

# THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

Journal of the  
MASONIC STUDY UNIT



Editor  
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59 Greenwood Road  
Andover, Mass. 01810

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WHOLE NO. 77

## JUAN GRIS



One stamp issued as part of a set by Spain in 1986 pictures Bro. Jose Victoriano Gonzalez, more popularly known as Juan Gris.

Jose Victoriano Gonzalez was born in Madrid on March 13, 1887. He studied in the "Escuela de Artes y Oficios" (the Occupational and Arts School) at Madrid and later moved to Paris in 1906. In this new location, he contributed cartoons to illustrated journals and met Pablo Picasso who provided a great influence on his works. Starting in 1911 his paintings adopted a pictorial orientation and he suddenly became one of the principal proponents of this art form known as Cubism. He shared this development honor with Picasso and Braque but was known as the poet of the movement. He was, according to the critic, Waldemar George, "the hero and the scapegoat of Cubism" advocating as the aim of painting "simply an arrangement of flat colored forms," without the "spatial world". Gris's works, largely still life, illustrate Cubist doctrine in perhaps its purest form. Formal discipline later brought his work into the tradition of the classical styles of earlier times.

His pseudonym, Juan Gris, appears to be a reference to either the general tonality of the coloring he used (Gris = grey) or the modesty which characterized him. He died very prematurely on May 11, 1927, in Boulogne-sur-Seine near Paris.

Bro. Juan Gris was initiated as a Freemason in the Lodge "Voltaire" of Paris having been presented there by Bro. Dermot y Lemaine of the respectable Lodge "Agni".

-Stamp and article contributed by Bro. Juan Sabater Pie  
Member No. 243 of Barcelona, Spain.

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

### NEW MEMBERS:

258. E. Stermole, 5 Dairy Lane, Ferntree 6 Gully, Victoria 3156  
Australia.
281. Uwe Haqin, 420 Lansdowne Ave., Westmont, Quebec N3Y 2V2 Canada.  
(Errors from the last Newsletters - my apologies)
160. Sergio Giannini, Via Baglioni 50, Perugia, Italy.
175. Michael S. Niddam, 5480 Wisconsin Ave., Apt. 1225, Chevy Chase  
MD 20815.
185. James S. Woodson, Sr., 355 Braden Ave., Sarasota FL 34243.
196. Daniel A. Hardy, 80 Genesee St., Hornell N.Y. 14843.
279. Edward G. Kerr, 30 Lakeshore Rd., Apt. 609, Pointe Claire, Quebec  
H9S 4H2 Canada.

### ADDRESS CHANGES:

138. Douglas F. Meisenhelter, 3041 Faith Lane, Red Lion PA 17356.
201. Donald E. Craft, P.O. Box 19825, Houston TX 77224.
230. Donald L. McClenahan, 101 Old Valley Rd., Brewster MA 02631.
366. Donald A. Wilder, 42 Epp St., Peaks Island ME 04108.
475. Jean-Claude Vilespey, 3 rue du Docteur Rochefort, 78400 Chatou,  
France.

### RESIGNATION:

326. Paul L. Anderson, Euclid OH.

### MEMBERS ACTIVITIES:

Bro. Robert W. Bussman, Member No. 392 of Stockton CA, is presently (1989-1990) the presiding Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar, of the State of California. Congratulations Bro. Bussman, we hope you are having a successful year.

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## ELECTIONS

The election returns were very limited and I consider them very disappointing. Only 25% of the members who received the ballot elected to return it with his/her choices. This is much lower than the national average and certainly tells us something. Regardless, the ballots which were received must be considered the concensus of the Unit and define the elected officers for the ensuing two years. The results are:

PRESIDENT

VICE-PRESIDENT

SECRETARY-TREASURER

\*T. Gardner.....32\*  
N. Lincoln.....20  
J. Walkes, Jr...16  
Others.....2

E. Eliezri....10  
\*P. Palmer.....23\*  
E. Shane.....13  
D. Walker.....22

\*O. Steding....71\*

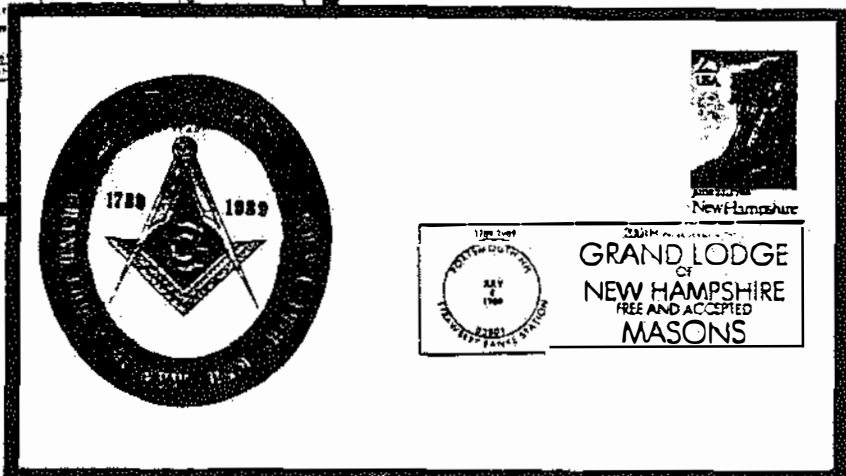
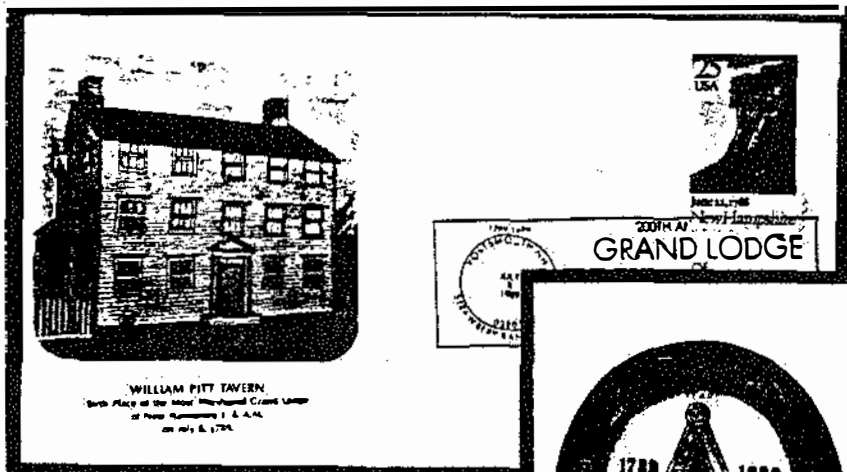
Congratulations to the elected officers. I trust that the next issue will contain a letter from the President as well as his appointments. As most of you noticed in the attachment to the last Newsletter, the By-Laws are in serious need of rewording and structuring. Since your Editor has had quite a bit of experience in that field recently (Blue Lodge revisions and Building Association incorporation creation) he will "take a crack" at it in the near future.

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GRAND LODGE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE COVERS

The Grand Lodge of the State of New Hampshire has prepared a pair of Masonic Cacheted Covers which just recently came to the editor's attention (via "The Masonic Philatelist" of the MSC of NY). These covers are to commemorate the 200th anniversary of that Grand Lodge. One cachet depicts the "William Pitt Tavern", the birthplace of the Grand Lodge; the other bears a reproduction of the 200th anniversary logo. Each features the "Old Man of the Mountain" N.H. statehood stamp and a special July 8, 1989, 200th anniversary cancellation from the "Strawberry Banke Station", Portsmouth, N.H., the site of the "William Pitt Tavern".

The cost of the covers is \$5.00 for the pair, checks should be made out to the "Grand Lodge of New Hampshire". Orders, including a #10 SASE, should be sent to: Commemorative Sets, Secretary, Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, 813 Beach Street, Manchester NH 03104-3109.



## LONGENECKER HAND-DRAWN COVERS

Bro. Stanley Longenecker has sent along two covers from his collection of hand-painted Masonic covers which took First Place in the First Day Cover exhibit within the '89 LANCOPEX (Lancaster PA) show. He also provides a short item on their creation for our benefit and education.

Bro. Stan acquired these covers with no cachet but with an undesirable typed or handwritten name and address - typical of most of the early First Day Covers. He then "did his thing" and painted a cachet with a specific portion of that cachet designed to cover over the undesired address. "You don't have to be the world's best artist" to provide a cover meaningful to yourself and impressive to others. On the Von Steuben cover shown below the address is under the roof and a typed "First Day" is located under the snow at the bottom left. The address on the Pulaski cover was typed where most of the gun barrel is located and the bullet kit. A signature personalizes each cover and the date marks it for all time (and also shows it is an "add-on" for those purists who demand only "real" First Days). Thanks for sharing this with us, Bro. Stan.



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For those members who have not yet sent in their dues, let this be a gentle reminder to do so. If your membership expired in 4/90 (check the label on this envelope) this is the last Newsletter you will receive. The annual dues are \$5.00 for North American members and \$10.00 for all others. Your check should be sent to our Secretary-Treasurer, Otto Steding, 1033 Hollytree Dr., Cincinnati OH 45231.

## MASONIC FILM GREATS

The USPS released four commemorative stamps honoring classic films from Hollywood's golden era on March 23, 1990; this release was a prelude to the 62nd Annual Academy Awards on March 26. These stamps feature Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh, as Rhett Butler and Scarlett O'Hara, embracing in a dramatic scene from "Gone With The Wind"; a stern-faced Gary Cooper in French Foreign Legion attire from "Beau Geste"; John Wayne as the Ringo Kid in the western "Stagecoach"; and Judy Garland as Dorothy along with her faithful dog Toto and the yellow brick road from the "Wizzard of Oz". The cover used to illustrate these stamps here was produced by the George Washington Masonic Stamp Club and can be obtained from Bro. Paul M. Williams, 2364 Beaver Valley Pike, New Providence PA 17560.



William Clark Gable was born June 1, 1901, in Cadiz OH. After attending Akron University, he started working in rubber plants and oil fields but soon ran off to become an actor. Following his arrival in the movie capitol, he soon rose to become King of Hollywood. He received an Oscar for his role in "It Happened One Night" in 1934. His public "demanded" that David O. Selznick cast him in the role of Rhett Butler even though Clark did not believe himself capable of properly acting the role. The rest is history. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps during World War II and, doubling as a Gunner and aerial photographer, flew many missions over France and Germany. He resigned with the rank of major. Clark Gable died on Nov. 16, 1960.

Bro. Gable received his degrees in Beverly Hills Lodge No. 528 being entered on Sept. 19, 1933, passed on Oct. 17 and raised on Oct. 31 of that same year. He became a Knight Templar and a member of Los Angeles Consistory, and was created a Noble in Al Maliakah Temple on July 9, 1934.

Other Masons associated with the movie "Gone With The Wind" were:

Cliff Edwards, a soldier in the film, was born in Hannibal MO in 1895 and died in 1976. Known as Ukele Ike, he was the voice of Jiminy Cricket in Pinocchio. He was a member of Community Lodge No. 1028 of Jackson Heights NY.

Roscoe Ates, a soldier in the film, was born Jan. 27, 1895, in Grange MI and died in 1962. He was known for his nervous stutter and was a member of Mt. Olive Lodge No. 506 of Los Angeles CA.

Yakima Canutt, a soldier in the movie, was born in Colfax WA on Nov. 29, 1895, and died in the 1986. He was half Indian and a rodeo World Champion. He served as a stunt man for Clark Gable, Errol Flynn and John Wayne. He was a member of Lacross Lodge No. 155 of Lacross WA

Ernest Haller, cinematographer, was born May 31, 1896, in Los Angeles and died in 1970. He earned an Academy Award for his efforts in "Gone With The Wind". Although it is known that he was a Mason, his Lodge has not been identified.

John Wayne was born on May 26, 1907, in Winterset, Iowa, as Marion Mitchell Morrison. His family moved to Lancaster, California, where he excelled in high school football and won a scholarship to USC. He started as an assistant property man at the studio and was "discovered" by Director Raoul Walsh in 1929. He was a workaholic and in 1949 made the list of the ten top movie stars in America and remained there for 23 years. He beat lung cancer in 1964 but succumbed to it on June 11, 1979, in Los Angeles CA.

Bro. Wayne was a member of Glendale Chapter of DeMolay during his youth and was awarded the DeMolay Legion of Honor in 1970. He received his degrees in Freemasonry in Marion McDaniel Lodge No. 56, Tucson AZ, being initiated on July 9, passed on July 10 and raised on July 11 all in 1970. On Dec. 4 of that year he joined Southgate Chapter No. 98, R.A.M., and Southern California Chapter No. 35, R. & S.M.. He received the Orders of Knighthood the next morning in Golden West Commandery No. 43, Los Angeles, and that afternoon was created a Noble in Al Malakiah Shrine Temple.

Another Mason was associated with "Stagecoach":

George Bancroft played the part of Curley Wilcox. He was born Sept. 30, 1882, in Philadelphia and died in 1956. He starred in several silent films in the late 1920's. He was a member of United States Lodge No. 207 of New York and Hollenbeck Lodge No. 319 of Los Angeles. He was also a Shriner.

Although Gary Cooper was not a Mason, some men associated with the movie "Beau Geste" were members of the Craft:

Brian Donlevy who played the role of Sgt. Markoff was born in Ireland in 1899 and died in 1972. He served in the Lafayette Escadrille in World War I. He was a member of Mt. Olive Lodge No. 506, Los Angeles CA.

Alfred Newman was the composer of the musical score. He was born in 1901 and died in 1970. He is said to have been a Mason but no proof is available.

Several persons associated with the "Wizzard of Oz" were Masons:

Mervyn LeRoy, the Producer, was born on Oct. 15, 1900, and died in 1987. He directed and produced many films during his career. He is said to have been a Mason but details are not available.

Victor Fleming, the Director, was born in Pasadena in 1883 and died in 1949. He began his career as a cameraman and took time off to

serve in World War I. He also directed "Treasure Island", "Gone With The Wind" and "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde". His Lodge affiliation is unknown.

Frank Morgan, the Wizzard, was born June 1, 1890, in New York and died in 1949. His real name was Francis Wupperman and he served as a character actor at MGM for over twenty years. His Lodge is also unknown.

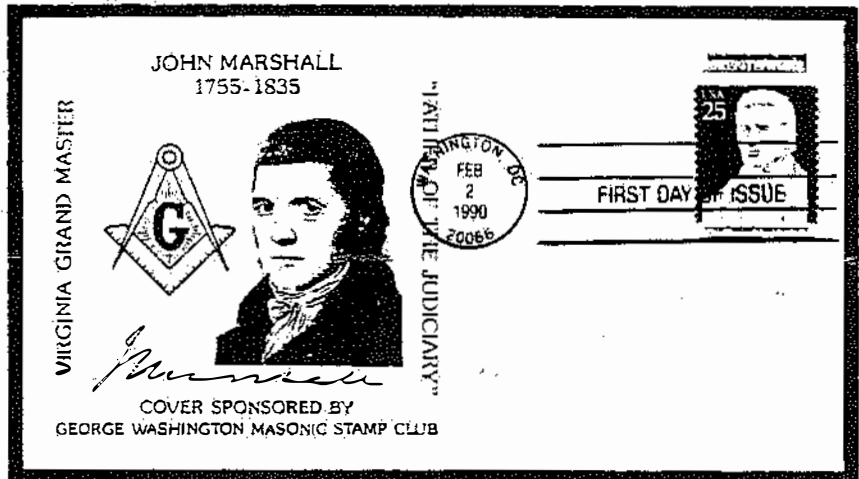
Bert Lahr, the Cowardly Lion, was born in 1895 and died in 1967. His real name was Irving Lahrheim and he was a burlesque and vaudeville comic. His Lodge affiliation has not been defined.

-the information for this article was supplied by Bro. Norman Lincoln, Member No. 12 of Eaton OH and Bro. James Reynolds, Member No. 318 of Chicago IL.

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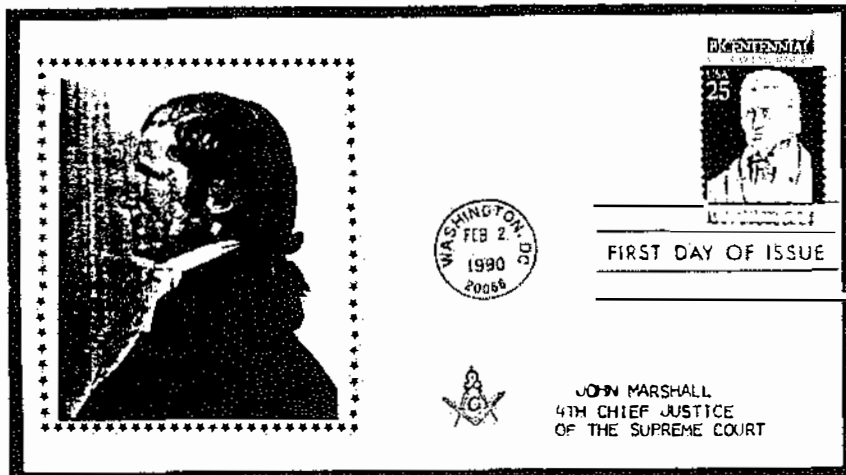
GWMSC COVER

Another cover prepared by the GWMSC is shown to the right. It also can be acquired from:  
 Bro. Paul M. Williams  
 2364 Beaver Valley Pike  
 New Providence PA 17560



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The cover shown below is available from Bro. Ross Wetreich, P.O. Box 1300, Valley Stream, Long Island NY 11582.



## FURTHER COMMENTS ON "AUSTRIAN COVER"

Further comments regarding the "Austrian Cover" shown in the last Newsletter have been provided by Bro. Vic Fabian, Member No. 189 of Auckland, New Zealand. He indicates that this is a very historical cover and the only one produced and cancelled that day.

After 40 years the Hungarian government lifted the restrictions on Freemasonry in that country. With the assistance of the Austrian Grand Lodge on Dec. 27, 1989, the Light was brought back to Hungary and Freemasonry re-started. Dec. 27 is St. John's Day, the patron Saint of Freemasonry. On the cancellation the day comes first followed by the month and then the year. In Hungary, however, the sequence is year, month, day. The cover contains two stamps - one from Hungary and one from Austria, each cancelled in its respective country on that special day. The stamps on their own have no Masonic bearings - they were just the ones available at that time. Around the triangle is the same expression in English, German and Hungarian: "Consecration of the Grand Lodge of Hungaria by the Grand Lodge of Austria Dec. 27, 1989".

Bro. Fabian was able to procure these covers from a source in Austria and comments that there were five different covers available - but different only in that the stamps used were different. His source is: Dr. Herbert Schmid, Hackenbergg 29/33/3 (Gugitzg 9), Wien, A-1190 Austria. The cost is US\$2.00 each and Dr. Schmid accepts only cash.

Thank you for the explanation and update Bro. Fabian.

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### "PENNY BLACK"

1990 marks the sesquicentennial of the introduction of the world's first postage stamp. Many countries are commemorating this event with the issuance of commemoratives, several of which will picture the "Penny Black". The plates for this first stamp were engraved by an American Mason - Jacob Perkins.

Jacob Perkins was born in Newburyport MA on July 9, 1766. At the age of 15 he was apprenticed to a goldsmith. He proved to be an inventor and some of his creations were a nail-making machine, a bathometer, a pleometer and a steam-powered gun. In 1787, Massachusetts employed him to engrave dies for copper coins. He improved the method of engraving banknotes and went to England in 1818 to produce plates for the Bank of England. His Penny Black plates were used from 1840 to 1855. He died on July 30, 1849.

Jacob Perkins was raised in St. Peter's Lodge of Newburyport MA in June 1794. He also belonged to the Newburyport Commandery.

-article contributed by Bro. Norman Lincoln

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TOPEX '90 will be held this year in conjunction with RIPEX XXV on the 17th floor of the Omni Biltmore Hotel in Providence RI on June 1-3. I encourage our members to enter displays of our topic at this show and repeat the offer for a Masonic Award trophy for the best such display.



## NEW ISSUES

Bro. J. K. Gibala, Member No. 484 of Rockville MD, has forwarded Xerox copies of pages from the "HUMANISME" magazine - the monthly publication of the Grand Orient of France. They define recent new issues of a Masonic Philatelic interest. One, issued by the Grenadines of St. Vincent, depicts Donald Duck as the "Grand Master Mason". Walt Disney was not a Mason but had been a member of the Order of DeMolay during his youth. It is possible that this connection led to this character depiction or it could have been created by another of the Disney artists. Regardless, it should provide a "good chuckle".

Another stamp discussed is one released by Russia to commemorate the bicentennial of the French Revolution. It depicts Robespierre, Danton and Jean-Paul Marat. It states that Danton was possibly a Mason and that Marat was a member of the Craft. Marat was received as a Mason at the Lodge of King Head Gerrard in 1769. In 1779 he was a visitor at the Lodge "La Bien-Aimee" at Amsterdam, Holland.



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## NEW ISSUES

Recent new issues of the world that are applicable to a Masonic stamp collection as defined in the philatelic media are defined below:

- 7/14/89 Malagasy Republic - 200th anniversary of the French Revolution - 5 Values + S/S - 100 fr stamp shows Lafayette, 2500 fr shows Marat assassination.
- 7/20/89 Tanzania - 20th anniversary of first moon landing - 8 Values + two S/S - 60/- and 70/- values depict E. Aldrin.
- 7/25/89 Colombia - 170th anniversary of Liberation/Simon Bolivar - 1 Value - portrait.
- 9/28/89 British Virgin Islands - 20th anniversary of first moon landing - 3 Values + S/S - 30 cent stamp pictures Aldrin.
- 10/14/89 Romania - 200th anniversary of the French Revolution - 6 Values + S/S - 3 lei stamp pictures Claude Josephe Rouget de Lisle and 4 lei value shows Denis Diderot.
- 10/20/89 Ugaqnda - 20th anniversary of first moon landing - 8 Values + 2 S/S - 70/- stamp shows "Buzz" Aldrin.

- 10/31/89 Dominica - 20th anniversary of first moon landing - 4 Values + S/S - \$2 stamp pictures "Buzz" Aldrin.
- 11/6/89 Ghana - 20th anniversary of first moon landing - 3 Values + 2 S/S - 200c stamp pictures "Buzz" Aldrin.
- 11/6/89 Lesotho - 20th anniversary of first moon landing - 8 Values - 55s and 1m stamps show E. Aldrin.
- 11/17/89 Dominica - 200 years of the American Presidency - 4 sheets of six 60 cent stamps which picture the U.S. Presidents and Masonic symbols for those known to be Masons.
- 11/17/89 Penrhyn - Christmas stamps - 4 Values + S/S showing "The Nativity" by Albrecht Durer.
- 11/17/89 St. Vincent - World Stamp Expo - S/S which shows the Washington Monument.
- 11/19/89 Turks & Caicos Islands - Joint issue with Dominica defined above (11/17/89).
- 11/24/89 Antigua & Barbuda - 20th anniversary of first moon landing - 4 Values + S/S - S/S shows "Buzz" Aldrin.
- 11/24/89 Maldives - 20th anniversary of first moon landing - 4 Values + S/S - 2rf and 6rf stamps show "Buzz" Aldrin.
- 11/30/89 St. Vincent - Baseball players - nine sheetlets each containing nine stamps and one sheetlet containing nine stamps depicting All-time Greats.
- 12/18/89 Turks & Caicos Islands - Christmas - 8 Values + 2 S/S - one S/S depicts St. John the Baptist.
- 12/20/89 St. Vincent - Christmas - 8 Values + 2 S/S - 40 cent stamp includes St. John the Baptist.
- 1989 Uruguay - 200th death anniversary of Joaquin Jose da Silva Xavier - 1 value showing Xavier in uniform.
- 12/89 or 1/90 Turks & Caicos Islands - 20th anniversary of first moon landing - S/S which depicts E. Aldrin.
- 1/12/90 Austria - 500th anniversary of postal service in Europe -  
 1/12/90 West Germany 1 Value which depicts engraving by A. Durer.  
 1/12/89 East Germany - Joint issue - Austria/Germany/Belgium  
 1/12/90 West Berlin  
 1/15/90 Belgium
- 2/90 The Gambia - 20th anniversary of first moon landing - 8 Values + 2 S/S - 1dal and 1.75dal stamps picture E. Aldrin
- 3/5/90 France - 1 Value for Max Hymans.