

THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

Journal of the
MASONIC STUDY UNIT



Editor
Robert A. Domingue
59 Greenwood Road
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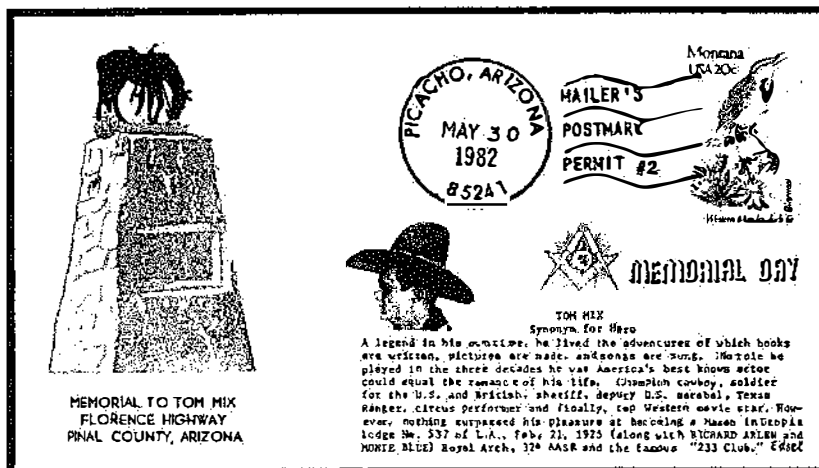
Vol. 29 No. 5

January-February 2005

Whole No. 165

TOM MIX

January 6, 2005, marks the 125th Anniversary of the Birth of Tom Mix in El Paso County, Texas. In his early life he was a cowboy in Texas, Arizona, Wyoming and Montana. In the Spanish-American War he served in the Army in the Philippines and in China in the Boxer Rebellion. In the Boer War he served with the British. Returning to America, he served as Sheriff of Montgomery County, Kansas and Washington County, Oklahoma. He went on to serve as a deputy US Marshal and a Texas Ranger. He then served some time as a livestock foreman in Bliss, Oklahoma and as a member of the Sells-Floto Circus where he won national riding and roping contests at Prescott, AZ (1909) and Canon City, CO (1911). His motion picture career began in 1910; he did not become famous until he joined Fox in 1917. He promoted an image of a rugged he-man who loved his horse, Tony, and seldom used his guns. He did not drink, smoke or curse on screen and his appeal was widespread becoming the most popular Western hero of the 1920s. In 1933 he organized his own Tom Mix Circus and Wild West Show making appearances in the U.S. and Europe. He was killed in an automobile accident in Florence, Arizona, on Oct. 12, 1940.



Tom Mix was raised in Utopia Lodge No. 57, Los Angeles, CA, Feb. 21, 1925. He was so pleased to be a Mason that he paid ten years dues in advance. He was an active member of the "233 Club" taking part in conferring Blue Lodge Degrees with that group of Mason-actors. He was buried with Masonic honors on Oct. 16, 1940.

Article and cover provided by Bro. Stan Longenecker, Mount Joy, PA

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

NEW MEMBERS:

113. Franco Herrera G., Allende 305, Pachuca, Hidalgo 42000, Mexico
115. Stanley Isaacson, 96 Mountain Road, Albrightsville, PA 18210

CLOSED ALBUMS:

68. Willem F. Smit, late of Heelsum, the Netherlands
233. William Phelps, late of Beaver Dam, KY

ADDRESS CHANGES:

65. Lucas L. Lee, Jr., 102 Latta Circle, Durham, NC 27712
139. Richard O. Wright, 2449 Brittany Court, Lodi, CA 95242
226. Christopher Murphy, Suite 903, 7171 Beresford St., Burrnaby B.C. V5E 3Z8 Canada
285. William R. Bartlett, 1895 Woodchase Glen Drive, Cordova, TN 38016

Missing – Mail Returned:

398. Edmun V. Ralph, last reached in Dons Mills, Canada

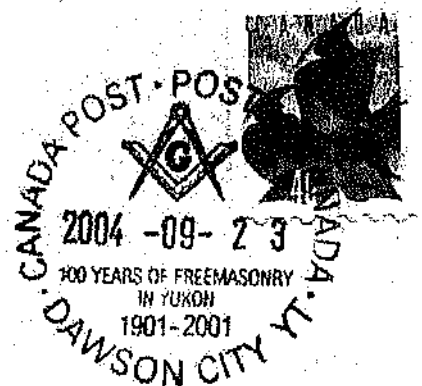
Members Activities:

Bro. Joseph Harowitz of Norfolk, VA was scheduled to be elected Master of bis Lodge this past month of December. He was Junior Warden and the Senior Warden dropped out of line for personal reasons. He is 84 years old and was last Worshipful Master in 1986. He does not expect much of a problem because he has the support of the Past Masters. Best of luck, Bro. Joseph.

Bro. Dr. Renato Mauro Schramm, President of the Brazilian Masonic Stamp Club, is searching for copies of the stamps issued which picture Masonic buildings (Iceland, Honduras, Surinam) and those which picture the Masonic Square and Compasses along with known Masons (Dominica 1979, Turks & Caicos 1989, Guinea and Tanzania) and the Maldives issue for Mozart. Anyone who can help him out is encouraged to contact him at Caixa Postal 3085, 88010-970 Florianopolis – SC, Brazil.

CANADA POST MASONIC CANCEL

Bro. Jean-Claude Vilesby has forwarded a copy of a recent Canadian cancel which includes the Masonic emblem. It was used to commemorate 100 years of Freemasonry in the Yukon Territory and was dated September 23, 2004 (or Sept. 2 to 3). Does any member have any further details? Were there any covers issued in association with this event?

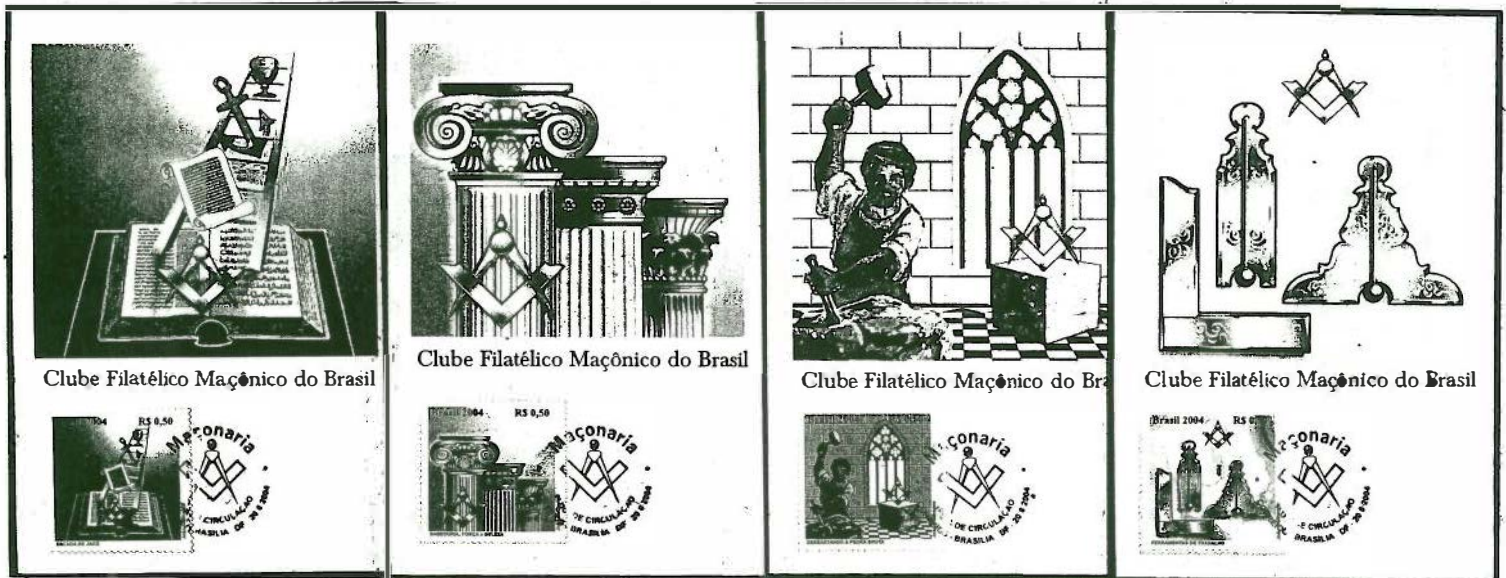


BRAZILIAN SYMBOL STAMPS

In the previous Newsletter I credited Bro. R. M. Schramm as being the designer of the four stamps issued by Brazil which pictured Masonic Symbols. Unfortunately, he did not design the stamps actually issued – that honor rested with Joao Guilherme. I was not too far off, however, as Bro. Schramm had submitted a set of designs for the stamps. Shown here, they were not that much different from the final product. Thanks for the clarification, Bro. Schramm.



MAXIM CARDS ISSUED BY BRO. SCHRAMM



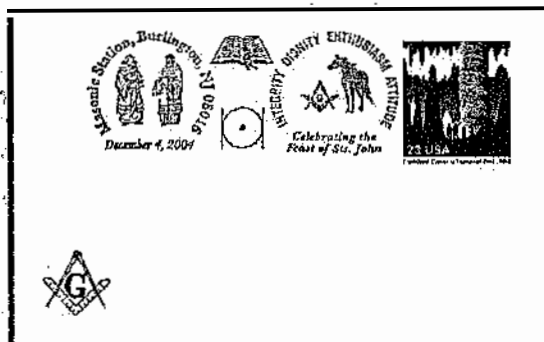
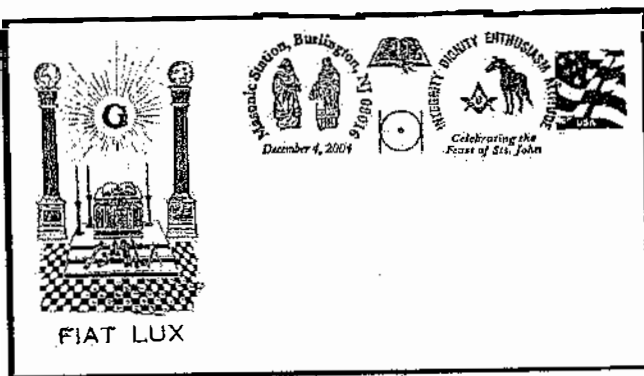
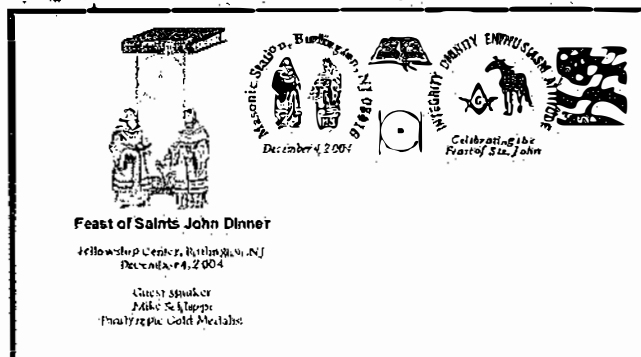
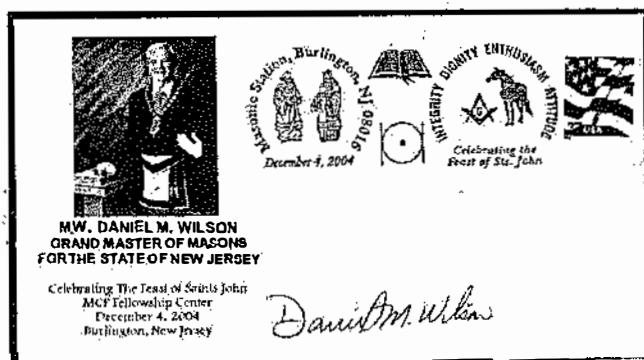
Bro. Dr. Schramm requests that anyone who is impressed by the Masonic issues produced by Brazil signify their approval of recognition of the Fraternity through testimonials or other formal recognition to Brazilian Company of Mail and Telegraphs, Department of Philately, SCS – Quadra 4 – Lote 36 – Bloco A No 256, 70300-500 BRASILIA, DF, BRAZIL. It would be appreciated as there is a great deal of effort required.

COMPLETE SET OF NICHOLAS KOUTROULIS MSU COVERS

One of our long standing members has a set of the Masonic covers which Nicholas Koutroulis produced while Editor of the MSU Newsletter. They are numbered 1 through 38 with 10 individual covers associated with #5 (the 10 historic flags of 1968); a total of 47 covers. All but four are US stamps/cancels; EFIMEX '68, Sir Walter Scott (GB – 1971), Capt. Robert F. Scott (GB – 1972) and the Silver Wedding Anniversary (GB – 1972) are the exceptions. They span the years 1968 to 1974, are unaddressed (except for Walter Scott which has a stick on label) and in mint condition. I hesitate to offer them on eBay because I fear the true value will not be recognized. I believe that \$150.00 is a fair and reasonable value and offer them to the first bidder for that price.

ANNUAL FEAST OF SAINTS JOHN COVERS

Bro. M. Richard Mekenian, 711 5th Ave., Spring Lake, NJ 07762, has prepared a set of four covers for this year's Grand Lodge of New Jersey Feast of Saints John held on Dec. 6, 2004, at Burlington, NJ. They are available from him at a cost of \$10 for the set. All proceeds from the sale of these covers goes to Masonic Charities.



MASONIC STUDY UNIT OF THE AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

President

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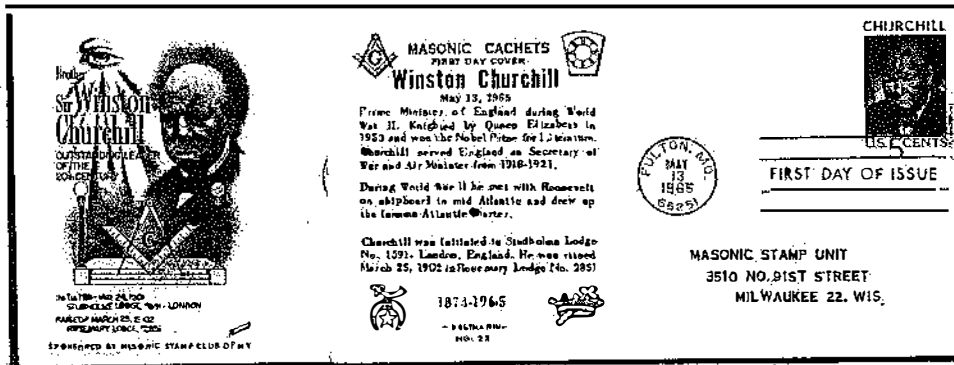
Editor & Secretary-Treasurer

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Annual Membership: \$10.00 – USA, \$12.00 – Canada & Mexico; \$16.00 – All Other

WINSTON CHURCHILL

Winston Churchill was initiated in Studholme Lodge No. 1591, London, England. He was raised March 25, 1902 in Rosemary Lodge No. 2851. He has been pictured on many stamps that have been issued around the world. Shown here are the MSC of NY and Beltmann Cacheted Covers for the US issue of May 13, 1965. 2005 marks the 40th anniversary of his death year.



Winston Churchill was born in Blenheim Palace, Woodstock, on November 30, 1874. After being educated at Harrow, he went to the Royal Military College at Sandhurst. He joined the Fourth Hussars in 1895 and saw action on the Indian north-west frontier and in the Sudan where he took part in the Battle of Omdurman (1898). While in the army he supplied military reports for the Daily Telegraph and wrote books. After leaving the British Army in 1899 he worked as a War Correspondent. While reporting the Boer War in Africa he was taken prisoner by the Boers but made headline news when he escaped.

He was elected as the Conservative MP for Oldham in the 1900 General Election but changed to the Liberal Party in 1904. In the 1906 General Election he won North West Manchester and immediately became a member of the new Liberal government as Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies. He was promoted to the President of the Board of Trade in the cabinet in 1908. Following the 1910 General Election he became Home Secretary and in October 1911, First Lord of the Admiralty where he helped modernize the navy. He held many different positions during World War I and after being blamed for the failure at the Dardanelles Campaign in 1915 he rejoined the British Army and commanded a battalion of the Royal Scots Fusiliers on the Western Front.

He jumped in and out of politics and newspaper work for the next decade or so and by the mid 1930s was advocating that Britain and France should form a military alliance with the Soviet Union to counter the Nazi Party. Appointed Prime Minister in 1940, he proved to be the leading factor in Great Britain and worked closely with Franklin D. Roosevelt. He lost the 1945 General Election to Clement Attlee but was returned to power after the 1951 General Election. After winning the Nobel Prize for Literature for his six-volume "The Second World War", his health continued to deteriorate and he died on January 24, 1965.

-article and covers provided by Bro. Stan Longenecker, Mount Joy, PA

POTENTIAL NEW CASES

Bro. Peter Westbere has forwarded information on three potential new cases. Here are the skeletons, we need some meat added onto them to round out more Masons for our collections.

Actors TIMOTHY HUTTON and BRONSON PINOCHET – Bro. Peter has heard that Timothy Hutton joined a Masonic Lodge in New York City but has no details. Bronson Pinochet is a member of Harford Lodge No. 445, Hopbottom, PA but no degree date information. In keeping with his autograph collecting, he is also interested in acquiring their addresses.

He has also heard that former Democratic Presidential Candidate, General Wesley Clark might become a Mason in Arkansas. He was recently given an award of Citizen of the Year by the Scottish Rite of Arkansas. His father and grandfather were both Masons and members of the Scottish Rite.

BRAZIL MASONIC COVERS

Four recent Brazil Masonic Cacheted covers published by Bro. Schramm and his “Clube Filatelico Maconico do Brasil”. His address for acquiring these covers or information on them appears earlier in this Newsletter.



D-DAY SOUVENIR SHEETS - MALDIVES

The Maldives issued a series of five sheets of six stamps and five Souvenir Sheets on May 19, 2004, to commemorate D-Day. Several US Masons are shown on these issues. Do any of our readers know of other military leaders which are pictured who were Masons?

Our President, Bro. Gene Fricks believes that Brig. Gen. Anthony McAuliffe was a Mason but I can find no substantiation of this belief. Any inputs???

Gen. George Catlett Marshall – Born Dec. 31, 1880, in Uniontown, PA. He was a student at Virginia Military Institute and was commissioned in 1901 as an Infantry lieutenant. He advanced to the rank of major general in 1939 and general of the army in 1944. He served with the AEF during World War I, was chief of staff 1939 to 1945 and appointed Ambassador to China in 1945. He served as US Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense and President of the Red Cross. Awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1953 he was made a Mason “at sight” on Dec. 16, 1941 by the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia. He never affiliated with a Lodge.

Winston Churchill – see previous page

Gen. Omar Nelson Bradley – Born Feb. 12, 1893 at Clark, MO. He was graduated from West Point in 1915; he advanced to brigadier general in 1941 and general of the army in 1950. He served as Chairman, U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff from 1949 to 1953. He was raised in West Point Lodge No. 877, Highland Falls, NY in 1923.

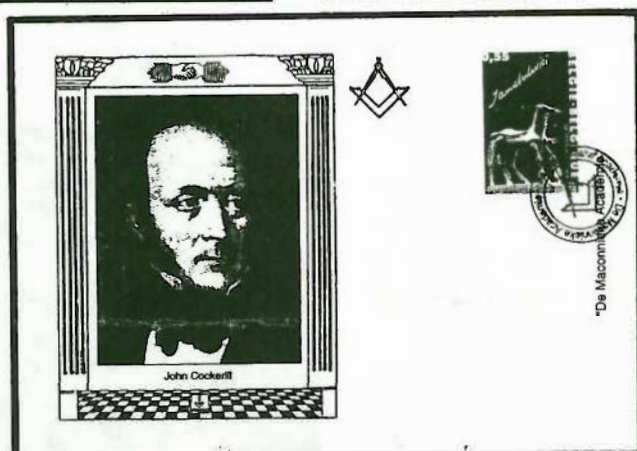
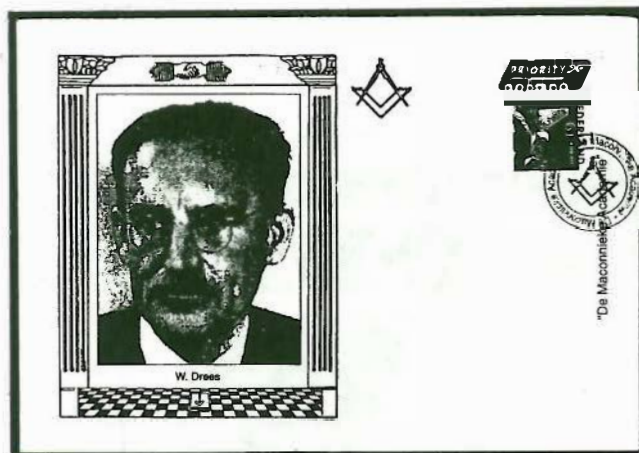
Gen. Henry Hartley Arnold – Born June 25, 1886 in Gladwyne, PA. He was graduated from West Point in 1907 and advanced to full general in 1943. He was Commanding General of the U.S. Army Air Force during World War II. He received his degrees in Union Lodge No. 7, Junction City, KS in 1927 and his 33rd degree on Oct. 19, 1945.

MEMBERSHIP DATE CODE

Several members have asked for clarification of the Membership Date Code on the mailing label. The four digits are YYMM – Year and Month. Please stay current.

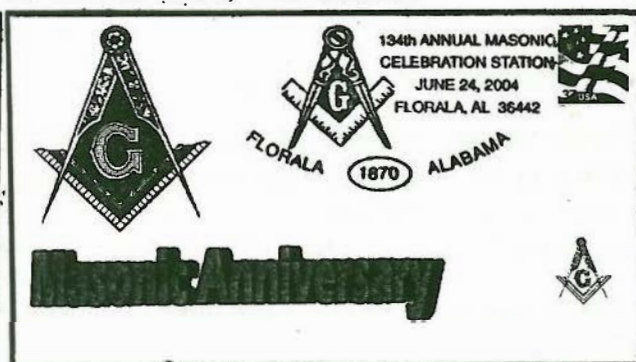
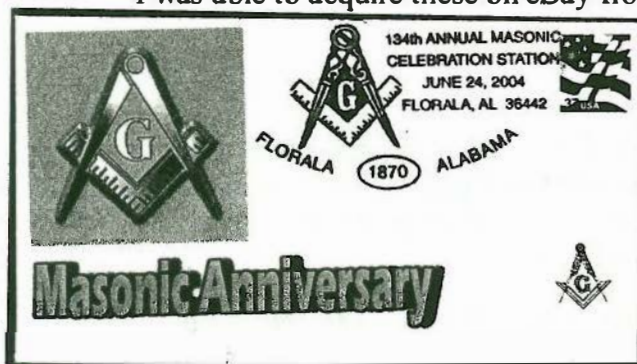


MORE COVERS FROM "DE MACONNIEKE ACADEMIE"



INTERESTING CACHETS FOR THE FLORALA, AL, CANCEL

I was able to acquire these on eBay from a Jeff Brotzman, Vineland, NJ.



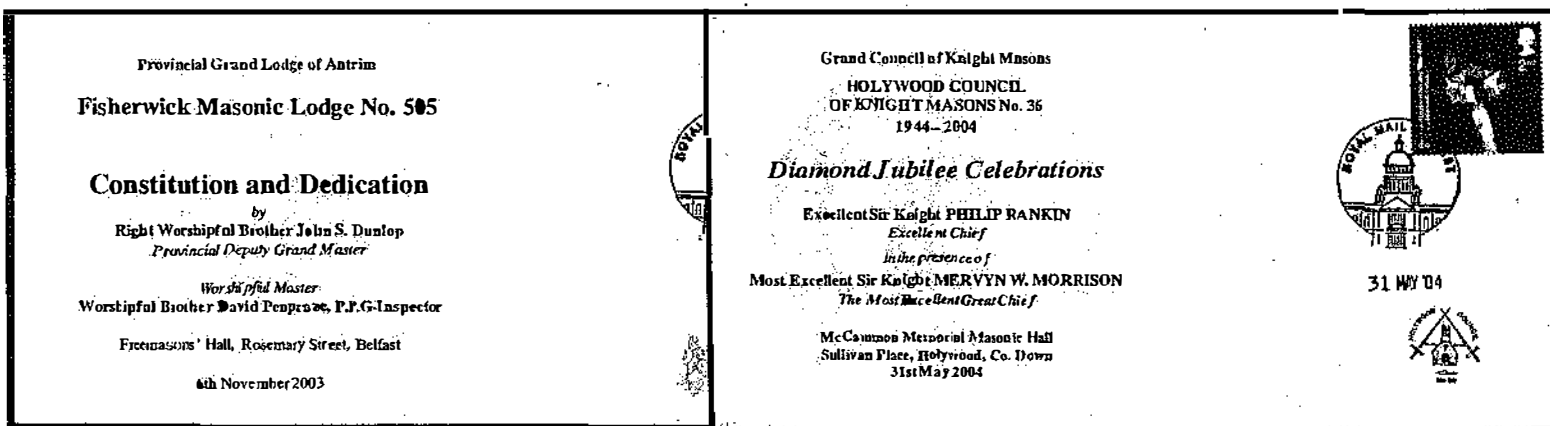
NEW ISSUES

Not many new issues of Masonic note cited in Linn's Weekly over the past two months. I believe I will switch over to reporting based on the Scott's Monthly Stamp Journal.

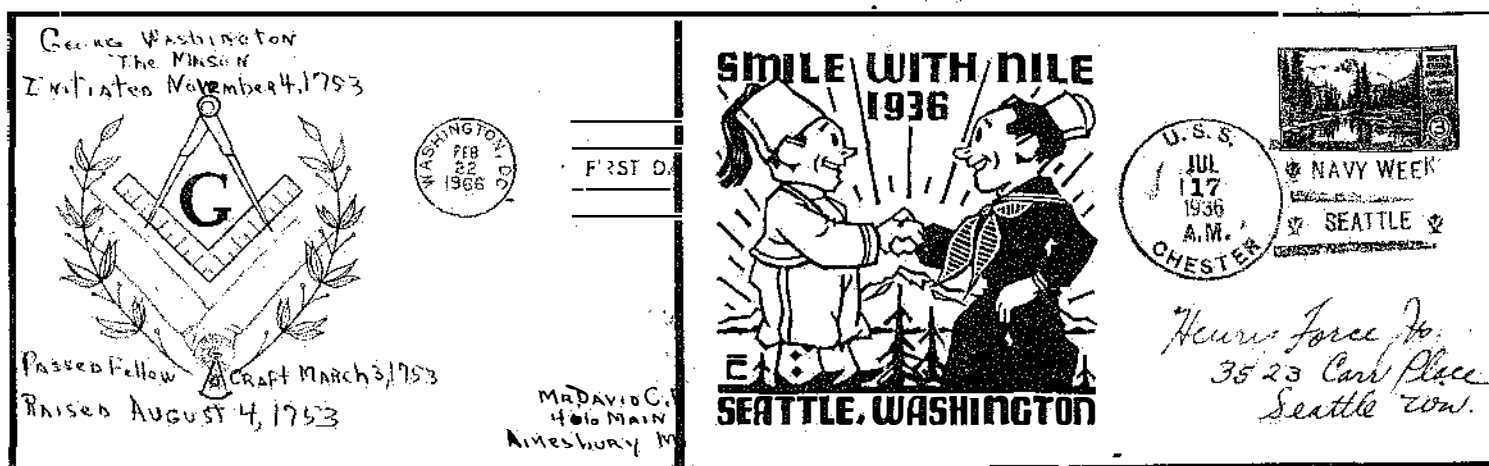
Oct. 2004 – St. Helena – Christmas/The Saints. Four stamps including St. John.

IRELAND COVERS FROM BRO. FRANK ELLIOTT

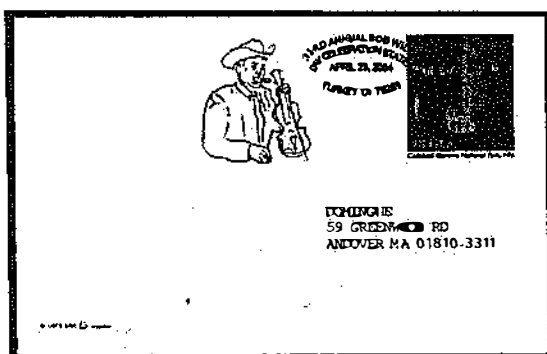
Many thanks to Bro. Frank H. Elliott, 11 Wood End, Holywood, Belfast BT18 9PN, Northern Ireland for his annual Christmas card and letter which contained his specially prepared Masonic Cacheted Covers. There were several nice ones honoring events within his Masonic sphere. Two are shown here. Anyone who might be interested in acquiring these for their collection should contact Bro. Frank. He has let up on his Rugby Football involvement so he has "plenty" of time to correspond.



TWO MORE INTERESTING COVERS

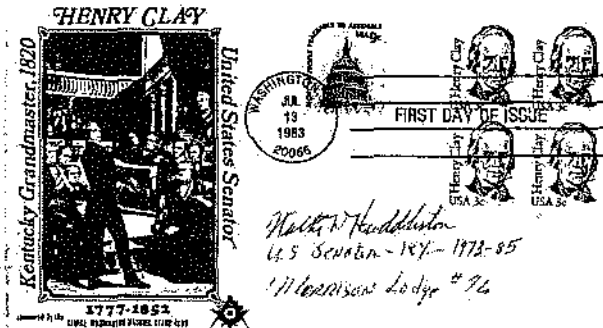


BOB WILLIS CANCEL

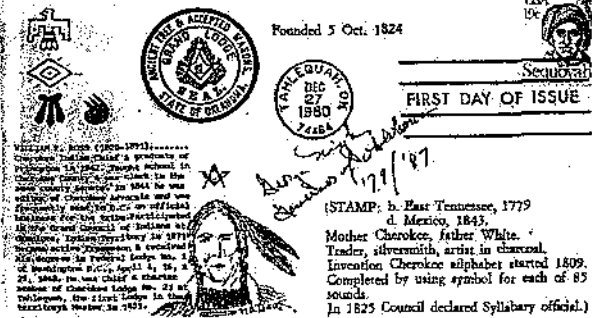


Pres. Fricks sent in this special cancel for Bob Willis and stated that he was a Mason. Unfortunately, I have no information on this individual - Masonic or profane. Any Help out there???

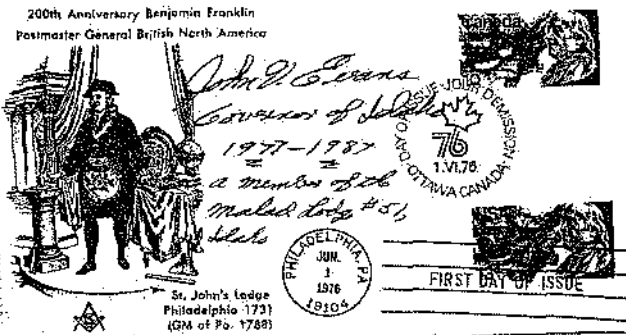
INTERESTING AUTOGRAPHED COVERS FROM BRO. PETER WESTBERE



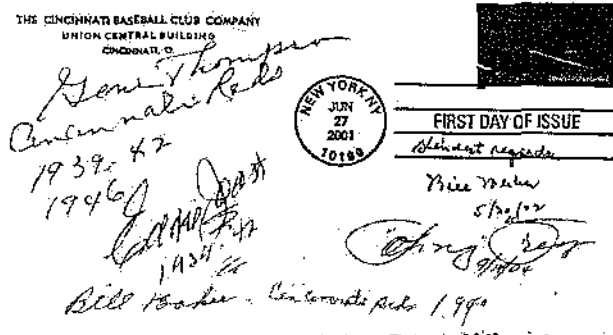
Sen. Walter D. Huddleston
US Senator from Kentucky 1973-85
Morrison Lodge #76
Elizabethtown, KY



Gov. George Nigh
Governor of Oklahoma 1999-2007
South McAlester Lodge #96
McAlester, OK



Gov. John V. Evans
Governor of Idaho 1977-87
Malad Lodge #51
Malad, ID



Cover signed by the last five surviving members of
the 1940 World Series Champion Cincinnati Reds
Two are Masons – Bill Werber, Stansbury Lodge
#8, Washington, DC, and Gene Thompson, Macon
Lodge #8, Decatur, IL

GIUSEPPI GIOACCHINO BELLI

This popular Italian poet was born Sept. 10, 1791 in Rome. After a very unhappy youth he became a clerical worker; he became anti-clerical later in his career. He married a very rich widow in 1816 and was able to pursue his desires to create poetry. He wrote many satirical poems which he lived to regret in later life and he wanted to burn them before he died. He wrote more than 2000 sonnets in Roman dialect. The complete collection was edited by Morandi in six parts (1866-1889). These poems present a good portrayal of Rome in his time. After several years he went into service to the Pope and again wrote religious poems. He died Dec. 21, 1863 in Rome and a monument to him was erected in 1813. Bro. Mathieu Regoor states he was a Mason but has no details. He is pictured on a 1991 stamp issued by Italy.



Thank you to Bro. Godthelp and De Verlichte Loep

DECISION TIME

As we near the end of another term of the Masonic Study Unit, I would like to ask the membership to make a decision as to the course we wish to follow. The original MSU/ATA groups were run by a single individual – John Mirt, Clarence Beltmann and then Nicholas Koutroulis. Each of those groups ran quite effectively until the lead person encountered conflicts with his working career and the unit was disbanded. In 1977, when the concept was revived for the third time, the organizers established an appreciable slate of officers and Directors. Over the ensuing 28 years we have had several capable Presidents, two Editors and at least two Secretary/Treasurers. Bro. Walter Kirby served as Editor from 1977 until he suffered his third heart attack in April 1984 and passed away. I assumed the role that month and have served since. I am only 67 3/4 years old, a cardiac catheterization this past summer has shown my heart is in great shape and I believe I can continue for many years yet – I really enjoy the research, writing and corresponding. I should be entering that phase called retirement within the next three months so I will not run into work conflicts.

I must admit that the assumption of the role of Secretary/Treasurer has not added any complexity to my service to the Unit – in fact, I believe it has made things a bit easier. I don't have to ask the Secretary/Treasurer who has paid, who should be dunned and who should be dropped – I am able to maintain those records quite readily. I thank those who have offered to take over the Secretary/Treasurer role, but it really is easier the way it is. The books are always open for inspection should anyone have any questions. The financial report which will be provided in the next Newsletter will show we are in fairly good shape. I just wish we had more members. Having a President of the Unit does have its advantages – someone to look up to, to lead us in the research and reporting.

I would like to ask the members if they would entertain a change in the By-Laws to combine the Editor and Secretary/Treasurer positions. It could be made an elective position. Also, should we continue to have a President? I guess the bottom line is do we want a single individual organization or a two person structure. I am definitely not dictatorial but I am comfortable in the role I am presently filling. Please let me know your feelings. Thank you.

INTERESTING LODGE FUNERAL NOTICE

Back when postal cards could be delivered the same day that they were mailed, Lodges could send out notices* regarding Masonic funerals and expect a good turn-out. This example was issued by Temple Lodge #248, Tunkhannock, PA in 1899.



Secretary's Office Temple Lodge,

No. 248, F. & A. M.

Tunkhannock, Pa., May 30, 1899.

DEARS IR AND BROTHER :

Brother Absalom L. Carey died at his residence in South Eaton this morning, after a short illness. There will be an informal meeting of the Lodge at Masonic Hall on Friday, June 2d, at one o'clock p. m. Carriages will be in waiting to convey the Brethren to South Eaton, where the funeral of our late Brother will be held at 2 o'clock. Burial will be in charge of the Lodge. Interment in South Eaton Cemetery. Let as many of the Brethren be present as can possibly go.

By order of

CHARLES E. TERRY, W. M.

Attest : BRADLEY W. LEWIS, Sec'y.

RADEN SALEH SARIF BASTAMAN



Saleh was born in Terboyo, Semarang in 1813. Although some sources set his birth year as between 1807 and 1814, he stated that he preferred not to be born in 1814. He died in his home in Buitenzorg, Indonesia on April 23, 1880. He was a 19th century modern naturalistic painter, the first Indonesian painter, painting in western style. He is pictured on a souvenir sheet issued by Indonesia in 1980.

Saleh belonged to a regent family of Arabic descent. During his youth he resided primarily in the court of his uncle, the regent of Semarang in Terboyo. This uncle saw that Saleh loved painting and arranged for him to study under the Belgian painter, A. A. J. Payen. At the age of 17 Saleh traveled to Holland as clerk of the Inspector of Finances, Jean Baptiste de Linge. He was supposed to stay only for a short time but stayed for more than 23 years in Europe – Holland, Germany, France and Italy. His love for his country was demonstrated by his dressing in royal costumes of Java for all important meetings. In The Hague he met a lion tamer and painted his portrait so he could study the life of the lions. He met several painters in Holland who were all members of a Lodge in that city. It is believed that this was the exposure which created his interest in the Fraternity. In 1829 he went to Dresden where he met Grand Duke Ernst II who was also a Mason. He met Horace Vernet in Paris. In 1851 he returned to Java as “Painter of the King”. In return for his support while in Holland, he served as the first custodian of the Museum which contained paintings of the country. He painted many portraits of aristocrats of Java and many landscapes. In 1869 he was accused of being the creator of the Bekasi troubles – undoubtedly because of his European years. He married a wealthy daughter of an Indo-European planter, spent her money very quickly, divorced her and married a girl from Java. When he died in 1880, his several medals were put in a silver dish carried with him in the funeral procession.

The Dutch Masonic magazine *Thoth* states that he was Initiated into Freemasonry on Nov. 25, 1836 while living in The Hague. There are no more mentions of his name in the minute-book – probably because he spent most of his time traveling.

-Again, thanks to Bro. Godthelp and the Netherlands Masonic Group

Additional paintings of Raden Saleh Sarif Bastaman shown on Indonesian stamps.

