

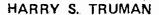
The MASONIC STAMP COLLECTOR

Journal of the Masonic Stamp Unit of the American Topical Association, published bl-monthly. Address all letters and submit material to the Fiditor. Nicholas G. Koutyoulis, 4659 Sandalwood Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70127.

VOLUME 6

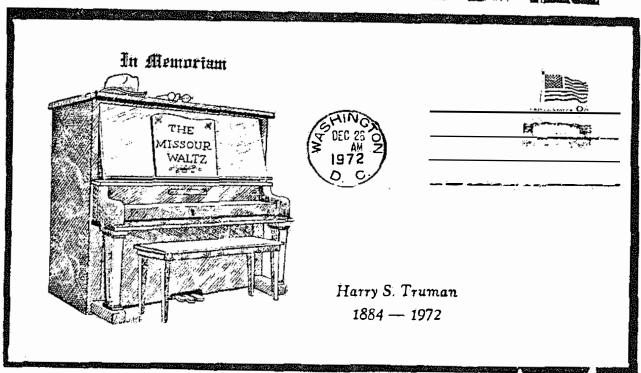
NUMBER 2

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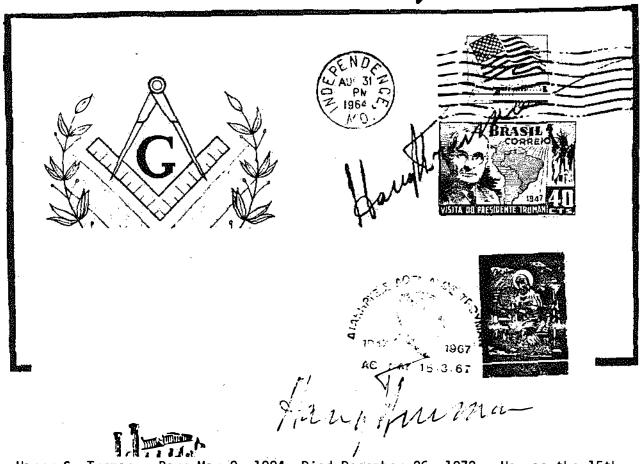
33rd President of the United States
GRAND MASTER
of the Grand Lodge of the State of Missouri
1940 - 1941





This cover was sent to the editor by John M. Cunningham of Washington, D.C. It is postmarked December 26, 1972, the day of Most Worshipful Brother Truman's death. It is not known how many of these covers were serviced. Your editor does not have any for sale. Perhaps, Bro. John can tell you if anymore are available.

Harry Dricean



Harry S. Truman. Born May 8, 1884, Died December 26, 1972. He was the 15th President to be a Mason. He petitioned Belton Lodge No. 450, Grandview, Missouri on December 21, 1908 when 24 years old. He was elected on February 9, 1909 and received his first degree that evening. He was passed March 9, and raised March 18, 1909. The following year he accepted the station of Junior Warden, but in 1911, several members of Belton Lodge separated to establish a new Lodge - Grandview Lodge No. 618, and Brother Truman was honoree by being made the first Master. Later, he served as secretary of the Lodge, and in 1917, when leaving for WWI, he was again Master of the Lodge. After the war he was appointed District Deputy Grand Lecturer, and District Deputy Grand Master of the 59th Masonic District. He remained in these stations from 1925 until his appointment in the Grand Lodge line in 1930. In that year he became Grand Pursuivant through the appointment of Grand Master William R. Gentry of St. Louis. In September 1940 when the Grand Lodge met, Worshipful Brother Truman was running for U. S. Senator and the political situation was heated. Notwithstanding, he was elected Grand Master, and a few weeks later, U. S. Senator. During his year as Grand Master, Congress was in session most of the time, yet he found time to make individual visits to 19 Missouri Lodges; six District Associations; both conferences of District DEputies; presented several 50year buttons; visited Grand Lodges of Texas and District of Columbia; attended on anniversary gathering of Philadelphis Lodge, and in Jefferson City attended a Masonic dinner at which Governor Forrest C. Donnell, Grand Se ior Warden, was present and 128 Lodges were represented by 394 Master Masons, including BO rembers of the "issouri Legislature. Representing Missouri at the Washington conference of Grand masters in February 1941, he presented Missouri's check for \$1,900 to the Washington Memorial at Alexandria. It was also during his year that the Missouri Lodge of Research was established and both the dispensation and charter were signed by him. He served as its Master in 1950, while President of the United States. While President he was never too busy to go out of his way to render a Masonic service. During this period he raised more than 30 candidates with the strict injunction that no publicity was to come from his participation.

His York Rite RAM Capitular degrees were received in Orient Chapter No. 102 of Kansas City, November 11 and 15, 1919; the Cryptic degrees in Shekinah Council No. 24, Kansas City on December 18, 1919; the Orders of Knighthood in Palestine Commandery No. 17, K.T. of Independence, Missouri on June 7 and 15, 1923.

His Scottish Rite degrees were received in Kansas City, January 24, March 27, 30 and 31, 1917. On October 19, 1945, he received the 33rd degree, Southern Jurisdiction at Washington, D.C. while President. He was the only President ever to actually hold the 33rd degree and one of only 13 Masons ever to be awarded the Gourgas Medal of the Supreme Council, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction for "notably distinguished service in the cause of Freemasonry, Humanity or Country."

He became a member of Ararat Shrine Temple 38, Kansas City, Missouri, April 2, 1917. He was Orator of that body in 1932, Marshal in 1933, and Second Ceremonial Master in 1934. Became member of Royal Order of Jesters, Kansas City Court No. 54, on December 18, 1931. He was also a member of Mary Conclave, Red Cross of Constantine, Kansas City. He was the Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Scotland near the Grand Lodge of Missouri. Mrs. Bess Truman is the daughter of David W. Wallace, who was Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery, York Rite, K.T. of Missouri in 1892. Both of President Truman's Grandfathers, Brother Shipp and Brother Solomon were Masons. His sister Mary Jane Truman, is Past Grand Matron of the Order of Eastern Star of Missouri. President Truman was Honorary Past Grand Master of the DeMolay.

He was the 15th President of the United States to be a Mason, and he was one of two Presidents of the United States to have been Grand Masters of their respective States. The first was Andrew Jackson who served as Grand Master of Tennessee from October 10, 1822 to October 4, 1823.

On the large Mural in the Truman Memorial Library in Independence, Missouri is a central position which shows the President in full Masonic regalia presiding as the Grand Master of Missouri in 1940-41 and in another section of the library there is a complete Masonic exhibit of all his various Jewels, Aprons, Patents, Certs.etc.

The following item appeared in the Chicago Tribune. MASON POST TOP HONOR TO TRUMAN. Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 26, 1972 (A)—Former President Harry Truman said in 1949 he considered his election as grand master of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons in Missouri "the highest honor that has ever come to me." That statement, carried by Time Magazine, resulted in some letters of criticism. One writer said, "If Mr. Truman doesn't consider being President of the United States a far greater honor, the voters should ... return him to his Missouri Masons in 1952." Trumans reply was that he felt as he did because the office of grand master came unsolicited. He said he did not and could not campaign for it as he did for President.

Truman was twice master of Grandview Lodge No. 618, served as its secretary for a period, and from 1925 to 1530 was district deputy grand master and district deputy grand lecturer for the Grand Lodge

Vol. 6 - No. 2 Page -293-

A Democrat, Truman was proud he was appointed to the Grand Lodge line in 1930 by "a Republican, and the appointment was concurred in by two other Republicans."

An anonymous letter sent to many lodges in the state, attacking Truman, then a senator, on a political basis, backfired and he was elected grand master for 1940-41 by an overwhelming majority.

In his memoirs, Harry S. Truman wrote: "Within the first few months I discovered that being a President is like riding a tiger. A man has to keep on riding or be swallowed. The fantastically crowded nine months of 1945 taught me that a President either is constantly on top of events or, if he hesitates, events will soon be on top of him. No one who has not had the responsibility can really understand what what is like to be President, not even his closest aides or members of his immediate family. There is no end to the chain of responsibility that binds him, and he is never allowed to forget that he is President. What kept me going in 1945 was my belief that there is far more good than evil in men and that it is the business of government to make the good prevail."

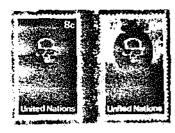
There is much more to be said about President Truman, THE MASON. But unfortunately space will not permit in this publication. Your editor would like to refer our members to the Knight Templar Magazine, January 1973 issue. page 7, entitled The Mason and the President ... Sir Knight Harry S. Truman. This article offers a factual resume of the man who has been roundly criticized and generously praised but who has been described as "always a man of honesty and loyalty to friends."

President Truman was first postally honored by Brazil, Scott No. 673 and two issues of by Ecuador Nos. 558 and C231. Greece honored Truman with a cancellation for the 20th year of the anniversary of the Truman Doctrine. This cancellation was in use for one day only, March 15, 1967. See illustration.

The United States Postal Service will issue an 8-cent Harry S Truman memorial postage stamp to be first placed on sale at Independence, Mo. 64050, on May 8, 1973. A Masonic first day cover in honor of Bro. Truman will be issued by the Masonic Cover Club.

For anyone who might be interested in obtaining a copy of the Knights Templar Magazine you may write to the Editor, Paul C. Rodenhauser, 14 East Jackson Blvd., Suite 1733, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

The Skull



The United Nations Postal Administration will issue a set of two stamps to publicize Stop Drug Abuse. The U.N. Fund for Drug Abuse Control was created on 26 March 1971. Its world-wide programme to stop drug abuse is based on the convinction that this menace should be attacked simultaneously in three main aspects: supply, demand and illicit trade. Date of Issue: 13 April 1973. The main design on both stamps: The Skull, denoting death and destruction in drug abuse.

The skull as a symbol is not used in Freemasonry except in Masonic Templarism, where it is a symbol of mortality. Among the Articles of Accusation sent by the Pope to the Bishops and Papal Commissaries upon which to examine the Knights Templar, those from the forty-second to the fifty-seventh refer to the human skull, Cranium humanum, which the Templars were 'accused of using in their reception, and worshiping as an idol. It is possible that the Old Templars made use of the skull in their ceremony of reception; but Modern Templars will readily acquit their predecessors of the crime of idolatry, and find in their use of a skull a symbolic design.

Of this symbol of mortality, the skull, much as been written and when found of suitable service quoted with effect at Masonic meetings. About 1860 Brother J. S. Parvin of Iowa received a copy of a poem entitled Lines To A Skeleton as printed in a newspaper published at Glasgow, Scotland. He was struck with its beauty and used it in his Knigjet Templar work, he at that time being Eminent Commander of the local Commandery. The popularity of the poem has caused it to be paraphrased by several Brethren.

Behold this ruin, "Twas a skull Once of ethereal spirit full. This narrow cell was Life's retreat, This space was Thought's mysterious seat.

What beauteous visions filled this spot, What dreams of pleasure long forgot? Nor hope, nor joy, nor love, nor fear, Have left one trace on record here.

Beneath this mouldering canopy Once shone the bright and busy eye; But start not at the dismal void--If social love that eye employed. If bold in Virtue's cause it spoke, Yet gentle concord never broke--This silent tongue shall plead for thee When Time unveils Eternity.

If with no lawless fire it gleamed, But through the dews of kindness beamed; That eye shall be forever bright When stars and sun are sunk in night.

Within this hollow cavern hung The ready, swift, and tuneful tongue; If Falsehood's honey it disdained, And when it could not praise was chained.

Lazaro Cardenas

President of Mexico, 1934-40. b. May 21, 1895 in Jiquilpan, Michoacan, Mexico. He started as a printer in his native town, but in 1913 he joined the Revolutionary Army just after the death of the "apostle of the revolution," Francisco I. Madero, a Mason. He was a colonel at the age of 20 and a general at 25. He commanded the expeditionary army in the state of Sonora. He was a follower of General Calles, a Mason. He commanded several military jurisdictions and was governor of the state of Michoacan in 1920, and 1928-32. He was twice secretary of war and once secretary of interior. As president, he launched his Six-Year Plan, marked by the redistribution of land, industrial and transportation development, renewal of the struggle with the Roman Catholic Church and 1938, the expropriation of foreign-owned oil properties. In 1941 he was commander of the forces on the Pacific coast; commander of the Mexican Army in 1945 and minister of defense, 1943-45.

He was initiated in the city of Guadalajara early in 1925. He founded lodges in every jurisdiction where he was military commander, and under his patronage, many traveling lodges were founded within the Mexican Army. He attempted to bring the concepts of Freemasonry to the people of rural areas, but most of the lodges thus established were forced to close through the influence of the clergy. Cardenas believed that such lodges would aid in removing ignorance and superstition and lead the poor er peoples into paths of light and wisdom.

Mexico issued a 40¢ stamp, Scott No. 1035, in 1971 on the first anniversary of Cardenas death.

Submitted by Bro. Marshall Loke, Rochester, New York.

Boston Tea Party is depicted on July 4 se-tenant foursome

American revolution series



On July 4, 1973 the United States Postal Service will issue four setenant stamps to commemorate The Boston Tea Party of 1773. The design of the four stamps depict the scene where enraged colonists dumped chests of tea from British ships into the harbor in protest of the English-levied tax. The overall design shows two British ships, colonists in boats and a portion of the dock.

When the mob of improper Bostonians disguised as Mohawk Indians and Negroes

rushed to the waterfront and dumped 342 chests of tea into the harbor, an angry King George III wrote his prime minister, "The die is now cast. The colonies must either submit or triumph."

England had been goaded into a showdown, which was what Sam Adams had wanted. George Washing's reactions were mixed. From Williamsburg, where he was attending session of the Virginia assembly, he wrote: "The Ministry may rely on it that Americans will never be taxed without their own consent, that the cause of Boston ... now is and ever more will be considered as the cause of America (not that was approve of their conduct in destroying the tea.)"

Tea ships had arrived elsewhere. In New York and Philadelphia, they had been persuaded to turn back before entering the harbors. Tea was unloaded at Charleston, but placed under bond in a damp warehouse.

The three-pence-a-pound tax on tea was the only levy remaining under the noto-rious Townshend Act, other taxes having been repealed as the result of a stiff boycott the colonists mounted. Under a new arrangement between England and the East India Company, tea plus tax actually was cheaper than tea delivered by smugglers. But it was the principle of the thing! The Parliament did not act hastily in meeting out punishment for the Boston Tea Pary. It debated for three months before passing what Americans called the Intolerable Acts and revolution became inevitable.

The secrecy and dispatch of the whole affair definitely indicates previous rehearsals under competent leadership. The planning was made in the famous historical Green Dragon Tavern, home of Lodge of Saint Andrew No. 82. On that very night the records written by the Secretary state that Lodge Of Saint Andrew closed until the next night "On account of the few members in attendance" and then the entire page is filled up with the letters T made large. An authentic record of the persons taking part in The Boston Tea Party is not available for obvious reasons. However, a companison of several published lists with the roster of the Lodge found a number of names antical in both.

C. Davila

Davila was a Frenchman who became a Romanian, a physician and a general. Born in Parma, France, April 28, 1828. He studied, first pharmacy, then medicine, (M.D., Paris, 1853). Soon thereafter he went to Romania to organize the Army Medical Service and became chief of the M. Voda Avincy Hospital in Bucharest. There he founded a medical School which in 1869 was re-organized into the National Medical and Pharmacy Faculty. As supervisor of all hospitals, he brought about long needed reforms in the hospitals, he brought about long

of Bucharest. After the war with Turkey (1877-1878) he fell into disfavor and died of heart disease in Bucharest on September 7, 1884.

Davila was a member of the Lodge "Las Sages d'Heliopolis" at Bucharest in 1873. In 1874 he was Worshipful Master of this Lodge.

Davila is depicted on a stamp issued by Romania in 1957, Scott No. 1152.

Submitted by Brother Marshall Loke, Rochester, New York.

D. Coleman

William David Coleman was born in Cambridge, Maryland in 1841 or 1842. He was the 10th Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Liberia, Prince Hall. He was President of Liberia in 1896-1900.

He is shown on stamps of Liberia Nos. 322, 373, 439.

Submitted by Bro. Marshall Loke.

Honduras Masonic Overprint

The following is additional information pertaining to the Honduras Masonic overprint stamps (see MSC page 275). The overprint was authorized by Executive Decree 211, 4 April 1972. First Day of Issue: 15 May 1972. Quanity issued: L.O.O5, 300,000; LO.12, 300,000; 1.00 ovpt on 20¢, 20,000; 2.00 ovpt on 24¢, 10,000. So there you have it, a total complete set of only 10,000.

This information was submitted by Bro. John M. Cunningham of Washington, D. C.

ITEMS FOR SALE

Bro. John M. Cunningham, Grant Building Room 151, U.S. Soldiers' Home, Washington, D.C. 20315, has available for sale John P. Sousa stamps plate blocks at 75¢ postpaid. In the Beginning. he has attractive Plate Blocks 6¢ Apollo B stamps, first day cancelled -card stock- very suitable for framing available. The cachet with the Biblical quotation in its entirety. (Genesis) and has a small bible in the center of quote. It is from the George Washington Masonic Stamp Club catchet design. These are available at \$1.25 each while they last, postpaid.

Danville Royal Arch Chapter No. 239, 100th Anniversary, 1872-1972, Danville, Pa. Cachet, dated October 20, 1972. 35¢ each or three for \$1.00 plus large S.A.S.E. envelope with your order. Order from Bro. Leonard R. Heverly, R.O.1 - Box 65, Oallas, Penna. 18612.

L. Woodbury

In the U.S.A. Revenue stamps section of any Scott catalog you will find a picture of Levi Woodbury on the \$1.00 documentary and stock transfer revenues, R300 and R079 respectively. Bro. Marshall Loke writes that he found the information that Judge Woodbury was a Mason in Gerald D. Foss' new book "Three Centuries of Freemasonry in New Hampshire".

Levi Woodbury was born December 22, 1789, Francestown, N.H.; graduated Dartmouth 1809; admitted to the New Hampshire bar 1812. Received the first two degrees of Masonry in Washington Lodge, Exeter, N. H., June 20 and August 20, 1811 while studying law with the famous Jeremiah Smith before returning to Francestown to open his law office. From 1819 he resided in Portsmouth. He was Associate Judge of New Hampshire Supreme Court 1816-23; Governor of New Hampshire 1823-24; U. S. Representative from Portsmouth 1825; Speaker of the House 1825-31 and 1841-55; Secretary of the Navy 1831; Secretary of the Treasury 1834-41; Associate Justice of U. S. Supreme Court 1845-51. He was being considered seriously as a presidential candidate when he died September 4, 1851.

What Is Freemasonry?

The question that is most frequently asked by non-Masons is "what is Freemasonry?" The question also asked by many Masons collecting Masonic Philately, how to introduce their Masonic Exhibit or how to introduce the first page of their Masonic Album or how to prepare the introductory page of an exhibit without going too far and reveal something that they are not supposed to. The comments below will give you some idea how to go about it and help you, perhaps, decide the amount of write-up you wish to use for introductory purposes.

Freemasons, as a rule, are very circumspect when it comes to discussing the Craft with non-Masons or their families. Some members are so careful that they are afraid to even mention the things that everyone knows about the organization.

Many believe that Freemasonry is a "secret society". Like most Fraternal organizations it has some "secrets" known only to its members, but Freemasonry is not a secret society. A secret society is one that keeps its existence a secret, and whose members do not make known their affiliation with the group. Freemasonry is not a secret society because it does not hide its existence; members do not hide their membership; but on the contrary, the organization meets in buildings located on public streets, announce its meetings in newspapers and magazines, and has homes for orphans and the aged.

"What then is Freemasonry?" There are many definitions of the word, but none are complete because the organization embraces a wide scope of activity. But a short definition is:

Freemasonry is a fraternal organization, religious in character, based on the principle of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, which does charitable work in the community and among its members, and through its teachings and ceremonials seeks to make good men better and thereby make the world a better place in which to live.

Freemasonry is a "voluntary" association in that no one is invited to become a member. Unlike college fraternities and other fraternal organizations, Freemasonry never solicits anyone to become a member.

Freemasonry is not a religion. Sometimes outsiders claim that the Craft is a religion. Freemasons do not look upon their organization as a religion or as a church, and that most Freemasons belong to an established church. Freemasons do not go to the Lodge to worship God; they do this on Sunday when each Freemason goes to his own church. It is religious, in that one cannot become a Freemason unless he believes in God; but there is no religious test applied to the prospective member; nor is he required or asked to subscribe to any religious tenet or dogma. Matter of fact religion and politics are forbidden to discuss in the lodge.

Sometimes a non-Mason wants to know about the ceremony of initiation. Each candidate takes part in a ceremony of initiation, is then advanced to the second degree, and later promoted to the third degree. The promotion of one degree to the other depends on his proficiency in learning certain things relating to Freemasonry, its ethics, and its philosophy. No man ever took the degrees without becoming a better man. Furthermore the basic ethical principles exemplified in the ceremonies of the degrees are such as are accepted by all good men; they are lessons based on the golden rule, tolerance towards all men, respect for one's family, charity towards all, and being true to God for His manifold blessings. We are a serious orgranization of mature men -- an organization that instills a love of God, teaches charity in its broadest sense, and shows its member how to live a better life.

To quote the words of Ralph E. Whipple, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Iowa who said:

"Masonry is a quieting experience like the whisper of a summer breeze. It "is like the stealthy patter of July raindrops; yet, it fascinates like the "roar of a waterfall -- the rumbling of distant thunder. It lights our way "like a flash of sheet lightning in a dark night. It inspires confidence "like the rhythmic pulsation of a marching column. It spreads a serenity "like that of your own living room when you are doing just what you want to "do. Its philosophy and lessons permeate one's very soul as surely as an "ageless glacier moves toward the plain. Its beauties and allegories leave "you entanced like your first eager but cautious scan from the rim of Grand Canyon."

For your title page you do not neet any stamps. But you may use the Square and Compass or the recent issue of the Masonic stamps by Dominican Republic will introduce your collection very nicely. Or a Bible stamp may be used.

Covers

The following is a checklist of the Masonic covers as issued by the George Washington Masonic Stamp Club. Many of these Masonic covers are still available for sale and may be requested from its Covers Chairman, John N. Hoffman, 2501 "Q" Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20007:

DATE,	<u>POSTMARK</u>	<u>EVENI</u> ,
July 4, 1958 Nov. 3, 1962 Mar. 18,1960 Feb. 15,1965 Apr. 15,1965 Apr. 16,1965 Sep. 3,1965 Mar. 18,1967 Jul. 10,1967 Dec. 28,1967	Washington, D.C. Fredericksburg, Va. London, England Washington, D.C. Washington, D.C. Baltimore, Md. Dover, Pa. Washington, D.C. Washington, D.C. Washington, D.C.	Cornerstone 210th Masonic Ann.Washington Glass's Trip Sokol 100th Ann. Lincoln Assassination Lincoln's Death Traffic Safety Post Office Dedication Shrine Sessions Roosevelt Coil

Jan. 21, 1968	Baltimore, Md.	Harth
Jan. 24 , 1968	Washington, D.C.	Flag
Nov. 16, 1968	Washington, D.C.	Chief Joseph
July 16, 1969	Cape Canaveral	Apollo 11
Jul. 20, 1969	Houston, Texas	Moon Landing
Dec. 4, 1969	Washington, D.C.	Lichty Worshipful Master
May 8, 1970	Independence, Mo.	Truman Birthday
June 4, 1970	Washington, D.C.	Naval Lodge Altar
Aug. 6, 1970	Washington, D.C.	Eisenhower
Jan. 20, 1960	Mount Vernon, Va.	Washington
Mar. 31, 1960	Philadelphia, Pa.	Franklin
Jan. 11, 1961	Richmond, Va.	Henry
Apr. 12, 1961	Charleston, S.C.	Fort Sumter
Jul. 11, 1961	Washington, D.C.	George W. Norris
Nov. 17, 1961	New York, N.Y.	Pershing
Apr. 7, 1962	Shiloh, Tenn.	Shiloh
Nov. 14, 1962	Washington, D.C.	
Nov. 23, 1962		Higher Education
	New York, N.Y.	Washington
Mar. 22, 1963	New York, N.Y.	Andrew Jackson
Jul. 1, 1963	Gettysburg, Pa.	Pickett
May 5, 1964	Fredericksburg, Va.	wilderness
Jan. 8, 1965	New Orleans, La.	Battle of New Orleans
Apr. 9, 1965	Appomattox, Va.	Lee's Surrender
Jan. 29, 1966	Hyde Park, N.Y.	Roosevelt
May 21, 1966	Washington, D.C.	SIPEX
Sept. 8, 1966	Cincinnati, Ohio	Washington
pr. 17, 1967	Washington, D.C.	Grange
sept.29, 1967	Kennedy Space Center	Space Twins
Nov. 17, 1967	New York, N.Y.	Re-design
May 17, 1968		
	Washington, D.C.	Law and Order
July 4, 1968	Pittsburg, Pa.	Bennington Flag
May 5, 1969	Houston, Texas	Apollo 8
Sept. 9, 1969	Washington, D.C.	Moon Landing
1957	Alexandria, Va.	225th Birthday
1958	Alexandria, Va.	Masters Chair
1959	Alexandria, Va.	Family Coat of Arms
	Washington, D.C.	Monument Poster
1960	Alexandria, Va.	50th Anniversary National Masonic Memorial
1961	Alexandria, Va.	Death Clock
1962	Alexandria, Va.	Washington's Gavel
1963	Alexandria, Va.	Past Master Jewel
1964	Alexandria, Va.	Hour Glass
1965	Alexandria, Va.	Masonic Apron
1966		
	Washington, D.C.	Wearing Jewel of Office
1967	Fredericksburg, Va.	Arriving at Lodge
1968	Valley Forge, Pa.	Kneeling in Prayer
1969	Alexandria, Va	Grand Master's Jewel'
1970	Alexandria, Va.	A Masonic Medal
Jan. 20, 1957	Washington, D.C.	Eisenhower, Innauguration
Jan. 20, 1961	Washington, D.C.	Kennedy "
Jan. 20, 1965	Washington, D.C.	Johnson "
`n. 20, 1969	Washington, D.C.	Nixon "
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