johann Wolfgang von** (1749–1832). German writer, pictorial artist, biologist, theoretical physicist, and polymath. He is considered the supreme genius of modern German literature. His works span the fields of poetry, drama, prose, philosophy, and science. His poem *Faust* has been called the greatest long poem of modern European literature. Such notables as Gounod, Liszt, Massanet, Schubert, Schumann and other composers have set his works to music. Lodge Amalia, Weimar, Germany. *(Germany #351)*

**Gomes, Carlos Alberto** (1836–1896). Brazilian Composer. He was the first “New World” composer whose work was accepted in Europe. Interested in composing an opera which dealt with a truly Brazilian subject, he choose as the theme of his work the romance novel *O Guarani*, by Brazilian writer José de Alencar. The King of Italy, Victor Emmanuel II, decorated Gomes for the creation of his opera, which was presented in all major European capitals. Before that year was over, Gomes returned to Brazil where he organized the premiere of *Il Guarany in Rio de Janeiro*. The piece achieved the same success Gomes had experienced in Italy. Anizade Lodge, Sao Paulo, Brazil. *(Brazil #2596)*

**Gretry, André Ernest Modeste** (1741–1813). Belgian Composer from the Prince-Bishopric of Liège (present-day Belgium). He worked from 1767 onwards in France and took French nationality. He is most famous for his opéras comiques. He is listed as a Freemason in Maurice Cook's

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Grofe, Ferde (1892-1972), American composer and pianist. He studied music under his mother and brother. He played viola for the Los Angeles Philharmonic orchestra, conducted a concert for his works at Carnegie Hall, and won an Academy Award for his film score Minstrel Man (1944). He composed 20 orchestral tone poems (Grand canyon suite), ballets, film scores, and chamber music. Silver Trowel Lodge No. 414, Los Angeles, California, USA. (USA #3163)

Handy, William Christopher (1883–1983). Trumpet player and “blues” composer. He is widely known as the “Father of the Blues.” He remains among the most influential of American songwriters. Although he was one of many musicians who played the distinctively American blues music, he is credited with giving it its contemporary form. While Handy was not the first to publish music in the blues form, he took the blues from a regional music style with a limited audience to one of the dominant national forces in American music. Hiram Lodge # 4 (Prince Hall), New York City, New York, USA. (USA #1372)

Haydn, Franz Joseph (1732–1809). Austrian composer. He was one of the most prolific and prominent composers of the classical period. He is often called the "Father of the Symphony" and "Father of the String Quartet" because of his important contributions to these forms. He was also instrumental in the development of the piano trio and in the evolution of sonata form. Lodge Zur Warhen Eintrach, Wien, Austria. (Germany #804d)
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Please send us any suggestions or additions
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ST. KITTS
ST. VINCINT
(GRENADINES/
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TANZIA
URUGUAY
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CAICOS ISLANDS
WALLIS AND
(FUTUNA
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Brother Jean-Claude Vilespy
American fitness guru Jack LaLanne died Sunday afternoon, January 23, 2011 at his home in Morro Bay, California; he was 96 years old. The cause was respiratory failure due to pneumonia; he had been ill for the previous week. LaLanne spent decades talking about the healthful benefits of exercise and fitness. He opened his own health spa in California in 1936, years before the fitness craze swept the United States. LaLanne even designed the world's first leg-extension machine, along with several other pieces of fitness equipment now standard in the fitness industry. He can be included in a Masonic Stamp Collection using the United States stamp issued on May 14, 1983 to call attention to Physical Fitness.

Jack LaLanne was born in San Francisco, California on September 26, 1914. A self-confessed sugar and junk food addict as a child, he went on to study bodybuilding and weight-lifting by the time he was in his late teens. From the 1950s through the 1980s, LaLanne performed multiple feats of strength and endurance. His first such stunt was an underwater swim the length of the Golden Gate Bridge, loaded with 140 pounds of equipment, in 1954. He went on to stage many attention-getting events, including completing over a thousand pushups in a little over 20 minutes, and towing 65 boats filled with thousands of pounds of wood pulp in Japan. LaLanne had his own workout program, "The Jack LaLanne Show", first broadcast nationally in 1959; the show went on to run for three decades. In his later years, he was easily recognized because of late-night infomercials on on the benefits of juicing. He also made many appearances on CNN's "Larry King Live" and was a friend of the talk show host. "There was no one like Jack LaLanne," King said Sunday night. "He would go on forever ... a true guru. I guess Charles Atlas from the old comic books would be the predecessor for Jack LaLanne." But it wasn't simply LaLanne's physical prowess that impressed King. "Elderly people were encouraged by him because he just kept on going," King said, adding that modern fitness celebrities owe a debt of gratitude to the original impresario of exercise.

Brother Jack LaLanne was raised as a Master Mason on March 17, 1949 in Chateau Thierry Lodge No. 569, California. It later merged with Crow Canyon Lodge #551 in Castro Valley, California where LaLanne was still a member at his death.

Many thanks to Bro. Dwight Seals and the March/April edition of the Philatelic Freemason for this article.
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The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc
May 9, 2012

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July 4, 2012

Dr. Allan Boudreau
Masonic Stamp Club of New York
22 East 35th Street
New York, New York 10016-3806

Hello Allan...
This is a good time to follow up on a couple of things:

(1) I wanted you to know that I have not received any response to my January 2nd letter which was included on page 7 of the March 2012 issue of *The Masonic Philatelist*. Have you seen any response to this inquiry? If so, please let me know what others are thinking.

(2) In the June 2012 issue of *The Masonic Philatelist* it appears that space constraints allowed you to publish just half of the Masonic Musicians list. If I have interpreted this correctly, then I look forward to reading the next issue.

In the meantime, I would like to nominate the following Masons for inclusion to the Masonic Musicians list:

- **Nat King Cole** (Scott #2852) b.1919 d.1965
  - Prince Hall Mason, Thomas Waller Lodge #49, Los Angeles

- **Ferdinand R. von Grofe** (Scott #3163) b.1892 d.1972
  - Composer and conductor
  - Raised in Silver Trowel Lodge #414, Los Angeles
  - Reference: *10,000 Famous Freemasons*

By the way...
Do you know if Horace Moses is a Freemason?
He is honored on a 20c U.S. stamp (Scott #2095) as the Founder of the Junior Achievement organization. I have seen one very weak reference to him in *10,000 Famous Freemasons*, but have not found any confirming details.

*Thanks again for all of your help.*
Fraternally,

Cliff Cyphers
Hi Cliff,

Thanks for your letter of July 4, 2012.

You are right! The June issue of the MP only contained the Masonic Musicians from A to Ch. The September MP will carry the second section, probably from Co to Ha. We have assembled about 100 Masonic Musicians, so far.

Thanks for your two nominations. We have mentioned you in the September 2012 MP as a contributor to this project.

Horace Agustus Moses was a Freemason. Here is a First Day Cover for your collection produced by the MSCNY in 1984.

Perhaps we can get your July 4, 2012 letter in the September 2012 MP. This might help stimulate some response?

Thanks for your help.

Fraternally,

Allan B
The Masonic Philatelist

The Collectors Club

22 East 35th Street
New York, New York 10016
Telephone 212-683-0559 – Fax 212-481-1269
Email collectorsclub@verizon.net
Website: www.collectorsclub.org

Program & Calendar of Events

Social Hour at 5:00 PM – Exhibits open 6:00 PM
Meeting 6:30 PM
Dutch Treat Dinner nearby @ 8:00 PM

September 5, 2012
“Doc, I Need A Drink”
The Story of Taxation of legal Alcohol
During National Prohibition
Ron Lesher, Easton, PA

September 19, 2012
Bavarian Perfins
Rainer von Scharpen, Mainz, Germany

October 3, 2012
Imperial Airways and its Predecessor Airlines
Barry Scott, Auckland, New Zealand

October 17, 2012
The French Shore of Newfoundland
Henk Slabbinck, Nieuwpoort, Belgium

November 7, 2012
Annual One-Frame Competition
Collectors Club Members

The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc.
November 14, 2012
International Letter Mail
Crossing the Italian Peninsula
Pre-stamp Period (1815–1852)
Thomas Matha, Bozen, Italy

December 5, 2012
Boston Colonial Post
Mark Schwartz, Philadelphia, PA

December 12, 2012
Board of Governors’ Open House
Annual Holiday Party

January 9, 2013
116th Annual Meeting
Election of Officers

January 16, 2013
Origins of the “Boxer Revolt” in China
And German Intervention 1900-1901
Jerry Miller, Glen Ellyn, IL

February 6, 2013
Airmail in Poland 1914-1939
Jerzy Kupiec-Wegliniski, Beverly Hills, CA

February 20, 2013
The Princely Indian State of Sorth
Danforth Walker, Lisbon, MD

March 6, 2013
New Zealand: The Pictorial
Definitives of 1898 & 1935
Robert Odenweller, Bernardsville, NJ
National Postage Stamp Show
October 11, 12, 13 & 14, 2012
New Yorker Hotel
34th Street & 8th Avenue
New York City
Show Hrs T, F, Sa, 10-6 Su 10-4

Over 100 National and International Dealers • Dealers Choice Awards
• Special Show Cancel • Societies/Clubs
• Free Lectures • Free Appraisals
• Kids Area: Educational Computer Activities

Please Take Note!
The ASDA/ASD&C Contact Information Has Changed
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tami@americanstamppdealer.com
(The old contact numbers and e-mail will stay active during transition)

The Masonic Stamp Club of New York, Inc.