

# THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

Journal of the  
MASONIC STUDY UNIT



Editor  
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59 Greenwood Road  
Andover, Mass. 01810

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Whole No. 166

## DIMITRIE CANTEMIR and FREEMASONRY in ROMANIA

Recently Romania issued a set of three stamps and a souvenir sheet to commemorate World Organizations. The three stamps honor the Lions Club, Red Cross and Boy Scouts. The Souvenir sheet pictures Dimitrie Cantemir, a coat of arms in the background and a bold Masonic Square and Compasses. I have not yet determined the connection between this individual and Freemasonry but there must have been one which led the Romanian postal department to select the designs used for this sheet.



Dimitrie Cantemir, a Prince of Moldavia, excellent linguist, encyclopedist scholar, writer and trained performer and composer of Ottoman music, was born September 26, 1673, in the Silisteni villages, Falciu county, as a scion of Moldavian boyard family of Cantemir. He was educated at the Priestly Court of Iasi in eleven languages, literature and history under the Greek priest Cacavela. His father had become a ruler of Moldavia; Dimitrie lived in Constantinople (Istanbul) from 1688 to 1710 having been pledged there to the High Gate by his father. After his father's death in 1693, he was elected prince of Moldavia but the Ottomans did not confirm him, his brother was elected instead. He did return to become Volvode (Prince) of Moldavia in 1710 and had only served one year when he joined Peter the Great in his campaign against the Ottoman Empire. The Russian-Moldovian army was defeated at Stanilesti and he was obliged to escape to Russia with his family and 4,000 Moldovians. There he was titled Prince of the Russian Empire by Peter the Great and Prince of the Holy Roman Empire by Charles VI. He died at his estate, Dimitrievska, north of Kharkov, in 1723. In 1935 his remains were brought back to his homeland and were buried at Iasi. His Masonic ties have not yet been determined but the fact that he was associated with Peter the great indicates they probably existed.

## MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

### NEW MEMBERS:

None

### ADDRESS CHANGES:

420. Peter Lindsay, 21432 95 Ave., Langley, B.C. V1M 1T3, Canada

### CLOSED ALBUMS:

191. Joris Meltzer, late of the Netherlands (Sept. 21, 2004 of lung cancer)

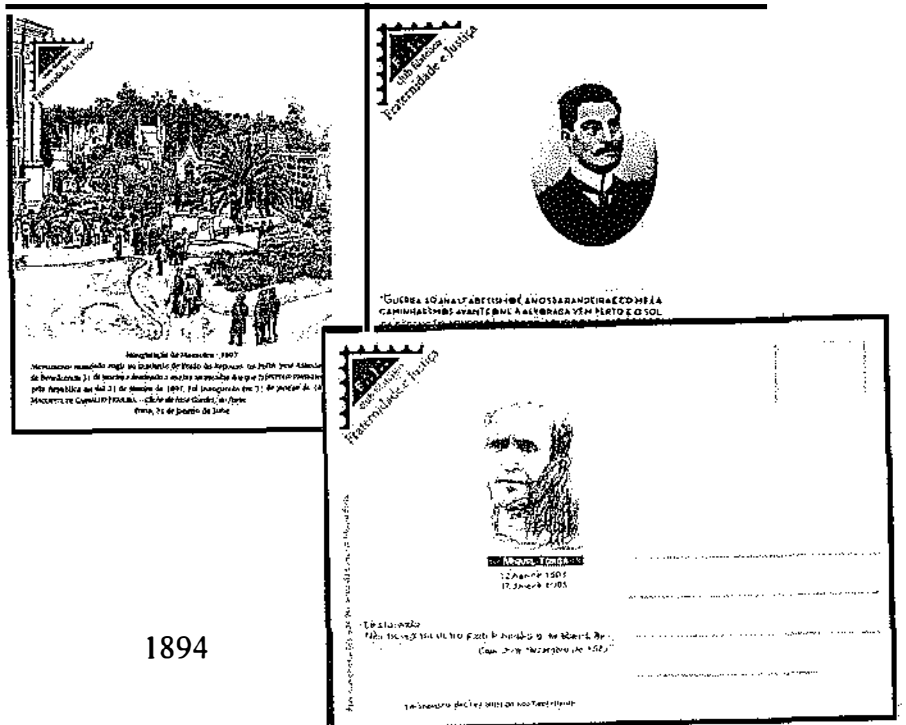
Bro. Eddie Levey (who shows up on eBay periodically as steadyeddie) proudly announces that in March 2005 he will be elevated to Very Worshipful Bro. Levey, Past Grand Inspector of Workings. Congratulations, Bro. Eddie.

There was some response to the question posed in the previous Newsletter regarding my serving as Secretary-Treasurer as well as Editor. I thank you for the unanimous consensus. I also received a suggestion that the newsletter be printed on 11 X 17 paper and folded into a bound edition with a front cover masthead to add the professional look. Any other thoughts on this approach? It was also suggested that we develop a website.

Bro. Emiel Crab of the Netherlands has compiled a catalog of Freemasons and Freemasonry on stamps and covers. It contains all the items he has found in the Verlichte Loep, the Newsletter published by the Netherlands de Getsande Rand, our Newsletter and the files of Bro. Wessel Lans. It is a formidable work which he created for himself but he is sharing it with anyone interested. His contact points are: Berlageplan 125, NL 2728 EE, Zoetermeer, The Netherlands; Phone 00 31 79 3439794; [emiel@antverperix.be](mailto:emiel@antverperix.be)

We have had no offers for the complete set of Nick Koutroulis Masonic Cacheted Covers at \$150 for the run of 47 covers. I see these covers selling on eBay for at least \$3.00 apiece – perhaps it is the large quantity which turns members off – or perhaps we all already have them. Disbelieving the latter, we will entertain any reasonable offer. Please contact me.

Apparently a new Masonic Philatelic group has been formed. We have received an introduction note from Bro. Carlos Dios, President of the Club Fraternity and Justice in Portugal. He included four unused Masonic Cachets with an offer to purchase material from us. I will find out what his cover producing plans are and perhaps we can serve as a contact point for them in this country.



## BOB WILLS

We received several inputs regarding the Masonic membership of James Robert "Bob" Wills, the Father of Country Swing. Born near Kosse TX March 6, 1905 and died May 13, 1975, he was married five times. There is no record, however, of his ever having been a Freemason so we must remove him from our listings.

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## BRONSON PINCHOT

Bronson Pinchot was born in New York City but moved with his family to South Pasadena CA when he was two and a half years old. After graduating from South Pasadena High School, he attended Yale University on a scholarship with the intention of studying painting and drawing in order to become an illustrator. This interest was soon exchanged for acting. He landed his first role as Jacques in a production of "As You Like It" and then followed with "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" Shortly after graduating, Bronson was spotted by a casting director and was cast in a New York production of Paul Rudnok's "Poor Little Lambs". From there he went on to several film credits. He also has TV credits for his roles on "Perfect Strangers", "Stephen King's The Langoliers" and "Clueless". He lives in Beverly Hills CA with his fiancée, writer-director Amy Heckerling. In his spare time he likes to study and collect Greek sculpture, 400 to 31 B.C.



By virtue of a dispensation granted by the R.W. Grand Master, the three degrees were conferred on Actor Bronson Pinchot in Harford Lodge No. 445, Hop Bottom, PA, in December 2002. He is pictured here, front row, extreme left, along with the Masters who conferred the degrees and other Lodge and District officers.

-many thanks to Bro. Norman Lincoln

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## TOM MIX – ADDED INFORMATION

Bro. Lincoln also informs us that Tom Mix's interest in Masonry led him to form a club called "The Westerners" which was composed of Masons who worked for him or for Twentieth Century Fox. Our late Bro. Jerry Erikson named several of them including his three principal cameramen Daniel Bryan Clark (1890-1961) who won two Oscars, Frank B. Good (1884-1938) and Benjamin H. Kline (1894-1974) who photographed 309 films during his career.

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## MASONIC STUDY UNIT OF THE AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

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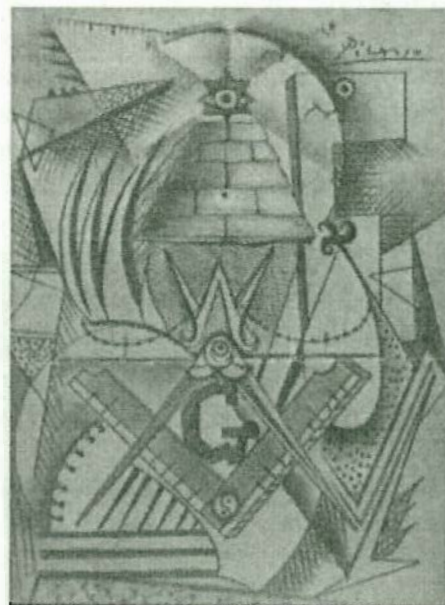


## PICASSO – WAS HE A MASON?

Two lots recently offered on eBay tend to lead one to believe that Picasso was a Freemason. If he were, there are many stamps we could use to illustrate his page in our albums. Both lots offered “Picasso Signed Original Replica Drawings” – one was titled “Masonic Art”, the other “Masonic Lodge”. They are cited as being 9 X 12 hand executed superb quality vintage graphite pencil drawings on paper, signed “Picasso” towards the top right corner of the work. They were part of a collection assembled by Phil Westin, Art Collector. They have no documents and have not been researched, so they are sold as Attributed to or in the Manner of Picasso or Replica Style of Picasso. Both were offered in three day auctions with starting bids in the \$25 range; The “Art” went for \$185, the “Temple” for \$510. Can any member shed any light on this possible case?



Masonic Art



Masonic Lodge

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## THE MASONIC ACADEMY

Bro. M. Regoor has written to clarify the fact that there is no connection between “The Masonic Academy” and “De Getande Rand”. He had previously served De Getande Rand as Treasurer but now is considered a non-active member. Until 15 October, 2004, he had served as the President of The Masonic Academy – an organization of Masons who discuss on a higher-level certain Masonic items and then publish the same. They also look into the past and present the backgrounds of “forgotten Masons”. It is in this light that they have published several covers. He has provided us with translations of those backgrounds which are contained within the covers.

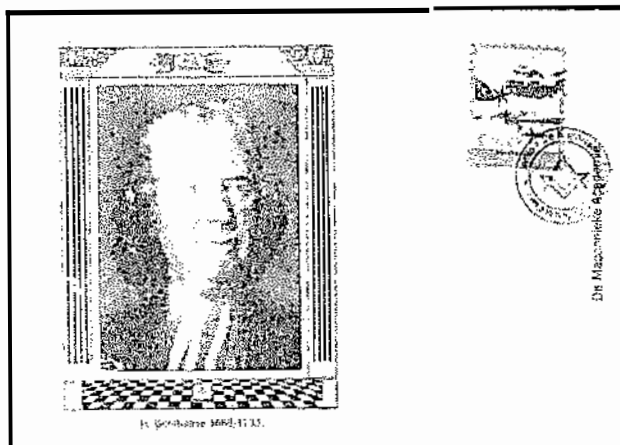
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### DUES

Brethren – Many of you have memberships which expire in April. I hope to have a reminder within this Newsletter for those who fall in that category. If I don't make it with the notice, check your mailing label. If it is 0504 or earlier, I need your dues payment.

## HERMANUS BOERHAAVE

Bro. Hermanus Boerhaave was born on Dec. 31, 1668, in Voorhout, Netherlands, and died in Eiden on September 23, 1738. He is considered the most famous medical doctor with international experience that the Netherlands has ever had. He was the son of a Protestant preacher and in 1648 he went to the University of Leiden where he studied theology, philosophy and arithmetic. In 1689 he won a gold medal for a speech he delivered and in 1690 he left the university as a Doctor in Theology.



Directly thereafter he started his study in medicine and on July 13, 1693 received his doctorate in medicine from the University in Hardwijk, Netherlands. He started his career as a protestant clergyman but soon had difficulties since he had opinions the church could not accept. He took a job as lector at the University and turned down a job as professor in Groningen. As a reward for staying with them, Leiden University raised his salary and promised to make him a professor as soon as a position opened. In 1709 he received his professorship in botany and was responsible for the garden with the medicinal plants. This placed him in contact with many European scholars. In 1718 he held three professorships: botany, medicine and philosophy. In 1724 he built the extensive Oud Poelgeest in Leiden. He dropped his professorship in botany in 1729 and philosophy in 1731. He died a good religious man in 1738 and was buried in Leiden.

His fame as a doctor in medicine was responsible for the fact that many royal persons came to see him or requested a visit; these included the Emperor Franz I, Prince Euenius of Savory, the Tsar Peter I, etc. He alone found cures for these nobilities where others had failed. As a professor in medicine he was so well loved that he attracted more students from other countries than the university could accept. He was invited to give lectures in Vienna, Edinburgh Heidelberg, etc. In 1770, Frederick the Great created a law that the German university had to adhere to the medical instructions given by Boerhaave.

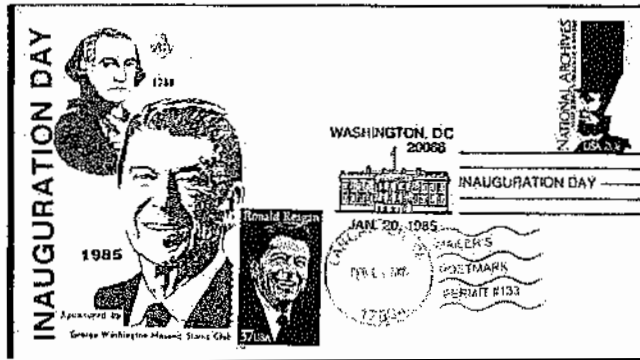
Bro. Beerhaave was a member of the famous Lodge in Leiden. In his earlier years he was very active but in later years he had no time to fulfill his Masonic duties.

-provided by Bro. M. Regoor

## GWMSC COVER FOR RONALD REAGAN

Although we have not yet received a copy of the FDC prepared by the GWMSC for the Ronald Reagan stamp for illustration, Bro. Stan Longenecker has assured us it is "on its way". Although it was a nationwide First Day, they used the Washington DC cancellation for their covers. They cost \$3.00 each (plus a #10 SASE with each order) and can be ordered from Bro. Stan at 930 Wood St., Mount Joy, PA 17552.

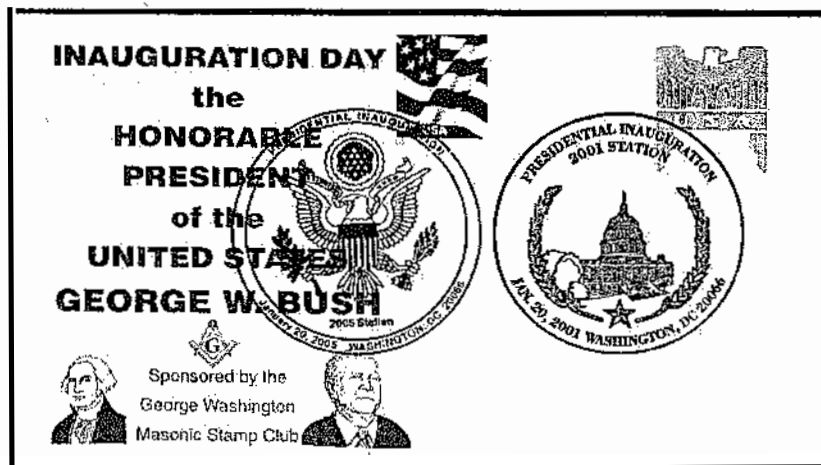
The Reagan Inauguration cover shown here is a special effort creating an interesting dual using Lancaster, PA, the US Capitol for one day, as the 2005 city cancel for the Reagan stamp.



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### GWMSC INAUGURATION COVER

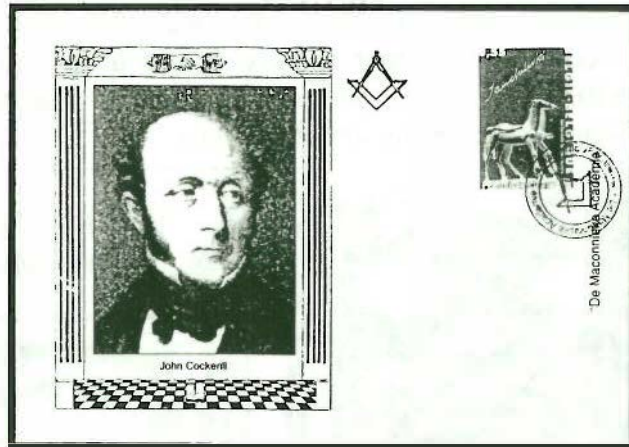
As they have done for every Presidential Inauguration since Dwight David Eisenhower, the George Washington Masonic Stamp Club has issued a Special Event cover for this year's inauguration of George W. Bush. Shown here, it is available from Bro. Stan Longenecker at the address cited above at a cost of \$4.00 each plus a #10 SASE with each order.



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## JOHN COCKERIL

John Cockeril belonged to a famous English family of industrialists which was very active in the Industrial Revolution in Belgium. They were also extremely active in the industrialization in other European countries. He was born August 3, 1790 in Haslington, Lancashire and he died in Warsaw, Poland, June 10, 1840. In 1807, William Cockeril and all the members of his family started his factory in Luik, Belgium. He became a strong supporter of Napoleon and supplied France with all necessary instruments.



William, Sr., stopped his activities in the company having achieved French citizenship in 1810. His son started a textile factor in Reims and later went to Guben (Bandenberg, Germany) where he also started a metal factory. His brother James and John remained in Luik. At the early age of 27 in 1817 he became a strong leader of his factory. James left the factory in 1820 leaving John fully in charge. Since the fall of Napoleon, John had lost the sales to France and he now started to manufacture steam machinery with the assistance of English laborers. In 1817 the Dutch government sold him the castle of the bishops of Liuk in Seraing, Belgium and he started a factory there that used coke to burn; he bough a coal mine to produce the coke required. In 1817 he employed more than 200 laborers and was the largest in Europe. John experienced financial difficulties but King William I gave him a loan at very favorable terms and later became a 50% partner in 1825. When Belgium became independent, John bought back the Dutch share from the Belgium government

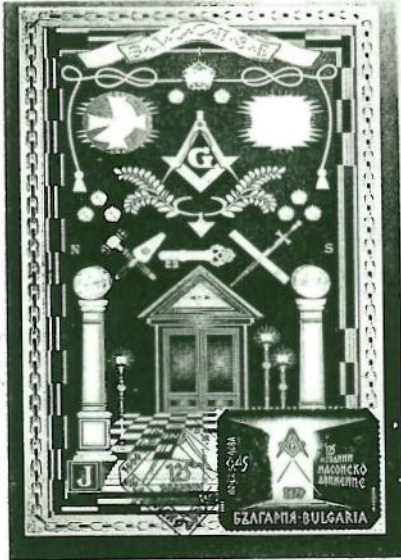
Business was not easy during the Belgian Independence because the government suspected that John leaned toward the Dutch. They forbade him to execute the earlier order of the Dutch Government to build the tramway from Antwerp to Luik. He provided many steamships to European countries and in 1835 supplied the first locomotive made in his factories. He received more orders for locomotives than he could produce and his factories in Belgium, Germany, Spain and Amsterdam were the most famous in Europe. He traveled to Russia to try to get orders from the Tsar but the Tsar was not interested and would not discuss possibilities with him. ● On his way back to Belgium, he died suddenly in Warsaw, Poland.

Bro. Cockeril was a member of the Lodge in Luik and was a very active and an important Mason there.

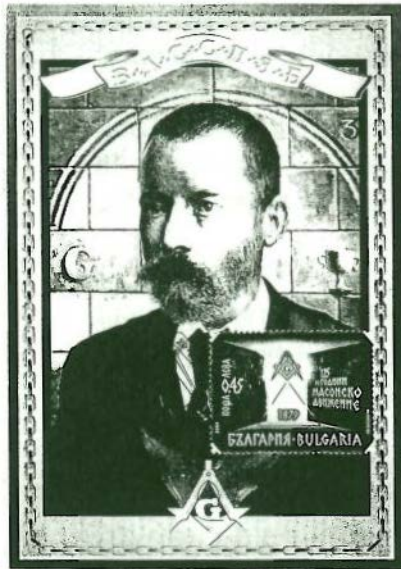


## BULGARIA MAXIM SHEETS

Your Editor has been successful in acquiring a very limited supply of sets of four of the Maxim sheets produced for the Bulgarian stamp commemorating 125 years of Freemasonry in that country. The four sheets I acquired are shown here and sell for \$10.00 for the set, plus a 60 cent stamp. The other one, as well as one depicting an old Masonic Apron are known to exist.



Another Sheet not part of this set



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An Interesting Cover  
 The M.O.V.P.E.R. member  
 shown in the photo is most  
 likely the sender of the cover  
 E. W. Libbey of Wash., D.C.





## ADRIAAN VAN DER HOOP

Adriaan van der Hoop was a typical representative of a European romantic individual because of his unbalanced nature. He had strong feelings for his role as a poet but above that, he was eager for honor and wanted to play a role as a leader. He did his very best to draw as much attention to himself and his work as possible. He indeed attracted a circle of lovers of his poems and literary work. He tried to achieve the level of acknowledgement with his work as the foreign poets were doing but his talent was not strong enough. Together with Bro. Bilderdijk, he opposed the growing trend of freedom in literature; both wanted to stick to the old standards and forget innovations.

In the manner of Victor Hugo, he rewrote many famous foreign works. This brought him some success and he was able to publish his own work in weekly publications – always with sharp criticism against the older generation because of their preference for foreign romantic in lieu of national romantic. He was born in 1802 and died at an early age in 1841. Many of his poems have been reprinted – some several times.



Bro. van der Hoop was a Mason and member of the “Wilhelm Frederik” Lodge in Amsterdam, as were Bilderdijk and Jacob van Lennep. He was very active in the fraternity and maintained a true Masonic behavior.

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### YUKON FREEMASONRY CANCEL

I followed up on the Canadian Masonic cancel of the previous Newsletter. I was referred to The Dawson City Postmaster (1054 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave., Dawson City, YT Y0B 1G0) by Canada Post. His response (I did include a few US Banknotes because I did not have any Canadian stamps to provide SASEs) included some covers cancelled the day he mailed them – Jan. 21, 2005. The cancel had the same slogan along with the Masonic emblem: Canada Post, Poste Canada/date/100 Years of Freemasonry in Yukon/1901-2001. Apparently the cancel continues to run well after the 2001 creation date.

Bert Domingue

## HEINRICH HOFFMAN

Heinrich Hoffman was born June 13, 1809, and died in 1894 in Frankfurt am Main in Germany. He was the son of Ph. J. Hoffman, an architect and public inspector in the city of Frankfurt. He studied in Heidelberg (1823-32), Halle (1832-33) and Paris (1833-34) and became a famous physician. From 1844 to 1851 he delivered many lectures on the subject of anatomy – much to the dislike of most of the people of his time. He served as medical superintendent of the psychiatric Institution in Frankfurt possessing very progressive methods.

In 1851 he wanted to give a present to his four year old son for Christmas but could not find anything proper. Consequently, he wrote his first booklet with his own drawings. Later on he used this and other stories and drawings for his little patients. By coincidence, publisher Dr. Loening saw these stories and decided to publish them – first anonymous, then under a pseudonym, Reinerich Kinderlieb, and then under his real name. These books were very successful and are the subject of a set of semi-postal stamps issued by Germany on April 14, 1994, to honor Dr. Hoffman. These stamps show illustrations from his “Der Struwpeter”, a famous book for children about very dirty and naughty children illustrated and written by him.

- many thanks to Bro. Godthelp of De Getande Rand



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### WESTBERE AUTOGRAPHED COVERS

Carl Erskine, Dodgers  
Fellowship Lodge #681, IN

Andy Seminick, Phillies  
Dashiell Lodge #238, TN

BROOKLYN DODGERS



CARL ERSKINE  
FIRST NO MITTER



*Carl Erskine*

20 TWENTY SIX YEAR OLD CARL ERSKINE, AFFECTIONATELY CALLED "GISK" BY BROOKLYN FANS PITCHED HIS FIRST OF TWO CAREER NO HIT GAMES, BEATING THE CHICAGO CUBS \$0. THE OPIPOSING PITCHER, WILLIE RANSDELL, A FORMER BROOKLYN DODGER, HAD BEEN SENT TO THE MINORS WHEN ERSKINE WAS CALLED UP TO THE DODGERS IN 1948

1950 WORLD SERIES - 45th ANNIVERSARY



PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES  
VS.  
NEW YORK YANKEES



*Andy Seminick #21  
Phillies #1950*

THE PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES AND NEW YORK YANKEES SQUARED OFF IN THE 1950 WORLD SERIES. PHILADELPHIA'S "WHIZ KID" WON THE FIRST INNING PENNANT IN 35 YEARS, BUT RAN INTO THE TOUGH NEW YORK YANKEES IN THE SERIES. VIC RASCHI AND ALLIE REYNOLDS PITCHED THE YANKEES TO VICTORIES IN THE FIRST TWO GAMES AND A COMMANDING TWO GAME LEAD HEADING BACK TO NEW YORK. IN THE 8TH INNING OF GAME 3, GENE WOODRING, PHIL RIZZUTO AND JERRY COLEMAN SINGLED TO PRODUCE THE WINNING RUN IN A 3-2 GAME. ROOKIE WHITNEY FORD AND ALLIE REYNOLDS COMPLETED THE SWEEP IN GAME 4, PITCHING THE YANKEES TO A 5-2 WIN AND THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP.



## NEW ISSUES

As stated in the previous Newsletter, I will be switching over to the Scott Monthly Stamp News for our new issues determination. I am including the past five issues to start with.

- Brazil – 8/20/04 – 2934 a/d – Masonic Symbols
- Chad – 3/10/00 – 848 – Carl Benz and Mercedes automobiles
- Chad – 5/10/00 – 855e – Edwin Aldrin
- Chad – 5/29/00 – 869a – Pierre Savorgnan de Brazza, 869e – Felix Eboue
- Chad – 7/22/01 – 909a – Queen Mother with King George VI
- Chad – 7/22/01 – 914 – Napoleon Bonaparte
- Chad – 10/30/01 – 925 – Robert Stephenson, 929 – Alexander Fleming
- Costa Rica - 12/16/03 – 571 – Charles Lindbergh, Flight to Costa Rica
- France – 6/26/04 – 3033/8 – Napoleon I and Imperial Guard
- France – 10/16/04 – 3049 – Felix Eboue
- Grenada – 7/19/04 – 3455a – Sir Lord Nelson
- Isle of Man – 4/6/04 – 1032a – Sir Winston Churchill
- Italy – 2/12/04 – 2589 – Genoa – Compasses
- Italy – 5/28/04 – 2610 – 50<sup>th</sup> Puccini Festival
- Maldive Is. – 5/19/04 – 2788c – George Marshall, 2789a – Winston Churchill, 2790a -Omar Bradley, 2791 – Henry Arnold
- Marshall Is. – 9/9/04 – 841 – John Wayne
- Monaco – 5/28/04 – 2335/8 – Napoleon I
- Mozambique – 9/30/02 – 1593b – Theodore Roosevelt, 1597c – John Glenn, 1599c – Winston Churchill, 1602b – Franz Liszt, 1602c – Ludwig von Beethoven, 1602 d – W. Mozart, 1612b & c – C. A: Lindbergh, 1613b & d – Melvin Jones, 1614d – Walt Disney, 1616a – Winston Churchill, 1619b & c – Alexander Fleming, 1625 – John Glenn, 1627 – Victor Hugo, 1630 – Wolfgang Mozart, 1631 – Alexander Fleming
- St. Vincent – 7/19/04 – 3199 - Omar Bradley
- Sierra Leone – 6/1/04 – 2718c – Omar Bradley
- US – 9/9/04- 3878 – John Wayne

Also – for old time's sake – Linn's

- 2004 – Grenada – Pres. Ronald Reagan, 4 se-tenant stamps – include Gen. Colin Powell
- Sept 27 - Guyana – D-Day, Four panes of four se-tenant stamps and four S/S – include Henry Arnold, Winston Churchill
- Nov. 22 – Marshall Is. – Lewis & Clark, Part 3, three se-tenant stamps
- Nov. 25 – St. Vincent – Battle of Trafalgar, 200<sup>th</sup>, four stamps and two S/S – include Napoleon Bonaparte and Adm. Lord Horatio Nelson
- Jan. 20 – Marshall Is – US Presidents – pane of stamps – all Presidents
- Jan 31 – Gibraltar – Battle of Trafalgar, 200<sup>th</sup>, four stamps and one S/S





## MASONIC PHILATELY IN LINN'S – 1955

Bro. Vic Panaras of Oak Lawn, IL, has forwarded a copy of a front page, headline article on Masonic Philately which appeared in the January 3, 1955 issue of Linn's Weekly Stamp News. Gertrude Boss starts out by stating "Masonry, or Free-Masonry, is the name applied to the most ancient, secret organization in the world, also the largest in point of membership, one of the most beneficial, and entirely without ostentation." After tracing the origin, she states "Have you ever considered making a collection of stamps of interest to members of Masonic orders? Such a collection involves much work, and may be approached from several angles, one of which is the assembling of stamps with portraits of known Masons. Remember that your collection must be grounded on accuracy. This presents difficulties since a biographer may tell of the great works of an artist, or even a politician, but rarely ever relates a thing about his fraternal affiliation."

Ms Boss provides a few Masonic reference books and then identifies sixteen noted Freemasons who can be found on postage stamps. She provides applicable stamp information as well as Masonic background on those individuals. All in all, it is an excellent article but if it is the most recent article on our branch of the hobby, we are shirking in our duties.

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### FRANS A. and JOPIE SCHRODER

On April 11, 1995, the Netherlands issued three semi-postal stamps, called Zomerzegels (special summer stamps) honoring elderly people and mobilization. They note the fact that the elderly have difficulty getting around because of the limited public transportation and are limited in independence and freedom. The stamp surcharge was to help fund projects to help mobilize those elderly people. The couple pictured on the higher value stamp, B688, is Frans Alphons and Jopie Schroder, parents of one of the stamp designers.



Bro. Frans was born Sept. 23, 1919 in Buitenzorg, Indonsia and is a Physical Training teacher. He received his degrees in 1965 and 1966 in Lodge West Friesland No. 45, Hoorn, Holland. He has held many positions in this Lodge and served many years as Almoner.

Sister Jopie was born May 12, 1926 in Leiden, Holland, and is an artist in weaving, making lace, ceramic art and modeling. She received her degrees (spinner, weaver and designer) in Lodge Vita Animo Concipere Est No. 3 in Alkmaar, Holland, a Vita Feminea Textura Lodge.

-again, thanks to Bro. Godthelp of the Netherlands