

THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

Journal of the
MASONIC STUDY UNIT



Affiliate #94



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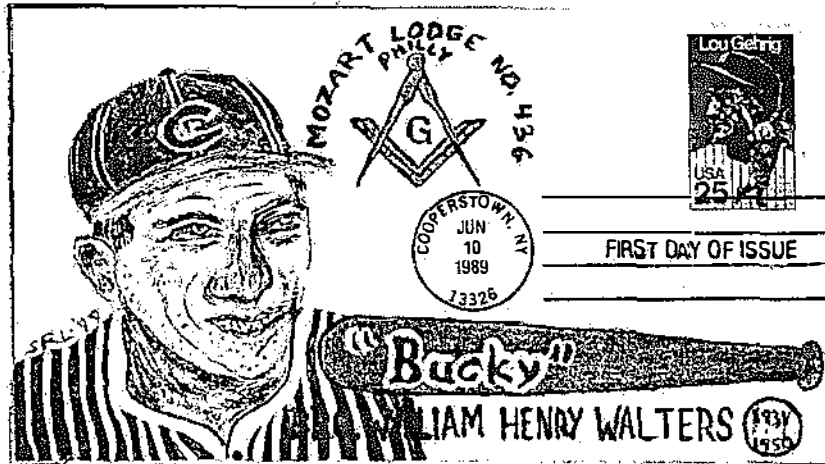
VOL. 24, NO. 6

MARCH-APRIL 2000

WHOLE NO. 136

WILLIAM HENRY WALTERS

Throughout the baseball world of the 30s, 40s and 50s, he was known as "Bucky" Walters, the outstanding baseball player, pitcher, coach and manager. In Mozart Lodge No. 436 in Philadelphia, he was known as Bro. William Henry Walters.



Bucky Walters played in the major leagues from 1931 through 1950. During his career he played at every position except catcher. He started his career in Boston 1931 to 1934, Philadelphia 1934 to 1938 where he played in the first night game, then Cincinnati 1938 to 1949 where he played in the first televised game and back to Boston in 1950. He continued his career through 1960 filling various major and minor league positions such as manager, coach, pitching coach and scout. He held the unique distinction for a baseball player by umpiring a major league game during the umpire strike of 1946.

He is in the record books with a long list of accomplishments, a host of honors and impressive awards such as Most Valuable Player and All Around Player. As a pitcher, he led the major leagues in victories over a 15 year period; more than one fifth of his life-time wins were shutouts. For each of 20 years, his name appeared on the Baseball Writers of America Association's ballot for inclusion into the Hall of Fame but he has not yet made it; a strong movement, led by his grandson, is afoot to make that happen.

-condensed from an article in the Penna. Freemason Newsletter submitted by Bro. Stan Longenecker, member #92, Mount Joy, PA.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

NEW MEMBERS:

TBD. Dr. Paul Rich, Sta. Catarina Martir, Cholula, Puebla, 72820, Mexico.

ADDRESS CHANGE:

140. David B. Clem, Jr., 25211 Stockport Dr., Apt. 224, Laguna Hills, CA 92653-4952

MEMBERS ACTIVITIES:

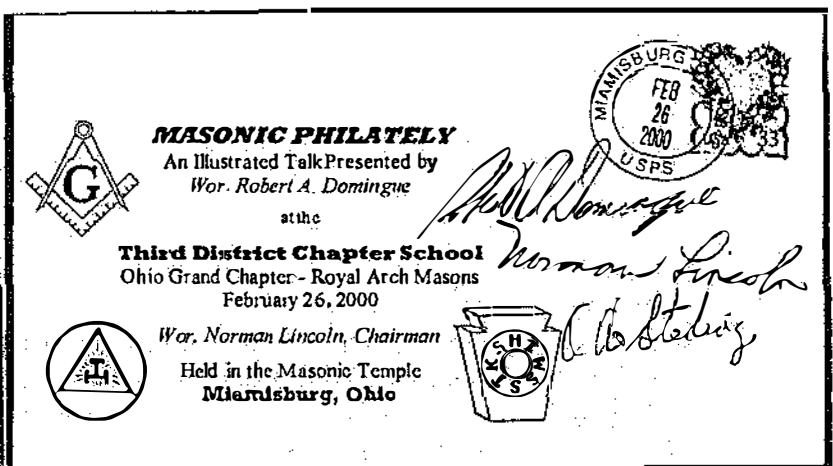
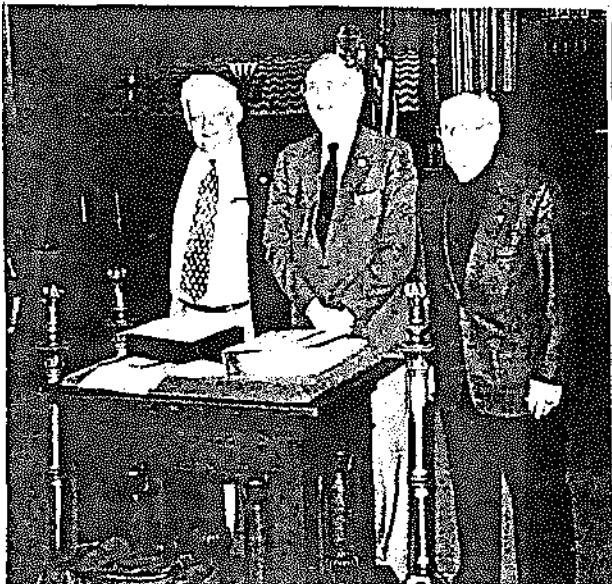
In November, Bro. Golden B. Adkins of Keyser, WV, was presented his 50 Year Pin by his sons. The presentation was made during a Commandery meeting since one of his sons couldn't make the Blue Lodge meeting. Congratulations, Bro. Adkins.

Following a period of inactivity resulting from several reasons, Bro. Peter J. Westbere is getting back into his Masonic research which he loves to do and does so well. He informs us that the actor, Michael Richards, who portrayed Kramer in Seinfeld, is a Mason. He was in Washington DC last year at the Scottish Rite Sessions; he is a 32nd degree and a Shriner. Bro. Westbere is searching for his Blue Lodge information. Can anyone help?

Bro. Alan R. P. Golding remains very active in a variety of fields, including his position as Historian of Royal Arthur Lodge.

FIRST ANNUAL MEETING - OFFICERS OF THE MASONIC STUDY UNIT

On February 26, 2000, your Editor was invited to speak to the Third District Chapter School held at the Masonic Temple in Miamisburg, OH. Our Unit President, Bro. Norman Lincoln, is Chairman of that School. Our Secretary-Treasurer, Bro. Otto Steding, lives 25 miles away from Miamisburg and honored me by attending the Saturday morning meeting. My presentation, obviously, was on Masonic Philately, and the event gave the three of us an opportunity to meet - the first time ever that the MSU/ATA officers had assembled as a group - since the founding in 1977. It was a wonderful experience. The cover shown here was prepared to commemorate the meeting and was signed by all three officers - shown in the photo, from left to right, Bro. Domingue, Bro. Lincoln and Bro. Steding.



TOP TEN MASONIC STAMPS OF THE LAST CENTURY

10. France Scott B335, issued June 13, 1959. Frederic Bartholdi (1834-1908), a member of Alsace-Lorraine Lodge, Paris. He designed and created the Statue of Liberty. This stamp shows the Lion of Belfort, another of his statues. The stamp is representative of Masonic artists and their contributions to world culture. US Scott 2147 shows Bartholdi and his most famous work.



9. Philippines Scott 241, issued September 8, 1906. Jose Rizal (1861-1896) established Philipina Lodge. This great national hero of the Philippines represents all Masons who fought against tyranny in all parts of the world. Many of them, such as Jose Marti, Lajos Kossuth, Simon Bolivar and Jose de San Martin, are revered by their countries as honored patriots.

8. USA Scott 1073, issued January 17, 1956. Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790), printer, writer, scientist, inventor, diplomat and statesman. He was a world-renowned renaissance man. He persuaded the French to assist the American colonies in their struggle for independence. A fifty-year Mason, he found time to be a Provincial Grand Master. He published the first Masonic book in America.



7. USA Scott 933, issued January 30, 1946. Franklin D. Roosevelt (1882-1945) leader of the Allied Nations during World War II. He was elected president four times. Overcoming physical disability (polio) he provided dynamic leadership to bring the nation out of the Great Depression with new social programs. His vision of a world at peace led to the establishment of the United Nations Organization in 1945.

6. Great Britain Scott 444, issued January 25, 1966. Robert Burns (1759-1796) a member of St. David's Lodge, Tarbolton, Scotland. He overcame humble beginnings to produce some of the most beautiful poetry in the English language. An active Mason, he often wrote poems for the Lodge which recognized his abilities and assisted him when he was in financial difficulties.



5. Newfoundland Scott 113, issued June 19, 1911. Prince Arthur, the Duke of Connaught (1850-1942) served as Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England for 38 years - from 1901 to 1939 - longer than any other. The brother of a King (Edward VII), his biggest contribution to Masonry was to oversee the construction of the Grand Lodge Temple on Great Queen Street.

4. Germany Scott 351, issued in 1926. Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832) Germany's greatest writer, was a member of Lodge Amalia in Weimar. Many of his poems and novels reflect his Masonic philosophy. His masterpiece, *Faust*, deals with redemption. A fifty-year member, he attended often until his health failed.



3. USA Scott 1499, issued May 8, 1973. Harry S. Truman (1884-1972) 33rd President of the United States, was also Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Missouri and first Worshipful Master of the Missouri Lodge of Research. He often attended Lodge while in office and said he was prouder of being a Mason than of being President. He led the free world during the early stages of the Cold War against Communism.

2. USA Scott 645, issued May 26, 1928. George Washington (1732-1799). Called first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen, he was also a first rank Freemason. Master of his Lodge, he refused to consider being General Grand Master of the United States. The stamp shows him at prayer, which is the support and assistance of all Masons. Scott 1729 has a similar theme.



1. Great Britain Scott 264, issued June 11, 1946. King George VI (1895-1952) was a member of Naval Lodge No. 2612. He was an active Mason. The stamp pictures many symbols of the Craft such as the Square and Compasses, trowel, cable tow and sprig of acacia. It was issued to allude to the return of peace after the victory over the Axis Powers in World War II.

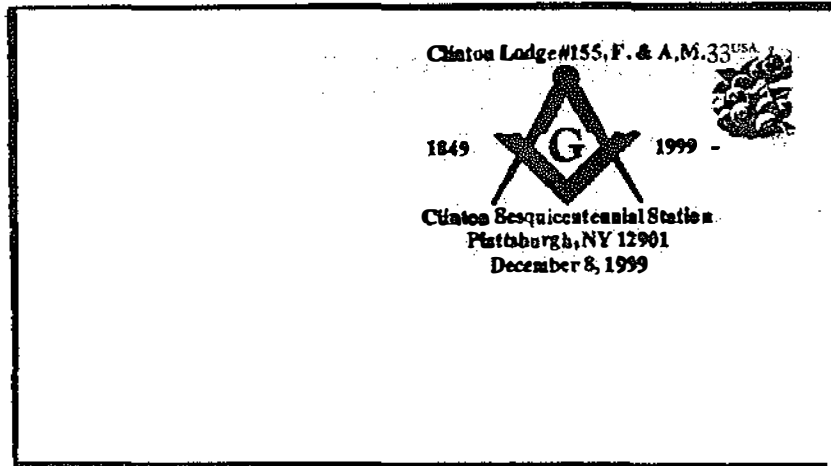
-submitted by our Unit President, Bro. Noreman Lincoln.

He also adds Top Ten New Year's Resolutions for not buying stamps in the Year 2000:

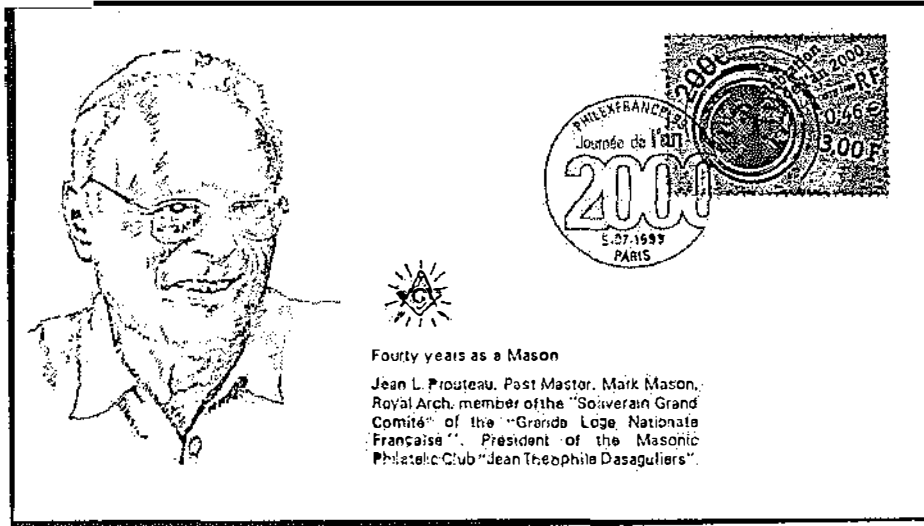
10. Do not buy non-denominated stamps unless you use non-denominated coins.
9. Do not buy stamps from former Russian states unless you are a former Russian.
8. Do not buy semi-postal stamps unless you are a semi-collector.
7. Do not buy stamps from any nation which did not exist in 1965 unless you did not exist in 1965.
6. Do not buy stamps of endangered insects of the Amazon Rain Forest unless you are an endangered Amazon native.
5. Do not buy anything from the Grenadines of Grenada unless you have been drinking too much grenadine.
4. Do not buy Di sets with or without Mother Theresa unless you are a royal nun.
3. Do not buy a nicely cancelled inverted Jenny unless you have no mint copy.
2. Do not buy Elvis errors found in a dumpster near the J. Edgar Hoover FBI headquarters unless you believe Jan. 1, 2000, started a new millenium.
1. Do not buy oddities offered on eBay auction unless your Apple failed its Y2K test.

CLINTON LODGE #155 SESQUICENTENNIAL CANCEL

The cover shown here bears one of the latest special cancels approved by the USPS. It was used on December 8, 1999, in Plattsburgh, NY, to note the Sesquicentennial of Clinton Lodge #155. Advance notification was provided in the Postmark Pursuit column in Linn's Stamp News.



JEAN PROUTEAU'S PERSONAL COVER



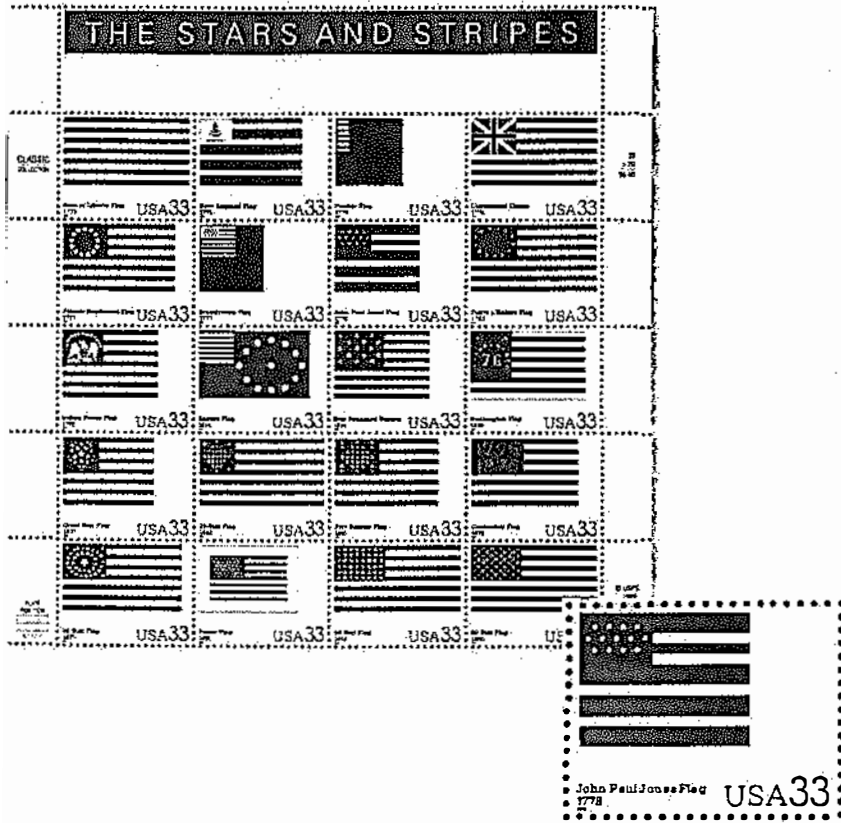
Bro. Jean Prouteau has forwarded a cover he created to mark his 40 Years in Masonry. Wonderful effort, Bro, Jean - the cover and the career.

GWMSC ANNUAL WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY COVER

The 2000 GWMSC George Washington's Birthday cover and cancel is shown here. It is available from the cover chairman, Bro. Paul M. Williams, 2364 Beaver Valley Pike, New Providence, PA 17560. The cost is \$1.00 each plus a SASE for each order.



JOHN PAUL JONES FLAG STAMP



The USPS will issue a sheet of 20 stamps on June 14, 2000, Flag Day, to commemorate Old Glory by illustrating twenty truly historically significant variations of the Stars and Stripes. The third stamp from the left in the second row is the John Paul Jones Flag of 1778. This is the first time since 1979 that Bro. John Paul Jones has been honored on a US stamp. The Year 2000 marks the 225th anniversary of the Naval Battles of the Revolutionary War in which he participated.

MASONIC RESEARCH

The article regarding Masonic "pedigree" which appeared in the previous issue of the Newsletter has evoked quite a bit of interest and response. Bros. Fray and Beazley provided very positive inputs to the discussion. Bro. Trevor remarked that since there are so many known brethren pictured on stamps, there is no need to mention the dubious ones. He understands the options left to the collector for those with conflicting, inconclusive data but makes the positive statement that those individuals for which the data leans very strongly to the negative, the conclusion should be recognized rather than perpetuating a myth.

Both of these esteemed Masonic Philatelists did acknowledge that research performed by collectors is always welcome. Who knows, perhaps new information may surface to sway the decision one way or the other. The two following articles were submitted by members in response to the research article. I thank them for the inputs - we can all appreciate various individuals' outlooks.

WAS NAPOLEON A MASON?

The following article was submitted by Bro. William E. Parker, a member of our Unit and an ardent Masonic researcher. He is a member of the French National Grand Lodge and France-America Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Paris. Now that he is retired, he is devoting a great deal of time to his research efforts. This article appeared in the February 1996 issue of The Northern Light.

"Napoleon's Masonic membership is questionable. There are any number of references to his being a member. Authors note his being initiated in different groups, in different places and at different times. Various sources have speculated he was initiated in France, in Italy, in Malta, in Egypt, in a Scottish body known as the "Primitive Rite of Narbonne", in a group known as the "Franc Juges", in "Les Fendeurs", or in a military lodge.

"Some writers cite other forms of "proof" such as an alleged "Masonic" apron found in Bonaparte's luggage after Waterloo. But the diversity of opinion, conflicting statements and lack of conclusive evidence again cloud the issue.

"Lodges were notorious, of course, in the early years for lack of records and many were lost, destroyed or not kept. And, Napoleon himself was a man of many secrets. The possibility cannot, of course, be excluded out of hand and the issue will doubtless remain forever nebulous, but the derisive statements about the craft and the lack of corroborating "Masonic proof" tend to indicate his non-membership.

"Unquestionably, however, he "favored" the craft, encouraging his top-level Ministers and Officers to join. At least seventeen of his marshals of France and many of his generals were members, and reportedly his father, brothers, stepson, nephew and brother-in-law were also members. The Empress Josephine was an official of French "adoptive" or female "Masonry". There is little doubt that Bonaparte must have been well acquainted with many aspects of the Fraternity.

"Some say his support was designed to annoy the Pope. others say that he merely considered the craft a pleasant diversion to occupy people's minds. Other, perhaps more astute, sources agree with the foregoing, but believe, additionally, he also wanted to "control" the direction of the craft, that it might be useful to him politically. Whatever his reasons, if Freemasonry flourished under the Empire, Napoleon exercised tight control and the craft existed at his will and pleasure, with "sterile" ceremonies more often than not consisting largely of glorifying the Emperor. With many senior military and civilian officials as members, "Imperial" Freemasonry could almost be seen as an adjunct to the Emperor's staff.

"Many lodges adopted names such as Bonaparte, Napoleon, Saint Napoleon, Josephine and variations thereof. If Grand Orient Lodges opened and closed with the salutation "Vive Napoleon" or claim Bonaparte as a member, it is more than likely to have the craft bask in the light of the Emperor's prestige."

WAS CHRISTOPHER WREN A MASON?

The Knight Templar magazine of October 1985 contains a very interesting and comprehensive article on Sir Christopher Wren's possible Masonic membership written by Eminent Knight Christopher P. Harrington, Secretary of the Masonic Study Society of England. Excerpts from this article, provided by Bro. Edsel Hatfield, are cited below; Bro. Harrington's treatise leads to acceptance of Bro. Wren as a Mason but he does stress that the majority of his career in Freemasonry is speculation.

Throughout Sir Christopher Wren's lifetime, the ruling powers of Great Britain were in turmoil and constantly changing. Within many of the reigns it was not considered popular to be a member of any organization - it was best to maintain a low profile, keep as few private records of a contentious nature as possible in case of misinterpretation and to be wary of gathering with contemporaries in case such meetings were construed as cabals on insurrection.

In his 1738 edition of his Constitutions, Dr. Anderson affords a glowing account of the speculative career of Sir Christopher. He affirmed that Wren was of eminence as Grand Warden in 1663 at the age of 31, continuing through to be elected Grand Master in 1685 when he was 53, and thereafter maintaining some form of eminently high office until 1717. On the death of Sir Christopher, two newspapers, *The Postboy* and *The British Journal*, both alluded to him as "that worthy Freemason". There are several other references to Sir Christopher and his association with Freemasonry, the most interesting being an excerpt from Aubrey's *Natural History of Wilshire* which states that on Monday, May 18, 1691, Sir Christopher Wren was adopted as a Brother into the Fraternity of Accepted Masons at a Great Convention by St. Paul's Church. Wren was 59 at the time and it is believed that the term "adopted" implies that Sir Christopher was welcomed as a joining member into that Lodge which contained quite a few operative Masons.

In the Lodge of Antiquity, the minutes of a meeting held on June 3, 1723, state "that the set of Mahogany Candlesticks presented to this Lodge by its worthy old Master, Sir Christopher Wren, were ordered to be deposited in a wooden case lined with cloth." This Lodge once possessed records that went back to 1663, but those prior to 1721 disappeared in what was stated in a memorandum as "the outrage" because it was a case of misappropriation. There is still a good portrait of Sir Christopher, owned by that Lodge and currently hanging in Lodge Room No. 17 in Grand Lodge.

Many of Sir Christopher Wren's contemporaries were well known as Freemasons, including Elias Ashmole and Sir Robert Moray. Edward Condor, in his famous work, *Records of the Holy Craft and Fellowship of Masons*, believes that Sir Christopher joined his many friends, associates and companions in the purely speculative science early in his career.

The choice to include these brethren or not is yours; research, evaluate and decide for yourselves.

FRANK BALDWIN

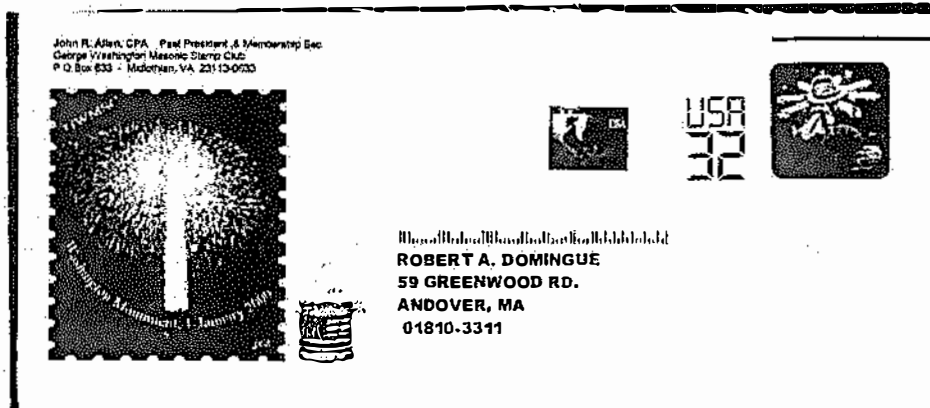
Bro. Edsel Hatfield provides an update to a previous article on Bro. Frank Baldwin, one of his Medal of Honor Cover Series, which points out the value of continued research. In his earlier article, he indicated that Bro. Baldwin retired to Michigan once he reached the mandatory retirement age. Apparently, however, he escaped the mandatory retirement guillotine by achieving Field Grade rank (major through colonel). He was still in the Army when the Spanish American War started and he wound up in San Juan with the Rough Riders. From there he was detailed to the Philippines for service during the insurrection and achieved the rank long overdue for a man of his ability and commendations, including two Medals of Honor. He returned home from the Philippines in 1906 as a Brigadier General and retired to Denver, CO. He was recalled for a brief time during World War I, at the age of 86, to train National Guardsmen. After surviving more than 30 engagements during a career that spanned the Civil War, Indian Wars, Spanish American War, Philippine Insurrection and WW I, he died at his home in Denver in 1923.

CACHET MAKING, A LABOR OF LOVE

Bro John R. Allen, in distributing the GWMSC's Annual Meeting Announcement, created a memorable cover described on the enclosure as follows:

"Man's flight", whether by airplane or into space, will be one of the most memorable events spanning the 20th Century, from the Wright Brothers' flight in 1903 to the Mars Explorer in 1999. The space hologram postage on your envelope represents "Man's flight".

What will one remember about the changeover to 2000? Those living through it will remember the fireworks and lighting of the Washington Monument and the Eiffel Tower before they think of computer glitches! Thus GWMSC's Annual Meeting announcement for 2000 is inside a #10 envelope with a Space hologram stamp and a cachet of the Washington Monument fireworks at midnight on 12-31-99. The scaffolding entombing the monument for repairs was lit so magnificently that the Washington Monument appeared bejeweled in white light with fireworks in the background. The photo was transformed into a "mock" USA postage stamp and printed for this mailing. Wouldn't this have been a more distinctive USPS momento for the coming of 2000? Perhaps they'll use something like this design for the coming of our New Millennium on 12-31-2000! Think of this mailing envelope simply as a momento of two memorable events of the 20th Century!



THE MARQUESS AND MARCHIONESS OF ANTRIM
 (from a painting by Francis Wheatley (1747-1801))



Randal William (MacDonnell) Viscount Dunluce was born on Nov. 4, 1749. He earned a Master of Arts degree in 1769 from Oxford University and in 1787 a Doctor of Laws degree was conferred on him by Trinity College, Dublin. From 1768 to 1775 he was a Member of Parliament (Dublin). In 1771 he was appointed Sheriff of County Antrim, in 1779 a Knight of the Bath and in 1786 a Privy Counsellor (Ireland).

Masonically, Randall was made a Mason "at the Duke of Beaufort's Lodge" at Oxford while a student there, about 1769-70. He was a member of Larne Royal Blue Masonic Lodge No. 615 under the Irish Constitution. He served as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Ireland in 1772, 1773 and from 1778 to 1781. He was elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England (Antients) in 1783 serving until 1791.

-article and card submitted by Bro. Frank Elliott, No. Belfast, Ireland

NATIONAL TOPICAL STAMP SHOW 2000

The ATA Annual Convention and All-Topical Stamp Show will be held this year at the Convention Center in downtown Buffalo, NY. The dates are June 16-18 and the adjacent Hyatt Regency Hotel is offering a special rate for ATA members. If any MSU/ATA members are interested in displaying at this exhibition, please let your editor know.

MASONIC STUDY UNIT OF THE AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

Secretary-Treasurer

Otto Steding
 1033 Hollytree Drive
 Cincinnati, OH 45231

Membership
 \$8.00 - North America
 \$14.00 All Other

President

Norman Lincoln
 P.O. Box 454
 Eaton, OH 45320

NEW ISSUES

The following new issues of interest to a Masonic Philatelist have been announced in the philatelic media.

- 1998 Comoros - *Titanic*, nine se-tenant stamps. (Article will be forthcoming in the next Newsletter)
- July 5 Togo - Antique Cars, five stamps and a S/S which include a Stutz Bearcat and a 1929 Ford Model A.
- Sep. 23 Chile - Red Cross Blood Donation Campaign, 1 value shows man donating blood
- Sept. 30 Tanzania - Beyond 2001 - An Auto Odyssey, four stamps and two panes of six stamps each. Mercedes-Benz and Chrysler cars are pictured.
 - Military Exploits of World History, 16 stamps and two S/S. Adm. Nelson and Gen. James Wolfe are included in the set.
- Nov. 22 Antigua & Barbuda - Christmas/Fine Art, six stamps and one S/S, 2 values show paintings by Albrecht Durer
- Uganda - Apollo 11 Moon Landing 30th Anniversary, six se-tenant stamps. Buzz Aldrin is featured on two of them.
- St. Vincent & Grenadines - Christmas/Fine Art, five stamps and one S/S, one value shows a painting by Albrecht Durer
- Dec. Guinea - Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, 250th Birth Anniversary, three se-tenant stamps showing scenes from *Faust*.
 - Exploration of Outer Space/30th Anniversary of First Manned Moon Landing, 14 stamps and two panes of 6 stamps each. Walter M. Schirra and John Glenn are included in the designs.
- Dec. 7 St. Vincent & Grenadines - Millennium/1930-39, pane of 17 stamps which include Pres. F. D. Roosevelt, Gen. F. Franco (Anti) and King Edward VIII.
- Dec. 20 Liberia - US Presidents George Washington, D. Eisenhower and J. Kennedy. 2000
- Jan. 1 Kiribati - Millennium/Part 3, five stamps picture planets, sun, moon and Earth.
- Feb. British Antarctic Territory - Ernest Shackleton's 1914 Antarctic Expedition, 3 val.
- Feb. Zambia - Millennium/Second Half of the 20th Century, 18 se-tenant stamps. One pictures Edwin Aldrin.
- Feb. 1 Gambia - Millennium/1900-09, pane of 17 se-tenant stamps. Robert Peary and Henry Ford are pictured.



JIM DOUGHERTY COVERS

Bro. Jim Dougherty, member No. 423 of Austin, TX (P.O. Box 1192) has sent in copies of his latest covers. The millennium cover transitions the USPS Happy New Year stamp from 12-31-99 to 1-1-00. The second cover was prepared for George Washington's Birthday - the copy shown here does not do justice to the beautiful colors employed for its creation. Both are available from him at a cost of \$12.50 each.

Jim informs us that he has been reappointed Grand Photographer for the Grand Lodge of Texas and he has also assumed the editorship of the Texas Mason magazine; it has a circulation of 137,000. He just finished his term as Commander of James D. Richardson Council of Knights Kadosh and was installed as Venerable Master of Fidelity Lodge of Perfection for the year 2000.

