

# THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

Journal of the  
MASONIC STUDY UNIT



Affiliate #94



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

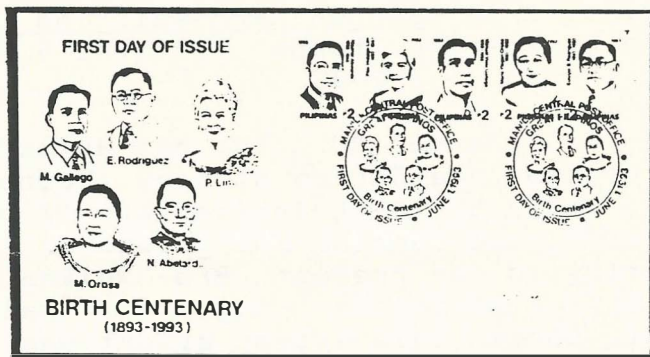
VOL. 17, NO. 3

SEPT-OCT 1993

WHOLE NO. 97

## NICANOR ABELARDO

On June 1, 1993, the Philippine Postal Corporation issued a set of se-tenant stamps to mark the birth centenary of five Great Filipinos. Bro. Nicanor Sta. Ana Abelardo is shown on the first stamp of the set.



Nicanor Abelardo, Father of the Philippine sonata, orchestra conductor, professor of music and composer, was born on February 7, 1893, in San Miguel de Mayumo, Bulacan. He died on March 21, 1934, at the age of 41 as a result of heart failure "due to alcholic causes".

He acquired his formal musical education at the Conservatory of Music of the University of the Philippines in 1916. His unusual musical talent was recognized with an appointment in 1919 as instructor of the Conservatory. In 1930 he received a grant from the University of the Philippines to pursue advanced musical studies at the Chicago Musical College.

His more than 200 musical compositions are a testamonial to his musical genius and express the true sentiments of the Philippine people. In 1920 when the mortal remains of Bro. Marcelo H. del Pilar, the Father of Philippine Masonry, were brought to Manila from Spain, he composed "Bunying M. H. del Pilar". In 1930 he composed "Himno Masonico" which won first prize in a contest sponsored by the Grand Lodge of the Philippines. He followed it with "March Triunfal" which he dedicated to Lodge Isla de Luzon No. 57 - his Mother Lodge. He was active in the Philippine Bodies A.A.S.R. which conferred upon him the 32nd degree.

-article and cover provided by Bro. Vincente Antonio Cu;  
P.O.Box 1443; 1099 Manila, Philippines. He offers the  
covers for \$2.00 each and stamps at \$1.00 a set.

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

### NEW MEMBERS:

374. Leonard J. Martin, 7200 64th Street, Snohomish, WA 98290

### ADDRESS CHANGES:

92. Stanley R. Longenecker, 930 Wood St., Mount Joy, PA 17552  
330. Joseph Ashkinazi, P.O.Box 4670, Haifa 31046 Israel  
338. James P. Christianson, 1004 SE Belmont Dr., Apt. 11, Ankeny, IA 50021  
373. M. N. Collison, 68-2098 Boucherie Rd., Westbank, B.C., Canada V4T 2A5  
411. Laverne Kohrt, P.O.Box 807, Ottawa, IL 61350  
475. Jean-Claude Vilespy, L'Escandihado #16, 13320 Bouc Bel Air, France

### CLOSED ALBUMS:

192. Robert Galloway of Dousman, WI

### MEMBERS ACTIVITIES:

Several of our members have taken to literary efforts in a serious manner. Bro. Joseph Ashkinazi, Member No. 330, has written an article which has been published in Haboneh Hahofshi, The Israel Freemason. Titled "Freemasonry on Postage Stamps (First of a Series)", it appeared in Vol LVIII, No. 1-2/1993.

Bro. Joseph Walkes, Jr., Member No. 105, has authored another book - he has completed a book on the Shrine History (Prince Hall Affiliated) done in conjunction with the 100th Anniversary of that organization. It graphically details the founding and growth of Prince Hall Shrine-  
dom from its inception to the present. Bro. Walkes has previously written histories of Jurisdictions, Lodges and Grand Lodges and has created Masonic Quiz Books. This latest effort was several years in the research and writing stage and is "must reading" for all Prince Hall Shriners. It is available for \$13.95 each (postpaid) from: Shrine History, c/o William Chapman, Jr., BTA Building, 2211 Cass Ave., Detroit, MI 48201.

Your Editor has started a series in the Northern Light (AASR, NJ) which has been titled "The Stamp Act". Initial comments have been favorable and I promise I will not forget all the "little guys" who provide me data - as requested by one of our members.

Bro. Christopher L. Murphy, Member No. 226, of New Westminster, BC, Canada, has become extremely active in the literary aspects of Masonic Philately. He has published a book on Masonic baseball players and has embarked on a "Masonic Specialist" effort. Details on these publications appear elsewhere in this issue.

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Annual dues for MSU/ATA are \$8.00 - North America, \$14.00 - all others

### PRESIDENT

Stanley Longenecker  
P. O. Box 7244  
Lancaster, PA 17604

### SECRETARY-TREASURER

Otto L. Steding  
1033 Hollytree Drive  
Cincinnati, OH 45231

## KARL PHILIPP VON GONTARD

The Berlin Government issued a stamp on Jan. 15, 1981, to honor the 250th Anniversary of the birth of Bro. Karl Philipp von Gontard.



FIRST DAY COVER



9N460

Karl Philipp von Gontard was born on January 13, 1731, in Mannheim. His was an ancient French family which had fled shortly after the massacre of St. Bartholomew and returned to its original residential area in the Dauphine after the Edict of Nantes was revoked. Originally, his father Alexander was in the service of the Kurfurst (Elector) Karl Philipp in Mannheim and the son was named after him. Margrave Friedrich offered him a better place and they moved to Bayreuth. In Bayreuth father Alexander was initiated on Nov. 16, 1741, in the Schloss Lodge of which the Margrave was Grand Master. He was a dancing-master by profession and wanted to educate his son to the same career. As a 14 year old boy Karl Philipp played as an extra with the Comedy Francaise but hardly two years later he had progressed to the role of "ballet master".

He gave up dancing in 1749 and was employed as "conducteur" by the Department of Court-Building. He turned out to have a marked gift for architecture and his accomplishments were so significant that at the age of 19 he was sent to Paris at the expense of the Margrave to study architecture. He studied under Jacques Francois Blondel and was well instructed in the classical ideas then prevalent. He made a study tour through The Netherlands and in 1752 returned to Bayreuth where he developed his own style and created a castle for the Margrave. He was appointed Inspector of the Royal Building Office and was sent on a study tour of Italy. He returned to the title of "Captain-Engineer" and became a teacher at the newly founded art school in Bayreuth in 1761. He designed many buildings in Bayreuth and following the Margrave's death in 1763, he was called to Berlin by King Frederick the Great. He practiced his art there for over 30 years and built edifices such as the Ancients- and Friendship Temple in the garden of Sans Souci, the Marble Palace, the two cathedral towers in the Gendarme Market and the King's colonnade. He was knighted in 1767 by the Emperor Joseph II and died on Sept. 23, 1791, in Breslau on his way to a Kurort.

Shortly before his departure to Paris in 1750 he was initiated in 'Stadtloge' ('City Lodge'). Since his father was a Freemason his youth was not seen as an obstacle. During the Winterfestival of St. John the Baptist in 1753, the 'Schlossloge' and the 'Stadtloge' in Bayreuth merged into the Lodge 'Zur Sonne'. A roll of this Lodge from the year 1762 mentions Philipp Gontard as a Master Mason under Number 103.

-information and cover provided by Bro. Matthieu Regoor in "DE VERLICHTTE LOEP", Newsletter of "DE GETANDE RAND" of The Netherlands.



NEW ISSUE FOR HENRY FORD

The Gambia released a sheetlet of 12 stamps and a souvenir sheet depicting 12 of the cars made by Henry Ford. This release salutes the 100th Anniversary of Ford's first engine, built in 1893. Henry Ford is pictured on several of the stamps.



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GWMSM COVER



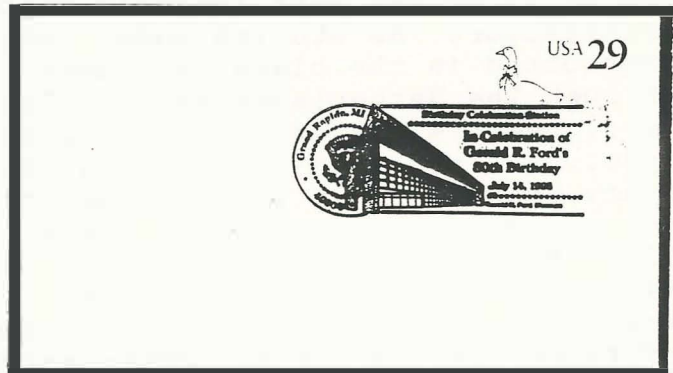
The GWMSM Annual cover for George Washington's Birthday is shown here. It is available at a cost of \$1.50 each from:

Bro. Paul M. Williams  
2364 Beaver Valley Pike  
New Providence, PA 17560.

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SPECIAL CANCEL FOR GERALD FORD

Bro. Norm Lincoln has sent in a copy of the special cancel used at Grand Rapids, MI, on July 14, 1993, in honor of Bro. Gerald R. Ford's 80th Birthday. He comments that these cancellations were heavily inked.



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PRESIDENT CLINTON - MASON?

The question was raised in a previous Newsletter as to Pres. Clinton's Masonic affiliations. Richard G. Fletcher, PGM, Executive Secretary of the Masonic Service Association, informs us that Bill Clinton is a Senior DeMolay but has never joined the Fraternity.

(One of our more vocal Republican members offers the comment that: "membership would do him well and a stint in the East in a Lodge would have better prepared him to serve in the White House".)

## MASONIC COVER FROM SPAIN

Bro. Juan Sabater Pie, member No. 243, of Ronda Guinardo 28 3<sup>o</sup> 1<sup>a</sup>, 08024 Barcelona, Spain, has provided this cover commemorating the Exposition "Spanish Masonry: Symbology & Iconography" recently held in Salamanca, Spain. Copies of the cover can be obtained from him at a cost of \$3.00 each, postpaid. (The total issue was only 300 copies).



When Gen. Franco began the Civil War in 1936 against the democratic government of the Second Republic, one of his first decrees was to prohibit the Masonic Craft over the entire national territory. Lodges were closed and all Masonic documentation, utensils and regalia were confiscated, catalogued and grouped in one official place: The Historical National Archive of Salamanca of Communism and Freemasonry". During this period, and up to 1950, persecution was atrocious: many brethren were assassinated, others imprisoned - the more fortunate were able to escape to other countries. Masonic records were destroyed by Franco's secret police and Masonic symbols found on gravestones were crossed out. Masonry essentially disappeared from Spain for more than 50 years and persecution continued until the early 1970s at which time Franco declared: "there are not any Masons in Spain now".

All the material which had been taken to the Historical National Archive of Salamanca serves to provide the most important documentation in existence about the Law of Repression against Masonry. At the time of the Civil War, there were about 5,000 Brethren in Spain but Franco opened up about 80,000 police filing cards of suspected Freemasons who were interrogated, tortured or pursued. Anyone who had liberal ideas, an intellectual tendency or different religious beliefs was suspected of being a Mason and a card was kept on him. Also in the same building is a fabulous collection of Masonic regalia with a complete Lodge set up; included are some lay-figures of Masons with the black hoods on their heads to hide their identity.

This Archive has been closed to the public for over 50 years with only historians allowed to enter for research purposes. In June of this year, an important part of the museum was opened to the public for the first time to show the treasures and curiosities which are contained therein. To commemorate this event, the philatelic group of Salamanca and some Spanish Masons prepared this interesting cancellation showing an old Past Master's jewel which exists in the museum.

-article also contributed by Bro. Sabater Pie



## MASONIC MAXIM CARDS

Collecting Masonic Maxim Cards is one of the latest "crazes". The card, stamp and cancel must all agree. It is quite a challenge to find cards which can be said to be Masonic in nature and meet all the requirements. A few examples are shown here:

The G. Washington card is not a true Maxim Card as a pane of stamps is used rather than a single. The Past Master's jewel in Walter Williams' portrait is covered. Washington was sworn into the office of President in New York with his hand resting on a Masonic Bible so the postmark is significant.

The Bophuthatswana card shows the distinguished first Worshipful Master of Quatour Coronati Lodge No. 2076. Can any of our English brethren identify the medals?

The French Goethe card is another "triple" Maximum Card. Unfortunately, the stamp has no Masonic symbols.

The Grande Orient card was prepared for the stamp so it may not be a true maxim. It is slightly larger than the 4" permitted. It has a rare Masonic cancel which almost makes it a "triple".

Antoine De Mailly (1742-1819) was a secretary to Voltaire, member of the National Convention in 1792. This is a good example of a special cancel.

- article and cards contributed by Bro. Norman Lincoln,  
Member No. 12 of Eaton, OH.





## EDELSON MASONIC COVERS

The covers shown here were published by Bro. Edsel Hatfield, member No. 21, P.O. Box 36, Hazelwood, MO 63042 and can be purchased from him



270-8




WASHINGTON, DC  
APR 6 1993  
20066

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE


**DAN RICE, Animal trainer**  
19th. century world renowned King of Clowns, presented the first trained elephant act, Lalla Rookh, the rope walking elephant. First to train stunted pigs for clown acts, circus strong man and circus owner. Member HOLLAND Ldg. # 8 N.Y.C. EDELSON

WASHINGTON, DC  
APR 6 1993  
20066

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE



**ALBERT RINGLING, Ringmaster**  
A Master Showman, his contribution to the "Greatest Show --" was bringing it all together. He scheduled and presented the acts in the most entertaining & exciting manner while his brothers managed the rest of the Hut. BARABOO Ldg. #34 Jr. Ser. R.A.M., K.T. ASSR. EDELSON




WASHINGTON, DC  
APR 6 1993  
20066

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

**CLYDE BEATTY**  
Acknowledged to be the best of the Big Cat trainers, he was the first to mix several Lions & Tigers in the same act. M.M. in CRAFTSMAN Ldg. # 521. R.A.M. Monroe Chapter. K.T. Damascus Commandery # 42. Noble in Moslem Shrine Temple Detroit MI EDELSON

WASHINGTON, DC  
APR 6 1993  
20066

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE



**RICHARD "RED" SKELTON, Clown**  
Possibly one of the world's great clowns. Starting with HAGENBECK & WALLACE Circus his life has been devoted to clowning. Medicine Show, Minstrel, ShowBoat, Vaudeville, Burlesque, radio, Movies, television and finally as an artist renowned for his portrayals of Clowns. Raised in VINCENNES Ldg. # 1 IN. Shriner Al Matallah Temple. L.A. EDELSON




WASHINGTON, DC  
APR 6 1993  
20066

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

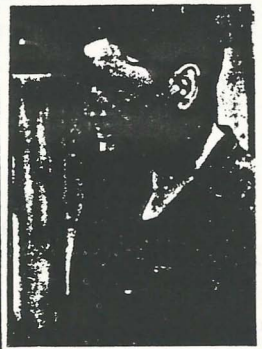

**GORDON "PAWNEE BILL" LILLIE**  
Boy Scout Leader  
Owner of the "Buffalo Bill Wild West Show" superb showman and Ringmaster. Famed for saving Buffalo herds from extinction. He was best known to thousands of boy scouts for his Ranch which he converted to a Scout Camp. Ldg. unknown he was 32deg. AASR. Guthrie OK and Shriner EDELSON

WASHINGTON, DC  
APR 6 1993  
20066

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

**TOM MIX**  
TOM'S last and happiest marriage was to Mabel Ward, aerialist with Sells Floto Circus. They met when he returned to the circus as it's star attraction after talkies had killed his movie career. MIX was proud to be a Mason in Utopia Ldg. #537. R.A.M., 32 deg. AASR, and an active member of the degree team of the famous "235" Club EDELSON

ENID, OK  
APR 17 1993  
23701

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

**RICHARD DIX**  
The Chevrolet Strip, where the SOONER appellation described the illegal claimants who circumvented the rush. "Cimmaron" a movie depicting the frantic race starred RICHARD DIX, who won an "Oscar" for his portrayal of Yancey Cravatte. Member of HENRY S. ORME Ldg. # 468 L.A. CA. EDELSON

CORNERSTONE LAYING TAPE

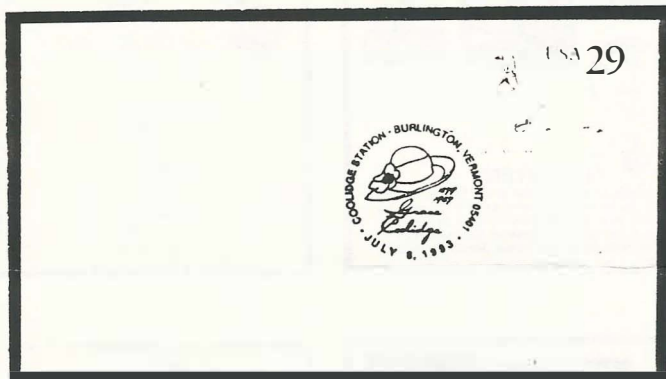
The George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association advises that a video tape will be prepared by Capstone Productions on the 200th Anniversary re-enactment of the Masonic Cornerstone Ceremony of the United States Capitol by George Washington. This ceremony will be staged on September 18, 1993. The video will consist of two parts, on the one tape; Part One: The History of the U.S. Capitol's Cornerstone and Part Two: The 1993 U.S. Capitol Bicentennial Celebrations. The cost is \$40.00, postpaid, (\$5.00 goes to the G.W.M.N.M.A, cited above) and can be ordered from Capstone Productions, Inc., 12002 Citrus Grove Road, N. Potomac, MD 20878.

Hopefully, the George Washington Masonic Stamp Club will be commemorating this event with a cover. Anyone else?

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GRACE COOLIDGE

A special cancel was provided for the Coolidge Station, Burlington, VT, on July 8 of this year - it honors Grace Coolidge on her death anniversary.



Grace Anna Goodhue was born in Burlington, VT, on Jan. 3, 1879, and died in Northampton, MA on July 8, 1957. She married Calvin Coolidge on Oct. 4, 1905, and they had two sons: John and Calvin. She was a graduate of the University of Vermont and taught at the School for the Deaf in Northampton, MA.

Grace Coolidge was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. Her son John was raised in Wyllys Lodge No. 99, West Hartford, CT, on Oct. 18, 1944. Calvin Coolidge was not a Mason.

-article and cover submitted by Bro. Norman Lincoln,  
Member No. 12, Eaton, OH

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FRENCH COVER - CORRECTION

On page 1058 of the previous issue, a French cover was pictured and offered for sale. Unfortunately, when the text was prepared, I must have had my head in a cloud of something. The cover shown was not prepared for the 20th anniversary of La Rose d'Opale - rather, it was prepared for the founding of the Lodge Cordialite located in Bergues, near Dunkerque. Bro. Jean-Luc Joing does offer the cancel/cover which does fit the text description at the price quoted (the cachet is the same, the cancel is different). Both covers are \$5.00 each. My apologies Bro. Joing.



## BROTHERS OF THE DIAMOND

Bro. Christopher L. Murphy has recently published a book titled Brothers of the Diamond which deals with Freemasonry and Professional Baseball. This 143 page book explores the lives of fifty-four Masonic brothers who have been elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame. A picture of each player introduces his biography. The book is soft cover and coil bound; it is an excellent asset for those Masonic Philatelists who include baseball players in their collection.

This 5 1/2" X 8 1/2" book may be obtained for \$8.00 (U.S. or CDN) postpaid anywhere in North America; it will be autographed if requested. Personal check or Visa accepted; order from: Pyramid Publications, Dept. 291 - 720 6th Street, New Westminster, British Columbia, Canada V3L 3C5.

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## THE MASONIC SPECIALIST

Bro. Murphy, Member No. 226, published Postage Stamps and Freemasonry back in 1988 and followed it up in 1990 with Masonic Philately which he wrote for the Masonic Service Association of the United States. He has continued his research - centered on North American Freemasons - and is now preparing a work entitled The Masonic Specialist, Postage Stamps of the United States of America and Canada.

This highly detailed work is divided into five master sections and will be contained in ten volumes (each volume a 8 1/2" X 5 1/2" X 1" loose-leaf binder). All stamp illustrations are 85% of actual size so the books can be used as stamp albums if so desired.

- Book One: More than 1000 individuals covered
- Book Two: Listing of all individuals showing their field(s) of acclaim
- Book Three: Alphabetical chart listing all Freemasons cited showing their Masonic affiliations
- Book Four: Alphabetical reference list of all subjects mentioned in the MSC of NY publication The Masonic Philatelist.
- Book Five: Complete "keys" to Group stamps

This work will be provided in ten installments of 100-300 pages per installment over a three year period. Installment one (all subjects with last name beginning with "A" and "B") is now available. The price is \$20.00 per installment (U.S. must pay in U.S. funds, Canadians pay in Canadian funds). Postage, packaging, handling included anywhere in North America; others add \$5.00 for postage. Ordering address is the same as cited above for the Baseball book.

### BOOK ONE - SUBJECTS

ABBOTT, SIR JOHN JOSEPH CALDWELL (1821-1892); lawyer, Canadian prime minister; St. Paul's Lodge No. 374, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

#### Primary Stamp:

Country: Canada  
Scott No. #318  
Year: 1952  
Type: Definitive  
Issue: Prime Ministers  
Designer: Not indicated  
MP Class: Class II  
Artwork: Not indicated  
Design: Sir John Joseph Caldwell Abbott



#### Secondary Stamp(s): None

**Stamp Facts:** Abbott served as Canada's fourth prime minister (1891-1892). He personally professed a hatred for politics but put his feelings aside to lead his country. In his earlier career, while serving as a member of parliament, one of Abbott's confidential clerks stole and revealed evidence that brought about the fall of his government. (the Macdonald government). Abbott retired from politics for six years after this incident. One of Abbott's main accomplishments in office was the organization of the trade and commerce department.

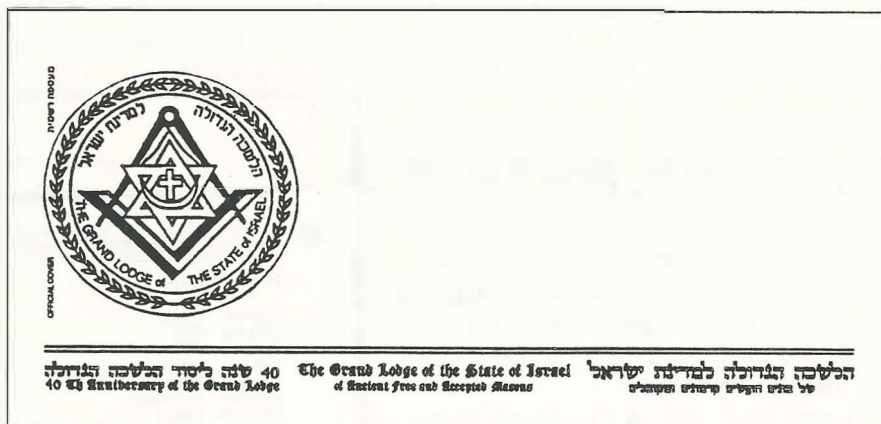
**Additional Masonic Information:** The stated lodge was on the English Register in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Abbott was initiated January 26, 1847, passed March 9 and received his Master Mason's degree April 13 of the same year. He retired from this lodge on May 9 of the following year and then rejoined on January 8, 1856. He retired permanently on August 12, 1859.

ISRAEL SPECIAL CANCEL

There has been no stamp of Israel dedicated to Freemasonry. However, Israel Postal Authorities have honored the Craft by issuing commemorative postmarks on five occasions. Four of these have been highlighted in various articles, the 5th is shown here. It was issued on the occasion of the Consecration of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Israel. This event took place in the Halls of the Y.M.H.A. in Jerusalem on April 29, 1969.



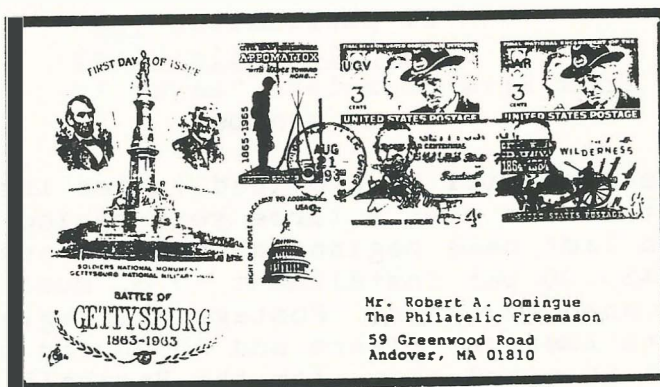
October 1993 will mark the 40th Anniversary of the Consecration of the Grand Lodge of the State of Israel. There will be a special meeting held in conjunction with this event in which brethren will participate along with their wives and important political personages including the president of the State of Israel. For this occasion the Grand Lodge will issue a special cover and the Israel Postal Authorities are going to prepare a commemorative postmark. A copy of the cover is shown here; it is possible that the logo of the 40th Anniversary will be printed on the envelope. The stamp to be used is the 0.80 shegel (80 agourst) stamp of the archeology in Israel set issued in June 1989; the tab of the stamp depicts the hammer and the chisel, two of the tools of our Craft.



Bro. Joseph Ashkenazi, Member No. 330, P.O. Box 4670, Haifa, Israel, is quite willing to be able to obtain these upcoming covers and would make them available to us. He prefers to use a single point of contact here in the U.S. so I will be willing to be that point of contact. Any member interested in acquiring this cover, please contact the Editor at the address on the masthead.

- article and cover copies provided by Bro. Joseph Ashkenazi  
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Cover prepared by Bro. Stanley Longenecker on the occasion of the dedication of the Friend to Friend Masonic Memorial Monument at Gettysburg on Aug. 21, 1993. Did anyone prepare a Masonic Cacheted Cover for this event?





## BRO. JAMES GRANT AND THE GRANTSBORORO POST OFFICE

Many of us have used Scott 645, Washington Praying in the snow at Valley Forge, to illustrate a point about the Craft and the nation's first president. A more direct tie to the Craft exists to the scene, and one with a postal history aspect. According to Dr. Miller McDonald (ref. 1) Sergeant James Grant, Washington's orderly, followed him into the woods around Valley Forge. Grant saw Washington kneel in the snow and begin to pray to his Creator for the necessities to feed and clothe his hungry, ragged troops. Soon enough, provisions arrived, ameliorating to some degree the suffering of the troops.

James Grant, of Old Saybrook, CT, joined the Continentals at Bunker Hill and served until Yorktown. After the War, he migrated to North Carolina where he met Stockley Donelson, the great land speculator and brother-in-law to Andrew Jackson, later Tennessee's Grand Master. Donelson employed Grant as one of the surveyors of the 200,000 acre Henderson and Company land grant. Later, Jackson would prosecute his brother-in-law's associates for land fraud related to selling claims in the Henderson Tract.

Grant became employed by George Roulstone, printer of the Knoxville Gazette and first postmaster of Knoxville, TN. (ref. 2) He may have ridden post as McDonald indicates he carried the letter to the Indian Commissioner at Tellico blockhouse that was forwarded to Washington that implicated Sen. William Blount; Blount was impeached and removed, the first US official to do so.



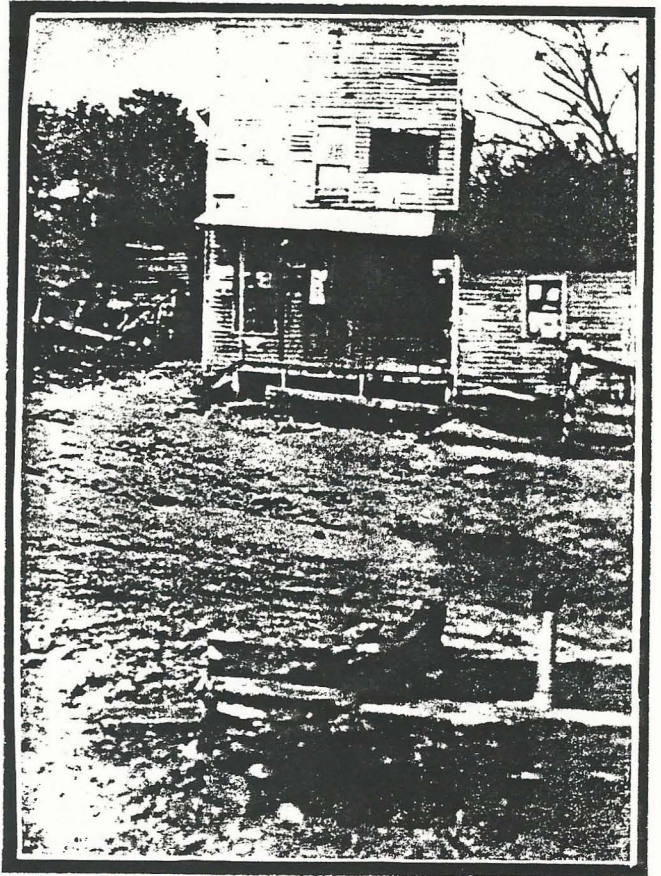
The first indication of Masonic activity in the Old Southwest Territory is a notice in the Gazette (ref. 3) but the first Lodge was warranted on Nov. 30, 1800, with John Sevier, governor, as Worshipful Master, and James Grant as Senior Warden (references seem to vary: the Lodge was located either at Nashville or Knoxville, under the authority of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina). The Special Collections of the University of Tennessee Library holds a letter dated June 12, 1796, from Washington to Grant. With the letter, Washington sent Grant a silver disk inscribed with the Square, Compasses, Columns and other emblems of the Craft (above). There is no indication of Grant's Mother Lodge and it may well have been the American Union Military Lodge.

In Dec. 1798 the Tennessee Legislature granted a charter to James Grant and others to locate a town at the confluence of the Powell and Clinch rivers. Grant reputedly was influenced by the layout of Philadelphia in laying out Grantsborough with the streets named Front, Vine, Chestnut and Main. Grant participated in the formation of Campbell County, Tennessee, in 1806 and served as clerk of the court, 1806-1810. He died at Grantsborough on Jan. 31, 1824, in his 71st year. His last words were of "The General", George Washington.

BRO. JAMES GRANT (CONTD)

Grantsboro received a post office on May 18, 1839, with James Hamilton Grant, the elder Grant's son, as postmaster. This office was discontinued on July 25, 1856. A post office was reestablished at Grantsboro on Dec. 26, 1882, and renamed Agee, for James H. Agee, a state senator and father of Nobel laureate novelist James Agee. This office was discontinued on Jan. 31, 1917, with postal service provided from nearby LaFollette.

The post office building at Agee was built as the home of Stooksbury Lodge No. 602, warranted April 2, 1898. This sufficed until the Lodge constructed a new home in 1921. In 1935 the Tennessee Valley Authority purchased the site, the Lodge was moved to higher ground and the location was inundated by Norris Lake.



Agee Post Office and Stooksbury Lodge, c.1913

Ref. 1 Miller McDonald, Campbell County Tennessee USA, LaFollette, TN, 1993, pp. 108-111.

Ref. 2 Roulstone operated a private post beginning in 1792. In 1794 he was appointed postmaster of Knoxville. Paul J. Phillips, "Never a Safe Road: Postal Communications in the Old Southwest Territory", Collectors Club Philatelist, vol. 70, no. 6, Nov. 1991.

Ref. 3 Knoxville Gazette, Aug. 25, 1792, vol. 1, no. 22: "A meeting of Free Masons will be held at my house. T. Arthur Jefferson."

- article and illustrations contributed by Bro. Gene Fricks, member no. 224 of Clementon, NJ

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ISRAEL MASONIC COVER

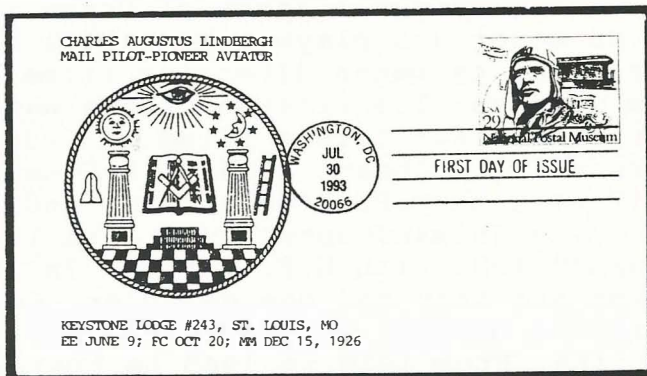
The Israel cover identified in the previous Newsletter has now been received. Shown here, it is available from your Editor at a cost of \$6.00 each.





## COVERS BY ELMER NELSON

Bro. Elmer Nelson, an acquaintance of Bro. Grahame West and soon to be member of our Unit, has been producing some Masonic Cacheted Covers - he is a part time cover dealer. Shown here, they are of a low quantity issue (25). I have no details on their cost but he can be contacted at: 4220 Oak Hill Rd., Evansville, IL 47711.



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### MASONIC SEALS

Bro. Alan R. P. Golding, of Peterborough, Ontario, Canada, has forwarded an illustration of some Masonic labels apparently available from the Province of Manitoba. He does not provide any procurement details. He also sends a peel and self-stick seal from Ontario.



Bro. Sid Martin illustrates some Western Australia seals in his latest Australian Masonic Philatelic Study Group Newsletter. They are available in sheets of 30 for US\$5.00 (incl P&P) from Bro. David Sheard, 73 Nannatee Way, Wanneroo, Western Australia 6065.



## CECIL BLOUNT DEMILLE

Bro. Cecil Blount DeMille is shown on a new issue from Guyana.

Cecil B. DeMille was born Aug. 12, 1881, in Ashfield, MA, and died Jan. 21, 1959, in Hollywood. He attended Pennsylvania Military College and the American Academy of Dramatic Arts. After a successful career as an actor and playwright (Alice of Old Vincennes, The Warrens of Virginia) he began directing films in Hollywood with Jesse Lasky and Sam Goldwyn. The first of these was "The Squaw Man" 1913 with Dustin Farnham. Other silent films included: "Carmen" 1915 with Geraldine Farrar, "The Cheat" 1915 with Sessue Hayakawa, "The Little American" 1917 with Mary Pickford, "Male and Female" 1919 with Gloria Swanson, "The Ten Commandments" 1923 with Theodore Roberts and "The King of Kings" 1926 with H.B. Warner. In 1902 he married actress Constance Adams and they had one daughter, Cecelia. He owned the Mercury Aviation Company from 1918 to 1923 which was the first commercial airline. From 1936 to 1945 he hosted Lux Radio Theatre. His sound films started with "Dynamite" in 1929 and ran through to "The Greatest Show on Earth" in 1951 and "The Ten Commandments" in 1956.

Bro. DeMille was a member of Prince of Orange Lodge No. 16, New York, and Al Malaikah Shrine, Los Angeles.

-article contributed by Bro. Norm Lincoln, member  
no. 12 of Eaton, OH

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### NEW ISSUES HIGHLIGHTED

Bro. Thomas C. Ehlers, member no. 118 of Spokane, WA, offers the following comments on recent new issues - some of which have been illustrated in previous issues of this Newsletter.

On page 1032 there is a block of Guyana stamps that show Chester Conklin on a movie poster. the stamp immediately above the Conklin stamp shows Richard Dix on the Cimarron poster. Bro. Dix (Ernest Carlton Brimmer) was featured on page 913 of the Newsletter on a cover by Edsel.

Also in the same series is a poster of the movie "A Sainted Devil" which bears the name, upon close inspection, of Bro. Adolph Zukor of Centennial Lodge No. 763 of New York City. The \$8.90 value of that series shows Bro. Tom Mix.

In 1986 Gambia issued a set of stamps showing famous immigrants and the Statue of Liberty. The 20b value shows Bro. John Jacob Astor, financier and founder of the town of Astoria, Oregon. He was one of the first members of Holland Lodge No. 8, New York City, and served as Worshipful Master in 1788. He was Grand Treasurer of The Grand Lodge of New York from 1798 to 1801 and served as Junior Grand Warden pro tem on two occasions in 1798 and 1801. For a time he was Secretary of a Commandery that met in Holland Lodge room at 66 Liberty St., New York City.





PAUL ROBESON

Paul Robeson, pictured on a new issue from Guyana, was born in Princeton, NJ, April 9, 1898. He earned a BA at Rutgers where he was a Phi Beta Kappa and received 15 varsity letters in track, baseball, basketball and football. He was selected an All-American at end by Walter Camp. After receiving an LLB from Columbia he passed the bar exam but decided to go into acting. He starred in two plays by Eugene O'Neill "All God's Children Got Wings" 1924 and "The Emperor Jones" 1925. He recorded many spirituals for Victor Records and appeared in films such as "Showboat" 1936, "Sanders of the River" 1935 and "King Solomon's Mines" 1937. In 1943 he was acclaimed for his performance as "Otello". He died in 1976.

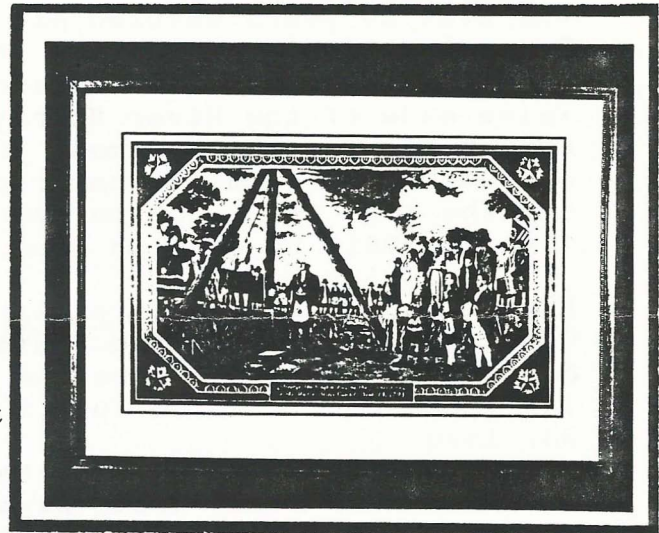
Bro. Robeson was made a Prince Hall Mason "at sight".

-article provided by Bro. Norm Lincoln, member no. 12 of Eaton, OH

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CORNERSTONE PAINTING

In conjunction with the bicentennial of the laying of the cornerstone of the United States Capitol in Masonic ceremonies on Sept. 18, 1793, the Supreme Council, 33 deg, S.J., commissioned Bro. John Melius to execute an original oil painting of the 1793 ceremony. The original will remain in the permanent collection of the House of the Temple in Washington, DC, international headquarters of the Scottish Rite, S.J. Art prints from the original (measuring 19" x 30" - image) are available in a limited edition signed and numbered by the artist; the cost is \$195.00 framed and \$100.00 unframed. Requests should be sent to The Supreme Council, 33, 1733 Sixteenth St., NW, Washington, DC 20009.



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HAROLD LLOYD

Bro. Norm Lincoln has forwarded a copy of a special cancel applied at Long Beach, CA, on Aug. 14, 1993 for Moviemaking and to honor Bro. Harold Lloyd (1893-1993). This star of silent films went on to be a movie producer; he starred in more than 250 comedies. Bro. Lloyd was initiated in Alexander Hamilton Lodge No. 535 of Hollywood in 1925. In 1949 he was elected Imperial Potentate of the Shrine for North America.

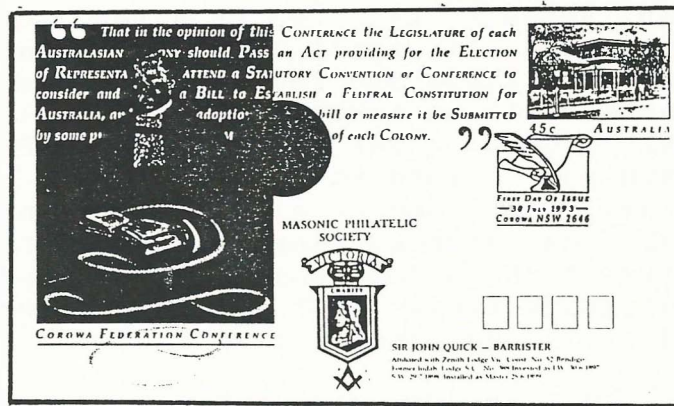


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The Winter 1993 issue of the International DeMolay Alumni Association Newsletter states that Pres. William Clinton joined Hot Springs Chapter, Order of DeMolay, in Arkansas in 1961. He learned the Flower Talk as well as his assigned ritual. He received the Legion of Honor in 1979 and was inducted into the DeMolay Hall of Fame in 1988.

## SIR JOHN QUICK COVER

On July 30, 1993, the Australia Post issued a pre-stamped envelope in association with the "Corowa Federation Conference" which bears the likeness of one of Australia's leading Barristers - Bro. Sir John Quick. Bro. Ernie Stermole prepared a cachet on behalf of the Masonic Philatelic Society of Victoria - information on its purchase should be available from Bro. Stermole at: 12 Radford Court, Hoppers Crossing, Victoria 3029, Australia.



The Corowa Conference was an important landmark in the Australian Federation movement and was held in the New South Wales town of that name. From as early as the 1850s people had been suggesting that the Australian colonies form a federation and the momentum gathered over the next 30 years enabled Sir Henry Parkes to move to establish a Federal Council at the 1880 Intercolonial Conference. In Aug. 1893, 72 delegates attended a conference at the town of Corowa on the New South Wales side of the River Murray - symbolic because the Murray was the border between the two most populous colonies. During this conference Dr. Quick, a founding member of the Australian Natives Association, set the tone for a further series of conferences which led to Federation in 1901. He died on June 17, 1932.

Bro. John Quick affiliated with Zenith Lodge No. 52, Victoria Constitution, in Bendigo. This Lodge was formerly Judah Lodge No. 388, Scottish Constitution. He was invested as Junior Warden on June 30, 1897, Senior Warden on July 29, 1898, and installed as Master on June 28, 1899.

-article extracted from The Australia Masonic Philatelic Study Group Newsletter

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## FRENCH/BELGIAN COVER

Bro. Jean-Luc Joing, member no. 336 of 46, rue E. Dolet, 59430 St. Pol/Mer, France, is offering the cover illustrated here for a cost of \$5.00 ea. The stamp and cancel commemorate the 150th Anniversary of "L'Union des Anciens Etudiants de L'Universite Libre de Bruxelles". The cachet bears several Masonic symbols. Bro. Joing also has many unique, rare early postally used covers, letters and postal cards available for sale - contact him for details.





Bro. Archie Bruce, an acquaintance of Bro. Frank Elliott, member no. 124 of Belfast, No. Ireland, has provided a very interesting cover and some Masonic history regarding the Chapter featured on the cover and the stamps used for franking.

### ROBERT BURNS AND FREEMASONRY

Ayrshire in general and Kilwinning in particular have played a major part in the development of Freemasonry both in Scotland and abroad. Daughter Lodges of Kilwinning combined that name with their own. Tarbolton Kilwinning Lodge was warranted in 1771 for the sum of One Merk Scots but by 1773 there existed differences of opinions amongst the brethren which led to a group breaking away from their Mother Lodge. Twenty brethren led by Sir Thomas Wallace, Bart, petitioned the Grand Lodge of Scotland for a Charter which was granted on Feb. 26, 1773, as Lodge St. David No. 174 on the G.L. Roll. The remaining members of the original Lodge affiliated with Grand Lodge on May 27, 1774 becoming St. James Tarbolton Kilwinning No. 178.

In 1781 the minute book kept by Lodge St. David reveals the two Tarbolton Lodges effected a "junchen". This union came into effect on June 25, 1781, and retained the name of St. David which was older by charter and ignored the fact that Lodge St. James was by far the senior. This decision, by accident or design, prepared the way for dissention among the brethren.

Nine days after the "junchen" Robert Burns was entered as a member of the combined Lodge St. David. This Lodge minute for July 4, 1781, merely states that "Robert Burns of Lochly was entered as Apprentice". His entry fee of 12s 6d was paid on the same date. The next meeting of the Lodge was Oct. 1, 1781, and Robert travelled the 12 miles from Irvine for it. The importance of this meeting for Robert is revealed in the minute book. "Robert Burns in Lochly was Passed and Raised, Henry Cowan being Master, James Humphrey Senior Warden and Alex Smith Junior Warden, Robert Wodrow Secretary and James Manson, Treasurer and John Tannoch Tyler and others of the brethren being present."

Robert Wodrow, the Lodge Secretary, played a major part in the break up of the combined Lodge. He and Manson had been leading members of the older St. James Lodge and had been unhappy at the loss of that name to the gaining of St. David.

The Lodge met in one of the rooms of the public house kept by John Richards. Bro. Richards kept the Charter Chest of the Lodge which included the minute books, archives and other belongings. One evening Wodrow and Capt. James Montgomerie called on John Richards, sent him off to Manson's Inn on some pretext errand, and in his absence removed the effects of Lodge St. James from the chest prior to his return. Proceedings at Ayr Sheriff Court followed and the matter was finally referred to Grand Lodge in Edinburgh. The Grand Committee ordered Wodrow to return the property but he refused. Finally, Sheriff Wallace ruled that as the Union was voluntary so could the separation be. The St. James Minute Book contains the entry "Torbolton June 17, 1782, St. James Lodge met upon the same footing as it was before the junction, James Montgomerie, GR. MR for the night."

Robert Burns followed the seceders but not until July 27, 1784, does his name feature in the minutes. At that meeting held in Manson's Inn,

## ROBERT BURNS AND FREEMASONRY (CONTD)

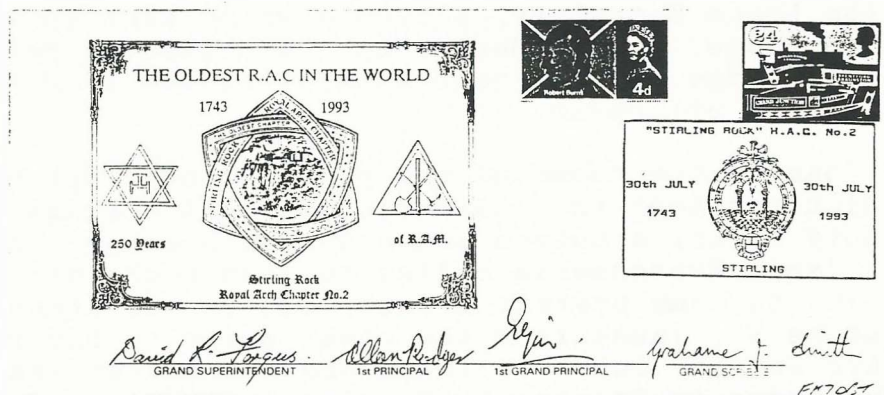
to where the Lodge had moved, he was elected Depute Master of St. James. The Minute Book contains three minutes in Robert's handwriting beginning with the meeting of Sept. 1, 1784. Twenty nine Minutes were signed by Robert in his capacity as Depute Master and they are of particular interest pinpointing the date at which he changed the spelling of his surname. Prior to March 1, 1786, they are signed "Robt Burness" but on that date his brother Gilbert got his Second and Third Degrees in the Lodge and both signed "Burns".

The minutes for the meeting of Canongate Kilwinning Lodge No. 2 on Feb. 1, 1787, record that Robert Burns was entered as an apprentice. "The RWM having observed that Bro. Burns was at present in the Lodge, who is well known as a great Poetic Writer, and for a late publication of his works, which had been universally commended, submitted that he should be assigned a Member of this Lodge, which was unanimously agreed to and he was assumed accordingly."

On May 19, 1787, the records of St. Ebbe's Lodge, Eyemouth, show that: "At a General Encapment held this day the following brethren were made Royal Arch Masons namely, Robert Burns from the Lodge of St. James Tarbolton, Ayrshire and Robert Ainslie from the Lodge of St. Luke's, Edinburgh. Robert Ainslie paid one guinea admission dues but on account of Robert Burns remarkable poetical genius, the Encapment unanimously agreed to admit him gratis and considered themselves honoured by having a man of such shining abilities for one of their Companions."

Very little is known of Robert's Masonic activities after he left Ayrshire. It is recorded that he joined the St. Andrews Lodge, Dumfries on Dec. 27, 1791 and was elected Senior Warden on Nov. 30, 1792. Throughout his life he suffered from ill health but he was well enough to attend St. Andrews Lodge on Jan. 28, 1796 and again on April 14, 1796. He died on July 21, 1796.

Robert Burns was the first Scotsman to be featured on a British stamp as well as the first Scottish Freemason and Royal Arch Freemason.



This cover commemorates the 250th Anniversary of Stirling Rock Royal Arch Chapter No. 2, Stirling. The first Minute of the initial Stirling Masonic organization was recorded on July 30th, 1743: "Which day the Lodge of Stirling Kilwinning being met in the Brother Hutchinson's House, and being petitioned by Mungo Nicol, Shoemaker and Brother James McEwan, Student of Divinity at Stirling, and being found qualified, they were admitted Royal Arch Masons of this Lodge, having paid their dues to the Treasurer. John Callendar, RWM"



The Lodge of Stirling Kilwinning still exists today as Lodge Ancient Stirling No. 30 on the Roll of the Grand Lodge of Scotland and meets in the Masonic Temple, Forth Street, Stirling. Stirling Rock Royal Arch Chapter No. 2 hold their meetings in the above Temple and retain strong links with Lodge Ancient Stirling No. 30.

THOMAS TELFORD AND FREEMASONRY

The stamp commemorating the 200th Anniversary of the Grand Union Canal used on this cover also has some Masonic applicability. One of the most famous of canal builders was the Scotsman Thomas Telford and in his biography it is stated that in the early 1800s he was associated with the Grand Union Canal; no details are offered.

Thomas Telford was an apprentice stone mason in Langhorn and his Mason's Mark can still be seen on the bridge he helped to build over the River Esk. He moved to London in 1782 then on to Portsmouth where, on Dec. 17, 1784, at the age of 26, he was made a Freemason in the Lodge at the Three Tuns. This Lodge was warranted in 1724 and first met at the East India Arms, Gosport. It was later named Lodge of Antiquity but did not survive and eight of its members, including Telford, petitioned to form a new Lodge to be named Phoenix so that "We might rise again from the ashes of our Lodge to become worthy Masons". Phoenix Lodge, now No. 257, was warranted in 1786 and held its first meeting at the George Inn, Portsmouth in that same year. In a letter to a friend Telford wrote "I am taking a great delight in Freemasonry and am about to have a Lodge room at the George Inn fitted up after my own plans and under my direction".

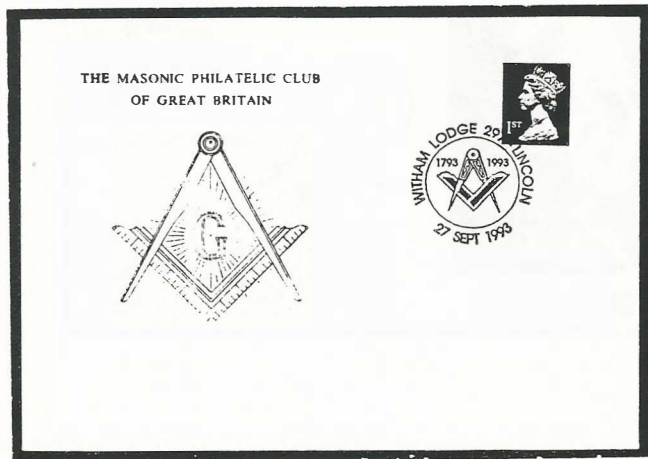
Telford later went to Shrewsbury where he was one of the first joining members of Salopian Lodge now No. 262. This Lodge was constituted in 1788 by Major Charles Shirreff, a strong adherent to the antients ritual, under the premier Grand Lodge but it used some antient practices such as the offices of Deacon and the observance of both Festivals of St. John. His name is commemorated by Thomas Telford Lodge No. 8029, Wolverhampton and its Royal Arch Chapter.

The cover shown is available from Archie Bruce, 74 Bannockburn Road, Stirling FK7 0BT, Scotland, at a cost of 10.00 pounds plus 1.50 pound 'Sterling' for postage and handling. Another version with only the two signatures on the left is available for 5.00 pounds. Payment should be made to "Stirling R.A.C. No. 2"

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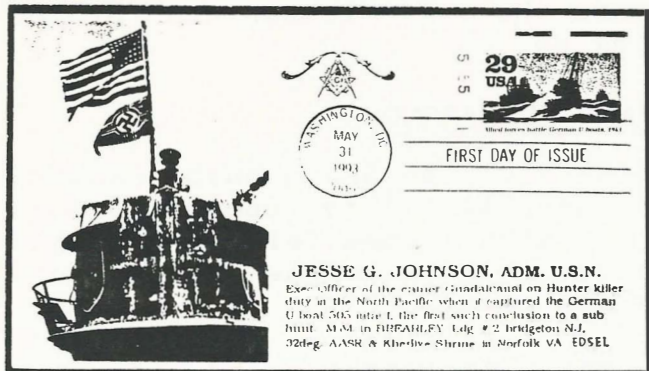
WEST MASONIC COVER

Bro. Grahame West prepared a cover to capture the special cancel for the 100th Anniversary of Witham Lodge 297, Lincoln.



## EDEL MASONIC COVERS

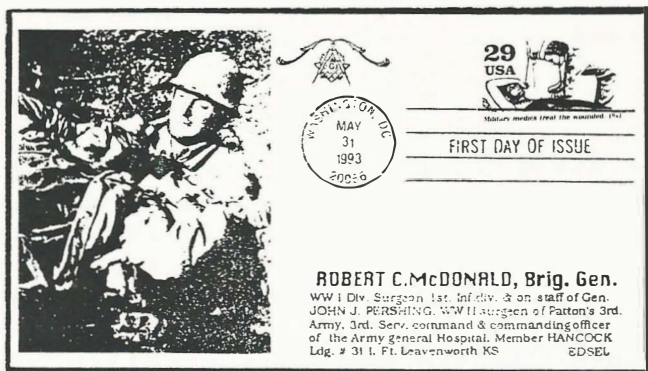
Another excellent selection of Masonic Cacheted Covers produced by Bro. Edsel Hatfield is shown here. Information on their purchase is available from him at P.O. Box 36, Hazelwood, MO 63042.



WASHINGTON, DC  
MAY 31 1993  
20066

29 USA  
FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

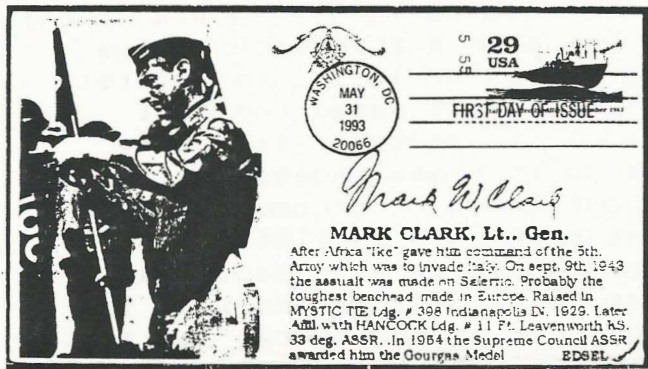
**JESSE G. JOHNSON, ADM. U.S.N.**  
Exec. officer of the cutter Grandall on Hunter killer duty in the North Pacific when it captured the German U boat 505 into L the first such conclusion to a sub hunt. M.M. in FIREARLY Ldg. # 2 Bridgeton, N.J. 32deg. AASR & Rhodis Shrine in Norfolk VA. EDSEL



WASHINGTON, DC  
MAY 31 1993  
20066

29 USA  
FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

**ROBERT C. McDONALD, Brig. Gen.**  
WW I Div. Surgeon 1st. Inf. Div. 3 on staff of Gen. JOHN J. PERSHING. WW II Surgeon of Patton's 3rd Army. 3rd. Serv. command & commanding officer of the Army General Hospital. Member HANCOCK Ldg. # 31 Ft. Leavenworth KS. EDSEL

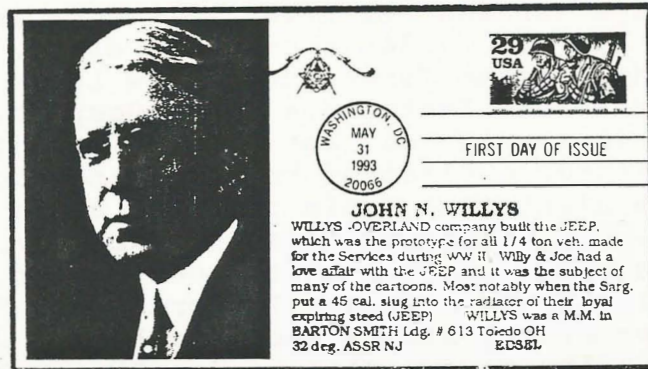


WASHINGTON, DC  
MAY 31 1993  
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29 USA  
FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

*Mark W. Clark*

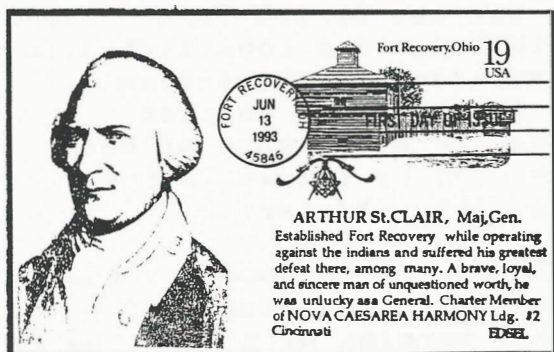
**MARK CLARK, Lt. Gen.**  
After Africa "Ike" gave him command of the 5th Army which was to invade Italy. On sept. 9th 1943 the assault was made on Salerno. Probably the toughest beachhead made in Europe. Raised in MYSTIC TIE Ldg. # 398 Indianapolis IN. 1929. Later Adm. with HANCOCK Ldg. # 11 Ft. Leavenworth KS. 33 deg. AASR. In 1984 the Supreme Council AASR awarded him the Gourgas Medel. EDSEL



WASHINGTON, DC  
MAY 31 1993  
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29 USA  
FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

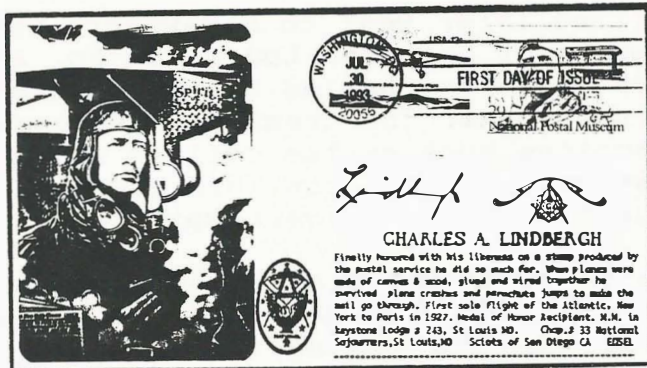
**JOHN N. WILLYS**  
WILLYS OVERLAND company built the JEEP, which was the prototype for all 1/4 ton veh. made for the Services during WW II. Willy & Joe had a love affair with the JEEP and it was the subject of many of the cartoons. Most notably when the Sarg. put a 45 cal. slug into the radiator of their loyal expiring steed (JEEP). WILLYS was a M.M. in BARTON SMITH Ldg. # 613 Toledo OH. 32 deg. AASR NJ. EDSEL



Fort Recovery, Ohio  
JUN 13 1993  
25846

19 USA  
FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

**ARTHUR ST. CLAIR, Maj. Gen.**  
Established Fort Recovery while operating against the indians and suffered his greatest defeat there, among many. A brave, loyal, and sincere man of unquestioned worth, he was unlucky as General. Charter Member of NOVA CAESAREA HARMONY Ldg. # 2 Cincinnati. EDSEL

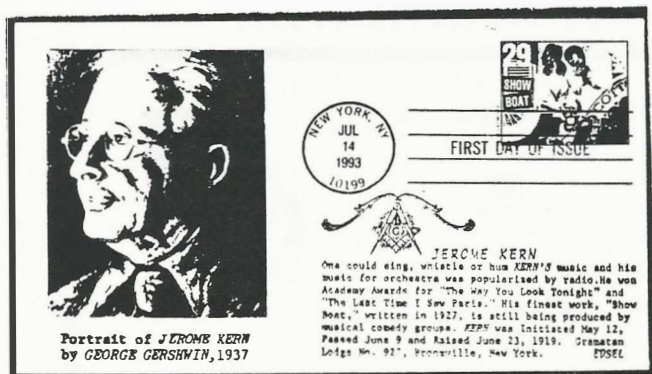


WASHINGTON, DC  
JUL 30 1993  
20059

29 USA  
FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

*Charles A. Lindbergh*

**CHARLES A. LINDBERGH**  
Firstly honored with his likeness on a stamp produced by the postal service he did so much for. When planes were made of canvas & wood, glued and wired together he survived plane crashes and parachute jumps to make the mail go through. First solo flight of the Atlantic, New York to Paris in 1927. Medal of Honor recipient. M.M. in Keystone Lodge # 243, St. Louis MO. Chap. # 33 National Seafarers, St. Louis, MO. Scots of San Diego CA. EDSEL



NEW YORK, NY  
JUL 14 1993  
20199

29 USA  
FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

**JEROME KERN**  
One could sing, whistle or hum KERN'S music and his music for orchestra was popularized by radio. He won Academy Awards for "The Way You Look Tonight" and "The Last Time I Saw Paris." His finest work, "Show Boat," written in 1927, is still being produced by musical comedy groups. KERN was initiated May 12, Passed June 9 and Raised June 23, 1919. Dramatan Lodge No. 927, Bronxville, New York. EDSEL

Portrait of JEROME KERN by GEORGE GERSHWIN, 1937



NEW YORK, NY  
JUL 14 1993  
20199

29 USA  
FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

**JOE E. BROWN, Comedian**  
In a career replete with outstanding performances none compared with his characterization of the Captain in the movie SHOWBOAT. Along with Bro. JEROME KERN'S music it was memorable fare. M.M. in RUBICON Ldg. #237, also Shriner in Al Malaikah Shrine LA. EDSEL