



THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

Journal of the
MASONIC STUDY UNIT



Affiliate #94



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

VOL. 16, NO. 5

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1993

WHOLE NO. 93

HENRI ABBE GREGOIRE & GASPARD MONGE

On October 13, 1990, France issued a four stamp Souvenir Sheet (Scott No. 2232) to commemorate the Bicentennial of the French Revolution. The two individuals pictured - Gaspard Monge and Henri Abbe Gregoire - were both Freemasons. Bro. Gaspard Monge has been discussed in some detail in previous articles.



Bro. Gregoire was born on December 4, 1750, in Veho, near Luneville, France. He was a liberal priest in Embermesnil. In 1789 he was the deputy for the clergy to the States General, Third Estate; he also served in the National Assembly. As a member of the "Constituante" he drew up the law on the clergy and became constitutional bishop of Blois. Gregoire described the moment of the proclamation of the republic as a great moment in the history of mankind: "The abolition of the monarchy is the first step towards unification of all nations..." He opposed the death sentence of the King. He was a member of the "Cinq-Cents" from 1795 to 1798, the "Corps Legislatif" in 1800 and the Senate in 1802. He opposed Napoleon's regime and was an advocate of negro slaves and Jews, preaching tolerance and defending minorities. He died in Paris on May 28, 1831.

Bro. Henri Abbe Gregoire was initiated in the Lodge "Les Neuf Soeurs" in Paris and was a member of the Lodge "L'Harmonie", also in Paris.

Bro. Gaspard Monge served in 1779 as Orator of the Lodge "L'Union Parfaite" a Military Lodge 'du Corps royal du Genie a Meziere'.

-Information and illustration extracted from "De Verlichte Loep" - the Newsletter of "De Getande Rand" of The Netherlands.

Dues notices will be in the mail shortly for most of the members - those whose term is up in April. The dues are now \$8.00 No. America and \$14.00 all others. Remit to our Secretary-Treasurer Bro. Otto Steding, 1033 Hollytree Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45231.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

NEW MEMBERS:

- 335. Cited in the previous issue - should be Vernon T. Engstrom
- 339. Robert U. Bugawan, 5363 Shattuck Ave., Fremont, CA 94555
- 340. Raymond B. Blum, 20 S. Edward St., Mt. Prospect, IL 60056
- 341. Roy L. Manly, Rt. 1 Box 321, Newport, TX 76254
- 344. Mark R. Sandstrom, 239 E. Juanita Ave., Glendora, CA 91740
- 345. Harold J. Spelman, 1424 Stonebridge Circle, Wheaton, IL 60187
- 347. Larry Moore, 312 Mills Ave., Braddock, PA 15104
- 349. John R. Poole, 2234 North 12th Street, Terre Haute, IN 47804
- 352. Ronald Cooper, 7906 Rim Canyon Road, Sunland, CA 91040
- 355. TSGT Stephen Kapp, 1180-B Okinawa Lane, Yigo, Guam 96929
- 356. Charles S. Hiscock, 2725 E. Fir #82, Mount Vernon, WA 98273

CLOSED ALBUMS:

- 156. Kenneth Kuhblank, Maple Valley, WA
- 159. Victor Benjamins, The Netherlands

MEMBERS ACTIVITIES:

Our Research Chairman, Bro. Norman Lincoln was installed Worthy Patron of Ida Morningstar Chapter No. 572, O.E.S., on November 17, 1992.

Bro. Stephen Kapp, new member cited above, writes that he has several of the recent Philippines issue for Nilad Lodge which he would like to trade for other stamps bearing the Square and Compasses. Contact him if you have such material to trade.

Your Editor really messed up the page numbering of the newsletter back in the July-Aug 1992 issue. (How many of you caught it). The first 11 pages were numbered properly but the last one was identified as 912 instead of 992 (typo error?). Consequently, the following conversion table should be used:

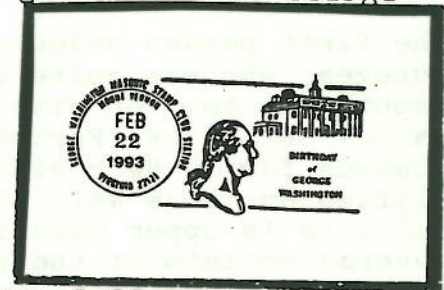
<u>Newsletter Issue</u>	<u>"Is" Pages:</u>	<u>"Should Be" Pages:</u>
Sep-Oct	913-924	993-1004
Nov-Dec	925-936	1005-1016

The page numbering of this issue has been corrected. Thanks to Bro. Henk Godthelp of The Netherlands for pointing this out.

A former member of the Masonic Stamp Unit under the Editirship of Bro. Nick Koutroulis has contacted your Editor with a request to offer a complete set of the MSU/Koutroulis Masonic covers for sale. All numbered covers from 1 to 38 are present (#39 was never officially issued and I don't believe there are more than a couple of copies extant) as well as the special releases: 3/2/70 Dominican Republic, 5/12/70 H. Truman 25th Anniversary, 1/26/71 MacArthur, 5/8/71 Missouri, 11/18/72 German Masonic Cancel and 9/24/73 Brazil 73. Also included are mint, unfranked copies of #2 thru #8, mint copies of Great Britain #653 (Sir W. Scott, Cover #22), Dominican Republic #672 & C117, Brazil #1303, several sheets of Nebraska Masonic Home seals and one sheet of Tehama Temple Fez seals. There is also an extra copy of Cover #9 - the Mexico EFIMEX Souvenir Sheet. This entire assemblage will go to the first individual who sends me \$125.00 - an excellent value. (Address is on the masthead).

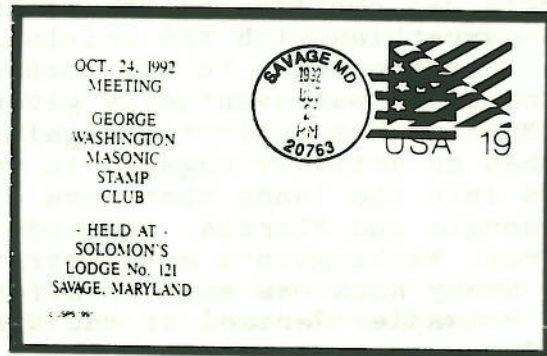
GWMSC ACTIVITIES & COVERS

As Past President of the George Washington Masonic Stamp Club, our President, Bro. Stanley Longenecker, invites all members of the ATA MSU to attend the GWMSC Annual February Meeting in honor of George Washington. It will be held at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia, on Feb. 21, 1993, starting at 2:30 P.M.. Let him know at Box 7244, Lancaster, PA 17604 if you can attend.



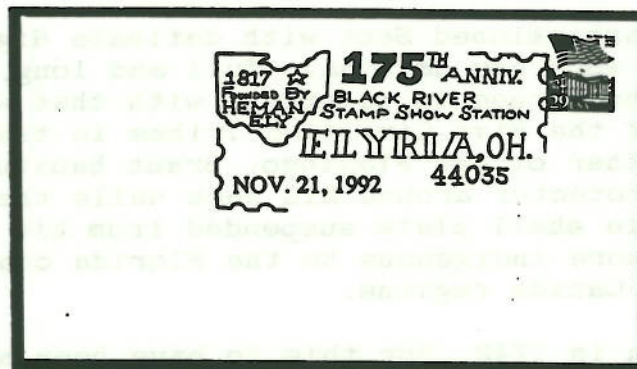
Stan has provided an advance viewing of the 2/22/93 cancel they will use and anyone wishing covers or postcards so cancelled should forward them to the Mt. Vernon Postmaster before 2/22.

The GWMSC Club Meeting postal card is offered by Bro. Stan at a cost of \$1.50 ea (plus SASE).



HEMAN FLY

Bro. Norm Lincoln has provided a cover which may prove to be a little "far out" as a Masonic item but worthy of consideration. The cancel shown here, applied on Nov. 21, 1992, for the 175th Anniversary of the founding of Elyria, Ohio, on March 18, 1817, honors a Mason. Heman Ely was the first Worshipful Master of King Solomon Lodge No. 56 chartered in December 1821. His son, also named Heman, was the Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Ohio from 1864 to 1871. He was also Treasurer General of the AASR (NJ) from 1867 to 1891.



Thanks Bro. Norm.

JOSEPH BRANT & ALEXANDER MCGILLIVRAY

Bro. Edsel Hatfield, P.O. Box 36, Hazelwood, MO 63042, has done quite a bit of research into our Indian brethren and has come up with a poser. Can anyone help shed some light on this situation?

The first person under concern was Mohawk Chief Joseph Brant, Thayendenegea, who was quite active in the early battles and gained quite a reputation for ferocity in several well documented massacres: Cherry Valley, Minisink, Fort Stanwix, Oriskany. A protoge of the Rooyalist Johnson family he visited London in 1776 and became a Mason in Hiram's Cliftonian Lodge #417, London. At the war's end he retired to a peaceful life in upper Ontario. His image was rather faithfully recorded by several artists of the period including Romney while Brant was in London. His portraits are quite identifiable.

During the later part of the Revolutionary War, Alexander McGillivray, a half Scot, half Creek Indian resident of Charleston, became angered at the fact that Georgia had confiscated the lands belonging to his father because of his sympathies with the British. When his father returned to Scotland, Alexander went to his mother's tribe where he became Chief of the Creek and was eventually given the rank of Colonel in the British Army. Much of his activities against the Americans came after the war's end when he actively engaged in warfare against the incursions of settlers into the lands that were claimed by the five civilized tribes of Georgia and Florida. Alexander McGillivray was actively courted by Pres. Washington's administration to the extent that Secretary of War Henry Knox was sent to offer him peace terms including the rank of Brigadier-General in the U.S. Army and an annual tribute payment of \$1200.

Bro. Edsel has four different portraits of Brant, there may be more. The known portraitists were Romney, Charles W. Peale, George Catlin and Wilhelm Berezny. The ages portrayed by these artists are from his late 20s to 50 years old (1792 in Washington, D.C.). Not one of these depict him as other than a typical Mohawk with coarse features, big ears, thick nose, and, in every case, hair worn in the Mohawk style.

It has always been supposed that there are no known likenesses of McGillivray but Bro. Edsel has trouble accepting this. His search has met with stone walls but just recently he saw a portrait printed in a national magazine that was purported to be Chief Brant executed by Gilbert Stuart. He believes this identification is a gross error.

McGillivray was a dark-skinned Scot with definate Highlander facial characteristics. He wore his dark hair full and long, not in the style of the Mohawk. His headdress is identical with that worn by August Bowles, War Chief of the Five Civilized Tribes in the early 1800s - it appears to be a feather of the Flamingo. Brant habitually wore the brass saber slash protector around his neck while the picture under debate shows a Cowrie shell plate suspended from his neck - an artifact that would be more indigenous to the Florida coastline than that of the New York and Canada regions.

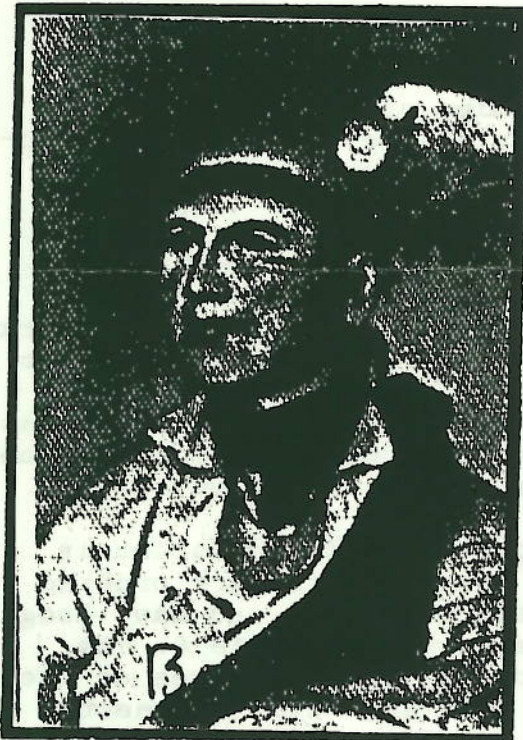
Chief Brant was born in 1742. For this to have been a picture of him it would have had to have been painted during the height of the conflict between Britain and the colonies; It is highly unlikely that there would have been much chance for a portrait at that time. The

BRANT & MCGILLIVRAY (CONT'D)

apparent age of the subject would have been about right for Alexander McGillivray since he was 30 at the time of his trip to Washington.

Another point is that Gilbert Stuart was not the accomplished artist when Chief Brant was in his 20s or 30s - he was just a student of Benjamin West at that time. His prominent works were created after the Revolutionary War was all over. McGillivray's visit to Washington in 1790 would again fit the picture well since Stuart was in his prime then. Alexander McGillivray died in Florida in 1793 at the age of 34 of the complications of Syphilis. He was buried with Masonic Honors in Panton's Gardens at Pensacola, Florida. Although thoroughly hated by Andrew Jackson and Colonel Robinson, he was a respected citizen of Florida and had many friends among the Spanish.

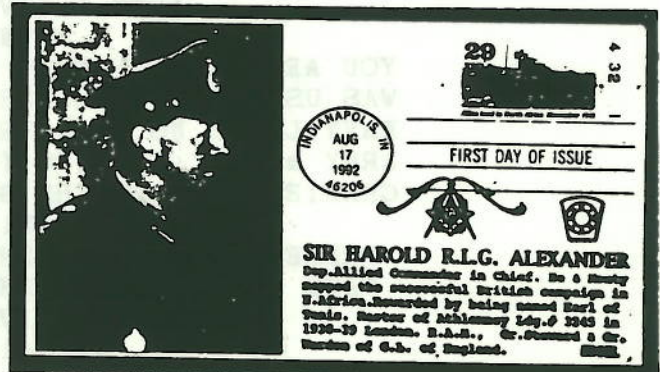
Pictures of Brant and Bowles are shown here as well as the portrait under question. Can anyone help? The U.S. has issued a stamp to honor the Five Civilized Tribes (Scott No. 972 of 1948) which can be used to tie to Alexander McGillivray.



Chief Brant

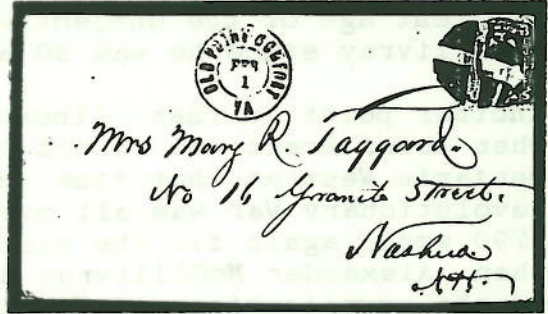
Bowles

Brant or McGillivray?



MASONRY AND FORT MONROE

Bro. Richard Potter of Woodstock, CT, recently visited Fortress Monroe (Old Point Comfort) in Virginia and provides the following Masonic information on it.



Of all the Army posts in the U.S., the one at Fort Monroe has the earliest history. In 1609 a fortification called "Algernourne Fort" was started under the direction of Capt. John Ratcliffe and his detachment from Jamestown. The site was fortified intermittently during the next 225 years, was rebuilt in 1632 and kept in a state of readiness for 35 years. Destroyed by a hurricane in 1667 it was rebuilt in 1728 and named Fort George. Destroyed again in 1749 it was not rebuilt until 1781. Construction of the present Fort Monroe began in 1819 and was virtually completed by 1834. In 1832 the Sec. of War issued an order that the "work at Old Point Comfort be called 'Fort Monroe' and not 'Fortress Monroe'". It was one of the few forts in the South not captured by the Confederate forces in the Civil War.

The first Masonic Lodge on the Fort Monroe military reservation was Comfort Lodge No. 143 holden to the Grand Lodge of Virginia in 1825; it lasted but a little more than a year. During the Mexican War, 1846-48, that same Grand Lodge ordered a dispensation for a 'Military or Traveling Lodge' to be attached to the First Regiment of Virginia Volunteers to be called "Virginia Military Lodge No. 1"; it probably met at Fort Monroe as part of the regiment was stationed there. "Bay State (Military) Lodge No. 1" may have held a few meetings there in 1861. "National Zouave Lodge, U.D.", under the Grand Lodge of New York then moved in starting in June 1861. The Master fell in battle in Dec. 1862 and no further meetings were held there. Monitor Lodge No. 113, under the Grand Lodge of Maryland, was granted dispensation to open as a regimental Lodge in 1863. Changed to Monitor Lodge No. 197 under the Grand Lodge of Virginia in 1865, this Lodge moved to Phoebus in 1894.

Army and Navy Lodge, U.D., was granted a charter of dispensation in 1907 but ceased to exist in 1908 when all the officers were ordered to the Mexican border for duty. The following year Army and Navy Lodge No. 306 was conceived and organized; it was chartered in 1910. The Lodge meets in a unique Lodge Room within one of the casemates of the old fort - a moat filled with water on one side and walls of masonry four feet thick. The ceiling is also solid masonry covered with earth. A plaque on the casemate includes:

(Information derived
from "The Virginia
Masonic Herald")

ARMY & NAVY

A. F. & A. M. No. 306

YOU ARE NOW ENTERING THE CASEMATE WHICH
WAS USED AS THE LODGE ROOM BY ARMY AND
NAVY LODGE NO. 306 FROM 1910 TIL 1977
ARMY & NAVY NO. 306 IS A MASONIC LODGE
CHARTERED UNDER THE GRAND LODGE OF
VIRGINIA.

PRESENTED BY THE MEMBERS OF ARMY AND
NAVY LODGE IN COMMEMORATION OF THEIR
75TH ANNIVERSARY.

1910-1985

NEW ZEALAND MASONIC PHILATELIC STUDY UNIT

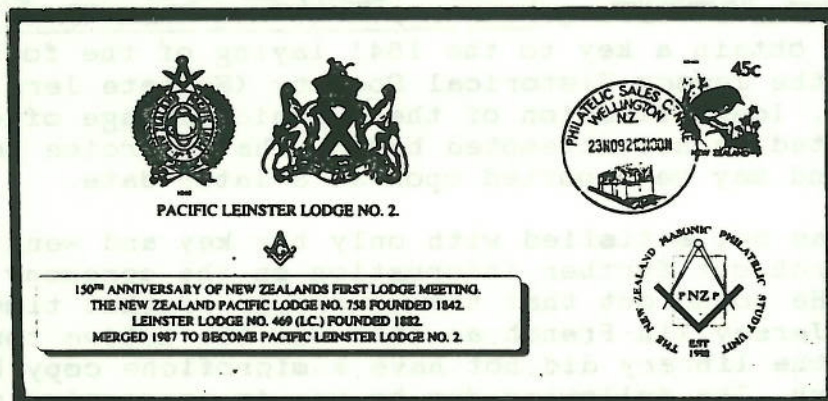
Word has been received from Bro. Phil Reddock, Member No. 112, of New Zealand, of the formation of a Masonic Philatelic Unit there.

"The existence of a New Zealand Masonic Philatelic Society has long been the dream and hope of many Brethren here in New Zealand. I am happy to advise that we have now established 'The New Zealand Masonic Philatelic Study Unit' and are now looking at building our membership base, both with local Brethren as well as overseas Brethren.

"The Unit has been set up to promote the study of Philatelics, which have a special relationship to Freemasonry here in New Zealand, and internationally, amongst New Zealand's many interested Brethren.

"The prime (but not only) object of the Study Unit is to issue covers commemorating major events occurring within Freemasonry in New Zealand. The study of stamps past, present and future which have a Masonic influence or meaning are also of importance to the Unit and will assist in playing a major role in our future existence.

"Our first action has been the issue of a cover commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the first 'Official' Lodge meeting which was held on November 23, 1842. The Lodge in question was The New Zealand Pacific Lodge No. 758 (E.C.) and is still in existence today under the name Pacific Leinster Lodge No. 2 (N.Z.C.). The cost of this cover is NZ\$5.00 plus postage; subscriptions (dues) are NZ\$15.00 p.a. to Dec. 1993."



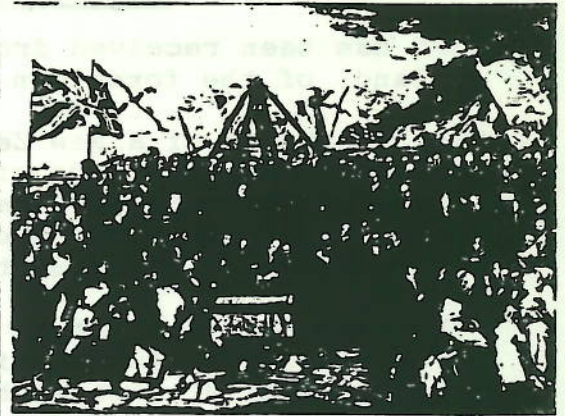
JOSEPH SAIDU MOMOH



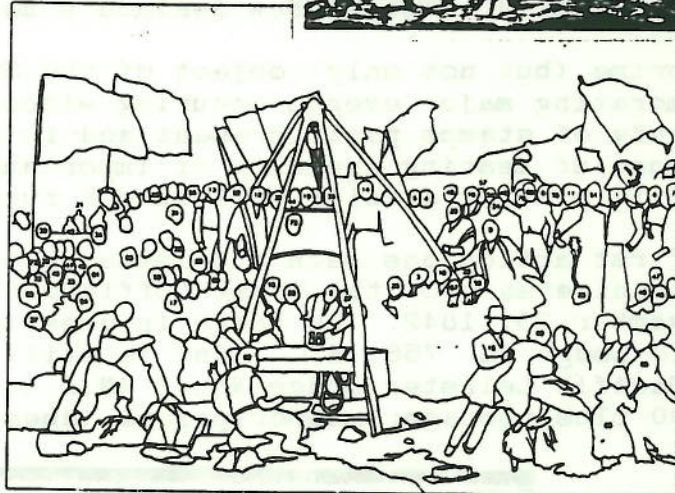
Bro. Norm Lincoln has provided a copy of this cover which bears Liberia Scott No. 1120 and 1123 issued to honor Joseph Saidu Momoh, President of Sierra Leone who was initiated in Loyal Lodge No. 3719 (E.C.) on April 26, 1983, and installed as Master on May 2, 1987. This Brother is also pictured on Sierra Leone Scott No. 1046 and 1048, also of 1989 vintage.

FOUNDATION STONE - VICTORIA HARBOUR

Jersey issued a 31p stamp as part of a set on May 16, 1991, for Jersey Anniversaries which commemorated the 150th year of Victoria Harbour (Scott No. 566). In Aug. 1992, Bro. Frank Elliott of Belfast, No. Ireland, visited the Jersey Museum and saw the painting from which the stamp design was created. Upon close examination, Bro. Elliott saw Masonic aprons on individuals in the painting. In the spirit of a true researcher he sought out more information and has forwarded it for our benefit.



- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sir Edward Giblin, Lt Gen 2. Sir John de Venille, Bnd. 3. Don Anson 4. Lt Bluff Maresq d'Avranche 5. Judge Le Maitre 6. Thomas Le Breton, Atty Gen 7. Wm Gardner, Gov Sec 8. Capt JI Hammond, 2 ADC 9. Judge Ferris 10. St J. Bismarck, Jurat 11. Colonel English, R.E. 12. Jo Wm Dupre, Sol Gen 13. Capt Henry 14. Major Fraser 15. Commander Chevalier 16. George Herber Hurman 17. Peter Le Saux 18. Rev Mallat, Rector of Grosville 19. Hugh Godfrey 20. Edward Nicolle, Jurat 21. Daniel Vandenbry, Sec. Joz 22. Wm Hinchcliffe 23. Capt. John Subbald, RN 24. Judge Le Cosquer 25. Rev Pons, Rector of St. Ouen 26. Rev Alton, Rector of Trinity 27. John Gruchy, Contractor of Works 28. Thos de la Mare, Contractor of Works 29. Sir Frederic's James 30. Colonel Languever 31. Judge Bertram 32. Louis Col. Babin, ADC 33. Colonel Le Geyt 34. Mr Andrieux, W of "Mon Homme" Lodge 35. Mr Bertram, "Bloudeux" 36. Master Amouraux, Queen's Revenue 37. Mr Reynolds, Artist | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 38. Mr James Henry 39. Mr Fvs Le Breton 40. Mr Pougnaud 41. Col. de la Gorda 42. Mr Quinon 43. Mr Daniel Jarrin 44. Advocate John Hammond 45. Mr John Javvris 46. Major Le Geyt 47. Mr Puongnaire, Grosville Ho. 48. Philip de Ste Croix, Jurat 49. Wm de Nicolle, Jurat 50. Ph. Le Gallais, Deputy Vicar 51. General Frouard 52. Mr Peter John Suman 53. Mr Le Gros, Scholmeister 54. Mr Fvs Le Saux 55. Advocate Frank Godfrey 56. Colonel Mallat 57. Judge de Carveris 58. Rev Fildat 59. Mr Wm Rowell, Steam Ship Agt 60. Master Rowell, Blue Coat School 61. Mr Du Parcq 62. Master Gouley, Labourer 63. Master McEvoy 64. Unidentified 65. Rachel Gruchy 66. Emily Gruchy 67. Rev Edward Falle 68. Mr John Anson, Solicitor 69. Mr John Le Sully 70. Mr Ph. Arthur, Languever 71. Unidentified 72. St J. de la Mare 73. Fvs Anson, Clerk at Griffe |
|--|---|



He was able to obtain a key to the 1841 laying of the foundation stone ceremony from the Jersey Historical Society (Societe Jersiaise); it is depicted above. Identification of the Masonic lineage of each of the individuals cited is not attempted here - that exercise is left to the avid student and may be reported upon at a later date.

Bro. Elliott was not satisfied with only the key and went to the local library to search out further information on the ceremony of Sept. 29, 1841, itself. He found out that the newspaper of that time was the "Chronique de Jersey (in French as that was the native tongue of the day) and that the library did not have a microfiche copy but did have an original copy. The following day he was in possession of a photocopy of the front page of the October 2, 1841 edition which chronicled the auspicious event. It cited: "Les Francs-Macons, habilles en noir, chapeaux noirs, gants et cravates blanches, et ayant un tablier de maitre macon, s'entre-donnant la main, dans l'ordre de marche suivant:

Le Portier (Tyler) de la ***e Loge, *= 34, 300 and 302

Freres Visiteurs, deux a deux,

Garde Interieure

Membres de la Loge, deux a deux,

Deux Diacres,

Le Secretaire,

Deux Gardiens,

Le Tresorier,

Le Volume de la Loi Sacree, deposee sur un coussin de velours

Un Passe Maitre,

avec une verge.

LE MAITRE

Un Passe Maitre,
avec une verge.

Many thanks Bro. Elliott. Any member wishing a complete copy of the newspaper article or a larger key, contact the Editor or Bro. Elliott at 11 Wood End, Holywood, Belfast BT18 9PN, Northern Ireland.

FREEMASONRY ON ISRAELI STAMPS

Bro. Thomas Ehlers of Spokane, WA, has forwarded a very interesting "reprint" of a lengthy article titled "Freemasonry on Israeli Stamps" which had been written by Ron Berger, an ATA member, and apparently appeared in "Topical Time". The 18 page article includes 1) Freemasons on Israeli Stamps, 2) Non-Freemasons after whom Lodges are named, 3) Officers' Jewels, 4) Symbols of the Degree of Symbolic Freemasonry, 5) Places and Events connected to Modern Masonic History, 6) Other Stamps of Masonic Interest, and 7) Masonic Postmarks.

There are four Brethren cited in Section 1: Ze'ev Jabotinsky, Sir Moses Montefiore, Charles Netter and Harry S. Truman. M. Wor. Bro. Truman has been well documented, the other three follow:

Ze'ev Jabotinsky was a prominent leader in the Zionist movement, the founder of the "revisionist" trend in modern Zionism and a publicist and writer of high expressive ability. He appears on three stamps, the first in 1970 (SG 440/Sc 410) commemorating his part in organizing the Jewish Legion in the British Armed Forces during WW I and the Defense of Jerusalem in 1920. Bro. Jabotinsky was initiated in "L'Etoile du Nord" Lodge of the Grand Orient of France and was an active member for a few years.

Moses Montefiore was an Italian born English Jew. He became very wealthy through his activities in the London Stock Exchange. All his life he was a benefactor of the Jewish people, giving a helping hand wherever and whenever needed. Among other things, he saved the Jews of Damascus during the 1840 pogroms and built the first suburb of Jerusalem outside the walls of the Old City. He was one of the most influential Jews of the 19th century and was the first Jew ever to be knighted in England. A stamp commemorating him was issued in 1981 (SG 810/Sc 777). Bro. Moses was an active Freemason as a member of Mt. Moriah Lodge #24 in London. There are two Lodges named after him - one in London, the other in Glasgow.

Charles Netter was a French Jew who founded in 1870 the first agricultural school in the Holy Land (also the first school where the official language was Hebrew), "Miqve Israel". He was a close friend and associate of Baron Adolph Cremieu (later Grand Master of the Grand Orient of France). Two stamps were issued in 1970 to commemorate the centenary of "Miqve Israel", the 0.40 value of which (SG 448/Sc 417) shows Netter. Bro. Netter was an active Freemason in France and a founding member of the first regular Lodge in the Holy Land, "The Royal Solomon Mother Lodge" #293 (Canadian Constitution).

Bro. Ehlers has also provided copies of two stamps which are, or may be, of Masonic interest. The first, Japan Scott #1620, depicts the Pythagorean Theorem on the right-hand worker's face. The other, an unlisted (Scott) issue of Dubai shows a portrait of Thomas, Earl of Arundel by Rubens. Thomas is listed by Denslow as an English Mason in the early 1600s. Coil reports "Asserted by Dr. Anderson to have been Grand Master in 1633-35 --- merely another of that author's figments" It appears that Coil was there but Dr. Anderson, was not.



GRAND LODGE OF SPAIN - 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Bro. Juan Sabater Pie of Barcelona, Spain, proudly informs us of the 10th Anniversary of the consecration of the Grand Lodge of Spain held on Nov. 6, 1992. This organization is the first "regular" Obedience in Spain since the Craft was founded on Feb. 15, 1728, by the Duc of Wharton. Preceding Franco's dictatorship, the principal Obedience was the Grand Orient of France. The Masons of Spain revived themselves in 1977 with only four Lodges - Saint John from Catalogne No. 208, Saint George No. 227, Perseverance No. 246 and Concord No. 257 - all under the jurisdiction of the French National Grand Lodge - the only "regular" Obedience of the neighboring country. When the count reached ten Lodges, the Spanish Masons applied for their independence and under decree No. 656 of the G.L.N.F. the Grand Lodge of Spain was created. It was consecrated on November 6, 1982. Today there are more than 60 Lodges and nearly 2,500 members recognized by 151 Grand Lodges of the world.

Bro. Sabater created a Masonic cover which was issued in conjunction with this event. He states that there are not many Masonic Philatelists in Spain (he believes he is the only one) and is searching for help in the success of this item. He is afraid that if it is not successful, there will never be another Masonic cover sponsored by the Grand Lodge of Spain. The cover, shown here on the left, costs US\$4.00. Copies are available with the signature of the Grand Master, Luis Salat Gusil, at a cost of US\$10.00. Proceeds (above costs) will be applied to beneficial Masonic activities. Bro. Sabater also produced a very limited number of covers honoring his own Lodge - shown on the right - but does not provide data on their cost (I believe they were developed for gifts by him). Bro. Juan Sabater Pie's address is Ronda Guinardo, 28 3o 1a; 08024 Barcelona; Spain.



FREE MASONS CHRONICLES

Bro. Jean Vilesy of Chatou, France, writes to inform us that he is preparing a book on Freemasonry, titled "Free Masons Chronicles" which he believes will be of interest to English speaking Masons. It is divided into three parts:

- a) Chronicles describing historical events where Masons are involved since the XVIIIth century. It emphasizes the role of each Mason in the various events.

FREE MASONS CHRONICLES (CONTD)

- b) Dictionary giving Masonic names - listed by name - with date, Lodge name, town and country. There are about 3800 references.
- c) Masons in Lodges - information of (b) sorted by country and by Lodge.

The book is written in French, English and Spanish so that every part concerning a country is written in the language of that country. For other countries the information is in French except for Germany which, again, uses the native tongue (a translation table is provided). The book is about 300 pages in length and is the synthesis of information contained in many books worldwide. The price of this effort is 450 FF which includes postage. Prior to Feb. 15, 1993, he is offering the book for 350 FF, including postage, sent as a foreign money order accompanying the order. Bro. Vilesy's address is: 3, rue du Dr. Rochefort; 78400 Chatou; France.

Editor's note: As indicated in the article on Spanish Freemasonry above, there is a great "rivalry" between the two "Grand Lodges" in France. I am normally a mediator in situations such as these and do not take sides. Consequently, I feel compelled to state that I have also received a letter from one of our members who belongs to the "regular" G.L.N.F. stating that Bro. Vilesy is an active member in the French Grand Orient - a "non-regular" Obedience and that some of his data may not be "acceptable" to "regular" Masons. I simply present both sides, each member do as he sees fit - it is a free world.

COVERS FROM IRELAND

Some recent Masonic covers issued by Bro. Frank Elliott are shown here. Information on their availability can be obtained from him at:

11 Wood End,
Holywood
Belfast BT18 9PN
Northern Ireland

SIMON LAKE AND THE SUBMARINE

There are many exciting stamps being issued for the 50th Anniversary of World War II and several of them picture Masons or honor events which have Masonic significance. One such association can be related to the scene of the loss of the Reuben James to a U-Boat shown here but the tale may make most Masonic philatelists "blush"



Simon Lake (1866-1945) of New Jersey made his first submarine in 1894 for the purpose of exploration and salvage. The U.S. Navy did not show any interest in his prototype (they would pay a dear price for this oversight at a later date). Lake equipped his vessel with an air lock that permitted a diver to emerge from the hull and explore the sea bed. His first prototype was the "Argonaut, Jr." - a hand-powered vehicle constructed by two layers of yellow pine which sandwiched a sheet of canvas between them.

In 1897, Lake built the thirty-six foot long, gasoline powered (30 hp) cigar shaped "Argonaut". This sub could submerge to the sea bed and roll around on its three wheels which could be retracted into the keel. This sub amazed the world in 1898 by traveling under its own power through the heavy November storms from Norfolk to New York City, making it the first submarine to travel in the open sea unassisted. Russia purchased several of Lake's subs at this time. The Austro-Hungarian Monarchy purchased their U-1 and U-2 in the panic to keep up.

German Admiral von Tirpitz, at the urging of Kaiser Wilhelm was the next to approach Lake with interest in his sub. He was trying to build up the German Navy as a formidable threat to the British Royal Navy but was reluctant to spend much time and money on this new and as yet unproven vessel. He let the Krupp Armaments Co. of Berlin know that Lake's designs were the best available and they proceeded to take over all of Lake's patents and push him out of his own business. The German U-Boat resulted with the U-1 being completed in 1907. Improvements to Lake's ideas resulted in a 128 ft craft which could travel at 12 knots on the surface and 9 knots submerged for a distance of 3000 miles. The U-2 version offered many improvements by 1908 and the U-19 in 1910 was diesel powered. After Lake's experiences with the Krupp Co., he returned to New Jersey and in competition with John Holland also of New Jersey helped begin the race to make the U.S. Navy's Submarine Fleet the envy of the world.

Simon Lake was a Freemason, being initiated in Monmouth Lodge No. 172 of Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey. He later affiliated with Ansantawae Lodge No. 89, Milford, Connecticut. Admiral von Tirpitz was a member of the Lodge "Zum Aufrichtigen Herzen" at Frankfurt-Oder, Germany.

-Article submitted by Bro. Rafael M. Wulff, Member No. 225,
Brampton, Ontario, Canada

Don't Forget - Dues renewal will be coming up for many members in April. If there is anything you would like to see in the Newsletter - YOUR Newsletter - please let the Editor know. He is not a very good mind-reader.