

# THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

## Journal of the MASONIC STUDY UNIT



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

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WHOLE NO. 153

### ADHEMAR FERREIRA DA SILVA

Adhemar Ferreira da Silva was born in Casa Verde, in Sao Paulo, on September 29, 1927. The only child of a humble family, he became a sort of hero by keeping himself free from drugs and violence, characteristic of poor districts in big cities. When he was 18, a friend took him, the skinny boy with long and skinny legs, to an athletic track meet. His enthusiasm concentrated on an odd specialty – the triple jump. He emerged champion in his very first competition – winning the Trofeu Brasil in 1947. On July 23, 1952, at the Helsinki Olympics in Finland, he won the first Brazilian Olympic Gold Medal. From 4:40 P.M. to 6:05 P.M. that afternoon he broke the Olympic and World records four times – he jumped 16.05 m., 16.09 m., 16.12 m. and 16.22 m. For those feats he was the first athlete to be given an “Olympic Run” – a run around the stadium track accompanied by the applause of the audience – a very humbling by thankful gesture. In the Melbourne, Australia, games he established a new Olympic record – 16.35 m. In addition to being a two time Olympic champion, he was a ten time Brazilian, five time South American and three time Pan American champion as well as winner of the Portuguese-Brazilian Championship in Lisbon in 1960.

He graduated as a sculptor from the Escola Technica Federal de Sao Paulo in 1948 and received a degree in Physical Education at the Military School in 1968, in law from the Universidade do Brasil that same year and in Public Relations from the Faculdade de Comunicacao Casper Libero in 1990. He served as Cultural Attache at the Brazilian Embassy in Nigeria from 1964 to 1967. He was also an actor, newspaperman and served on various Athletic commissions. Before his death on January 12, 2001 he left his greatest contribution to Brazilian society – his autobiography, “Herói por nos”.

Bro. Ferreira started his activities in Freemasonry in 1970 in the Great East of Sao Paulo. The Brazilian Post Office honored him with the issuance of a stamp on September 28, 2002.

- from Bro. R. M. Schramm



## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

### NEW MEMBERS:

153. Charles Barkley, 404 Washington St., Portsmouth, VA 23704  
188. Larry G. Canada, 3235 Flowerdale Lane, Dallas, TX 75229  
190. S. Avery Ghent, Jr., 4 Scottish Rite Ct., Greensboro, NC 27407

### ADDRESS CHANGES:

496. J. H. Kroon, De Mo 19, 2497 VT Den Haag, The Netherlands

### CLOSED ALBUMS:

474. Edmond Chaptal, late of Champigny Sur Marne, France

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## THE EARL OF CRAWFORD

The Earl of Crawford, James Ludovic Lindsay (1847-1913) holds an enduring place in philately for having donated his superb philatelic library to the British Museum. This donation included the John K. Tiffany library as well as other holdings. Perhaps less well known were many other donations of libraries to universities and learned societies.

An accomplished astronomer, Bro. Lindsay founded the library and funded the reconstruction of the Royal Observatory at Edinburgh. He donated a 45,000 item library collection to the National Library of Scotland. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society at the age of 31 and served as president when George V stepped down as president of that group to become King. He served in Parliament, first in the Commons representing Wigan as a Conservative and then the Lords when he succeeded his father as Earl of Crawford.

The Earl of Crawford became a Freemason about 1866 while a student at Trinity College, Cambridge. In 1886 he was elected Worshipful Master of the Lodge at Wigan where he maintained the family seat. Later, he was made Deputy Provincial Grand Master of West Aberdeen. A member of the Ancient and Accepted Rite, he attained the 31<sup>st</sup> degree

A stamp which could be used with this case could be one picturing King George V who recommended that the Earl of Crawford succeed him as President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, when he became King.

-extracted from a Royal Philatelic Society, London, Dec. 2002 supplement to the London Philatelist written by Ron Negus. Contributed to us by Pres. Gene Fricks.

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### MASONIC STUDY UNIT OF THE AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

President  
E.E. "Gene" Fricks  
25 Murray Way  
Blackwood, NJ 08012  
[genefricks@prodigy.net](mailto:genefricks@prodigy.net)

Vice-President  
Juan Sabater Pic  
Ronda Guinardo 28 3o 1a  
08024 Barcelona, Spain

Secretary-Treasurer  
Otto Steding  
640 Maple Trace Dr.  
Cincinnati, OH 45246  
[steding@att.net](mailto:steding@att.net)

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

## BERNARDINO CABALLERO & JOSE SEGUNDO DECOUD

These two Paraguayan Military Leaders are shown on a stamp, Scott 354, issued by Paraguay in 1939 to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the University of Ascencion.



Bernardino Caballero rose to the rank of General and had a brilliant career in the military. He was later elected President of the Republic, governing the country from 1880 to 1886. Jose Segundo Decoud followed his military career with a term as Senator in the Parliament. He was also founder and first president of the Partido Colorado (Colored Party), created on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 1887.

Bro. Caballero was awarded the 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree in the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite for his virtues and special merits. He served as Grand Master of Ceremonies of the recently formed Grand Orient of Paraguay in 1896 and as an active member and Grand Treasurer of the Supreme Council of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree in Paraguay.

In 1895 the Masonic Brethren of Paraguay were authorized to create a new Grand Orient and a Supreme Council. Bro. Decoud had the responsibility of establishing the contacts with the Grand Oriental Lodge of Paraguay to obtain the Masonic independence desired – a task which he accomplished with zeal. After March 26, 1896, he was the Grand Master and the Sovereign Grand Commander of the recently formed bodies.

- contributed by Bro. Juan Sabater Pie, Barcelona, Spain, the Unit Vice President  
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### JUAN BAUTISTA GIL



Juan Bautista Gil is included in the issue of stamps picturing Paraguay Presidents that was issued in 1892-6; he is shown on Scott 35 released in 1892. He was Sovereign Grand Inspector General, 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, and an active member of the Supreme Council of Paraguay.

A politician, Bro. Bautista Gil was the second President of the Republic serving in the period 1874-88. He assumed power on November 25, 1874 and during his mandate he restored the national credit of the State and achieved retirement of the fighting troops of Asuncion City.

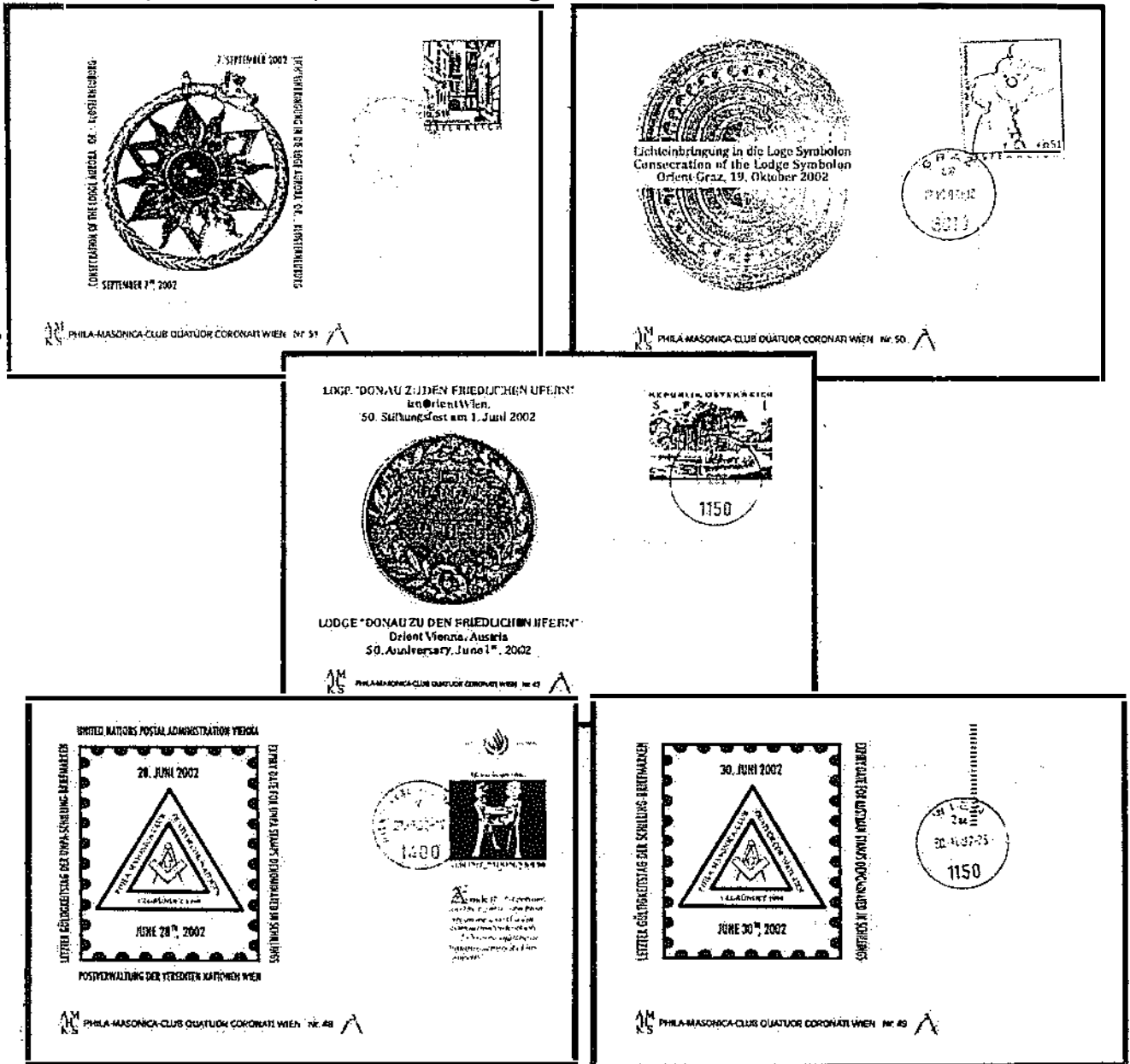
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### REUBEN MATTUS – FOUNDER OF “HAAGEN-DAZS” ICE CREAM

The Grand Lodge of New York has identified, through the “EMESSAY NOTES”, that Reuben Mattus, the late founder of Haagen-Dazs Ice Cream was a Master Mason in good standing for 53 years in Girard Perfect Ashlar Lodge No. 604 (now known as Scotia Lodge No. 634) in New York City. There must be a stamp that depicts ice cream.

## PHILA MASONICA CLUB COVERS

Dr. Herbert Schmid has written wishing all the members a Happy New Year and has provided samples of the latest five covers produced by his Club. They honor Lodge Anniversaries and Consecrations and the expiration of the use of UNPA stamps denominated in Schillings. Shown here, they are available from him at Hackenberggasse 29/33/3, A-1 190 Wien, Austria, for a charge of US\$2.50 each.

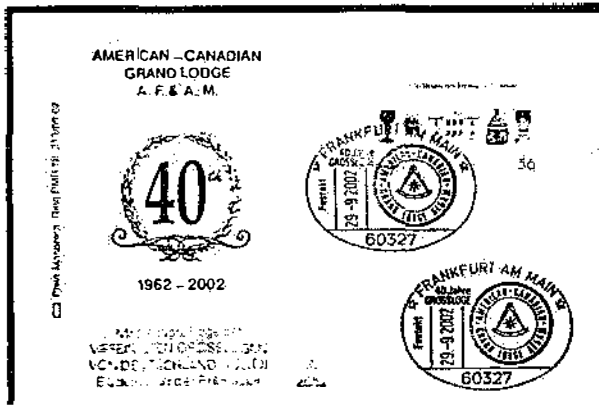
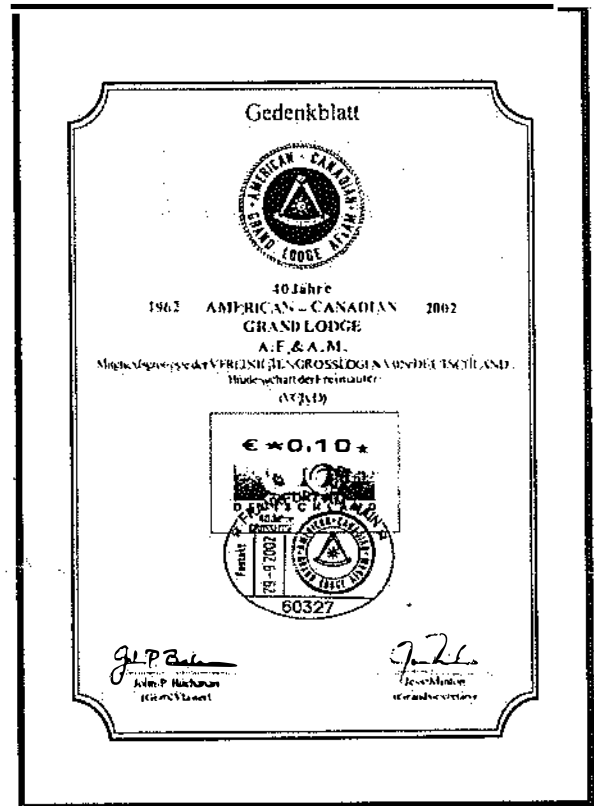
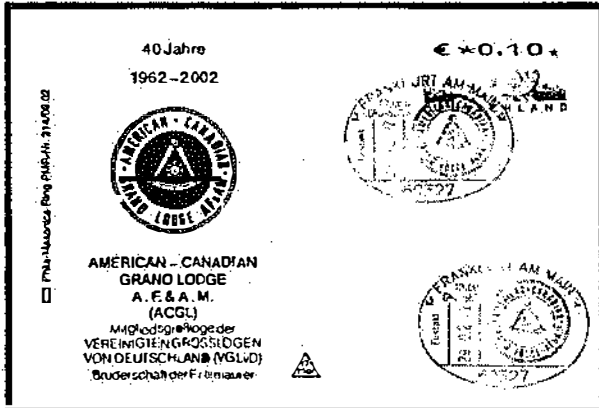


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Bro. Joseph Nathan Kane, a member of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York, passed away Sept. 22, 2002 at the age of 103. He was well known for his research and publication of "first facts", one of which was distributed to MSU/ATA members a few years ago. He was a member of King Solomon-Beethoven Lodge No. 232, New York.

## AMERICAN-CANADIAN GRAND LODGE A.F.& A.M.

Bro. Donald L. Saint has forwarded copies of covers and a Presentation Card recently prepared for the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of this Grand Lodge which is situated in Germany. On the back of the card are listed the member Lodges of this Grand Lodge. He did not indicate prices so if you are interested in acquisition, contact him at R-Box, CMR 452, Box 502, APO AE 09045.



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### JUAN G. GONZALEZ

This Paraguayan politician served as President during the 1890-93 period. On September 11, 1887, he and Bro. Senator Jose Secondo Decaud founded the "Partido Colorado" (Colored Party), one of the more important political groups in the country.



Bro. Gonzalez was a 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree recipient of the A.A.S.R. and an active member of the Supreme Council of Paraguay. He was also the Grand Banner Bearer of the newly created Grand Orient of Paraguay on March 26, 1896. He is pictured on Scott 41 issued in 1892.

## BRUCE RUXTON



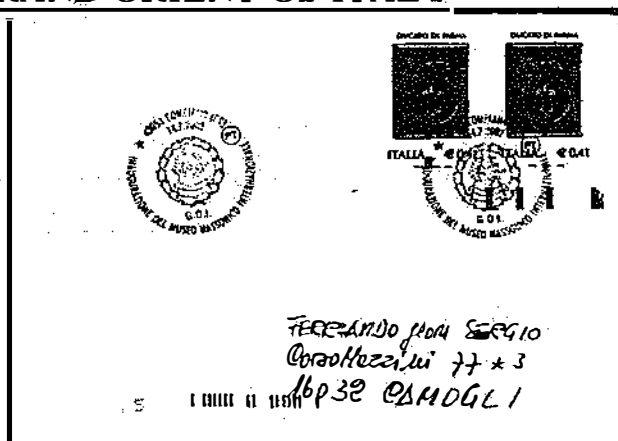
Bro. Eddy Levey of Mildura, Australia, has sent in a copy of a sheet of stamps depicting Bro. Ruxton which were published by Australia Post in 2002 as a Personal Sheet – it was made in very limited quantities and cannot be bought “over the counter”. Bro. Ruxton received his degrees in the Lodge “Willmere” No. 645, Melbourne, Victoria in 1953. He was awarded the rank of Grand Tyler in March 2002 – a rank entrusted on those Brethren who have done a great service to the Craft but who have not served as Worshipful Master.

Bruce Ruxton has been the State President of the Victorian Branch of the Returned & Services League (RSL) of Australia since 1979. He is known as “Mr. RSL” for his support and assistance to veterans and their families. He served in the Australian 2/25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion as a rifleman and saw service in the Southwest Pacific and with the British Commonwealth Occupation Forces in Japan for 3 years after the war. He has received the RSL’s highest award – the Meritorious Service Medal and is a life member of the League. He was also awarded an MBE in 1975, the OBE in 1981 and the AM in 1997 and two honors from France – the Chevalier of the Order of Merit in 1997 and the Legion d’Honneur in 1999.

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### SPECIAL CANCEL – GRAND ORIENT OF ITALY

Bro. Ferrando Sergio has provided us with a sample of a Special Masonic Cancel prepared by the Grand Orient of Italy for use in Compiano on July 14, 2002. It noted the Inauguration of the International Masonic Museum located there.



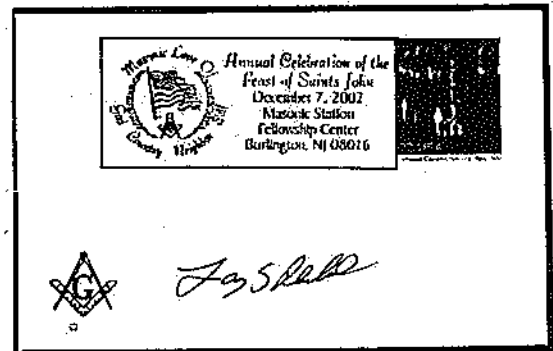
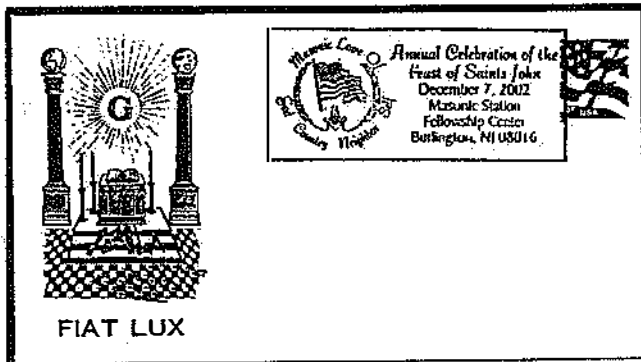
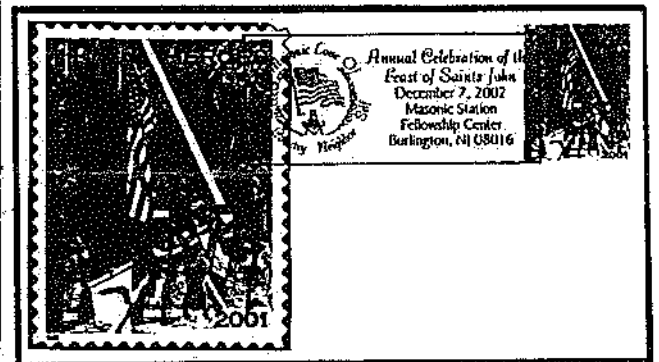
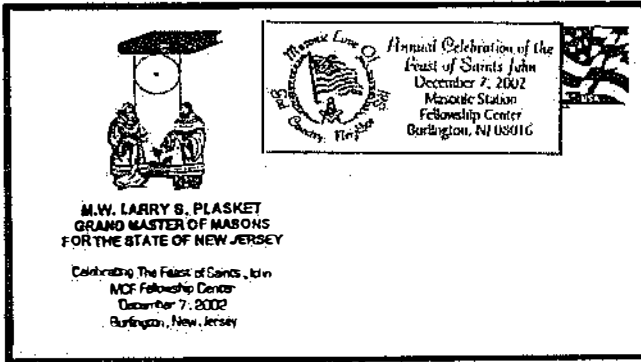
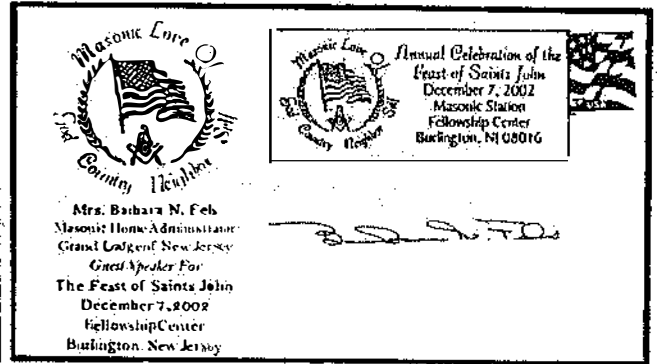
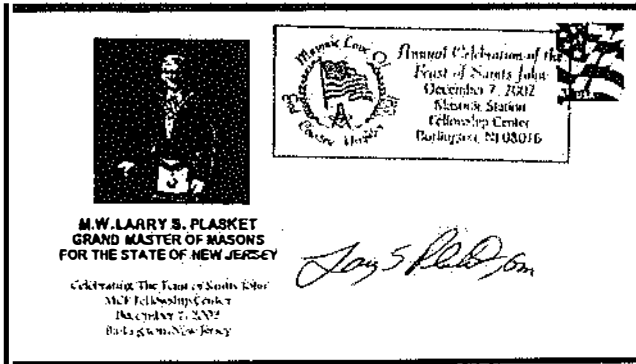
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### APS STAMPSHOW 2003

The 2003 STAMPSHOW sponsored by the APS will be held from August 7 – 10, 2003 at the Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, Ohio. Information on the show and applications to exhibit can be seen at [www.stamps.org/StampShow/intro.htm](http://www.stamps.org/StampShow/intro.htm).

## ANNUAL NEW JERSEY FEAST OF SAINT JOHN COVERS

Bro. M. Richard Mekenian has again prepared a set of covers for the 2002 Annual Celebration of this noted Masonic Festival held at Burlington, NJ. This year's guest speaker was Mrs. Barbara N. Fels, Masonic Home Administrator for the Grand Lodge of New Jersey. The cost for the 6 covers shown is \$20.00 and they can be ordered from Bro. Mekenian at 711 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., Spring Lake, NJ 07762. All monies collected will go to the Grand Lodge Permanent Fun of NJ, DeMolay and the 32<sup>nd</sup> Degree Scottish Rite Learning Centers.



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HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL THE MEMBERS – WHY NOT MAKE A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION TO BRING ONE NEW MEMBER INTO OUR UNIT THIS YEAR – I would enjoy the added tasks associated with a doubled membership.

## HEROES OF THE CHACO WAR (1932-1935)



Bro. Juan Sabater Pie has located a Web site which discusses the Chaco War waged in Paraguay and identifies several members of the Craft who fought in it. Paraguay issued a stamp during the period of the War, Scott 324-5, which shows the area involved (one value shown here) and a set of 12 regular stamps and 13 airmails, Scott 508-19, C233-45, on June 12, 1957, to honor Heroes of the Chaco War (one value shown here).



The War began in June 1932 with the attack of the Majos Moscoso against the Paraguayan fortress "Carlos Antonio Lopez". The rumors of existence of petroleum in the Chaco Zone led the Bolivians to try to claim that territory. They conquered the fortress near the Paraguay city of Asuncion. The Paraguay forces, in a display of great heroism and valiant combat, staged a counterattack in September of that year causing numerous deaths and wounding many soldiers. In July, after three years of bloody struggles, the military hostilities ceased and a peace armistice was achieved between the two countries.

Manuel T. Aponte – Commander of the Army and Fleet. Freemason

Domingo Atlio Fernandez – Official of the Curupaty Regiment. Member of Libertad Lodge No. 4.

Victor Ayala Queirolo – Colonel. Freemason.

Amadeo Baez Allende – Official of the 20<sup>th</sup> Regiment in Acayauasa. Member of Sol Naciente Lodge and 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree of the A.A.S.R.

Pedro Baez Acosta – Doctor, Official of the 20<sup>th</sup> Regiment in St. Martin. Member of Libertad Lodge No. 4.

Celso Baruja Garcia – Official of the 4<sup>th</sup> Regiment in Curupaty. Member of Libertad Lodge No. 4 and 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree of the A. A.S.R.

Jose Boston – Marine Captain and Director of the Arsenals and Aviation. Member of Libertad Lodge No. 4 and 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree of the A.A.S.R.

Basilio Caballero Ayala – Commander of the Sauce No. 10 Regiment. Member of the Aurora del Paraguay Lodge and 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree of the A. A.S.R.

Felix Cabrera – Colonel who commanded a Division. Freemason.

Nicolas Delgado – General who commanded a Corps. Freemason

Feliciano Farina – Captain who commanded the Campaign Army. Member of the Lodge Libertad No. 4

Alfredo Mena Fretes – Colonel, Chief of Operations of the Second Army Corps. Member of Sol Naciente Lodge No. 2 and Union y Progreso of Encarnacion Lodge.

Enrique Paats – Captain who commanded the Sauce No. 19 regiment of the Second Army Corps. Member of Sol Naciente Lodge No. 2

Cristobal Periz – Captain. Member of Libertad Lodge No. 4

Oscar Pinho Insfran – Captain of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment in Corrales. Member of Sol Naciente Lodge

Juan Plate – Official. Member of Libertad Lodge No. 4 and 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree of the A. A.S.R.

Juan Francisco Recalde – Lt. Colonel of the Army in the "Military Sanity". Freemason

Nelson Rolon – Cadet of the Military School, Mariscal F. Solano Lopez. As Lt. Colonel he commanded the 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment in Boqueron. Member of Libertad Lodge No. 4

Luis Ruggel – Administration Official of the Army. Member of Union y Progreso de Encarnacion Lodge.

Cayo Susto – Captain of the 14<sup>th</sup> Regiment in Cerro Cora. Member of Libertad Lodge No. 4.



## RECENT BRAZILIAN MASONIC CACHED COVERS

The two covers shown below as well as the triangular shaped information brochure on Bro. Colonel Antonio de Lara Ribas are available from Bro. Dr. Renato Mauro Schramm, resident of the Club Filatélico Maçonico do Brasil at Caba Postal 3085, 88010-970 Florianopolis, SC, Brasil. He can also be reached at [clubselo@zaz.com.br](mailto:clubselo@zaz.com.br). The Club Web Site is [www.geocities.com/Paris/Palais/5240/index.html](http://www.geocities.com/Paris/Palais/5240/index.html).



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### JOSE PERALTA (1855-1937)

Jose Peralta was an Ecuadorian physician and politician but he also had talents as a brilliant linguist and author. He is remembered for his high patriotic and liberal ideals and for his continuous struggle against the local dictatorships. During his diplomatic career, he gave numerous services to his country – prompting the statue of him shown on this stamp.

Jose Peralta is cited as a Mason on the Internet Page of the Grand Equinnocial Lodge of Ecuador. Stamps honoring him as a writer were issued by Ecuador in 977, Scott 958-9, C609. (958-9 are shown.)



## INTERNET WEB SITES

As cited in previous Newsletters and demonstrated in this issue, there are a considerable number of Internet Web Sites which offer a wealth of information regarding the various Grand Lodges, Lodges and individual Masons. Juan Sabater Pie seems to be getting familiar with many of them. I have also been informed of some wonderful sites by Bros. Tony Field and Paul Butler, both of Great Britain.

One Site which Bro. Juan discovered is [www.masonicinfo.com](http://www.masonicinfo.com) – it has two major subgroups: famous Masons (2 parts) and famous non-Masons. It is very interesting to note that the individual responsible for these sites and their contents is Bro. Edward L. King – Member No. 10 of our Unit who resides in Bangor, Maine. He has quite a bit of information regarding the “non-Masons” but on some of the “Masons” there are no supporting details such as Lodge membership. Perhaps we can help Bro. King and ourselves by determining the supporting information and forwarding it to him at [reply@masonicinfo.com](mailto:reply@masonicinfo.com).

Other Sites identified to date include:

<http://users.libero.it/fjit.bvg/freemas.html> - Site in Genoa, Italy

[www.grandlodge-england.org](http://www.grandlodge-england.org) – Grand Lodge of England

[www.freimaurer.org](http://www.freimaurer.org) – Grand Lodge of Germany

[www.frimurer.no](http://www.frimurer.no) – Grand Lodge of Norway

[www.freemasonry.org.il](http://www.freemasonry.org.il) – Grand Lodge of Israel

[www.grandlodgens.org](http://www.grandlodgens.org) – Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia

[sites@thefreemason.com](mailto:sites@thefreemason.com) – Masonic Magazine

[www.thesquaremagazine.com](http://www.thesquaremagazine.com)

[www.masonet.net](http://www.masonet.net)

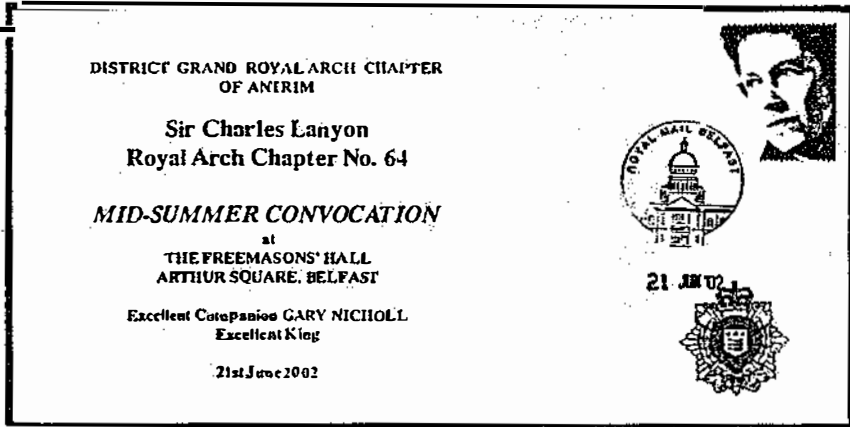
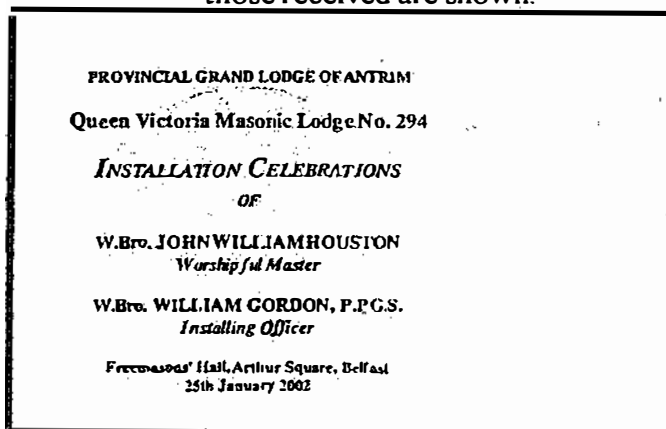
[www.militarymasons.co.uk](http://www.militarymasons.co.uk)

<http://marih.free.fr/>

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## EVENT COVERS FROM IRELAND

Bro. Frank Elliott of Belfast, Northern Ireland, has again sent out his Christmas and New Year wishes with some Special Event Covers for his Masonic friends around the world. Bro. Frank does a great job of recording several Masonic Installations, Convocations and Visitations involving his friends and organizations of which he is a member. A couple of those received are shown.



## JOSE FELIX ESTIGARRIBIA (1888-1940)



Paraguay overprinted a stamp on September 7, 1940 to honor Bro. Felix Estigarribia who died in an airplane crash that day, Scott 386. In addition, a set – Scott 1839-44 – was issued in 1978 to note the Induction of Bro. Jose into the Salon de Bronze (National Heroes Hall of Fame).



Masonically, Bro. Jose Felix Estigarribia was a 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree Sovereign Grand Inspector General of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite and was an active member of the Supreme Council of Paraguay.

After studying in the Superior School of War in Paris, France, he became the Director of the Military School of Asuncion city in 1923. He was designated as Inspector General of the Paraguayan Army. During the Chaco War he served as a Lt. Colonel and led many important victories resulting in advancement to the rank of General Major. With the coup d'etat of Colonel Rafael Franco on February 17, 1936, he was obligated to exile himself to Uruguay. When Franco was overthrown on August 13, 1937 he returned to Paraguay and helped the new President, Felix Pavia, re-establish the Constitution of 1870. He served as Representative of Paraguay to the United States from 1938 to 1939. He was elected President of the Republic on March 4, 1939 and after dissolution of Parliament, he assumed all powers of the nation. He annulled the Constitution of 1870 and promoted another which strengthened the government. As stated above he died in a plane crash on September 7, 1940.

- contributed by Bro. Juan Sabater Pie

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## TWO MORE MASONIC PRESIDENTS OF PARAGUAY

Bro. Juan has also identified two more former Presidents of Paraguay who are reputed to have been Freemasons – Candido Bareiro and Cirilo Antonio Rivarola – but the Web Site offers no details on their Masonic credentials.



Candido Bareiro was President of his country between the years of 1878 and 1880 Sc 37-38

Cirilo Antonio Rivarola was a member of the Presidential Junta during the period of 1869 to 1870 and as President of the Republic in the year 1871. On December 15, 1871, he renounced his position and the national power passed to Salvador Jovellanos.



Sc 32-33

## NEW ISSUES

The following new issues of a Masonic interest have been announced in the philatelic press:

June 5 – Peru – Peruvian of the Millennium – medal showing Miguel Grau.

June 12 – Philippines – Presidents of the Republic – 10 se-tenant stamps including Manuel Roxas.

Oct. 14 – Bhutan – First Transatlantic Flight 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – two stamps and a S/S picturing Charles A. Lindbergh.

Nov. 18 – St. Kitts – Famous people of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century – 6 se-tenant stamps including Charles A. Lindbergh

Nov. 30- France – Alexandre Dumas – one value

Jan. 7, 2003 – US – Thurgood Marshall – illustrated here



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### LUIS VARGAS TORRES (1856 – 1887)

An Ecuadorian patriot, he was the martyr of the liberal movement in his country. Professionally, he was the manager of the enterprise “Avellaneda y Varas” and had managed to amass a significant fortune through his efforts. After Veintemilla was proclaimed dictator, he sold his business and moved to Panama in 1882 and gave his money to Bro. Eloy Alfaro to buy arms for the expulsion of the tyrant. With a small army but many arms, they returned to Ecuador and conquered the city of Esmeraldas. He was elected Deputy of the new Convention but he and Alfaro exiled back to Panama to organize a new army and begin another coup d’etat. After several battles he was defeated in 1886 and condemned to death. He was assassinated by the rifles of his enemy on March 20, 1887. Ten years later his body and remains were transferred to a mausoleum in the General Cemetery of Guayaquil and was given the honor of a National Hero.

Bro. Luis Vargas Torres was initiated in a Masonic Lodge when he was 22 years old. After being initiated, the Brethren gave him a white apron that was the property of Bro. Gen. Eloy Alfaro that was sent to the Lodge from Panama. He was an exemplary Mason, never missing a meeting without an important reason. He later received the Chapter Degrees of the A. A. S. R. and was soon awarded the 33<sup>rd</sup> Degree.

Ecuador honored Bro Vargas Torres with a stamp issued on January 6, 1988 to honor his death in 1887 – Scott 1150.

