

THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

Journal of the
MASONIC STUDY UNIT



Affiliate #94



Editor
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WHOLE NO. 74

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MEL BLANC



The Talking Pictures 50th Anniversary stamp issued by the USPS on October 6, 1977, can very aptly be used to illustrate a page on Mel Blanc as he was the voice of so many characters in the "Talkies". Of course other stamps of the world issued for the Walt Disney characters such as Bugs Bunny, Tweety and Roadrunner would also be appropos as he was the voice of the Warner Bros. cartoons.

Mel (Melvin Jerome) Blanc was born on May 30, 1908, in San Francisco. He began his career as a musician with NBC radio and later played the violin, bass and tuba with various bands. In 1937 he joined the cartoon department of Warner Bros. as a voice specialist. He rose to fame as the voice of Porky Pig, Yosemite Sam, Sylvester and Tweetie, Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Foghorn Leghorn, Barney Rubble, Elmer Fudd and Pepe Le Pew. He was the postman on the Burns and Allen Show; Pedro on the Judy Canova Show; Polly the Parrot, the violin teacher, the train announcer and the Maxwell car on the Jack Benny Show. He also created the voice of Truik the Robot on Buck Rogers in the 25th Century. He appeared regularly on radio and sporadically in films, in cameo roles. His film credits include Neptune's Daughter (1949) and Kiss Me Stupid (1964). Melvin Jerome Blanc died on July 10, 1989.

Bro. Mel Blanc was a member of Mid Day Lodge No. 188 in Portland, Oregon. (Can any member help us with the dates of his degrees?)

-Article contributed by Bro. Norman Lincoln,
Member No. 12 of Eaton, Ohio

Members, the time is rapidly approaching when we must develop a slate of officers for our annual election. Please let your Editor know of your thoughts and recommendations as soon as possible. Don't be ashamed to nominate yourself, especially if you have some thoughts, ideas and projects which would be good for the Unit and would promote its growth. Let me hear from you.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

NEW MEMBERS:

269. H. A. Ort, R.R.1 Box 354, Fargo, ND 58103.

Note: Bro. Ort is presently Senior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of North Dakota. Welcome to the Unit Wor. Bro.

ADDRESS CHANGES:

230. Donald L. McClenahan, No. 156 1840 U.S.19 So, Tarpon Springs, FL 34689.

411. Laverne A. Kohrt, 315 1/2 McKinley Rd. (West), Ottawa, IL 61350.

475. Jean-Claude Vilespey, 64 rue Stanislas, Nancy, France.

485. Albert J. Fournier, 1202 S. Hickory Ave, Arlington Hts., IL 60005.

487. Carol D. Long, 4659 Pennington Meadows Cir, Rock Hill, SC 29730.

MEMBERS ACTIVITIES:

Bro. Dwight Seals is being (or has been) installed as Master of Camden Lodge No. 159 of Camden, Ohio, for the year 1989-90. Congratulations, Bro. Seals, and best wishes for a successful year in the East.

Bro. Joseph A. Walkes, our Unit Vice President, informs us that Macoy Publishing and Masonic Supply Company, has reissued his A Prince Hall Masonic Quiz Book; it appears in their latest catalog at a cost of \$10.00. (It is certainly rewarding as well as self-satisfying to see ones publications in a reprint mode. I recently had that experience when my Blue Lodge, St. Matthew's Lodge of Andover, Mass, decided to reprint its history which I originally published in 1981.)

UPDATE ON "COUNT" BASIE

Bro. Joseph A. Walkes has pointed out an error in the article in the last Newsletter about William "Count" Basie. He is quick to point out that the error is not one of Bro. Norman Lincoln who submitted the article, but rather his source, Great Black Men of Masonry; Qualitative Black Achievers who were Freemasons by Joseph Mason Andrew Cox. Bro. Cox recorded that Bro. Basie was a member of Medina Lodge No. 19 F. & A. M. (Prince Hall). Unfortunately, there is no Lodge by that name under the jurisdiction of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge. Medina #19 is a well known Prince Hall Shrine Temple. Actually, Bro. "Count" Basie was a member of Wisdom Lodge No. 102, Chicago, Jurisdiction of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Illinois.

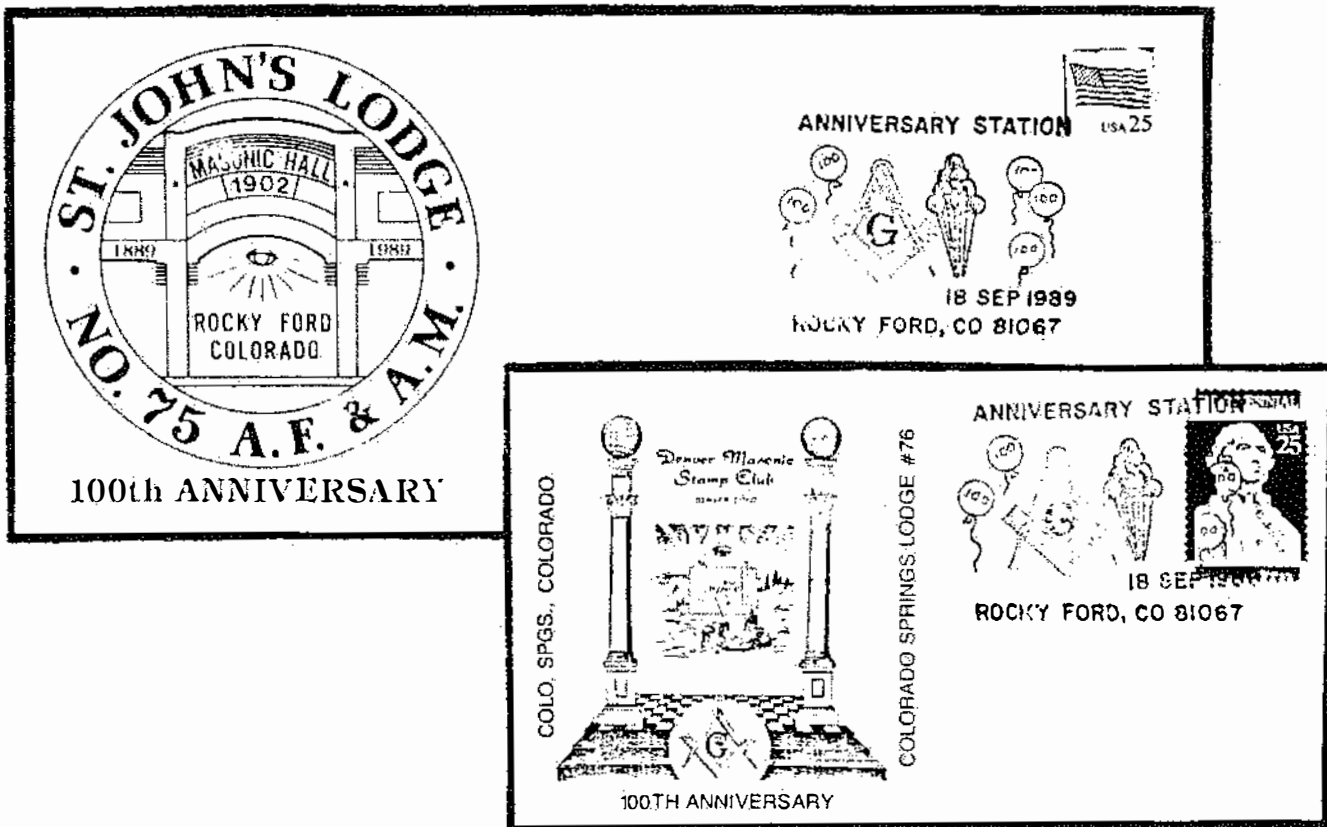
Thank you for setting the record straight, Bro. Walkes.

ROCKY FORD CANCEL AND THE DENVER MSC

When I included the item in the last Newsletter pertaining to the Masonic Special Cancellation at Rocky Ford, Colorado, I should have surmised that our members who are also associated with the Denver Masonic Stamp Club were probably behind it. I have heard from them to confirm this fact and Bro. Jim Tribble, Member No. 453, has provided the information on the covers which were produced. Official word from Bro. Jim Adams regarding prices, however, has not yet been received. I am sure he will respond to letters on the subject written to him at 2685 So. Sherman Ave., Denver, CO 80210.

In 1989, four Lodges in Colorado celebrated their 100th Anniversary and St. John's Lodge No. 75 was designated by the Grand Master of Colorado as the Centennial Station or Anniversary Station. W.M. Edward Gobin of that Lodge was very cooperative in working with the Denver MSC in getting cancels of the Lodges which did not reply to the DMSC's letters of intent to print covers for the various anniversaries. Consequently, covers for the Centennial of Colorado Springs Lodge No. 76 and Rocky Ford Lodge No. 75 will bear the special Anniversary cancel. Burlington Lodge No. 77 and Akron Lodge No. 74 are in the northern part of the state and opted to use the regular hand cancel of the town represented. The Akron Lodge ceremony was held on Oct. 7.

In addition to the Denver MSC covers, St. John's Lodge made up covers of their own using #10 envelopes as shown here. Bro. Adams will have packages of the five covers available in October. Wor. Bro. Gobin has a package available which contains a Masonic punched penny, gold colored medallion and a bronze colored medallion along with the #10 cover. Details should be obtained from him at: Edward B. Gobin, 801 East 2nd St., Akron, Colo. 80720.



NEW ISSUES

New issues which may be of interest for inclusion in a Masonic stamp collection, as defined in recent philatelic media, are:

1988 (date not defined) Nicaragua - 25 cor stamp with portrait of Rubin Dario.

Jan. 1, 1989 - Nicaragua - 30th Anniversary of the Cuban Revolution - 20 cor value which pictures Bolivar, Marti, Sandino and Castro.

Apr. 24, 1989 - Chile - 150th Anniversary of the Military Justice Department - 50 p value showing Justice with scales and battle scene.

May 25, 1989 - Paraguay - 20th Anniversary of 1st Manned Landing on Moon - 3 values and sheetlet - sheetlet pictures experiment on moon with Edwin Aldrin, Jr.

June 24, 1989 - Pakistan - Bicentennial of French Revolution - one 7 rupees value showing Jacques-Louis David's "Oath of the Tennis Court".

July 7, 1989 - Republic of Guinea - Bicentennial of French Revolution - 4 values plus 1 S/S, one gold foil stamp, 1 gold foil S/S -incl:
250 f - Jean-Sylvan Bailly, "Oath of the Tennis Court",
400 f - Lafayette, balloon, celebration of the federation.

July 20, 1989 - Niue - 20th Anniversary of First Manned Moon Landing - triptych of \$1.50 stamps:
one shows Earth and Moon
one shows astronauts on moon, tribute to the astronauts killed by fire on the first Apollo mission (V.I. Grissom).

July 20, 1989 - Sierre Leone - 30 Years of Space Exploration - three sheetlets of nine 10 leone stamps each - one shows Apollo 11 astronaut Edwin E. Aldrin on Moon, 1969.

October - St. Vincent-Grenadines - 20th Anniversary of 1st Manned Moon Landing - 8 values plus 2 S/S
\$5 - shows Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin, Jr., walking on the moon.

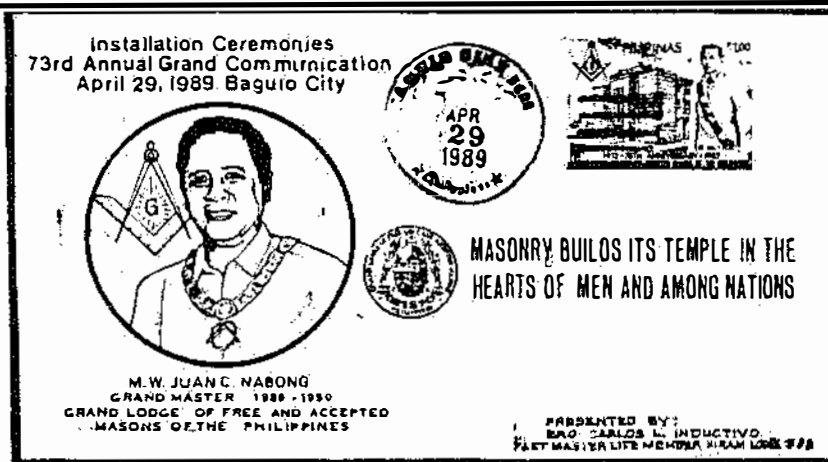
Two other issues might be Masonic related - can anyone help?

June - Russia - 150th Anniversary of I. A. Kuratov, writer. The one value shows his portrait, a scroll, a goose-quill pen.

Aug. 24 - Denmark - Birth Bicentennial of B. S. Ingemann, poet and writer. The one value shows his portrait.

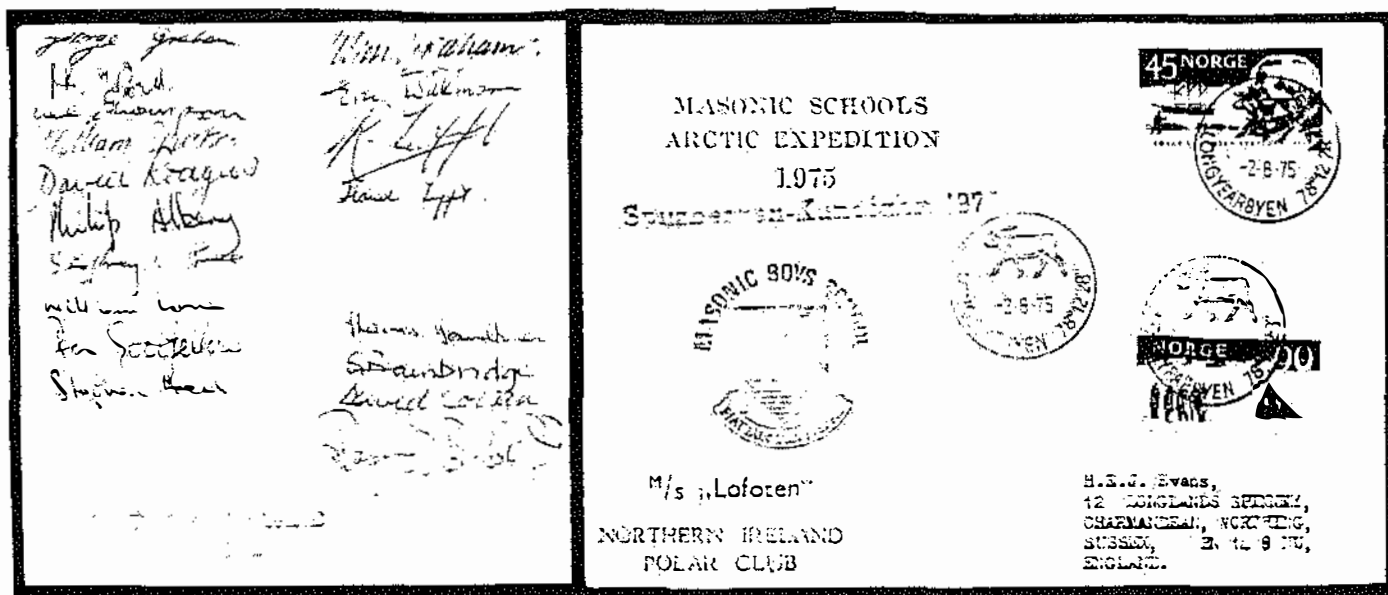
PHILIPPINE COVERS

Bro. Carlos Inductivo has sent in a set of two covers which were prepared for the Installation of the 73rd Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines held in Baguio City, the summer resort of the Philippines, on April 29, 1989. One of the covers is shown below, the other has the same cachet but uses the Boy Scout Founding issue; Bro. Inductivo comments that of the organizers of the Boy Scout Movement, four of them were Masons and one of them a Past Grand Master. If a member is interested in acquiring a copy of these covers, I would suggest corresponding with Bro. Inductivo at P.O. Box 3312, Manila.



DUBLIN MASONIC BOYS SCHOOL COVER

A recent acquisition from the stock of Bro. Edsel Hatfield has triggered some memory cells back to a correspondence I had with our member Bro. L. V. Johnston a few months ago. The subject cover is shown here and was carried by the Dublin Masonic Boys School expedition to the Arctic in 1975. The rear of the cover is also shown as it bears eighteen signatures - apparently the members of the expedition. Could Bro. Johnston or some other member fill us in on the background of this cover and the Dublin Masonic Boys School? I am sure such an article would be extremely valuable to owners of these covers.



WILLIAM PITT LELEIOHOKU

William Pitt Leleiohoku is pictured on the regular 12 cent postage stamp issued by Hawaii in 1875, Scott No. 36.



William Pitt Kalahoolewa Leleiohoku, the younger brother of King David Kalakaua, was born on January 10, 1855. In infancy he was adopted, as was the custom of the Chiefs, by Her Highness Ruth Keelikolani, sister of King Kamehameha V, and named Leleiohoku in memory of her first husband. William received a well rounded education at St. Alban's College and then served as a clerk in the Department of Foreign Affairs. On February 14, 1874, two days after becoming King, David Kalakaua appointed William P. Leleiohoku his successor to the throne as he and his Queen Kapiolani were childless and the line of succession had to be maintained. In November 1874, Leleiohoku was appointed Prince Regent and served until the King returned from a tour on February 15, 1875. He received the decoration of Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Order of Kamehameha and Kalakaua. He was a member of the Privy Council of State and of the House of Nobles, Captain of the Leleiohoku Cavalry and Foreman of the Engine Company No. 4 of the Honolulu Fire Department. It was expected that he would make a wise and benevolent sovereign but that prophecy was not to come. William Pitt Leleiohoku died of pneumonia on April 9, 1877 at the age of 23.

While being groomed in the responsibilities of a King of Hawaii, he also became interested in Freemasonry. He became a member of Hawaiian Lodge No. 21, being initiated on May 9, passed on June 4 and raised on June 24, 1874. On the evening of April 10, 1877, he was tendered a Masonic funeral service, led by the W.M. of Hawaiian Lodge No. 21.

-Article based on item provided by Bro. John M. Cunningham,
Member No. 13 of Washington, D.C.

WEIRIECH COVER

An interesting cover just received from Bro. Ross Wetreich is shown here. It is cancelled Feb. 17, 1986, and the subject is quite apparent. Interested parties should contact Bro. Wetreich at P.O. Box 1300, Valley Stream, Long Island, New York 11582.

