

THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

Journal of the
MASONIC STUDY UNIT



Affiliate #94



Editor
Robert A. Domingue
59 Greenwood Road
Andover, Mass. 01810

VOLUME 9, NO. 1

MAY-JUNE 1985

WHOLE NO. 47

JOSÉ PRUDENCIA PADILLA



José Prudencio Padilla was born on March 19, 1784, at Riohacha, Colombia. He enlisted in the Spanish Navy and underwent his baptism under fire in the battle at Trafalgar on October 21, 1805. In his fatherland, he joined the liberation movement against the Spanish domination. He organized the first naval operations in the Caribbean Sea, the Magdalena River and the Orinoco bend, under the command of Juan Nepomuceno Esclava, commander of the National Navy in formation. He was a party to the siege at Cartagena. He fought under Simon Bolivar during his operations from Haiti in 1816 and followed him to Ocumare. In the Gulf of Marroquillo he conquered the frigate "Neptuno" having on board Alexander Hore, who was appointed to be governor of Panama.

In 1820 he gathered new laurels. Under the supreme command of Admiral Prion (another Mason), José Padilla, as deputy having been appointed to sea-captain, cleared the coast and the Magdalena Bay of the enemy. Now only Cartagena was left which, after a fierce battle and wearisome siege was occupied on October 10, 1821 by Padilla in charge of his marines. Then came Maracaibo! Here Padilla wiped out the Spanish fleet on July 24, 1823, which gave Bolivar a free hand for his campaign to Peru where on Sept. 9 of the next year the last battle in the War of Independence was fought at Ayacucho.

José Prudencio Padilla was characterized not only as an undaunted and courageous soldier but also as a generous and social feeling man, a friend of tried loyalty, righteous and characterized by a great sense of honor. In 1828 he fell victim to flattery and intrigue in the conflict between Bolivar and Santander. Unjustly incriminated, he was executed on October 2, 1828, on the Square of the Constitution. In November 1831 he was rehabilitated by the Convention of Nueva Granada.

José Prudencio Padilla was initiated in the Lodge "Concordia Venezolana" in Angostura. He was also a member of the "Supremo Consejo de la Republica de Colombia" with a seat at Caracas.

The Republic of Colombia honored him on March 19, 1984, with a stamp commemorating the bicentennial of his birth.

Source: Americo Carnicelli: "La Masoneria en la Independencia de America".

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

NEW MEMBERS:

437 Irving Berg, 6063 Roosevelt Blvd. #111, Philadelphia, Penna. 19149
438 John W. Streeter, 7151 Logan St., Springhill, Fla. 33526
439 John R. Pidduck, 172 Champlain Blvd., Chateaguay, Quebec J6K 2R2 Canada

ADDRESS CHANGES:

79 Norris Berg, Box 63, Lake Park, MN. 56554
84 John Slade, 202 Tollgate Trail, Longwood, FL 32750

CLOSED ALBUMS:

144 Genario J. Petracco, Huntsville, Ala. (Oct. 22, 1984)

DUES REMINDER AND CORRECTION

We are now into a new fiscal year for the Unit and dues are due as of May 1. Our Secretary-Treasurer, Bro. Otto Steding, reports that the renewals are flowing in but we would like to see a damburst to get everyone up to date with their membership. It has been pointed out to me that I committed a major error in my plea for dues in the previous issue - in the category of dues for overseas members. Back in 1983 the rate was increased from \$8.00 to \$10.00 for overseas members because of postal rate increases; I cited the old cost - that must be corrected to \$10.00.

In conjunction with this problem there was a very serious study conducted over the past couple of months regarding methods and rates of overseas mailings. Some comments had been received regarding the use of surface mail vs airmail and different dues for the different types of mailing. Bro. Otenti, in charge of mailing, did investigate the various methods and costs associated with them. The end result was that AO Printed Matter - Airmail was considered to be the best and the most economical. (Surface mail takes too long to be seriously considered for a timely newsletter such as this.) The rates using this method support an overseas dues cost of \$10.00 per year without departing from our not-for-profit operating philosophy. My apologies for the error, especially to those who may have already remitted at the lower rate - please remedy the situation.

Send your dues now (\$5.00 U.S., Canada, Mexico; \$10.00 overseas) to our Sec.-Treas.:

Otto Steding
1033 Hollytree Drive
Cincinnati, Ohio 45231

SYLVANUS THAYER

The USPS will be issuing a 9¢ stamp in the Great Americans series on June 7, 1985, which will picture Sylvanus Thayer. The information card in the files of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts (provided for us by Ed Becher of Belmont) shows that he was a member of King David Lodge of Taunton, Mass., he was identified as member No. 274. He was initiated on June 16, 1842, but no dates are entered on the card for the other two degrees. The card states that he was Junior Warden of this Lodge in 1849. His birth information is stated as June 9, 1785, in Braintree, Mass., and death as Sept. 7, 1872, in South Braintree, Mass., being buried in West Point, N.Y. He is called the Father of the U. S. Military Academy.

MANY THANKS TO MSC OF NEW YORK

Rt. Wor. Dr. Allan Boudreau and the Masonic Stamp Club of New York recently contacted your editor wanting to do something for our Unit. They offered to provide each member with a copy of a booklet recently released by their group - a synopsis of Bro. Joseph N. Kane's works entitled "U.S. Postage Firsts". On behalf of the Unit I accepted their generous offer and a copy of this booklet is enclosed with each copy of this newsletter. We are grateful to Bro. Boudreau and his Club for this sharing of information.

ANOTHER SHRINE CANCEL

The USPS has authorized another Masonic special cancel. This one, shown to the right, is authorized for use in Tucson, Arizona, on May 23 -25, 1985, for the Western Shrine Association '85 Station. Orders for these cancels applied to your stamped covers should be addressed to Postmaster, Tucson, Arizona 85701-9998. Identification and dates of the cancel should be marked clearly on the outer envelope.



WESTERN
SHRINE
ASSOCIATION



MEMBERSHIP ELEGIBILITY EXTENDED
THE MASONIC PHILATELIC CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN

On Jan. 25, 1985, in response to an active campaign by T. Fray and A. Field, the Grand Secretary of the United Grand Lodge of Great Britain has removed certain membership restrictions to permit widening of the Masonic Philatelic Club membership. Prior to this date only members of Lodges within the English Constitution were permitted to become members. Now, Brethren of Masonic Constitutions recognized by the United Grand Lodge of Great Britain can be admitted as members; each application will be checked to verify proper Lodge membership.

Certain of the constraints of the Club will remain in force in accordance with the U.G.L. agreement - information communication through the Newsletters, no cover producing, no advertizements from those who produce covers or any activity which may be misconstrued as being commercial or advertizing Freemasonry. Any correspondence between members of various Constitutions must be related to Philatelic matters rather than Masonic.

The Newsletter of this Club is an excellent 40 page (5½ X 8½) booklet with a couple of pages of illustrations edited by Trevor J. Fray. It is published quarterly - Jan., Apr., July and Oct. The current Annual Subscription is £2 (2 Pounds) for members who reside in the United Kingdom and £4 for members residing elsewhere, payable by Jan. 1 for each year. Membership information and applications can be obtained from the Secretary of the Club: T. J. Fray, 76 Merrivale Rd., Beacon Park, Plymouth PL2 3RP England. Dues remittance should be made to the Treasurer: G. R. Ewing, Macnaghten House, Compton Place, London WC1 9SD England. I am sure they will be happy to hear from any new prospective members.

Bro. Richard Needham wishes to point out that the price cited in the last Newsletter for his general purpose covers was for the 1-color version. This is the one with the MASONIC PHILATELY emblem in the middle. The 2-color cachets are 3 for \$1.00 and consist of 13 different types ranging from 4 different Blue Lodge versions to the York and Scottish Rite bodies.

NEW ISSUES

The following new issues bearing Masonic significance have been reported in various philatelic media:

Antigua & Barbuda - Jan. 7, 1985 - A set of 6 stamps and a souvenir sheet issued for the Statue of Liberty. They picture the statue and Frederick Auguste Bartholdi.

Barbuda - Feb. 18, 1985 - The Great Twentieth Century Leaders set of Antigua & Barbuda overprinted "BARBUDA MAIL" include two values which picture Winston Churchill.

Central African Republic - Dec. 2, 1984 - a famous persons set of seven stamps includes Henri Dunant on the 400fr airmail value.

Dominican Republic - Dec. 6, 1984 - Set of two for the 150th Birth Anniversary of Maximo Gomez: 10 centavos - Gomez on horse
20 centavos - portrait

Great Britain - Oct. 8, 1985 - Set of five stamps commemorating British Achievements in the film industry and the 1985/6 British Film Year. One value depicts Peter Sellers. (See elsewhere in this issue of the Newsletter for information on Peter Sellers.)

Bro. Bill Otenti provides us with illustrations of two recent 1984 issues which picture Masonic symbols:

Norway - 6/4/84
Worker Bees



Worker Bees—A275

El Salvador
Corn



Corn—A294



The USPS has announced that a new issue picturing George Washington will be forthcoming but a release date has not yet been announced. A published illustration of the stamp is shown to the right. A Unit FDC will be prepared for this issue as long as sufficient notice is received prior to release.

MEMBERS ACTIVE IN LODGE WORK

Some of our members have sent news of their installation into active positions within their Masonic organizations. Rev. Bro. Edward H. Hayes of Orange City, Fla., was installed on Jan. 15, 1985, as Master of the Third Veil in St. John's Chapter No. 4, RAM, and as Prelate in Emanuel Commandery No. 36, KT. Bro. Richard Needham, our former Secretary-Treasurer, is serving another term as Tyler of his Lodge, Lancaster Lodge No. 57, having done so since 1979. He was also recently appointed to the Fairfield County (Ohio) Fraternal Relations Committee of the AASR, Valley of Columbus, Ohio.

PETER SELLERS

Peter Sellers was born on Sept. 8, 1925, in Southsea, England. He was a student at St. Aloysius College, Highgate, England, and served with the RAF in World War I. He started with the Windmill Theatre, London, in 1948 and appeared in many performances on stage, radio, TV and films, predominately in comedy roles. He was the star of the Pink Panther films and was the recipient of the Best Film Actor award of the Variety Club, Great Britain, in 1960. He died in London on July 23, 1980.

Bro. Peter Sellers was a member of Chelsea Lodge No. 3098, London, a Lodge that has a membership of many members of the entertainment world. He was initiated on July 16, 1948, passed on Jan. 21, 1949, and raised on Nov. 16, 1951.

As mentioned on page 476, Bro. Sellers will be pictured on a stamp of Great Britain on Oct. 8, 1985.

-Portions of this article contributed by Bro. Trevor Fray
in The Masonic Philatelic Club (of G.B.) Newsletter

ANOTHER LEAD FOR RESEARCH

Our Unit Vice President, Bro. Joseph A. Walkes, Jr., has provided the following article for publication in our Newsletter and the resulting thought process it will evoke:

In 1951, Harry A. Williamson wrote Celestial Records, which carries the history of Celestial Lodge No. 3 F.& A.M. (Prince Hall Affiliation) from 1826 to 1951. On page 34 is found this curious statement:

"When this Lodge celebrated its centennial in conjunction with Hiram No. 4 in 1926, the Postmaster General of the United States gave special permission for the use of a centennial stamp for private use by both Lodges on any mail deposited in the district of College Station, in New York City, during the month of March that year.

This privilege was obtained through the efforts of John C. Seveillie, the Secretary of Hiram No. 4 and an envelope with the stamp, along with the regular United States postage stamps is preserved in a Masonic scrapbook in the collection on Negro Masonry in the New York Public Library."

The collection mentioned is the Harry A. Williamson collection and the New York Public Library is the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in Harlem.

Have any of our members seen this cover or have one of them in their own collection? If so, make a photocopy of it and send it for publication in a subsequent Newsletter for viewing by all the members.

ANOTHER HUNTSMAN COVER

Peter Huntsman, 18 Fuller St., Montpelier Vt., has published another Masonic cover. This one is for the 10th Anniversary of the Museum of our National Heritage in Lexington, Mass. He has them for sale at \$1.00 each plus a SASE. The decoy stamp was used because the Shelburne Museum Decoy Collection was on display at the time of the anniversary on April 13.

Bro. Huntsman also has available some of the Masonic cacheted covers which he issued since 1976. Write to him for the details.



RAMBLINGS FROM THE EDITOR

The past eight weeks since I prepared the last newsletter have been an absolute roller coaster ride in my personal life with extreme highs and lows. During this time frame, among such other things as business trips to the West Coast, I resigned from my job as Manager of Military Programs in the Aircraft Instrument business (at G.E.) and have rejoined a company I left 16 years ago (Avco) as Senior Program Manager in the aerospace industry. I have spent 17 of my 25 years as a professional in the reentry vehicle business and it is nice to "be back home". My wife and I celebrated the change with a nine day vacation in St. Thomas only to come home to watch my father pass away three days after our return. Things are just now starting to get back to some degree of normalcy and those of you with whom I have fallen behind in my correspondence, please be patient.

With this issue, I start my second year as Editor (time flies when you're having so much fun). I hope all members are pleased with the issues but I will restate my plea of "Please submit articles on the subjects you want to see" - I can't do it all by myself and I can't read your minds. Inputs are sparse lately.

Our President, Bro. Tom Gardner, informs me that he has appointed Dorothy Walker, member No. 213, as Historian of the Masonic Study Unit. Congratulations, Dorothy!

One member has suggested that we advertize our Unit and Newsletter in various Masonic publications in an effort to increase our membership. There are many Grand Lodges which publish monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly magazines. Those of you who reside in such a jurisdiction should seriously consider writing an article on Freemasonry in Philately to introduce our hobby and provide information on our Unit.

I have contacted the committee in charge of NEVPEx-TOPEX '85 to inform them that the Unit will be sponsoring a trophy for the Masonic topical exhibit which demonstrates the most original research and presentation. I have also asked them to conduct the judging for the Unit. The trophy will be patterned after the previous one of the 60's and 70's (as soon as I acquire it) - possibly of the same design - and will be a travelling trophy, residing with the winner each year until the next TOPEX. I have taken the liberty of identifying it as the Marshall S. Loke Memorial Trophy for Masonic Philatelic Research and Presentation. I trust that all members recognize the major role which our former member and president played in the field of Masonic Philatelic Research. (I am presently conducting investigations to be able to demonstrate to all members of the club the enormity of the role which he actually did play.)

The combined show for the ATA 1985 annual convention and the annual exhibition and bourse of the Nevada Stamp Study Society, NEVPEx-TOPEX '85, will be held June 21-23 in the Pioneer Theater-Auditorium, 100 S. Virginia St., Reno, Nevada. The Riverside Hotel, across the street from the Pioneer, will serve as the headquarters hotel. For details on the show, exhibiting and reservations, contact Dick Dreiling, 170 Venturacci Lane, Fallon, Nebr. 89406, the chairman of the exhibition.

I just heard from our previous Secretary-Treasurer, Bro. Dick Needham, who had good news and bad news. The cancer in his leg which he successfully fought three years ago has returned - BUT - it is nowhere as large as previously experienced. Nevertheless he will be returning to the hospital late in April to determine the extent of the problem and help the doctors determine the course of action to be taken. Dick, on behalf of the Unit let me state that the prayers and hopes of all are with you in this difficult time. We wish you the best in everything in being able to "beat it" again.

I just received my copies of the Netherlands Antilles Masonic stamps and the official FDC done by the government; they are beautiful and will grace any collection. Bro. John Cunningham says he has some that he will part with for \$2 for the set, \$3 for the FDC.

THE COVER THAT NEVER WAS

The cover shown to the right was prepared by one of our members for release in 1977 for the 55th anniversary of George Washington Lodge No. 24, Ogden, Utah. Unfortunately, the symbols used around the Lodge building picture were deemed in violation of Utah law and the cover could never be processed. A short history of the Lodge was printed on an enclosure; its contents are as follows:



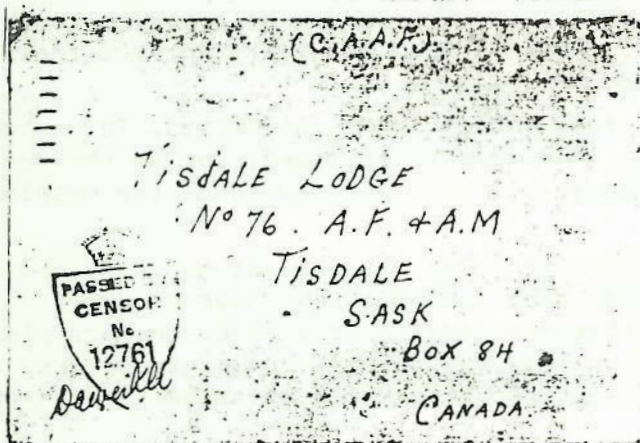
"This new Masonic Temple, completed in August 1967, is one of majestic beauty and impressive design. It is the home of all the Ogden Masonic and affiliated Bodies, and is located at 20th and Harrison Boulevard overlooking the Valley and City of Ogden, Utah. It is really a milestone after so many years of hard work.

"The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Utah, under the direction of Brother Howard E. Dorst, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Utah presided over the laying of the Cornerstone at the Northeast corner of the building on October 23, 1966.

"George Washington Lodge No. 24, F. & A.M. celebrates its Birthday each year during the month of February, having received its charter in 1921. The Officers and Members of the Lodge cordially invite all Masonic and affiliated Members to visit and see this unique building."

Less than 100 of these covers were prepared but none were ever "officially" cancelled. Masons living in Utah who are not able to believe in Masonic doctrine, where meeting on the Level and parting on the Square is not conducive to one's well-being, have a difficult time in achieving peaceful coexistence. It is extremely surprising that state agencies are permitted to exert this type of influence in this country where an individual's rights are becoming more and more respected.

"MASONIC FREE-FRANK"



Bro. John O. Welch of La Porte, Texas, has submitted the cover shown to the left for member viewing. This wartime cover was sent by a Private L. Hoffris (his name is on the back of the envelope) to Tisdale Lodge No. 76, A.F. & A.M., Saskatchewan, Canada. (To pay his dues perhaps?) It appears to be of World War I vintage and was "free franked" by the "C.A.A.F." in the upper right hand corner of the envelope in place of stamps. Does any member have any comments regarding this cover or further explanations of its usage? Any and all comments will be appreciated by your Editor as well as the cover owner.

DEMISE OF PHILATELIC LODGE NO. 552



There has been a Masonic Lodge expressly devoted to Philately in existence in Australia since 1944. This Lodge, identified as Philatelic Lodge No. 552, conducted its last installation on Sept. 28, 1984, for at the end of the term of the present officers, the Lodge will be combined with another Lodge and its identity will be lost. A cover was prepared for this installation and in conjunction with AUSIPEX 84; it is shown to the left.

The saga of the Lodge's demise is recounted in proper terminology by Bro. Herman Herst, Jr. (as member of the MSC of NY) in a recent edition of Trevor Fray's Newsletter for the Masonic Philatelic Club of

Great Britain. It is repeated in its entirety:

"It was just forty years ago that members of our Masonic Stamp Club learned that a new Lodge had been formed in Melbourne, Australia, consisting only of stamp collecting Masons. The news inspired suggestions that our club might do the same thing in New York, but since most of our members felt a loyalty to their own Blue Lodges nothing came of it.

When I was in Australia a few weeks ago attending AUSIPEX in Melbourne, I telephoned the Masonic offices to find out whether Philatelic Lodge was still working. It was one of those coincidences that cannot be accounted for. It was not only working, but that very evening, the Lodge was installing a new master. I was given the telephone number of a Lodge brother and called him.

At 5:30 that night, a car called at my hotel to take me to the Masonic Centre on Strathalbyn Street, in East Kew, a suburb of Melbourne. The Lodge had bought an old church, and refitted it beautifully into a Masonic Centre. (Several stamp clubs that I visited in Australia and New Zealand had done the same thing. There are a great many abandoned churches in both countries, available for a very small sum. Organized religion does not seem to be doing too well "down under").

The beautiful souvenir of the installation bore on its cover a reproduction of the Victoria semi-postal stamp of 1897, the first charity stamp in the world, which has the emblem of the Lodge. The Master-Elect who was installed was Bro. Brian Nelson Rich, with the ceremony being conducted by RT. Wor. B.F.J. Beverin. Bro. Beverin is one of the very few brothers who founded the Lodge in 1944, and a Philatelist.

Over the years, other Masons joined the Lodge, few of them stamp collectors. It was perhaps the convenience of the location, or the fact that friends belonged, but as the decades passed, fewer and fewer were philatelists, although all were well aware of the meaning of the name.

Alas, Bro. Rich will be the last Master of Philatelic Lodge No. 552, of the A.F. and A. Masons of Victoria. The arrangements have already been made for the Lodge to merge with another existing Lodge. At the meeting that I attended, some of the older members pleaded for retention of the Philatelic name, but it was in vain. When the merger occurs, the new Lodge will probably take a name quite different from the names of either of its two constituent Lodges.

The hospitality of the brothers at Philatelic Lodge was something I can never forget. After the Loyal Toast was made, and toasts were offered for various individuals, one was made to Masonic brothers in other parts of the world, a toast to which I was asked to reply. After a collation, the meeting ended with the Lodge singing the Australian song, "Advance, Australia Fair". It was explained that the song was not the Australian anthem, which remains "God Save the Queen".

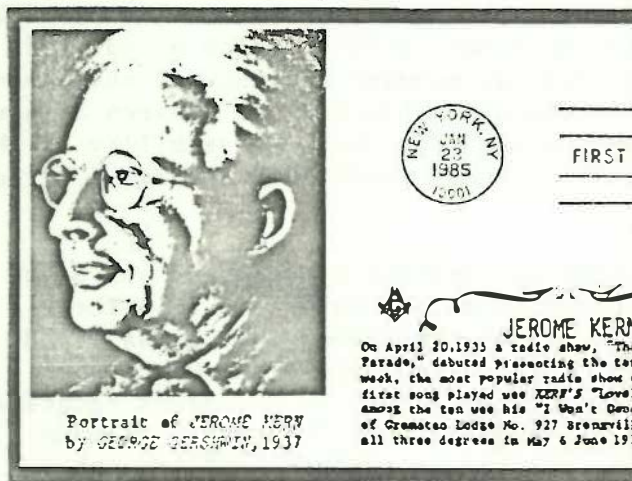
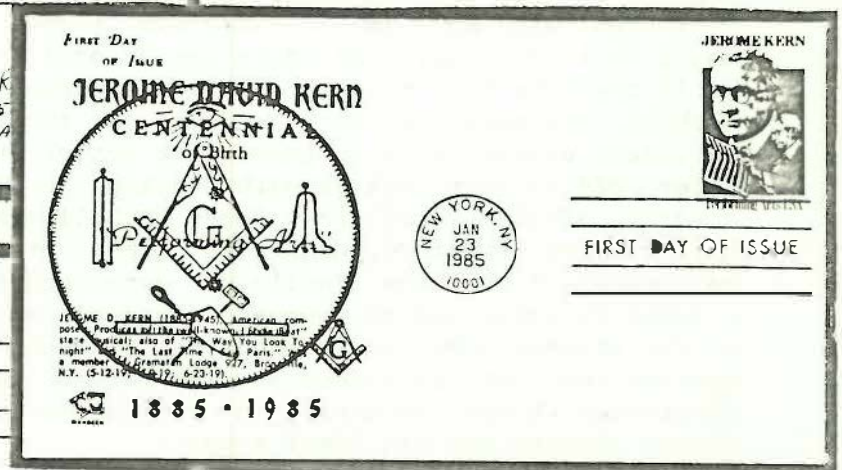
DEMISE OF PHILATELIC LODGE NO. 552 (Cont'd)

When the meeting ended, the same brothers who were kind enough to travel the 20 miles or so to my downtown Melbourne hotel, were equally generous in driving me back."

Thanks to Bros. Herman Herst, Jr., and Trevor Fray

MORE KERN COVERS

Shown below are a few of the Masonic Cacheted covers issued by our Unit members for the Jerome Kern stamp of Jan. 23, 1985. The Unit's cover was pictured in the previous Newsletter.



JEROME KERN
On April 20, 1935 a radio show, "The Lucky Strike Hit Parade," debuted presenting the ten top tunes of the week, the most popular radio show ever aired. The first song played was KERN'S "Lovely To Look At" and among the ten was his "I Won't Be Home." He was a member of Granatan Lodge No. 927 Bronxville, NY, receiving all three degrees in May & June 1919.



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CORRECTIONS IDENTIFIED BY THE UNITED GRAND LODGE

Your Editor recently received a copy of a letter sent from J. M. Hamill, Librarian and curator of the United Grand Lodge of England, to Bro. S. W. Martin, Grand Lecturer of the Grand Lodge of South Australia and now President and Editor of the Masonic Stamp Club of South Australia. This letter deals with errors contained in an article written by Bro. Martin entitled A Royal Mason - Further Information which appeared in the March-April 1983 (Vol. 6, No. 6, pages 346/7) issue of The Philatelic Freemason. The points of contention and issue are as follows:

1. I was not aware that Thomas, 8th Duke of Norfolk either required or sought permission from the Pope to accept the office of Grand Master and wondered what your source was for this statement. There is nothing in either Grand Lodge Archives or those of the Norfolk family, at Arundel Castle, to suggest that he made such a request. Indeed, as his Church had not spoken against Freemasonry there was no reason for him to do so.
2. I find it inconcievable that the British Monarch or Government would have entered into any form of agreement with the Papacy which would have limited the freedom of choice of British subjects to join a private Society. With the short exception of the reign of the Roman Catholic Mary Tudor, the Pope has had no authority in England, other than over the consciences of members of the Roman Catholic Church, since Henry VIII broke with Rome in 1531 over his divorce from Catherine of Aragon. Indeed it would be true to say that there was a considerable anti-Catholic feeling in England until the late 19th century. Until the Catholic Emancipation Act of 1829 no Roman Catholic was permitted to be a member of the House of Lords or House of Commons, hold political office or be in government employ and they were only permitted to do so after 1829 if they took an oath denying the Pope's right to interfere in British domestic affairs. Until 1871 Roman Catholics were not permitted to matriculate to the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, London or Durham. By the Act of Succession of 1701 any member of the Royal Family who converted to the Roman Catholic faith or married a Roman Catholic had to renounce their own and their descendant's rights of succession to the throne. Hence my stating that it would be inconcievable for the Monarch to have entered into such an agreement. The more so when we consider that the stability of the Hanoverian throne depended upon the suppression of a Roman Catholic Pretender (Charles Edward Stuart) who had Papal support.
3. King James VI (of Scotland) and I (of England) was neither a Freemason nor Grand Master. Prior to the formation of the premier Grand Lodge of England in 1717 there was no Grand Lodge anywhere in the world. The source of the legend that James I and many other English and Scottish Monarchs, peers and prelates were Grand Masters or Grand Patrons is the purported history of Freemasonry published by Dr. James Anderson in the 2nd (1738) edition of the Book of Constitutions. In that "history" Anderson makes claims, without any foundation, for anyone who had patronized building and architecture having been Freemasons and Grand Masters. The first English Royal Freemason was L. Frederick Lewis, Prince of Wales, (son of George II) who was initiated in 1737.
4. Members of the Royal Family have no special rights of entry into Freemasonry. Like any others they must show an interest, be proposed, seconded and balloted for in open lodge. I find nothing strange in the fact that whilst twenty three members of the Royal Family have been connected with Freemasonry since 1737 other members have not sought initiation. In this they are like many other families who have had similar long connections with Freemasonry but in which not all the male members became Freemasons.
5. Despite stories to the contrary in the less responsible sections of the media the present Prince of Wales has not made any public statement on the subject of Freemasonry.

CORRECTIONS... (Contd)

6. The Marquess of Ripon (Grand Master) became converted to Roman Catholicism during his Grand Mastership. It was as a result of this, and not pressure from his wife, that he resigned in 1874. Whilst he himself could see no incompatibility between his religion and Freemasonry his conscience would not permit him to remain head of a Society, membership of which had been proscribed by his Church. Had he not done so Canon Law would have first deprived him of the sacraments, then excommunicated him."

-Thank you Bro. Hamill for your information and insights

SIR THOMAS STAMFORD RAFFLES

Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles, administrator, ethnologist, naturalist, writer and Freemason, was the son of a sea captain in the West Indies trade. A statue of him done by Thomas Woolner, was unveiled June 27, 1887, in the Empress Palace, Singapore. This country also honored him by issuing a stamp showing this statue on Sept. 4, 1955.



Sir Raffles was born at sea off Point Morant, Jamaica, on July 6, 1781. The major part of his forty five years was spent in the service of some of Great Britain's East Indies colonies. At the age of fifteen he obtained an assistant clerkship in the East India Company. In 1805 he was appointed assistant secretary to the governor of Pulo Penang and in 1807 was made principal secretary. He was soon a leading authority on the ethnology of the Indian Archipelago and he wrote much on the subject. He was secretary to the governor-general of India, Lord Minto, during the expedition against Java in 1811. At its conclusion he was made lieutenant-governor of that newly acquired colony and administered that important island and its dependencies for five years.

Returning to England in 1816 because of ill health, he was knighted in 1817. That year he also published his two volume "History of Java". Java having been restored to the Dutch, Raffles was made lieutenant-governor of the settlement at Fort Marlborough, Bencoolen, on the coast of Sumatra in 1818. While in Sumatra he emancipated the slaves, formed the new British settlement of Singapore (1819), endowed a college there for study of Malay and Chinese literature and published "Malayan Miscellanies" in two volumes. He made Singapore a free port to ships of every nation to combat trade monopolies. He went back to England in 1824 and founded the Zoological Society of London, of which he was the first president. He died in London on July 5, 1826.

Only two months after the conquest of Java, T. Stamford Raffles was initiated in the Lodge Vertutis et Artis Amici, established on the Pondo-Gedeh coffee estate near Buitenzorg. Although his Dutch brethren were hostile to the British, Raffles' character was such that he was welcomed into their midst. He was passed in this Lodge but was raised on July 5, 1813, in the Lodge of Friendship at Surabaya, Java, and subsequently was made past master. He received the 18th degree in the Rose Croix Chapter, La Vertueuse, in Batavia. A Lodge in Singapore is named after him.

-Information gleaned from articles in The Masonic Philatelist by Marshall S. Loke and in the Sunnyside Gavel by Gordon Garrett with credits to John A. Mirt and T. C. Waghorn.

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S DREAM

I fell asleep the other night And while I had my snooze,
I dreamed each member stepped right up and promptly paid his dues.
But when I found 'twas but a dream I nearly threw a fit
It's up to you to make it true... SUGGESTION -- Please Remit

PAUL REVERE



Several United States and foreign stamps have been issued which picture Bro. Paul Revere. Those above were issued by Grenada on May 6, 1975, and the U.S. on April 18, 1958 and Feb. 15, 1976.

✓ Paul Revere was made a Mason in the Lodge of Saint Andrew of Boston on September 4, 1760; he was raised there in 1761. That Lodge, chartered by the Grand Lodge of Scotland on Nov. 30, 1756, was made up of Masons meeting in the Green Dragon Tavern and working without authority, and British Regiments quartered in Boston, some belonging to the Grand Lodge of Scotland and others to the Grand Lodge of Ireland. He held several offices in the Lodge of St. Andrew; he was Warden in 1764, Secretary in 1769 and served as Master in 1770-71, 1777-79 and 1780-82. When the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was organized on Dec. 27, 1769, and chartered by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, Paul Revere was made its Senior Grand Deacon under Joseph Warren as Grand Master. Paul Revere had also served on the committee which had applied to the Scottish Grand Lodge for the charter. He was Junior Grand Warden 1777-79, Senior Grand Warden 1780-83 and Deputy Grand Master 1784-85 and 1791-92.

In the year 1783 a question rose among the members of St. Andrew's Lodge as to whether the organization should pass under the control and jurisdiction of Massachusetts Grand Lodge or remain in allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Scotland. Twenty-nine members were in favor of remaining and twenty-three were opposed. This minority, under the leadership of Paul Revere, withdrew from St. Andrew's and on Sept. 4, 1784, organized the Rising States Lodge which was chartered by the Massachusetts Grand Lodge with Paul Revere as its first Master. At the Quarterly meeting of the Massachusetts Grand Lodge on June 2, 1791, Paul Revere was appointed Deputy Grand Master by M.W. Moses M. Hayes. At a meeting in March 1792, Revere presided as Deputy Grand Master when the Massachusetts Grand Lodge decided to join with the St. John's Grand Lodge to acknowledge one Masonic authority in the Commonwealth.

From 1794 to 1797 Paul Revere was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. During his term twenty-three Lodges were chartered, only a few have become extinct since that time. On July 26, 1796, he presented to the Massachusetts Historical Society on behalf of the Grand Lodge, a copy, bound in gold, of "The Constitution of the Society of Free and Accepted Masons."

Paul Revere died on May 10, 1818, at the age of eighty-three. From the time he received his first degree in St. Andrew's Lodge, after its charter had been received from the Grand Lodge of Scotland in 1760, until the last record of his presence in Grand Lodge in 1804, he had been a creative force in Massachusetts Masonry. Yet, there is no record of his death in the Grand Lodge Proceedings and no Masonic honor was paid to him at his funeral.

Paul Revere was the son of a French Huguenot who had Americanized his name from Apollos Rivoire to Revere, and of Deborah Hitchbourne, Paul was baptized on Jan. 1, 1735. The exact date of his birth is not known. He married Sara Orne in 1757. They had one son, Paul, and seven daughters. Only Mary survived her father's death in 1818. Sara died in May of 1773 and in Sept. he married Rachel Walker to help him care for his large family. Their union produced eight more children, four of whom died before their father. Rachel died in 1813.