



THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

Journal of the
MASONIC STUDY UNIT



Editor
Robert A. Domingue
59 Greenwood Road
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WHOLE NO. 154

ANOTHER PURE MASONIC ISSUE

The island of Sri Lanka is the latest postal issuing authority to issue a stamp directly related to the Masonic Fraternity. It was issued on September 5, 2002, to mark the Centenary (in 2001) of the Victoria Masonic Temple, 60, Sir Mohammed Macan Markar Mawatha, Galle Face, Colombo 3, SRI LANKA.



The island of Sri Lanka was known as Ceylon until 1972 and is appropriately termed the "Pearl of the Orient". It lies in the Indian Ocean to the southeast of India. Freemasonry has existed on this island for over 200 years and at the present time, an English District Grand Lodge and an Irish Inspectorate operate in the country. There is one Scottish Constitution Lodge and it meets in this Temple. Of the nine E.C. Lodges in Sri Lanka, five meet here and of the four I.C. Lodges, three meet in this building.

Thanks to our Brethren in Great Britain for this information and also, thanks to them, your editor has a limited supply of the stamps. The cost of the stamp is 10 cents each so please include a #6 SASE since I can't cover the postage cost in the purchase price.

MASONIC STUDY UNIT OF THE AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

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Annual Membership: \$8.00 – North America; \$14.00 – All Other

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

NEW MEMBERS:

305. Thomas C. Peterson, 6534 Samoa Drive, Sarasota, FL 34241 – Rt. Wor. Peterson was an earlier member of the Unit – welcome back. He was the Deputy Grand Master for the Panama Canal Zone back in the 1970s – cover collectors will recall the 1976 cachet picturing him.

RESIGNED:

487. Edward P. Smith, Alexandria, VA-- health reasons

CLOSED ALBUMS:

440. James N. Adams, late of Denver, CO – Bro. Jim was one of the guiding lights throughout the long tenure of the Denver Masonic Stamp Club. He will be missed.

NATIONAL TOPICAL STAMP SHOW 2003

The Annual Convention of our parent organization, the American Topical Association, will be held June 27-30 at the Holiday Inn, Denver International Airport and John Q. Hammons Trade Center in Aurora, Colorado. Special rates prevail for NTSS attendees at the Holiday. The convention will feature the traditional all-topical exhibition, the only such national show held in the U.S.A.; 170 frames are available.

CORRECTION – THE EARL OF CRAWFORD

An error of omission was made in the article on The Earl of Crawford in the previous Newsletter. The third sentence in the second paragraph should read: "He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society at the age of 31. He served as president of the Royal Philatelic Society, London when George V stepped down as president of that group to become King." The Royal Society and the Royal Philatelic Society are two different organizations.



DANIEL MANNING

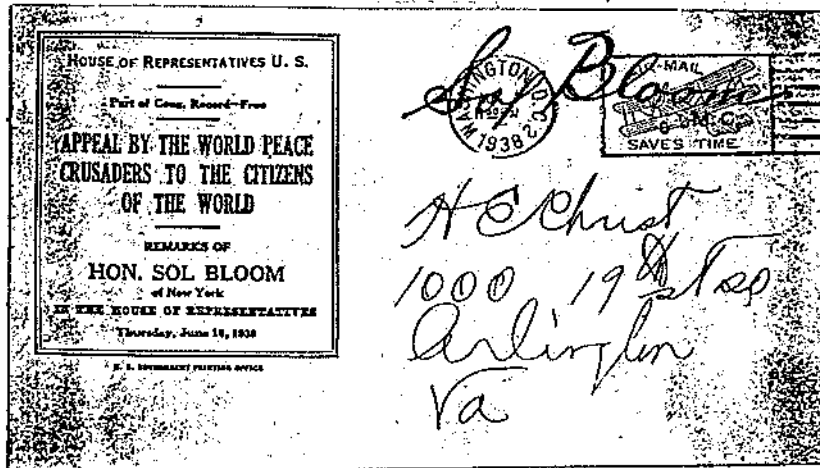
A letter response published recently in Linn's recalls the fact that Bro. Daniel Manning was pictured on the \$5.00 motor vehicle use revenue stamp of 1942. He was raised in Temple Lodge No. 14, Albany, NY.

sc R1

Born May 16, 1831, in Albany, NY, he was a successful businessman and influential Democrat. He was instrumental in obtaining Grover Cleveland's nomination for President in 1884. After being elected to that position, Cleveland appointed Manning Secretary of the Treasury in 1885. He resigned from the Cabinet in April 1887 because of ill health and died Dec. 4, 1887 in Albany.

SOL BLOOM

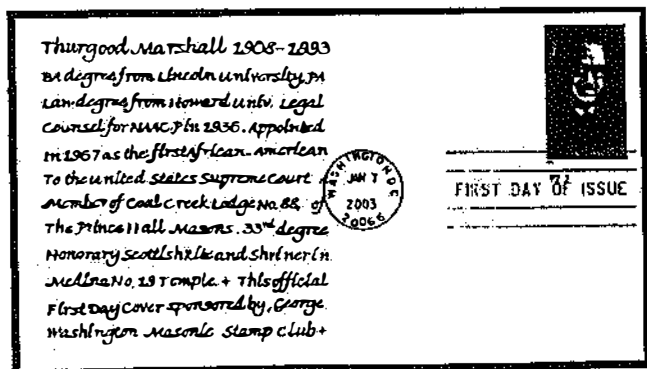
In the midst of the many rallies and protests against any war with Iraq, it is interesting to note that one of our Brethren was actively involved in similar efforts just prior to World War II. Bro. Stan Longenecker has provided this copy of a cover autographed by Bro. Bloom and some information on this pacifist. The cover noted and included remarks of his which he delivered in the House on June 16, 1938, offered as "An Appeal by the World Peace Crusaders to the Citizens of the World". Bro. Bloom was a member of Pacific Lodge #233 NYC, the Scottish Rite, NJ, and the Shrine.



Born March 9, 1870, in Pekin, IL, he had a varied career in newspaper, theatrical and music publishing businesses. In 1893 he was superintendent of the Midway Plaisance of the Chicago Exposition. He moved to New York City in 1903 and engaged in real estate and construction business. He was elected the U.S. Congressman from the 20th New York district and served in the 68th to 81st Congresses (1923-1951). He was chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. His greatest service to the U.S. was as director of the U.S. George Washington Bicentennial Commission in 1932. He was also chairman of the committee for the celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court and director general of the U.S. Constitution Sesquicentennial Commission. He was a signer of the United Nations Charter and delegate to U.N. conferences in San Francisco, London and New York. He died March 7, 1949.

GWMS COVER FOR THURGOOD MARSHALL

The George Washington Masonic Stamp Club has issued a Masonic Cacheted Cover for the new Thurgood Marshall stamp. It is available from the cover chairman, Paul M. Williams, 2364 Beaver Valley Pike, New Providence, PA 17560 for \$1.50 each plus a #10 SASE.



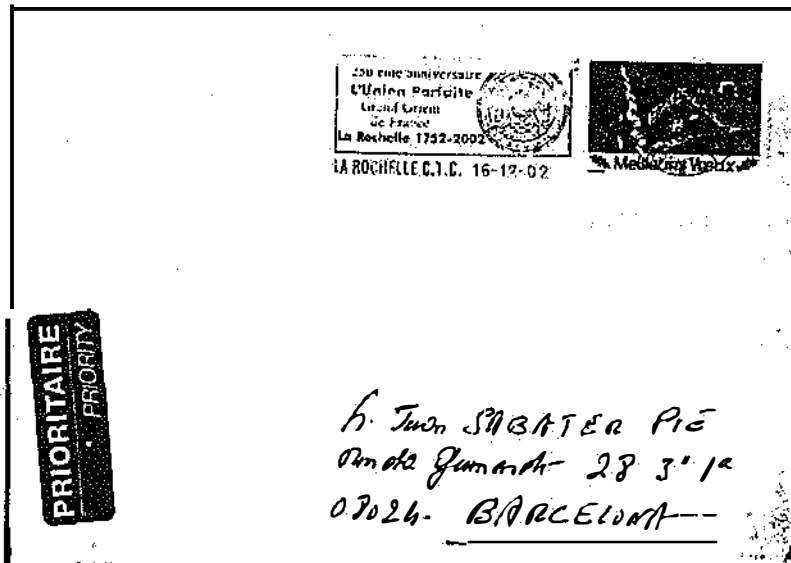
AL HIRSCHFELD

Show-biz caricaturist Al Hirschfeld, who with his curlicued pen-and-ink drawings captured the biggest stars of Broadway and Hollywood, from Charlie Chaplin and Ethel Merman to Woody Allen and Jerry Seinfeld, died in New York on Jan. 20, 2003, at the age of 99. The USPS used some of his caricatures for the Comedians booklet issued in 1991. I can recall reading that Al Hirschfeld was a Mason and specifically acquired the booklet for that reason. Unfortunately, I cannot find that reference – can anyone help out?



Hirschfeld's drawings were first published in the 1920s. For nearly 70 years his theater drawings appeared in the drama pages of the New York Times. His work also appeared in many other publications from Playbill to TV Guide. He was a fixture on Broadway's opening nights and theater performers prized his drawings as works of art. He immortalized them all and they all considered it an honor to be drawn by him. He received a special Tony Award in 1975 and this June, Broadway's Martin Beck Theatre will be renamed for him.

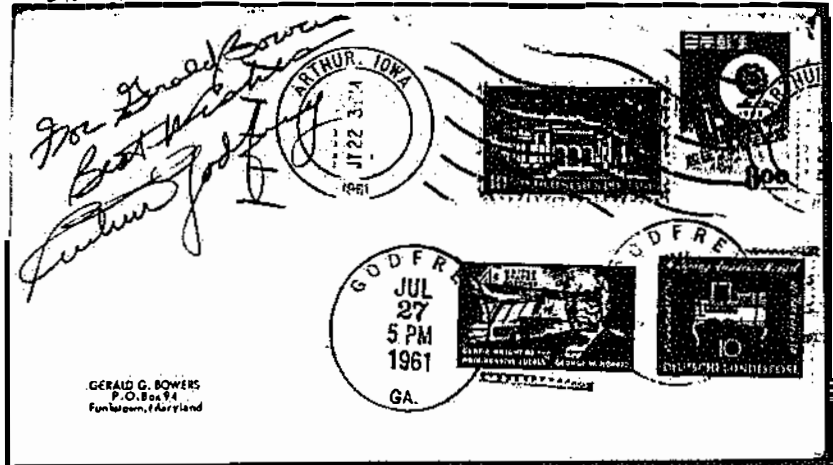
SPECIAL MASONIC CANCEL FROM FRANCE



Bro. Juan Sabater Pie has sent in a cover which received a special Masonic cancellation for the 250th Anniversary of the Grand Orient of France, La Rochelle, Dec. 16, 2002.

ARTHUR GODFREY

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of Arthur Michael Godfrey in New York City. He started his career on a Baltimore radio station in 1929 after serving in the Navy and Coast Guard. He switched to TV and was with CBS when color TV was inaugurated on June 25, 1951. Arthur had his own TV shows: Arthur Godfrey and his Friends, Arthur Godfrey's Talent Scouts and Arthur Godfrey Time. He was known for his ukulele and gave lessons on TV. He discovered talent such as Pat Boone, Julius LaRosa, Marion Marlow and others. He was known as "The Old Redhead" and died in 1983. He was a member of Acacia Lodge #18, Washington, DC, Scottish Rite and the Shrine.



The cover shown here, which was autographed by Godfrey, shows one way to make a presentation to a personality. Mr. Bowers had two covers dual cancelled in Arthur, Iowa, and Godfrey, Georgia, and sent both to Arthur Godfrey – one for his keeping and one to be returned. Bro. Stan Longenecker, the submitter of this article, states that as an autograph seeker, he has found that he loses many covers sent for autographs. He has found that it takes a unique presentation such as this or a personable letter to get the autograph. He uses a letter stating that he will add the cover to his own personal album to proudly show his five grandkids.

LINPRINT CACHETS FOR ARTHUR ST. CLAIR – AVAILABLE

Our Unit President, Bro. Gene Frick announces that he has obtained a number of the Arthur St. Clair LINPRINT cacheted FDCs from 1937 – Scott 795, a number of the different cachets for the Prexies and one Newburgh cover – Scott 727 whose cachet shows the Temple at Newburgh. The St. Clair covers are \$9.00 each plus a stamped, addressed #10 envelope. Overseas Brethren can send equivalent euros, etc., or IRCs.



COLUMBUS POSTAGE STAMP CO.
1402 North High St.
COLUMBUS, OHIO.

MASONIC PHILATELY AND CUBA

Bro. Maurice Beazley prepared this article for publication in his homeland and forwarded it to us – hopefully to share.

Freemasons played a leading part in liberating Cuba from Spanish rule.

Narcisco LOPEZ (1799-1851). While preparing in New York for a military expedition against the Cuban government, he designed a flag that included a five-point star within a triangle, drawing it from Masonic symbolism. Proceedings from the Grand Lodge of Georgia for 1850 say he was made a Mason in Solomon Lodge No. 1, Savannah. He led the 1850 revolt in Cuba but was captured, tried for treason and executed on 1 September 1851. He is shown on the vertical format 2c stamp.

His flag, however, spurred independence minded Cubans to fight on. Among them were many Freemasons.

Mazimo GOMEZ (1858-1913) (the small 2c stamp). He is listed in a German Masonic lexicon as a Mason.

Jose Julio MARTI (1853-1895). “The Apostle of the Independents” (the Hungary stamp) His birthday is celebrated by Cuban Freemasons and a statue for him was erected in Central Park, Havana.

Antonio MACEO (1848-1896) is widely accepted as a Mason but his precise Lodge details are not known. He is on the small 50c stamp.

Calixto GARCIA-INIQUEZ (1836-1898) is similarly listed and quoted as a Freemason. He is on the small 5c stamp.

That Lopez flag was hoisted over the lighthouse at Morro Castle (vertical 2c stamp) by Worshipful Master Narcisco **VALDEZ**, the lighthouse keeper, in the hour of victory in 1902.

The Cuban dictator and fifth President, **General MACHADO y MORALES** (1871-1939) who was overthrown in 1933 was a member of Progreso Lodge of Santa Clara as well as being a 33 degree AASR and a Shriner. He is on the horizontal 2c stamp. Fidel Castro who seized power in 1959 is not a Freemason, neither was his follower, Che Guevera, the Argentinean revolutionary.

The Grand Lodge of Cuba erected a ten story Masonic Temple in Havana in 1955 (see First Day Cover) and the building was portrayed on two postage stamps issued for the occasion. To this day this is the HQ of Cuban Freemasonry and the present Grand Master and Grand Secretary both work from there. Just exactly how the Grand Lodge operates in a Communist State is not completely clear, but nonetheless it has done so, and remains fully regular. It is recognized by the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland and by the majority of mainstream Grand Lodges.

[illegible]

In response to a program initiated by the Guadalcanal War Memorial Foundation, the Solomon Islands Philatelic Bureau issued Medal of Honor stamps to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the 1942 Marine Landings in the Solomon Islands. There were 20 Medal of Honor recipients for the Guadalcanal Campaign, a struggle that began on August 7, 1942 and ended on February 9, 1943, when the Japanese withdrew from the island. Four of these were selected to be representative and are illustrated on the stamps issued on August 7, 2002, the names of the other 16 are cited on a souvenir sheet which includes the stamps. From the extensive research done on MoH winners by Bro. Edsel Hatfield, we know that one of those pictured, Capt. Joseph J. Foss, USMC, (1915-?) and one of those named, Col. Merritt A. Edson, USMC, (1897-1955) were Masons.

On 9 Oct. 1942, Capt. Joe Foss, a Marine Corps pilot of a Grumman F4F Wildcat joined what was known then as the Cactus Air Force stationed on Guadalcanal; he was executive officer of VMF 121. On Oct. 13 he chalked up his first Zero but was pounced upon by three others – his leaking Wildcat barely made it back to Fighter One. From that day forward he adopted the self-proclaimed title of “Swivelneck Joe”. He preferred to get up close and personal with the enemy pilot and his colleagues began joking that his victims had powder burns. In nine days he became an ace, five planes down. By the 24th he had shot down 11 enemy aircraft and had returned 4 F4Fs that were damaged beyond repair. On Oct 25th he shot down 5 enemy planes in one day. By Nov. 14, 23 enemy aircraft had met their fate at his hands but that afternoon he was diagnosed with malaria.. Recuperating in New Caledonia and Australia, he returned six weeks later and on Jan. 15 shot down 3 more to bring his total to 26. Ten days later he flew his last mission – he ran into an overwhelming force of 60 Zeros and Vals but was able to circle in a Lufbery until the “cavalry” arrived – not a single aircraft was lost.

He was sent home with his undeniable skills to train other fighter pilots. On May 18, 1943, Pres. F.D. Roosevelt awarded him the Medal of Honor. He later became a member of the House of Representatives, governor of South Dakota, Commissioner of the American Football League, host of ABC's "American Sportsman" and NRA President. An airfield, a school and a building are named after him.

Bro. Joe Foss was raised in Minnehaha Lodge #5, Sioux Falls, SD. He achieved the 32nd Degree in Los Angeles and was a member of El Riad Shrine Temple in Sioux Falls. Bro. Merritt Edson was raised in Olive Branch Lodge #64, Chester, VT on Feb. 24, 1926.

JOHN ARCHER LEJEUNE

On Sept. 23, 2002, the Marshall Islands issued a se-tenant block of eight stamps of original paintings of WWI USA Military heroes. Three of the eight were Masons and two, Eddie Rickenbacker and John J. Pershing have been depicted on a stamp several times previously. The third was John A. Lejeune.



John Archer Lejeune was born in Point Coupee Parish, Louisiana on Jan. 10, 1867. He attended Louisiana State University and graduated from the US Naval Academy in 1888. As a naval cadet he was shipwrecked aboard the USS Vandalia in Samoa in 1889. He was then commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps and during the Spanish-American War commanded the Marines on board the USS Cincinnati. He then served overseas in Panama, Mexico and the Philippines. In 1915 he was assistant to the Marine Corps commandant and in 1917 as Brigadier General he headed the Marine Corps base at Quantico, VA. In June 1918 he landed at Brest with the 35th Division. He then headed the 64th Brigade and the Second Division in attacks on Argonne, St. Michel and Mont Blanc Ridge. After occupation duty at Coblenz, he returned to the US to become the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps. He served in this position as Major General from 1920 until his retirement in 1929. From 1930 to 1937 he served as superintendent of the Virginia Military Institute at Lexington, VA. At his death on Nov. 20, 1942 he was known as the greatest leatherneck of them all.

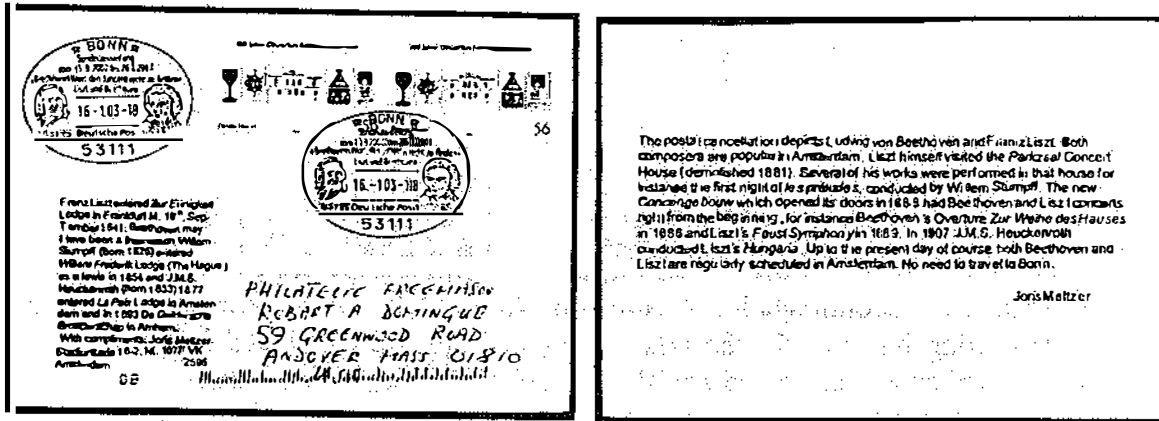
Bro. Lejeune was raised in Overseas Lodge No. 40 (Rhode Island Charter) at Coblenz on May 17, 1919. He later joined the Scottish Rite and Almas Shrine in Washington, DC.

-article contributed by Bro. Norman Lincoln, through the Masonic
Philatelic Club of Great Britain

Brethren – we need new members – not only to bolster the ranks but also to provide new sources of information and research. There are several articles presented in our Newsletter in which added data is requested – none has been forthcoming. Please help.

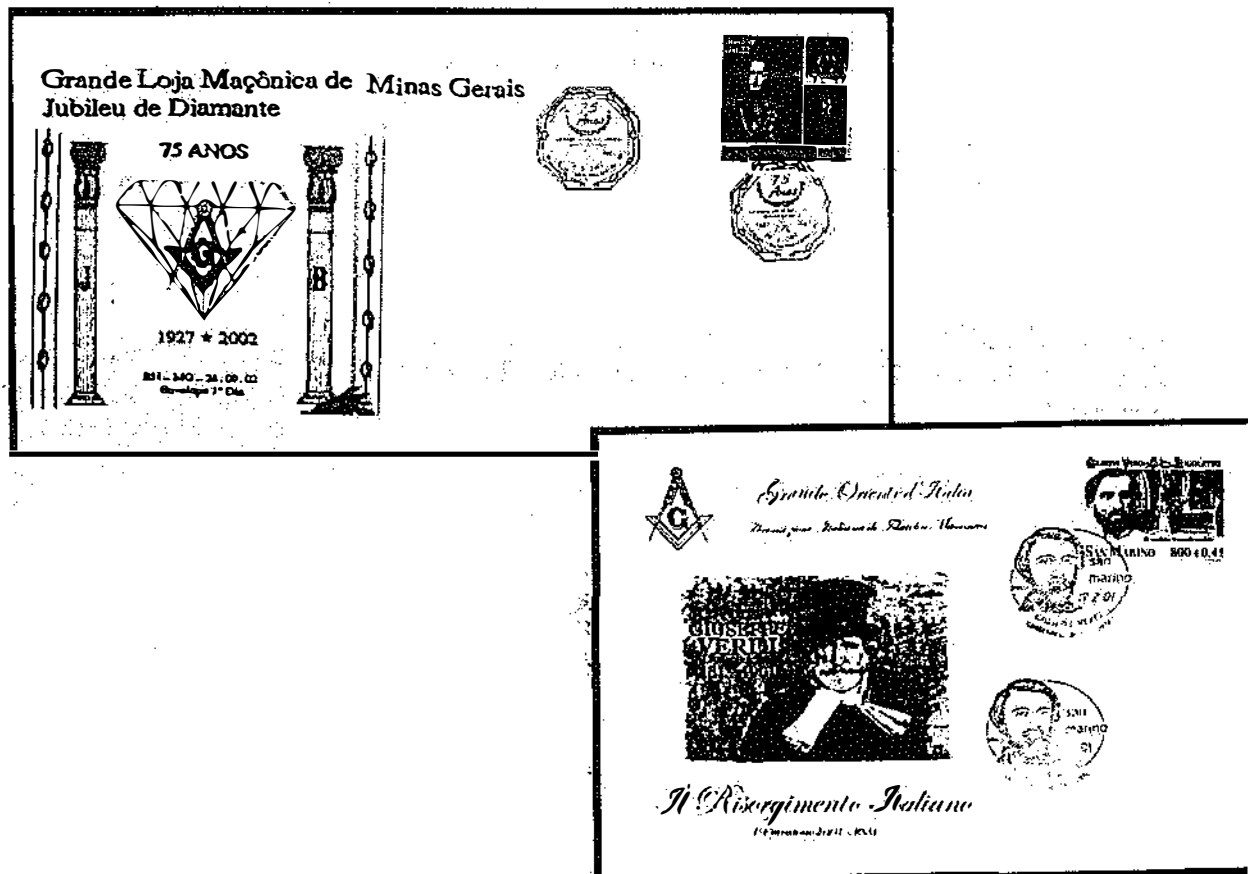
GERMAN SPECIAL CANCEL FEATURING MASONS

Bro. Joris Meltzer, Amsterdam, has sent in this card bearing a cancel which pictures two Masons franked with the recent Freemason's Museum stamp. The cancel depicts Ludwig von Beethoven and Franz Liszt – both composers popular in Amsterdam.



MASONIC CACHETED COVERS SENT BY BRO. PIE

These two covers were sent in for our viewing pleasure by Bro. Juan Sabater Pie.



PRINCE EUGENE OF SWEDEN

Sweden stamps issued on July 5, 1965, Scott 683/4, picture Prince Eugene, a painter and patron of the arts. Prince Eugene is cited as being a Freemason in many items of literature but details do not seem to be available – can any member help?



Born in the Drottningholm Castle on August 1, 1865, Prince Eugene started demonstrating his love for the arts at a young age. He developed into a leader in the world to enhance culture and social conditions. He was very interested in social issues and was very strong in his advocacy of adult education. He was able to collect and create the best private collection of art in Sweden. He was also an excellent painter himself specializing in festive painting of Djurgården and the white boats of Sweden. He exhibited his fantastic collection in his castle in Waldemarsudde so that all the Swedish people could admire it.

ATENAGORAS I (1886-1972)

The Patriarch Atenagoras is shown with Pope Paul VI on a stamp which is part of the UN issue released by Greece on July 30, 1964, Scott 829. Alessandro Mola, of the Milan University, states in his work *"The Problem of the anti-clericalism and the Masons"* that "there is evidence that this orthodox patriarch received the 33rd Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite...but in the United States – surely for prudence purposes".



Atenagoras, Archbishop orthodox Greek, head of the Orthodox Church, was born in Epiro, Greece, and died in Istanbul, Turkey. His family name was Aristocles Sayro and he was ordained in 1910. In 1922 he was ordained as a priest and metropolitan Bishop of Corfu. During the years 1930 to 1948 he was named Archbishop of the Orthodox Church in America and in 1948 was elected as the Ecumenical Patriarch and head of the Orthodox Church for the entire world. He was very popular and gained the unity of Christians throughout the world. He organized conferences in Rhodes (1961-64) which studied the possibility of a dialogue with the Catholic Church of Rome and the celebration of a potential future Synod. He was a private friend of Pope John XXIII and when Pope Paul VI succeeded him, they were able to annul the mutual excommunications pronounced in 1054 against each other.

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

NEW ISSUES

The following new issues of Masonic importance have been noted in the philatelic press.

2002 – Georgia – Alexandre Dumas 200th Birth Anniversary, Souvenir sheet

2002 – Papua New Guinea – Queen Mother, pane of 7 stamps and two S/S. King George VI is shown on one of the stamps.

July 1, 2002 – Liberia – First Solo Transatlantic Flight 75th Anniversary, pane of 3 stamps and souvenir sheet. All honor Charles A. Lindbergh and his history making event.

Sept. 5, 2002 – Sri Lanka – Freemasons Hall, Colombo, 100th Anniversary, one value 5c

Oct. 1, 2002 – Trinidad & Tobago – Queen Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee, 3 values and 5c S/S. Prince Philip is pictured.

Nov. 18, 2002 – Turks & Caicos – First Solo Transatlantic Flight 75th Anniversary, 5c Souvenir Sheet of 6 stamps. Charles A. Lindbergh is honored.

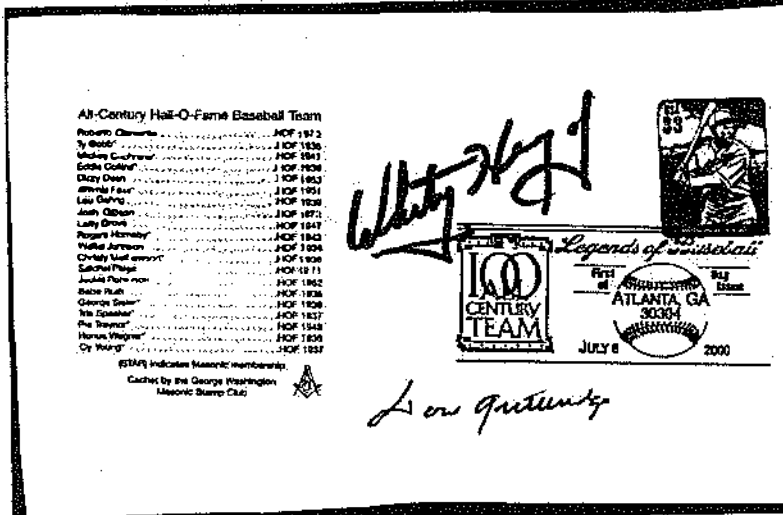
Nov. 28, 2002 – Uruguay – Brig. Gen. Manuel Oribe 145th Death Anniversary, one value. 4c

Jan. 16, 2003 – Germany – Year of the Bible, one value. It pictures a hand on an open Bible.

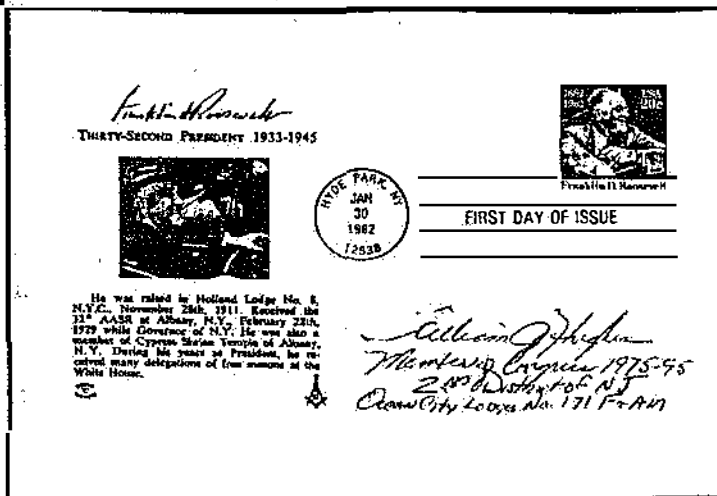
Feb. 24, 2003 – Belgium – Hector Berlioz 200th Anniversary, one value.

April 29, 2009 – Great Britain – Extreme Endeavors. 6 stamps (3 are non-denominated). Ernest Shackleton and Robert Falcon Scott are honored amongst others.

AUTOGRAPHED COVERS FROM BRO. WESTBERE



Whitey Herzog – Freebury Lodge #418,
Illinois
Don Gutteridge – Pittsburgh Lodge #187
Pittsburgh, Kansas



William J. Hughes – P.M. Ocean
Lodge #171, New Jersey