

THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

Journal of the
MASONIC STUDY UNIT



Affiliate #94



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

VOL. 25, NO. 6

MARCH-APRIL 2001

WHOLE NO. 142

ANOTHER MASONIC ISSUE

The former Russian State of Tadjikistan has issued a Souvenir Sheet of nine stamps dedicated to the Masonic Lodge. It is a very colorful sheet but one really wonders about its issue. It has not yet been cited in Scott's Stamp Monthly or Linn's and the Herrick Stamp Company new issue list includes it as a "Speculative Topical New Issue". It is highly unlikely that there are enough Masons in that State to justify a real commemorative issue. It is obviously a release intended primarily for collectors - in fact, I recall reading in Linn's or Scott's that many of the issues of Tadjikistan never see the light of that State. On the positive side, however, it is a beautiful work of art to adorn a page in our collection.



Several of the members have contacted me regarding this issue, some pointing out individual stamps from the sheet that are being offered on eBay for a starting price of \$3.95 each. I have a very limited number of these sheets which I have acquired from Tribune Stamp Company, Herrick's Wholesale Service, in Hewlett, NY. The sheet was listed on their Bulletin of December 18, 2000. I will sell the few duplicate sheets I have, one per member please, for \$6.00 each, postpaid.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

ADDRESS CHANGES:

118. Thomas C. Ehlers, 101 NW 58th St., Seattle, WA 98107
210. Ed Floyd, 3122 Redgum Drive, Katy, TX 77449 (Correction to previous entry)
262. Robert J. Berkley, 644 Briarwood Terrace, East Wenatchee, WA 98802-8320
274. F. van Tricht, 58370 Onlay - DENNECY, Nievre 58 France

MEMBERS ACTIVITIES AND COMMENTS:

Bro. Roy Schwartz, member No. 67 of Ocala, FL, wrote a very informative letter. He has reached the ripe age of 87 yet still finds his way to Lodge meetings and enjoys working on his collection. He laments the sparseness of stamp dealers in his area and although he belongs to a stamp club, he is the only Mason and Masonic collector. He enjoys talking of our hobby whenever he gets the opportunity. He has presented his talks, "Masonic Americana" and "Masters and Grand Masters on Stamps" at a Hi 12 Meeting, a Scottish Rite Meeting and a Lodge Meeting. Thanks for spreading the word, Bro. Roy.

Bro. Juan Sabater Pie sent along a copy of his Certificate of having served as a Past Provincial Junior Grand Warden. It is a very impressive document, printed in three languages - Spanish, English and Basque(?). He is now serving as Provincial Senior Grand Warden. Congratulations, Bro. Juan.

Bro. Peter Westbere, member No. 419, writes to remind us that he is always interested in hearing about Masons involved in Sports, Politics and entertainment. (33 Philip Ave., Guelph, Ontario N1E 1R5 Canada). To demonstrate his interests, he has forwarded the following two items:

MASON IN PRESIDENT BUSH's CABINET

President George W. Bush has at least one Mason in his Cabinet. Gov. Tommy Thompson of Wisconsin who is a member of Sun Prairie Lodge #143, Sun Prairie, WI, has been appointed Secretary of Health and Human Services. Any others???

SYL APPS

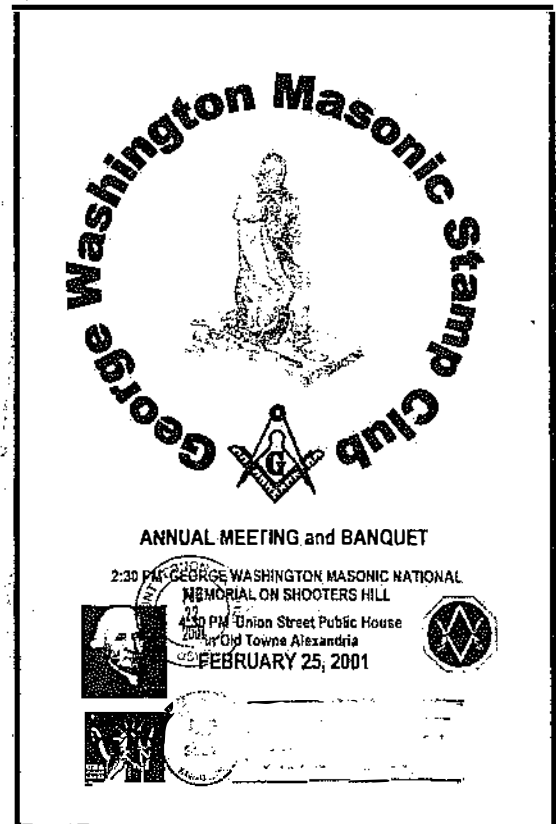
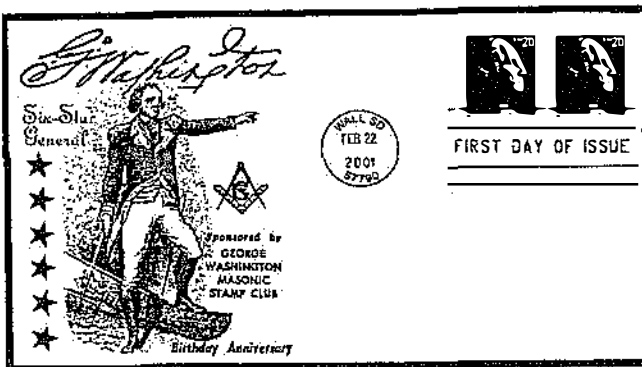
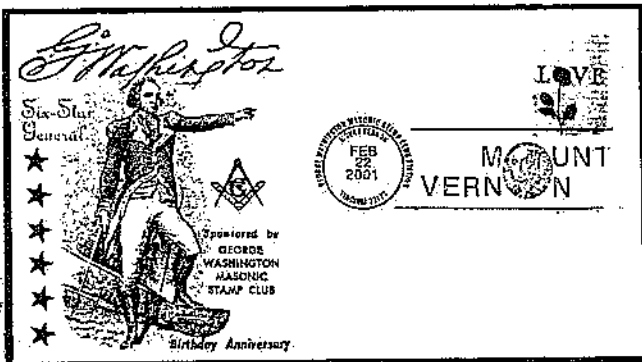
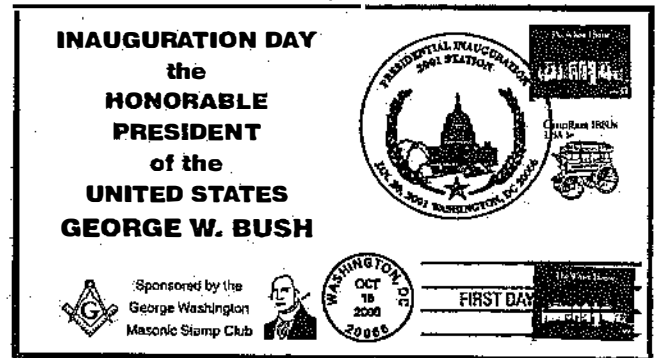
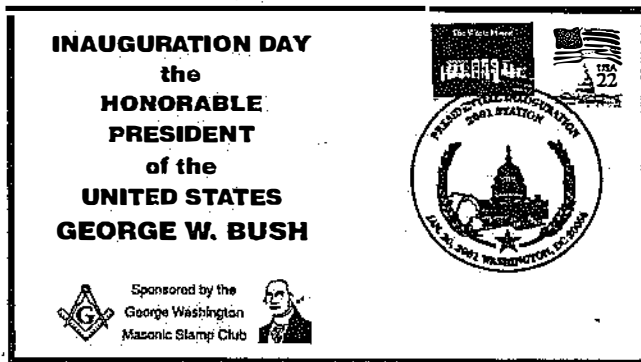
On Jan. 18, 2001, Canada Post issued another set of stamps honoring National Hockey League players. One of those was a proud Brother up to the time of his death - Bro. Syl Apps who played for the Toronto Maple Leafs in the 1930s and 1940s. He led the league in assists his first season, 1936-37, and won the Calder trophy for rookie of the year. Captain of the Leafs prior to the 1940-41 season, he led his team to a total of three Stanley Cup championships.

Bro. Westbere has misplaced the name of his Lodge but recalls that his Grand Lodge used Bro. Apps picture on its public relations brochure. After he retired from the sport in 1948 he went into public service. When Bro. Westbere first started with the Ministry of Correctional Services, Bro. Apps was in charge of that Ministry. He was the member of the Ontario Legislature for Kingston and the Islands.



GWMSC COVERS

Inaugurations and February have long been an area of interest for Masonic covers published by the George Washington Masonic Stamp Club. They started their inaugural series back in 1957 for Dwight D. Eisenhower's inauguration (a hard one to find) and have kept the tradition running this year with one for President George W. Bush. Bro. George Washington's Birthday was again noted with a Mount Vernon postmark and the continuation of Bro. George on a current postage stamp was noted with a First Day Cover. Those attending the Annual Meeting and Banquet also received a copy of the program postally canceled. These covers are available from Bro. Paul M. Williams, 2364 Beaver Valley Pike, New Providence, PA 17560. Costs are: \$2.00 for the single cancel Inaugural cover; \$3.00 for the dual cancel; \$1.50 each for the 2/22 Mount Vernon, VA cover and the 2/22 Wall, SD First Day Cover. Each order should include a #10 SASE.



BARON CARL GUSTAF EMIL VON MANNERHEIM

A letter to Ars Quatuor Coronatorum, published in Volume 107, page 260 of 1994, lists Mannerheim as a Mason without giving any details. Can any of our European members help? He has been pictured on several of the stamps issued by his homeland, Finland - Scott 213, 227-72, 446 and B114-6 - as well as the eighth of the ten US "Champions of Liberty" series, Scott 1165-66. (It is interesting to note that 7 of the 10 are believed to have been Masons.) A cover with the US stamps and Finland 227 of 1941 are shown here.



Baron Mannerheim was born June 4, 1867, near Villnas. At fourteen he was enrolled in the Royal Cavalry School in St. Petersburg. In 1889 he graduated as a Lieutenant and soon demonstrated his ability in the Russo-Japanese War of 1901-1905 when he rose to the rank of Colonel. In the First World War, he led a Corps as a Lieutenant General. As a monarchist and a conservative, he refused to join the Communists and returned to Finland where he helped defeat the Bolshevik attempt to take over his native land. After serving briefly as Regent, he ran for President, was defeated and retired. He urged the Finns not to default on their First World War debts.

In 1931 he was named chairman of the National Defense Council which rearmed and fortified the Karelian Isthmus. In 1933 he was made a Marshall and in 1939 Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. During the "Winter War" with Russia in 1939-40, his outnumbered troops stubbornly resisted, outmaneuvering the unprepared Soviets and gaining the admiration of the free world. Although Finland suffered 22,000 casualties, it is estimated the Russians had ten times as many. Finland capitulated on March 12, 1940. In 1941 Finland again declared war on Russia after Hitler invaded the USSR. In August 1944, Mannerheim was made President and secured an armistice. He retired in 1946 and died in Lausanne, Switzerland, June 27, 1951. His memoirs were published in 1952.

-contributed by Bro. Norman Lincoln, Unit President, Eaton, OH

MASONIC STUDY UNIT OF THE AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

Secretary-Treasurer

Otto Steding
640 Maple Trace Dr.
Cincinnati, OH 45246

Membership

\$8.00 - North America
\$14.00 All Other

President

Norman Lincoln
P.O. Box 454
Eaton, OH 45320

THE DEAN OF MAGIC - HARRY KELLER

Harry Kellar was born July 11, 1849, in Erie, PA. He graduated from high school in Painesville, OH. He learned the craft of illusions from I. H. Hughes who had the title of the Fakir of Ava. In 1867 he became business manager for the Davenport Brothers who entertained as spiritualists. He toured the world as Fay and Kellar in 1871-73, then as Kellar, Ling, Look and Yamadura, Royal Illusionists until 1877, then as Kellar and Cunard for five years. He began a successful American tour in 1884. As a magician he was a perfectionist becoming the most beloved and most popular member of his profession from 1896 to 1908 when he retired. He married Eva Medley in Melbourne, Australia, Nov. 1, 1887. He was the first great magician born in the United States. (His predecessor, Alexander Hermann 1844-1896, was born in Paris. Howard Thurston 1869-1936, succeeded him. Both were Masons.) He died in Los Angeles March 10, 1922.

Bro. Kellar was raised in Lodge Fraternidad y Homa, Pelotas, Brazil, in May 1875. He received the Royal Arch and the Scottish Rite Degrees in Port Luis, Mauritius, in 1880. He was a 33rd degree in New York.

Bro. Kellar is depicted on one of the Grenada stamps honoring magicians issued October 19, 2000.

- article contributed by Bro. Norman Lincoln, Eaton, OH

PEDRO MONTT MONTT

A Chile "regular" stamp issued on March 27, 1982, Scott #621, pictures Bro. Pedro Montt Montt.



A Chilean politician of liberal and radical ideals, he was born in Santiago in 1849. During his entire life he struggled to establish democratic liberties in his country and worked to separate the Catholic Church from the State. He served as President of Chile from 1906 to 1910 and died in 1910 during an official tour while President.

Bro. Montt was a member of "El Club de la Reforma" (The Reform Club), a political and social organization composed primarily of Freemasons. He developed an intense activity in this organization leading many to believe he was a Mason. This information was documented in the book "*La Masoneria y su influencia en Chile*" (Masonry and its influence in Chile) by Fernando Pinto Lagarrigue, Edition of the Grand Lodge of Chile, pages 254 and 329.

-article and stamp contributed by Bro. Juan Sabater Pie, Barcelona Spain.

NOTABLE SPANISH MASONS



One of the more interesting Spanish stamps, issued on April 9, 1986, Scott #2473, to commemorate the Centenary of the Chamber of Commerce, is shown here. It depicts the Regent Spanish Queen, Maria Cristina de Hapsburgo-Lorena, wife of King Alfonso XII and mother of Alfonso XIII being sworn in before the Spanish Parliament in 1886.

Queen Maria Cristina assumed the regency of Spain in 1885 after the death of Alfonso XII and served until their son, Alfonso XIII achieved the proper age to become king in 1902. She had to face one of the more difficult stages of the liberal Spanish Monarchy but was able to rule with an appropriate intelligence. One of the Presidents of this government was Praxedes Mateo Sagasta, elected Sovereign Grand Commander and Grand Master of the Spanish Grand Orient July 21, 1870.

In the design of this stamp, one can see the Regent Queen taking the oath of the Liberal Constitution. On the wall of the palace there is a picture with the names of five of the more important patriots of that time who struggled against the despotism and repression of King Fernando VII, one of the noted anti-Masonic dictators in Spain. These five were also Freemasons and the biographies of each follow.

JUAN DIAZ PORLIER (1788-1815)

Juan Diaz Porlier was a partisan soldier during the Spanish War of Independence against the French troops. He played a major role on the victories of San Marcial and Vitoria where the Spanish troops defeated the French troops. When he returned to Spain in 1815, the old king, Fernando VII, friend and partisan of the French, was in charge. Porlier fought to oppose the absolutist politics of the king and the systematic persecution of the liberals. He organized a conspiracy rebellion in Galicia but his followers did not support him. He was captured, sentenced to death and executed.

Bro, Juan Diaz Porlier was identified as a Freemason in the magazine "Genesis" (Number 11, July/September 1993), the internal official magazine of the Grand Lodge of Spain.

LUIS DE LACY (1775-1817)

Born in Ireland, Luis de Lacy became a Spanish soldier. He participated in the war against the French Republic (1793-95). Later he was sent to the Canary Islands where he was confronted by the local authorities for being openly hostile to Godoy; he was expelled from the army in 1803. He went to France and enlisted in the French Army and returned to Spain with the troops of General Murat. When he saw the weighty Spanish situation of war against the French people, he offered to work as a soldier for the Spanish Government. He distinguished himself in the Ocana battle (1809), the defense of Cadiz and the liberation of Catalogne and was nominated Captain General in 1811. He was an important liberal individual, earned the disfavor of the English General Wellington and was sent to Galicia, on the other side of Spain. When King Fernando VII returned to Spain in 1814, he dismissed de Lacy because of his liberal ideals. In 1817 he joined with the brothers Milans del Bosch and participated in an insurrection to restore the constitutional regime. This frustrated rebellion crumbled, he was imprisoned, judged almost in secret and sentenced to death. He was transported to the island of Mallorca and shot at dawn of the 5th

of July, 1817. Three years later the new Constitutional Court declared him as "meritorious of the Country in heroic class".

Bro. Luis de Lacy was one of the Masons who founded the first Lodge of Galicia on Nov. 12, 1814. This Lodge was named the "Constitutional Lodge of the Spanish Revolution" in the city of La Coruna but was later changed to "The Spanish Reunion".

MARIANO ALVAREZ ACEVEDO (1807-1874)

Born in Otero de Cureno (Leon), Mariano Alvarez Acevedo was a liberal, revolutionary, Spanish politician. He was Deputy to the Constitutional Court in 1848 but was forced to emigrate to Portugal in 1856 because he spoke out publicly against O'Donell. He was the first politician to reveal in 1868 in Leon that he was against the absolutist government. He was President of the Revolutionary Council of Leon and Deputy in the Constitutionals in the year 1869.

According to the book, "Enciclopedia de la Francmasoneria" (Volume 1) of Adolf Colom Miralles, Acevedo was a Mason within the group of Manuel Becerra, Luis Blanc, Gabriel Baldrich and others.

RAFAEL DE RIEGO (1785-1823)

A patriot and Spanish General, he participated in the Independence War against the French and was a prisoner in France. In 1820 he headed a rebellion against Fernando VII in Cabezas de San Juan, seeking the restoration of the Liberal Constitution of 1812. This rebellion was successful and King Fernando VII was obliged to abandon his despotic and absolute government and to form a new progressional government. Rafael de Riego was deputy for Asturias in 1822 and voted in Cadiz, with the liberal majority, for the abdication of the King. Commissioned to persecute the troops of the King, he was abandoned by some of his troops and was captured. He was tried and convicted of high treason, was condemned to death by the tribunal of justice and hanged in Madrid on January 7, 1823.

The name of Rafael de Riego is recalled as one of the more important leaders of Spanish Masonry. He had the honor of being acclaimed the third Grand Master of Spanish Masonry, in the Grand Orient National of Spain, during the liberal constitutional triennium of 1820-1823.

JUAN MARTIN DIAZ, "EL EMPECINADO" (1745-1825)

Juan Martin Diaz fought in the Rosellon War and later in the Independence War where he battled against the French troops as chief of a band of guerrillas, in the margin side of the river Duero and in the regions of Cuenca, Guadalajara and Salamaca. He was promoted by the Central Council to be General of the Army for his heroism and valor during the years of this war. A friend of the Constitutional regime, he participated in the liberal rebellions of 1820 and became the Commander of Merida. In 1825 he was imprisoned by the troops of Fernando VII and sentenced to death as a traitor of the father-land.

Juan Martin Diaz is cited as a Mason in the magazine "Genesis" (Number 11, July/September 1993) internal official magazine of the Grand Lodge of Spain.

- article and stamp contributed by Bro. Juan Sabater Pie, Barcelona, Spain

ERROR - PAGE 1439 - August/September 1998

In the article which should cite Bro. Donald Campbell, I mistakenly referred to him as David Campbell. Please correct your records accordingly.

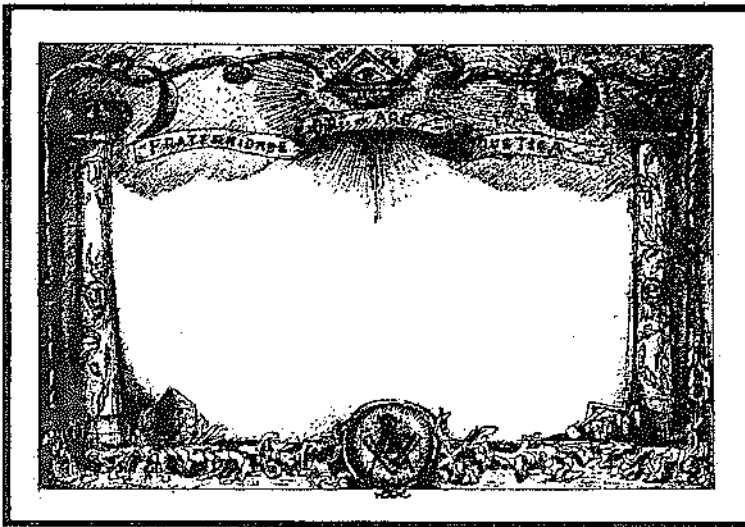
NEW STAMP FOR GEORGE WASHINGTON

Bro. Stan Longenecker, member No. 92 Of Mount Joy, PA, has written in about the latest USPS issue depicting Bro. George Washington. The most recent release occurred on February 22, 2001. This new release comes as we celebrate the 225th anniversary of the Revolutionary War. The new 20 cent stamp is shown here with two of his Local Post stamps which honor Bro. George. The equestrian design is a statue in Richmond, VA.



George Washington has proven to be the most pictured person on US postage stamps. The Scott catalogue of stamps and covers lists more than 265 US George Washington stamps, with many of them being varieties of the Washington-Franklin definitive stamp series of 1908 to 1921. In addition, Bro. George has appeared on various US carriers and local stamps, stamped envelopes and postal cards. More than 60 different countries have shown George Washington on more than 200 stamps.

INTERESTING POSTAL CARD FOR CORRESPONDENCE



Bro. Carlos Diaz of Porto, Portugal, has forwarded an interesting postal card intended for correspondence. The design around the writing area contains a variety of Masonic symbols.

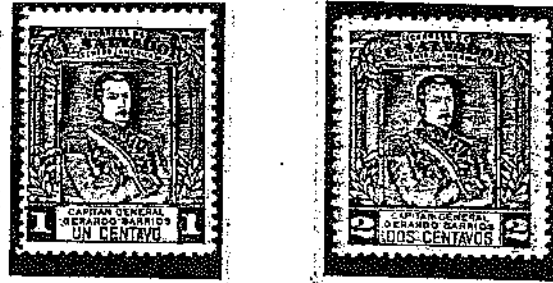
MASONIC COVERS AVAILABLE

Just a reminder that your Editor still has a significant stock of Masonic Cacheted Covers available for sale. Most of them are the property of Unit members (present and past) and are being sold on a consignment basis; the prices on all are very reasonable. Write for the US and/or Foreign list(s).

GERARDO BARRIOS

(-1865)

Gerardo Barrios is pictured on a set of regular issues of El Salvador released on December 20, 1955, Scott #674/7. Two values are shown here.



This noted politician of his homeland served as President of the Republic from 1859 to 1863. During his mandate he reorganized the Public Administration, established the Instruction Official for Children, improved Industry and Commerce and Public Works and promulgated a new Civil and Penal Code which required the clergy to swear to the new Constitution of El Salvador. He was affiliated with the Liberal Party and commanded the State as a dictatorship. He opposed Carreras, the conservative President of Guatemala and started a war between the two countries. Barrios was subdued and forced to flee to Nicaragua where he later tried another movement to recover power. He was captured, and delivered to Duenas, the new President of El Salvador; tried by a War Council, and executed in April 1865.

Bro. Barrios was identified as a Mason in "Historia General de la Francmasoneria" contained within the "Diccionario Enciclopedico de la Masoneria" by Lorenzo Frau and Rosendo Arus (Editorial of the Valley of Mexico, S.A., Mexico, D.F., Ano 1977, Volume IV, Page 392).

-article contributed by Bro. Juan Sabater Pie, Barcelona, Spain

BELISARIO PORRAS

(1858-1942)

Belisario Porras, Panamanian politician and diplomat was a member of the State Assembly and, in 1885, Magistrate of the Justice Tribunal. He was an idol of the democratic people and during the War against Colombia, he led the people's cause. When Panama and Colombia were separated, he occupied several public offices, including Deputy of the National Assembly and Plenipotentiary Minister to Brasil, Costa Rica and Washington. He was elected President of the Republic in July 1912 and maintained that role until 1916. In October 1918, as first vice-president, he re-assumed power upon the death of Ramon V. Valdo. He was re-elected in 1920, serving until 1924. During his term he brought in important fiscal reform and implemented an ambitious plan to build new highways throughout the state.



Bro. Porras was identified as a Mason in "Historia General de la Francmasoneria" contained within the "Diccionario Enciclopedico de la Masoneria" by Lorenzo Frau and Rosendo Arus (Editorial of the Valley of Mexico, S.A., Mexico, D.F., Ano 1977, Volume IV, Page 392). He is pictured on a stamp issued by Panama on August 15, 1939, Scott C54, as part of a set to commemorate the opening of the Panama Canal.

-article contributed by Bro. Juan Sabater Pie, Barcelona, Spain

PABLO AROSEMENA (1836-1912)

Panama commemorated the Centennial of Pablo Arosemena's birth on September 24, 1936, with a set of three stamps - one regular and two airmails - Scott 277 and C19/20.



Pablo Arosemena was a politician and writer in Panama. When he completed a career in law in Bogota, Colombia, he returned to his native country in 1854. He entered the Justice Administration and was elected Deputy in 1858. He later served as the Attorney General of Panama and then Plenipotentiary Minister to Chile and Paris. When Panama separated from Colombia, he was nominated President of the Constitutional Assembly and then Vice-President of the new Republic. He was elected President in October 1910 and remained in that office to his death in 1912. As a lawyer and tribunist and then as a politician, he constantly strove to defend tolerance, mutual respect between men and to obtain new ways for individual conquests for the improvement of the human spirit.

Bro. Arosemena was initiated in the 1880s and renewed his Masonic affiliation in 1910 in La Acacia Lodge No. 90 of Panama City, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Orient of New Granada (Colombia). He also visited Rosa de America Lodge No. 65, also in Panama City. While he was President of the Republic he visited this Lodge on the evening of December 29, 1910, for the installation of new officers for the following year. There was much enthusiasm and merriment that evening. (Information extracted from the Diccionario Enciclopedico de la Masoneria, by Lorenzo Frau and Rosendo Arus (Editorial of the Valley of Mexico, S.A., Mexico, D.F., Ano 1977, Volume IV, Page 458).

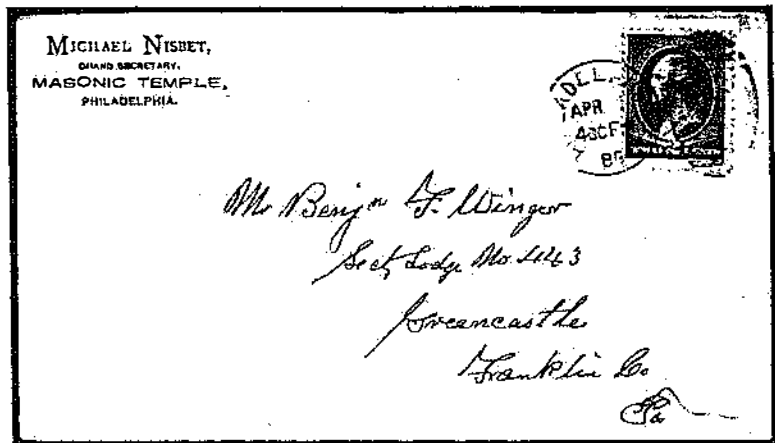
-article contributed by Bro. Juan Sabater Pie, Barcelona, Spain

Brethren and Sisters, we seriously need more members in our Unit to enable it to maintain itself. We are very fortunate in having some wonderful, able researchers but the newsletter should be the voice of all the members. Please help out in both ways - by getting new members and by conducting new research and reporting on it. Thank you.

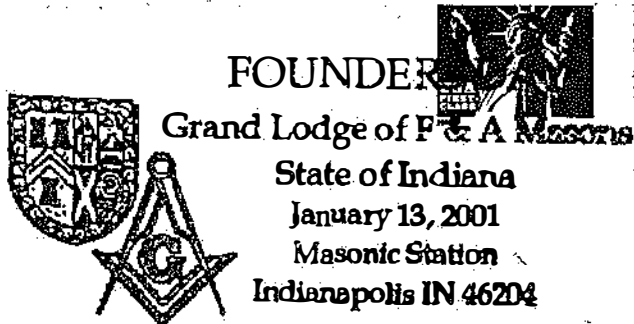
MASONIC CORNER CARD AND ENCLOSED LETTER

Bro. Stan Longenecker has sent along a nice example of a 19th century Masonic corner card which would add to any collection. Inside, however, is a letter written on April 1, 1886, by Rt. Wor. Michael Nisbet, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, to the Secretary of Lodge No. 443. He asks the Secretary what actions the Lodge took on the petitions of two individuals which were received on Feb. 18, 1886. On the back of that letter the Secretary of Lodge No. 443 in Greencastle, replied that one petition was still in the hands of the Committee and the other was inadvertently elected and entered on the evening of March 18, 1886.

Those of you who are Secretary of a Lodge can appreciate what a faux pas such an action would have been. Perhaps things were different in that era, but if such an action happened today, there would be all sorts of problems and ramifications, including a required "healing". (I have gone through that twice.)



ANOTHER PURE MASONIC CANCEL



A special cancel for Founders Day, Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, State of Indiana, used on January 13, 2001. It was advertised in Linn's "Postmark Pursuit".

SAMUEL STEELE

Bro. Bob Allardice, member No. 178 of Surrey, B.C., Canada, tells us that Bro. Samuel Steele (profiled on page 1405 of the Newsletter) has been pictured twice by the Canada Post since his initial appearance on the Royal Canadian Mounted Police issue. His portrait was on the Klondike Centennial issue of 1996 (Scott #1606c) and the Regimental issue of 2000 (Scott #1876) shown to the right. He was the first commander of the Lord Strathcona's Horse Regiment, made up of former cowboys and members of the Northwest Mounted Police. This unit saw action in South Africa and in Europe during World War I.



NEW ISSUES

The following new issues of Masonic note have been reported in the philatelic media.

Aug. 15, 2000 - Chile - Gen. San Martin 150th Death Anniversary, one value.

Sept. 1, 2000 - Palau - First Zeppelin Flight 100th Anniversary, 6 se-tenant stamps include Baldwin's airship *Astra-Torres I*.

Oct. 5, 2000 - Nicaragua - World Leaders of the 20th Century, 2 panes of 8 se-tenant stamps each include Kemal Ataturk, Winston Churchill and Theodore Roosevelt.

Oct. 16, 2000 - Palau - Millennium Undersea History and Exploration Milestones, 17 se-tenant stamps including Simon Lake.

Oct. 26, 2000 - Nicaragua - Lions Club and Rotary International, 6 se-tenant stamps including Melvin Jones.

Oct. 30, 2000 - Grenada-Carriacou & Petite Martinique - Battle of Britain 60th Anniversary, 2 panes of 8 se-tenant stamps each including Winston Churchill.

Nov. 9, 2000 - New Caledonia - Red Cross, one value showing Henry Dunant.

Nov. 29, 2000 - Egypt - Solidarity with the Palestine People, 3 values of which 2 show the Dome of the Rock.

Nov. 29, 2000 - Maldives - Espana 2000/Prado Museum, 6 panes of 6 stamps each, including paintings done by Albrecht Durer.

Dec. 11, 2000 - Guinea - Apollo-Soyuz Project 25th Anniversary, 2 panes of 6 se-tenant stamps each including Edwin Aldrin, Jr. and Thomas P. Stafford.

- History of Space Exploration, 2 panes of 12 se-tenant stamps each including Joseph Michael and Jacques Etienne Montgolfier and John Glenn.

Jan. 1, 2001 - Australia - Federation 100th Anniversary, 2 stamps, one pictures Edmund Barton.

Jan. 30, 2001 - Sierre Leone - Battle of Britain 60th Anniversary, 4 panes of 8 se-tenant stamps each including Winston Churchill.

ERROR

Bro. Gene Fricks points out that in his article on the 44th Regiment of Foot presented in the most recent newsletter, the Masonic organization established within this unit was under the Grand Lodge of Ireland, not the Grand Lodge of England. Sorry about that.