

THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

Journal of the
MASONIC STUDY UNIT



Editor
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WHOLE NO. 147

ANTON PILGRAM

The statue of this noted architect is pictured on a semi-postal stamp, Scott B196, issued by Austria on December 12, 1946.



Anton Pilgram was the primary architect responsible for the altering and enlarging of St. Stephen's Cathedral located in Vienna. Originally built in the 12th century, the renovations took place from the 14th to the 16th century. Anton Pilgram's association is normally cited as being around 1512. Some of the more striking features of this edifice are the lofty 450 foot tower, the extensive catacombs in which the emperors were formerly interred, the Sarcophagus of Frederick III, the tomb of Prince Eugene of Savoy, 38 marble altars and the fine groined ceiling. The top of the tower is crowned with a double-headed eagle, surmounted by a cross. Under the pulpit of the middle nave is found his image with a pair of compasses in his hand (shown in the stamp above).

Although Speculative Masonry was not in formal existence during his lifetime, he can be considered one of the early Operative Freemasons and can be compared to Von Steinbach Erwin who was building at the Cathedral of Strasburg.

-Information provided by Marshal Loke

MASONIC STUDY UNIT OF THE AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

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232. James Brommer, 611 Sharon Ave., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-6629

255. Rafael M. Wulff, 65 Cheviot Cres., Brampton, Ontario L62 4G9

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:

Jean-Claude Vilesy has forwarded an interesting proposal. He was wondering if it would be possible to publish/send the Newsletter by e-mail; this would not only save postage but it would permit illustrations in color. I will be perfectly honest in this response - I have a scanner and I am developing in my use of the computer but I still have a ways to go before I am that adept. I guess my biggest challenge right now is in the area of clip-art to insert the illustrations. (I still make Xerox copies and paste them on the hard copy - ancient?) When I get that mastered, the rest should be easy. Bro. Vilesy is a pro at this kind of stuff as can be witnessed on his Masonic Web Site <http://mariah.free.fr>

Juan Sabater Pie proudly announced that in November he became a proud grandfather to Albert. Congratulations, Bro. Juan - several of us know that proud feeling.

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FATHER JOSE BURGOS

On April 1, 1963, the Philippines issued a 10s stamp (Scott 858) as part of their Famous Filipinos series which pictures Father Jose Burgos, a Roman Catholic Priest.



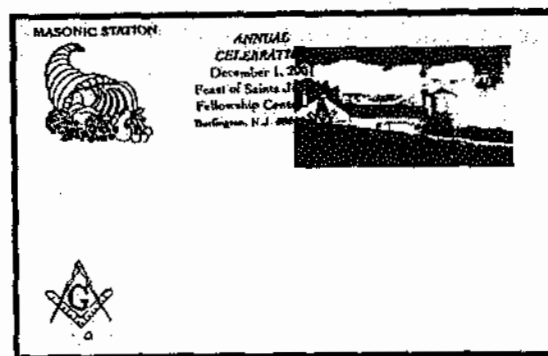
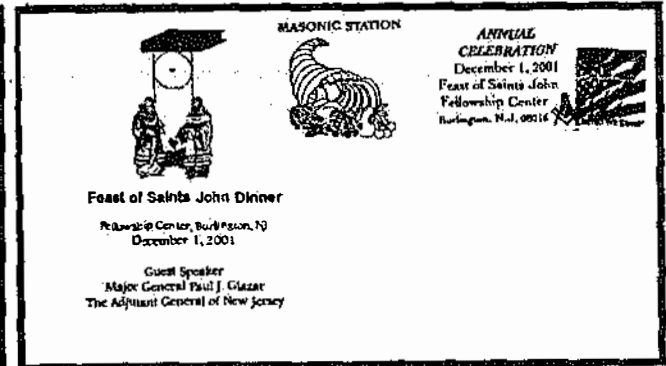
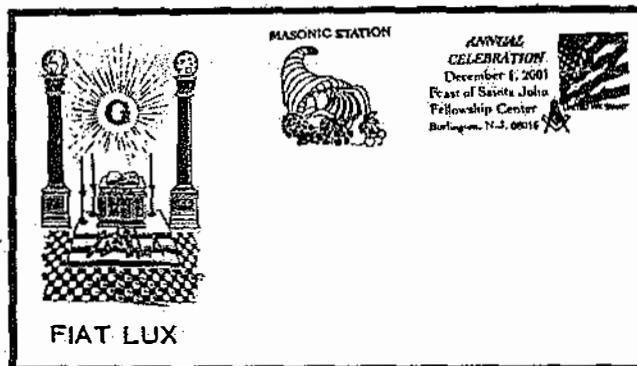
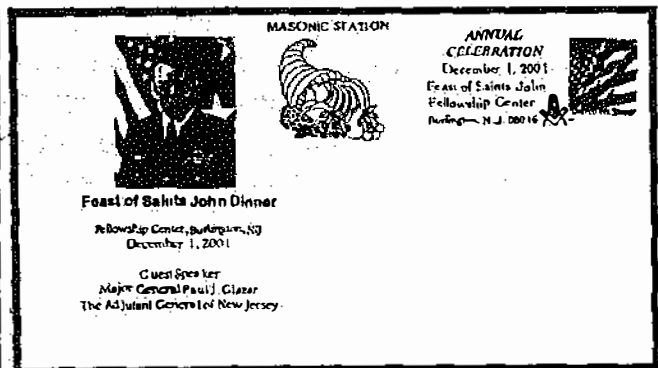
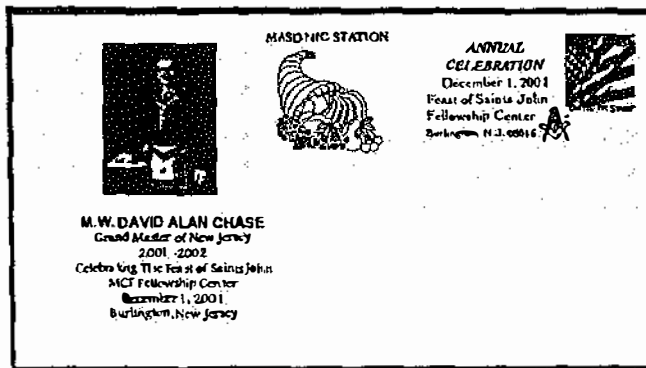
Father Burgos, born in 1837, was a graduate of Santo Tomas University and was a liberal minded native priest who campaigned vigorously for reforms in religion and government in the Philippines in the second half of the 19th century. In opposing the despotic powers of Spanish friars, he was on the side of many Masons who, while they were in accord with the spiritual side of the Catholic Church, resisted the subjugation of the people under the cloak of religion. For these independence efforts, he and two other priests were put to death February 17, 1872, by garroting - a Spanish form of strangulation accomplished by tightening an iron collar around the neck.

In Manila, one of the Scottish Rite Bodies - Burgos Chapter of Rose Croix - is named after this priest. Father Burgos has also been pictured on other Philippine stamps issued in 1944 (Scott N33), 1955 (Scott 592), 1972 (Scott 1115/6) and 1996 (Scott 2456b).

-Article written by John Mirt

MASONIC COVERS FOR THE FEAST OF STS. JOHN

Bro. M. Richard Mekenian has published another set of cacheted covers to note the Annual Feast of Sts. John celebrated by the Grand Lodge of New Jersey in Burlington, NJ. A total of only 100 sets were prepared and the income from their sale will be divided into two charities - the Grand Lodge of New Jersey Permanent Fund and the Scottish Rite Learning Centers. Over the past eight years, Bro. Mekenian has been able to collect \$19,000 from this project for Masonic charities. The cost of the set is \$20.00 and can be ordered from him at: 711 5th Avenue, Spring Lake, NJ 07762-1225. Thank you for your efforts, Bro. Dick.



VALENTIN HAUY



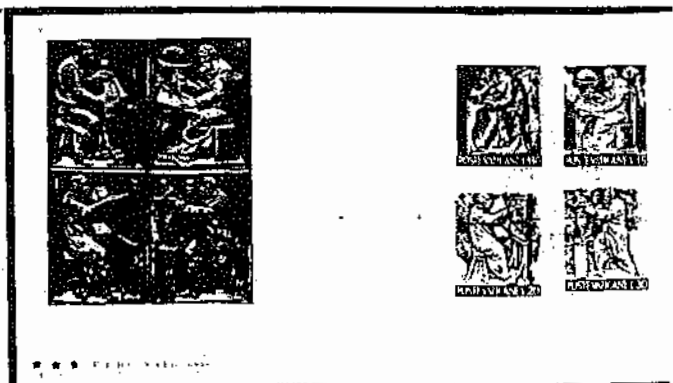
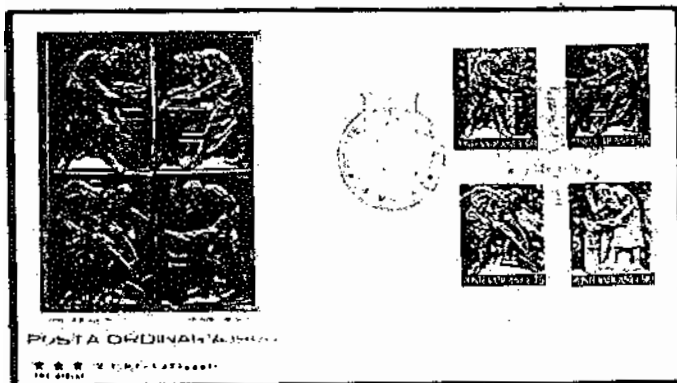
Valentin Haüy was honored by the Postal authorities of France when they pictured him on one of the Red Cross issues of December 5, 1959.

Bro. Haüy was a member of the Lodge "Les Amis de la Sagesse" in Paris in 1804. The people of Holland were very interested in his work and through Daniel Furst who had worked in the Institution of Valentin, established a school for the blind with the help of the four Masonic Lodges in Holland.

Valentin Haüy was born Nov. 13, 1746, in St. Just en Chaussee. In 1751 his family went to Paris for the education of his eldest brother. Valentin also studied philosophy and humanism at the University of Paris. He preferred language so he studied Latin, Greek and Hebrew as well as about ten more languages. Because of his knowledge he served as interpreter for the king, admiralty and town hall. He became a specialist in different sorts of handwriting in different languages and also in ciphers. Through Ahhee de l'Epee, the founder of education and care for deaf and dumb people, he met many blind people. In 1784 he started the first institution for the blind for education, work and care in Paris. He also developed a relief system to teach his blind friend to read - this was later improved by Louis Braille. In 1793 he broke out his organization from that which included the deaf and dumb. That same year he was secretary of the Revolutionary Committee and built up a lot of enemies. He was accused of false patriotism and in 1802 Napoleon dismissed him from his institution for the blind; he founded a private school for the blind and combined it with a school for language. For political reasons he was banished by Napoleon and went to Russia to Czar Alexander to found a new institution for the blind. He only had one pupil as the Russian government claimed there were no blind people in Russia. In 1817 he returned to Paris and lived as a hermit - disillusioned because he was forbidden to work in his own old institution for the blind. He died in Paris on March 19, 1822.

- Article copied from De Verlichte Loep, Newsletter of De Getande Rand

TWO COVERS SHOWING MASONIC SYMBOLS

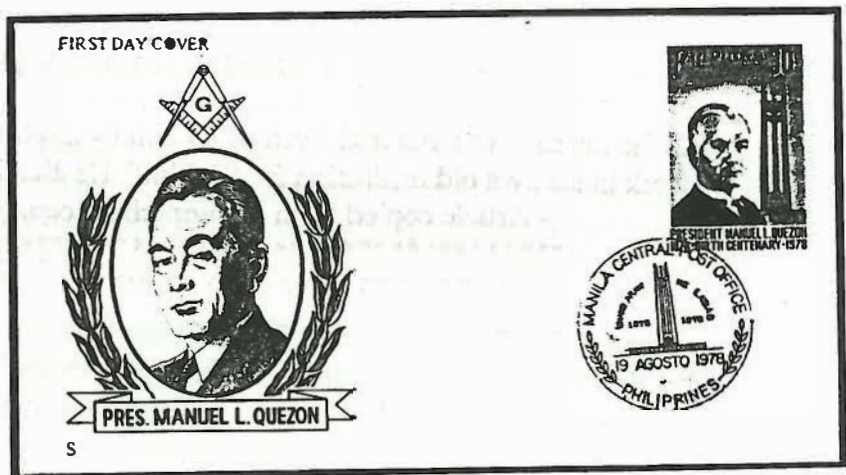


MANUEL LUIS QUEZON

Manuel Quezon was born August 19, 1898, in Baler, Tayabas Province, Luzon. He attended the college of San Juan de Letrau and the Law School of the University of Santo Tomas, both in Manila. His law studies were interrupted by hostilities and he joined the insurrection movement of General Aguinaldo, rising to the rank of Major. After Aguinaldo's surrender, Quezon swore allegiance to the territorial administration, passed the bar examination and was admitted to practice in 1903. He became provincial prosecutor of Mindero and later of Tayabas Province. In 1906 he was elected governor of Tayabas but resigned in 1907 and was elected to the Philippine Assembly, joining the Nacionalista Party. From 1909 to 1916 he was Resident Commissioner to the United States and was largely responsible for the Philippine Autonomy Act passed by Congress in 1916. He was elected to the new Senate and was chosen President of the Senate, a position he held until elected first President of the Philippines Commonwealth on September 17, 1935. He was re-elected in 1941. Following the Japanese invasion in 1942, he was evacuated from Corregidor to Australia and then to the United States where he continued to work for the welfare of his countrymen.. Illness resulting from the effects of tuberculosis forced him to delegate more and more of his duties to his Vice-President. He was finally hospitalized at Saranac, NY, where he died on August 1, 1944.

Manuel Quezon was a Freemason most of his adult life. He was elected to preside over a General Assembly of the Gran Logia National on July 4, 1915, to discuss existence with the Grand Lodge of the Philippines and he was a member of the commission to consider the fusion between the two bodies. He was Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines for 1917-18 and Grand Master for 1918-19. Due to influence of his wife, he resigned from Masonry Sept. 17, 1930. Although he resigned, he never denounced Masonry and refused to sign the formal form which those returning to the church from the Masonic Lodge were supposed to sign.

424, 458-964, 511.4, 589, 812
1368-52



This First Day Cover of August 19, 1978, shows one of the many Philippine stamps issued to honor Bro. Quezon.

KING LEOPOLD I

One of the several Belgian stamps issued to honor Leopold I, the first King of Independent Belgium, was this one released on May 31, 1980. (Scott B992)



King Leopold I was initiated in the Lodge Zur Hoffning in Berne, Switzerland, in 1813 at the age of 23. He later became a member of Friendship Lodge No. 6 in London, taking an active part in its proceedings. He took part in Masonry on all his visits to Germany.

He received the Scottish Rite degrees and in 1839 became Protector of the Grand Orient of Belgium.

Born Dec. 16, 1790, he was the youngest son of Duke Francis of Saxe-Coburg and received a very careful education. After the marriage of his sister to the Grand Duke Constantine, he was made a general in the Russian Army. He accompanied Alexander I to Vienna and Paris in 1814. He married Princess Charlotte Augusta, heir apparent to Great Britain, in 1816 but after her death in 1817, he lived in retirement in London or was traveling. In 1830 he refused the crown of Greece but in 1831 accepted that of Belgium serving until his death in 1865. He re-married in 1832 - to Louisa, daughter of Louis Philippe - and they had three children. He died on Dec. 10, 1865.

PIERRE LEOPOLD LEONARD BENOIT

Born in 1834, this Belgian composer and director of the Antwerp Conservatory of Music, composed oratorios, operas, cantatas, religious dramas, hymns and songs. He died in 1901. Belgium issued a semi-postal stamp which pictures him on June 1, 1934 - Scott B151.



Although it is fairly certain that Pierre Benoit was not a Freemason, it is known that he did compose two Masonic songs - "Light" and "Night" - to poems by Julius De Geyter. According to "The Life, Works and Confessions of Peter Benoit" by Julius Geyter, those songs were for use in Masonic Ceremonies. Some tales indicate that Benoit applied for admission to the Lodge "Les Amis du Commerce et la Perseverance Reunis" in Antwerp but his application was rejected. It is known that his philosophies, views and tendencies did run towards Freemasonry and that some of his close companions were Members of the Craft.

GEORGE SAIKO

George Saiko was born in Seestadt, Bohemia, on Feb. 5, 1892. After completing his secondary education he studied philosophy, archeology and art history at the University of Vienna. He began a career of scientist and writer. In 1938 Hitler invaded Austria and the following year, Saiko was prohibited from publishing any of his works. He was forced to work in the Albertina which is a collection of graphic arts in the Hofburg in Vienna, important for its comprehensive collection of prints, drawings, sketchbooks, miniatures and posters put together in the 18th century. He died in 1962.

George Saiko is claimed to have been a Mason in the newsletter of the Philamasonica Club of Austria but no facts are offered. Can any of our readers help with information on his Masonic history.

George Saiko is pictured on an Austrian stamp, Scott 1558, released on Feb. 5, 1992 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of his birth.

- Information from The Masonic Philatelic Club (of Great Britam) Magazine



ARTHUR, DUKE OF WELLINGTON

This British General and Statesman, was born in 1769. He was affectionately called "The Iron Duke" and defeated Napoleon at Waterloo in 1815 with the Prussian, Blucher. He was the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces from 1827 to 1828 and again from 1842 to 1852. He died, very peacefully and very old on Sept. 14, 1852.



Arthur, Duke of Wellington was initiated in the family Lodge No. 494, Irish Constitution, at Trim on Dec. 7, 1790, as "A. Wesley". The family used this name until about 1790 when they changed it to Wellesley. His father was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ireland at the time and his brother was present. He continued as a subscribing member until 1795. The provincial Grand Lodge in Chester (a short voyage across the Irish Sea from Dublin) conducted cathedral services of mourning for the Duke of Wellington in the cathedral church at Macclesfield, Cheshire, on Oct. 20, 1852 and the Provincial Grand Master ordered mourning in the Lodge for one month.

Brethren - as you can tell from this issue, your Editor is in need of articles and write-ups for the Newsletter. I do not like to have to resort to "re-writes" but the articles appearing here have not been previously published under my Editorship. Please help with inputs!

Dubai (1977)
 aibuglar 2452
 Sy Hazwan 343
 Togo (1978) 782

NEW ISSUES

The following new issues of Masonic interest have been identified in the philatelic media.

Aug. 15, 2001 - Hungary - Hungary Millennium, two strips of five stamps each. Franz Liszt and Lajos Kossuth are included.

Aug. 27, 2001 - Sierra Leone - Battles and Generals of the American Civil War, four panes of four se-tenant stamps each. Included are Joshua Chamberlain, Stonewall Jackson, David Farragut as well as various battle scenes.

Sept. 22, 2001 - France - 20th Century/Sciences, pane of 10 stamps with five different designs. Alexander Fleming is included.

Sept. 24, 2001 - St. Lucia - Civil Administration 200th Anniversary, four values. Napoleon and King George IV are shown.

Oct. 16, 2001 - Denmark - HAFINA01/Royal Stamps, four values. King Christian X and King Frederik VIII are shown.

Oct. 20, 2001 - Argentina - Presidential Birth Anniversaries, two values - honoring Justo Jose de Urquiza (200th) and Roque Saenz Pena (150th).

Oct. 20, 2001 - Belgium - Journey through the 20th Century/Part 3, 20 se-tenant stamps. Charles Lindbergh and Winston Churchill are included.

Nov. 2001 - British Antarctic Territory - Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration/Part 2/ Capt. Robert F. Scott, six values.

Nov. 2, 2001 - Barbados - 250th Anniversary of George Washington's Visit, four values.

Nov. 26, 2001 - South Africa - Nelson Mandela Prestige Booklet, 10 panes with single stamp. Prince Philip is shown on one.

Dec. 7, 2001 - Micronesia - Pearl Harbor 60th Anniversary, two panes of six se-tenant stamps each. Franklin Delano Roosevelt is included.

Jan. 15, 2002 - Great Britain - 100th Anniversary, Rudyard Kipling's *Just So Stories*, ten booklet stamps.

WE WANT YOU TO COME
TO
Denver Lodge No. 5, A. F. & A. M.
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1935

Third Degree in Full Form
Lodge Opens at 2:30
Special music by our Temple Quartet

Free Dinner at 6:15. If you are coming, sign and mail the attached post card at once so we can reserve a plate for you.

Attest
Llewellyn Jones
Secretary

Clarence M. Stafford
Worshipful Master



You are cordially invited to attend a
Lunch and Smoke-Talk
given at
Masonic Hall, April 3
at 8 o'clock, p. m.
in honor of the
Fiftieth Anniversary
of Nathan L. Cobb becoming a member
of **Lodge No. 30, A. F. & A. M.**

W. D. Hall, W. M.
A. F. Walker, Sec.

Let us get together and have a good time.



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