

THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

Journal of the
MASONIC STUDY UNIT



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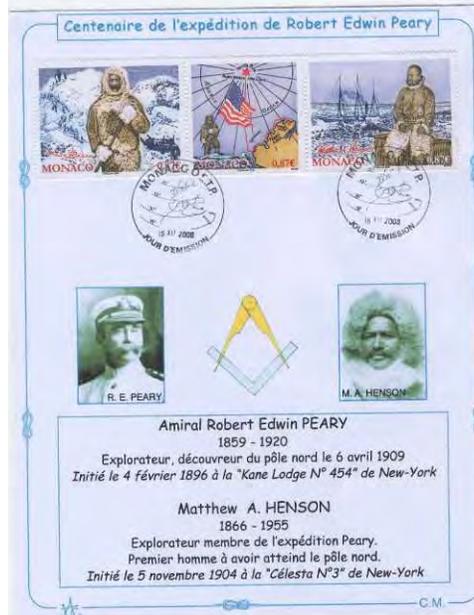
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Whole No. 191

ROBERT EDWIN PEARY & MATTHEW ALEXANDER HENSON

Bro. Jean Prouteau has sent in a beautiful special maxim card for the December 19, 2008 stamps issued by Monaco for Brothers Robert E. Peary and Matthew A. Henson celebrating the centenary of their expedition to the North Pole. A feature article in the April 2009 issue of *Downeast* magazine summarizes the long standing controversy of whether Bro. Peary actually stood on the pole and comments that Bro. Henson may have been closer to the top of the world. Regardless of whatever of that controversy, their expeditions were valiant feats – especially when one considers the physical difficulties encountered – the cold, the ice, logistics and the physical problems experienced because of frostbitten toes and feet. Matthew Henson accompanied Robert Peary on all his polar expeditions and during the 1909 trip may have arrived at the pole some 45 minutes earlier than Peary. There are many books and studies on this trip – several have been excerpted in previous issues of this newsletter – including those submitted by Bro. Joseph A. Walkes, Jr., the noted Prince Hall researcher.



The Masonic initiation dates for both Bro. Peary and Henson are defined on the card. Bro. Peary received all three degrees in Kane Lodge No 454 in 1896 and he presented this Lodge with a Masonic flag raised at Independence Bay, Greenland.. The dates of Bro. Henson's other degrees have not yet been documented. Both explorers were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor; Robert Peary was buried in Arlington national Cemetery when he died. Matthew Henson was buried in New York when he died but his remains were transferred to the Arlington National Cemetery in April 1988.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

NEW MEMBERS:

135. Jeffrey M. Coney, 201 Jackson Avenue, Hagerstown, MD 21740

137. Jean-Marie Sauvaitre, 6 chemin du Parc, Hiersac 16290 France

Welcome to the Masonic Study Unit of the ATA

Bro. Coney is a member of the APS and Bro. Sauvaitre is a member of the Club T. Desaguliers

ADDRESS CLARIFICATION/CORRECTION:

457. D. A. Rietveld, Overdiemerweg 27, 1111PP Diemen, The Netherlands

In the previous Newsletter I extended the offer of receiving the Newsletter electronically thereby receiving it in color as it is composed. I am a bit surprised by the response – but not shocked – five members indicated that they would like to receive the electronic version but one of those also said he wants the hard copy. I can understand that as we get older (I just received my 50 Year Veteran’s Medal this past month) we tend to have a lower tolerance level of change and several members do not “do” computers. I believe all the members save their Newsletters for reference. (I am an original pack rat – I have all the Mirt, Beltmann, Koutroulis and Kirby MSU Newsletters as well as those I have created along with those from the MSC of NY, MPC of GB, De Verlichte Loep, Austrian QC and the Brazil Group.) I guess it is easier to receive it in the “fileable” condition so you don’t have to print it out and create back-to-back to save space but I do understand and accept individual preferences. If you would like to receive the electronic version in addition to the hard copy just let me know. If you want just the electronic version let me know and I will work out some subscription price reduction.

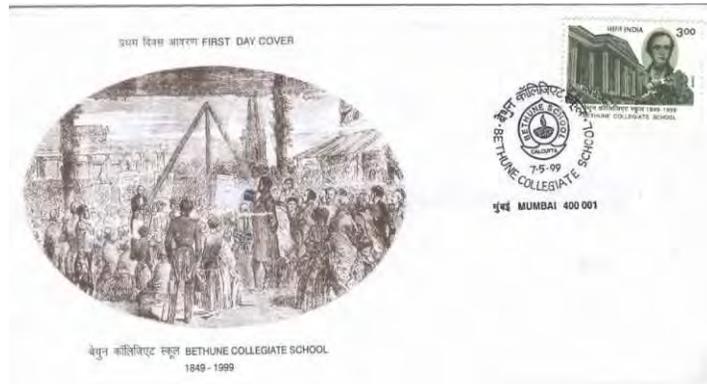
One of our members recently commented that he has been preparing inaugural cancellations for many years and has a thick album of them back to the days of FDR. Early in January this year he sent in ten covers he had made up, some with cartoons, to the D.C. Post Office following the rules identified in Linn’s. He has not yet received them and suspects that this reflects another change in the way the present administration is handling things that were routine.

Another member commented on the “Quasi Masonic” sheetlet which was displayed on the first page of the previous Newsletter: “It is sad that some countries try to use our Fraternity for their own use. The mini sheet shows their absolute ignorance about Masonic matters. Satchmo was not a Freemason and Oscar Wilde disgraced himself by being jailed in debtor’s prison and un-Masonic manner. Hope that our brethren will not support this project. The Masonic Study Unit is an educational arm of Philatelic Freemasons and it is for improvements and not to support Quasi intentions.” I wholeheartedly agree with him regarding the use of organizations and causes for financial gain by postal authorities but I do consider that the display of such items is purely to indicate what is available and the acquisition thereof is up to the individual collector’s desires.

After receiving a generous selection of Masonic Meter cancels from Bro. Stan Longenecker and reading the article by Larry E. Davidson concerning meter cancels that appears in Topical Time, I wrote to Larry asking if he had seen many Masonic Philately displays in his visitations and research. His response “I have been to a fair number of stamp shows in Canada and the U. S. (and one in Australia) and have never seen an exhibit based on the Masons.” really sets me to wonder if this is intentional (the old secrecy claim) or laziness. I have done some exhibiting at the local level recently. The MSU/ATA did have a plaque for the best Masonic exhibit at TOPEX from 1962 to 1973 - winners were N.G. Koutroulis, M.G. Snow, R.A. Domingue and L.E. Krohn.

PROBABLE MASONIC CACHETED COVER FROM INDIA

The cover shown below, procured from Abdul Aziz, a member who resides in Varnasi, India, is most probably a Masonic Cacheted Cover although it is not labeled as such. Examination of the cachet shows an individual standing beside the left pole of the tripod who appears to be wearing a Masonic apron.



The stamp was issued in 1999 to commemorate the foundation of Bethune College, the first Women's College in India. On May 7, 1849 a year after the arrival of Sir John Elliot Drinkwater Bethune in Calcutta, the foundation of the Hindu Female School was laid by Sir John Littler, the Deputy Governor and a follower of the Freemasons. The inauguration was a simple, austere ceremony combining a mix of traditions of the Freemasons as well as local customs. In keeping with the Masonic tradition there was a procession of the Brethren, special music and the "pouring forth of corn, wine and oil ... in a spirit of deep thankfulness ... to the Great Architect of the Universe." Borrowing from indigenous traditions, an Asoka tree was planted at the site of the school garden. John Bethune chose the Asoka sapling "not only for the gracefulness of its foliage" but because "it is held in especial honour among the Hindu women" and folklore had it that "by eating its blossoms, they should bring a blessing on their children".

NEW ZEALAND INSTALLATION COVER

Bro. Peter Goodwin, a member of the Masonic Philatelic Club (of Great Britain) was recently installed Master of Wayfarers Lodge 389 in Auckland and he prepared a commemorative cover for the occasion. There is an insert which contains a photo of him and a tabulation of his extensive Masonic career. He may have a few left at a cost of US\$5 – he can be e-mailed at bookbinderpete@clear.net.nz



JOHN LOUDEN McADAM

Great Britain issued a set of eight stamps on March 17, 2009 honoring leading figures of Britain's Industrial Revolution of the 18th and 19th centuries. One of the two 72p values features John Louden McAdam. The notes about the stamps include "After first becoming a merchant in New York, McAdam was made surveyor to the Bristol Turnpike trust in 1816, remaking the roads there using his 'macadamizing' process. His success led to him being made surveyor-general of metropolitan roads in 1827. The Editor and contributors to The Masonic Philatelic Club Magazine have published an excellent article of Bro. McAdam and, with their permission, I use some of it here.



Scottish engineer and inventor of the "macadamized" road, he was born Sept. 21, 1756 in Ayr, Scotland. Following the death of his father, he went to live with an uncle in New York City in 1770. He became a merchant and prize agent during the American Revolution; He sided with the British and returned to Scotland in 1783, where he purchased an estate in Ayrshire. He became a trustee of the Ayrshire Turnpike in 1783 and became increasingly involved with day-to-day road construction over the next 10 years. He moved to Bristol in 1802 and became general surveyor for the Bristol Corporation in 1804. Appointed surveyor to the Bristol Turnpike Trust in 1816, he began his experiments in road construction, submitted several Parliamentary enquiries and published two treatises on the subject. His theory was that small angular fragments of stone will coalesce or bind into a compact mass under pressure and that the efficiency of a road is in proportion to the thoroughness with which water is excluded from the soil on which it rests. He was paid 5,000 pounds for his Bristol Turnpike Trust work and made "Surveyor-General of Metropolitan Roads" in 1820. Professional jealousy cut a 5,000 pound grant for expenses from the Parliament of the United Kingdom to 2000 pounds in 1827. His efficient road-building and management work had revealed the corruption and abuse of road tolls by unscrupulous Turnpike Trusts, many of which were run at a deliberate loss despite high toll receipts. For the most part he gave his services and advice without charge and even declined the honour of knighthood. He died November 26, 1836 in Moffat, Dumfries and Galloway.

John L. McAdam was probably made a Mason in the U.S. He affiliated with Lodge Ayr Kilwinning, originally known as Squareman's Lodge No. 65. Inquiries to the Grand Lodge of Scotland met with the reply that the Squaremen do not operate under their direct jurisdiction. A response that was provided by an Editor in the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Scotland included "The Corporation o' Square Men is a Scottish quasi-masonic organization apparently originating with the building of Rosslyn Chapel. The Lodge is called a SHED and there is a Grand Shed which oversees the Order with about 12 daughter Sheds in existence. These Sheds meet fairly regularly in Masonic halls, usually varying their venue each time. Supposedly it exists in Scotland only but one was found in Reading, England. Although not recognized or in amity with the Grand Lodge of Scotland, the candidate must be a regular Mason and many eminent Masons are Square Men. There is a degree ceremony and secrets are imparted but the main purpose is not to work a degree of beauty but to raise funds for local good causes and charities.

FRENCH SPECIAL CANCEL

Bro. Jean-Marie Sauvaitre, one of our new members, has provided a copy of a special Masonic cancel used in November 2008 during a commemoration of 250 years of Freemasonry in Angouleme, France. This gathering had the honor of the presence of eight Lodges representing five different Obediences. In addition to the temporary cancellation, there were 25 different personal stamps available for obliteration by that cancel. It sounds like it was a fantastic gathering of true brotherhood.



ITALIAN MASONIC COVERS

Bro. Massimo Morgantini, Secretary of the Associazione Italiana di Filatelia Massonica of the Grande Oriente d'Italia, has sent in two beautiful covers executed on April 3, 2009 – one for the Grand Lodge Session in Rimini, the other to note the 10th anniversary of the Grand Lodge sessions in Rimini. Information on their acquisition can be obtained from him at Via San Pancrazio 8, 00152 ROMA – ITALY, or filatelia.massonica@grandeoriente.it. The web site for this active Masonic Philately group is <http://www.grandeoriente.it/filatelia.php?id=1>



ERRATA

In the article on Sir Pherozechah Mehta please change the purpose of the stamp from his 100th birthday to his 150th birthday. Also, please adjust the page numbering – my Word page numbering is messing up.

ARMS OF THE KNIGHTS TEMPLARS

On September 30, 2008 Bulgaria issued a stamp for the 700th anniversary (in 2007) of the Disbanding of Knights Templar (Order of the Temple) by King Philip IV of France. Our President, Wor. Bro. Gene Fricks, has provided some potential insight to the origin of this stamp. Bulgaria was one of the centers of the Bogomils, a medieval religious sect that the Roman Church declared heretic. One of the charges against the Templars was having dealings with heretics and this had to do with providing the Bogomils with some “space” in southern France and northern Spain. It would be stretching things, I think, to attribute the recognition back to that as the Templars did not have a presence in what became Bulgaria. Perhaps an alternative explanation is that since the Bulgarian postal administration had such success with their earlier Masonic tributes, they decided to cash in on the interest in the Templars and “fleece” a few collectors in the process.



Herrick Stamp Co. was finally able to complete their backorder for my request for these stamps (after many months) and I do have a limited supply. I will part with them (all but one) for the cost of \$2.00 each plus a SASE.

JOHN BAYNE MACLEAN

On April 12, 2005 Canada issued a stamp commemorating the centenary of Maclean’s Magazine, founded by John Bayne Maclean, a journalist, reporter, editor and publisher who was born in 1862 and died in 1950. He started his publication, the “*Canadian Grocer*” in 1887. In the 1900s he launched “*The Business Man’s*” magazine, later changing the name to “*Busy Man’s*” and then “*Maclean’s*” in 1911. He started the “*Financial Post*” in January 1907 and “*Chatelaine*” in 1928. His long time collaborator and associate, Horace Talmadge Hunter, succeeded him as company president upon his retirement. In 1945 the company was renamed “Maclean-Hunter” and today they publish over thirty trade magazines.

Bro. Maclean was a member of Ionic Lodge No. 25 in Toronto.



PIERRE JEAN GEORGE CABANIS

Bro. Jean Prouteau of La Rochelle, France has sent in a Special Event/Special Cancel card which he prepared for the special cancel created for use on November 29, 2008 for the bicentennial of the death of Georges Cabanis. Bro. Cabanis was a member of the Masonic Lodge Les Neuf Soeurs.



Born at Cosnac, the son of a lawyer and agronomist, he attended the college of Brives at the age of ten. He showed great aptitude for study but his independence of spirit was so great that he was constantly in a state of rebellion against his teachers and was finally expelled. He was taken to Paris by his father and left to carry on his studies as his own discretion. He travelled in Poland and Germany from 1773 to 1775 and upon returning to Paris devoted himself mainly to poetry. He gave up writing at his father's wish and engaged in medicine. He secured an appointment as administrator of hospitals in Paris and in 1795 became professor of hygiene at the medical school of Paris. He exchanged this post for the chair of legal medicine and the history of medicine in 1799. Partly because of his poor health he tended not to practice as a physician – his interests lay in the deeper problems of medical and physiological science. During the last two years of Honore Mirabeau's life, Cabanis was intimately connected with him and wrote four papers on public education which were found among the Mirabeau papers at his death. During Mirabeau's terminal illness, he trusted himself entirely to Cabanis' professional skills. Cabanis was enthusiastic about the French Revolution and became a member of the Council of Five Hundred and then of the conservative senate making the motion to dissolve the Directory. His political career was brief. Hostile to the policy of Napoleon Bonaparte, he rejected every offer of a place under his government. He died at Meulan on May 5, 1808.

UPDATE ON JOHANN (JOHN) KIENHUIZE

Eddie Levey provided a brief update recently on his efforts to acquire more information on the Masonic career of Bro. Kienhuize. He has not had any suitable reports from the Grand Lodge of South Australia and he has been in contact with the Victorian Grand Lodge – possibly with better results. He has had his last installation in March as a Grand Officer and now has more time to devote to stamp research. Bro. Grahame Cumming of the Masonic Philatelic Club (of Great Britain) is also on the case.

MASONIC STUDY UNIT OF THE AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

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20TH ANNIVERSARY – PHILA MASONICA CLUB

This year the Phila Masonica Club der Forschungsloge Quatuor Coronati Wien is celebrating the 20th anniversary of its founding. To recognize this event, your Editor sent a congratulatory letter to Dr. Herbert Schmid, President of the club;

March 17, 2009

Dr. Herbert Schmid, President
Phila Masonica Club
Hackenberggasse 29/33/3
1190 Wien
AUSTRIA

Dear Bro. Dr. Herbert,

On behalf of the members of the Masonic Study Unit of the ATA and myself, I wish to congratulate you and your Masonic Philatelic organization for achieving your 20th year. In this age of changing attractions and extra demands on the spare time individuals may have, it is a major achievement to be able to command enough attention from enough people to remain in existence that long.

Although both of us use different languages and do not understand much of the other's native tongue, the illustrations, symbols and references to our mutual Fraternity are sufficient to enable us to get the meaning of each others' Newsletters. You are to be commended for spreading the information gathered from our hobby to members of our Fraternity. You are helping to inform others of another dimension to our Great Fraternity.

Take care, stay well and thanks again for all you are doing.

Fraternally,

Robert A. Domingue, Editor
The Philatelic Freemason

Bro. Dr. Herbert Schmid sent along a copy of the recent Austrian stamp honoring Bro. Franz Joseph Haydn. A fine tenor, he and his wife both sang in the church choir. He was taught to sing and play the violin and other instruments at the age of five. At 13 he composed a mass and at 20 had composed sonatas and a comic opera. Ultimately he composed eleven operas. It is possible that his close association with Mozart led to his becoming a Mason. He was made an Entered Apprentice on February 11, 1785 in the

Lodge "Zur Wahrein Eintracht" and Mozart was present for the occasion.



BRO. NORMAN LINCOLN'S MOVIE MASONS LIST

Bro. Norman Lincoln has devoted a lot of time and effort to his study of Movie Masons and has released an update to his findings – a 16 page listing of 572 names. He has subdivided the document into seven sections: Producers and Directors, Writers, Cinematographers and Composers, Miscellaneous Technicians, Actors, Possible Masons and Not Masons. It is a fantastic effort and his Introduction reads;

When Thomas Edison perfected the means of showing moving pictures to the public, he ushered in a new era of communication and entertainment. No longer was amusement confined to the theatrical stage where actors were subject to the whims of memory and audience reaction. Soon every boy with a cap pistol wanted to be the next Tom Mix. Every mother bleached and curled her daughter's hair and sent her to dancing school hoping for the next Shirley Temple.

Few people in the civilized world were unaware of the influence of the flickering images on the silver screen. Mighty corporations were formed to feed the desire of the masses for spectacular extravaganzas. Hollywood became the mecca which attracted producers, directors, writers, actors and technicians seeking their share of the bounty. Tycoons and moguls dispensed contracts and dictated fashions. Propaganda mills ground out never ending publicity about favorite stars.

Even the world's oldest and largest fraternal organization succumbed to the lure of the klieg lites. The heads of major studios joined Masonic Lodges and encouraged their minions to form Masonic Clubs. Eventually a “super club” known as the 233 Club was organized which grew to 1700 members, all Masons involved in the motion picture industry.

Times changed and studios no longer control the destinies of our leisure. Television and information technology have created a new world which demands instant knowledge. Over the years many attempts have been made to list Masons involved in the field of entertainment. Some are fairly complete and accurate. Others lack coherence and verification. Those who copy what they see dispensed on the internet seldom take the effort to determine if it is factual or not.

In these pages you will find an attempt to list all Masons known to the writer to be involved in the film industry. No such list is ever complete as changes are discovered every day. Masons such as Edwin Booth who performed only on the stage prior to the invention of cinematography are not listed. Nor are Masons who have acted solely in television or in foreign language films only. Many Grand Lodges are reluctant to search records. Many Lodge Secretaries are too busy to respond to questions concerning possible Masonic membership.

Those interested should contact Bro. Lincoln at P.O. Box 454, Eaton, OH 45320 or e-mail him at normangenelincoln@yahoo.com

MASONIC SEALS

Seals bearing Masonic emblems and symbols are increasing in popularity. Shown here is one recently offered on Delcampe by Abdul Aziz.



JOACHIM JOZEF BENEDYKT LELEWEL

While there appears to be no information available as to where Joachim Jozef Benedykt Lelewel received his degrees, it is known that he was associated with two Lodges in Brussels, Belgium – ‘Amis de la Verite’ and ‘Amis de la Sagesse’. Some researchers claim that these Lodges were not recognized but Andrej Fryderyk, Grand Master of the Grand Orient of Poland dedicated an entire chapter to Lelewel in his book ‘Philosophy of Masonry’. Poland issued a semi-postal stamp on December 22, 1986 to commemorate the bicentennial of his birth.



Born on March 22, 1786 in Warsaw, Joachim Lelewel was educated at the Imperial University of Vilna where he became a teacher of history starting in 1814. With a brief sojourn at Warsaw from 1818 to 1821 his lectures on Polish history created great enthusiasm that led to his removal by the Russians in 1824. He returned to Warsaw where he was elected a deputy to the Diet in 1829. He joined the November Uprising with more enthusiasm than energy although Tsar Nicholas I distinguished him as one of the most dangerous rebels. Upon the suppression of the rebellion he made his way, under disguise, to Germany and subsequently Paris in 1831. The government of Louis Philippe ordered him to leave French territory in 1833 at the request of the Russian ambassador as a result of his writing of revolutionary proclamations. He returned to Brussels where, for nearly thirty years, he earned a scanty livelihood by his writings. He died May 29, 1861 in Paris after having moved there just a few days earlier. He was buried there but his remains were later moved to the Rasos Cemetery in Vilnius according to his wishes.

-with thanks to Bro. Emiel Crab and the Masonic Philatelic Club (of Great Britain)

ROMANCE OF THE STONES

The White House was dedicated by the Masons in a ceremony on November 15, 1792 when the first stone was laid in the southwest corner. It would be 158 years before any other major rebuilding projects were undertaken on that building. Pres. Harry Truman ordered the inside of the White House to be gutted and replaced with a new interior structure. During the process, 102 stones were discovered that had the mark of a Freemason. Bro. Truman ordered that the stones be saved and preserved in the archives of the Grand Lodges of the nation. Truman sent a letter along with each stone sent to each of the Grand Lodges that were delivered by 1954 and each stone was embedded with a brass plate signifying that it is ‘Official White House Material’.

There is no doubt that on the afternoon of October 13, 1792 a group of Freemasons marched from Georgetown to the site of what is now the White House and laid a cornerstone. That evening, however,

by about the 11th toast – to the fair daughters of America – the congenial gathering of Freemasons at Georgetown’s Fountain Inn had begun to grow a bit hazy about where they had laid that particular stone earlier in the day. Five more toasts followed and the revelers went off into the night with only the faintest notion of what they had planted. There is only one known written account of the event, which came to light many years later, in 1946. It is a letter “from a gentleman in Philadelphia to his friend in Charleston, dated October 20, 1792”, that describes “the first stone” being laid “in the southwest corner of the president’s house”. On that Saturday, according to the anonymous letter, a crowd gathered at the Fountain Inn and shuffled down the dusty street to the raw construction site. The Freemasons led the way by rank, followed by the district federal commissioners and then a good body of “Gentlemen of the town and neighborhood” and last came the different artificers. The ceremony was performed by Bro. Casaneva, Master of the Lodge, who delivered an oration well adapted to the occasion”. President Washington was working in Philadelphia. Wet mortar was spread on one of the foundation stones, which were all of Aquia sandstone quarried in Virginia, and a polished brass plate with the names of the dignitaries and the date was pressed into the mortar and the cornerstone lowered in place.

Before the discovery of that letter, conventional wisdom had it that the cornerstone had been placed in the northeast corner of the White House – in accordance with Masonic tradition. In a 1901 renovation paint was scraped from a few stones in a vain effort to locate an inscription. Once the letter surfaced, interest immediately shifted to the southeast corner. During Truman’s 1949 remodeling the White House architect became so intrigued by the stone mystery that he arranged for the Army Engineers to scan the walls with a mine detector. They got the loudest buzz at the southwest and it was estimated that the plate was between two stones about chest high from the outside ground level – about the second or third stone up. Suggestions were made to cut into the stone to retrieve it but The Washington Post erupted at the idea of violating sacred stones and Pres. Truman vetoed any probing around in solid walls that did not need replacing or repairing. In later years a radar device from the Virginia department of transportation was trundled up to the building’s walls and blasts of shortwave were unleashed yielding some encouraging but gauzy “reflections” in the southwest corner. Next came the dowsers with their twitching shafts – two from North Carolina and one from Pennsylvania – they zeroed in on other stones in totally different places.

May the White House ever live with all its glorious history – and its secrets intact.

This article is excerpted from a magazine publication sent to me many moons ago and I forget the name of it and the donor – whoever it was, thank you. This story would make up an interesting page using the stamp issued for James Hoban, architect of the White House which is also shown.

TAPS – GEN. DANIEL ADAMS BUTTERFIELD

There is an e-mail floating around which gives credit for composition of “Taps” to a Captain Robert Ellicombe who composed it following the discovery of a dead opposing soldier and finding out it was his son. This claim has been checked through “Snopes” and found to be incorrect.

The real composer of “Taps” was Gen. Daniel A. Butterfield, a Union General in the Civil War. He was not a musician and had no formal knowledge of music. He received the Medal of Honor for bravery at Gaines Mills on June 26, 1862. His men had begun to falter and in spite of a serious war he seized the colors and rallied his men to hold their ground. Later the army’s morale was low and he sensed the mood. One night in the Virginia hills he began to turn over in his mind musical phrases which would express the hush that hung over the army of tents where thousands of men slept while sentries kept watch.

The next morning, July 2, 1862 he called for the brigade bugler and whistled his melody as the surprised bugler listened. After making a few changes, Oliver W. Norton, the bugler, wrote the seven notes on the back of an old envelope and played it near dusk that same evening. The next morning, buglers from the other brigades came to inquire about the new Taps and to learn how to sound it. It was soon being used throughout the Army of the Potomac.

A few days later a soldier died and normally he would have been honored by his own squad firing three rifle volleys over his grave. The Army of the Potomac, however, was surrounded and feared a rifle volley might provoke new fighting. Captain John O. Tidball, Battery A of the 2nd U.S. Artillery, told the bugler to just sound Taps. This was the first use of the call at a military funeral. It has been said that the Confederates also adopted Taps, using it at the burial of Gen. Stonewall Jackson.

Taps was officially adopted by the Army in 1874. By 1900 all U.S. Military Services were using Taps and France even adopted the American call during World War I. At the end of World War I General John J. Pershing called Hartley B. Edwards, an American soldier, to sound the final Taps at 11:00 A.M. signaling the end of the war. Gen. Butterfield was a member of Metropolitan Lodge No. 273, New York, NY. He died in 1901 and was buried at West Point with full military honors – including the saddest song of all – his beloved Taps. Any of the Civil War stamps or the stamps honoring the U.S. Army can be used to accompany this story.

NEW ISSUES

The following new issues of Masonic interest were announced in the April and May Scott's Stamp Monthly.

Bulgaria – 4486 – 9/30/08 – destruction of the Knights Templar, 700th Anniversary

Chile – 1505 – 6/26/08 – Salvador Allende, Death 25th Anniversary

Cuba – 4658A – 12/7/06 – Gen. Antonio Maceo Grajoles (1845-1896)

Dominican Republic – 1453 – 2008 – Freemasonry in Dominican Republic, 150th Anniversary

Gambia – 3160 – 6/12/08 - US Landmarks, 6 stamps including Grants Tomb, Jefferson Memorial, US Capitol and Washington Monument.

Gambia – 3161 – 6/12/08 – US Landmarks, S/S depicting Mount Rushmore

Italy – 2882 – 6/21/08 – Giacomo Puccini (1858-1924), birth 150th Anniversary

Marshall Islands – 910 – 5/12/08 – US Marine Corps, 10 stamps including John Lejeune and Smedley Butler.

Marshall Islands – 927 – 8/14/08 – Personalities of the Wild West, 16 stamps including Charles Goodnight, Chief Joseph, Kit Carson and John Fremont.

Mexico – 2582, 2584, 2587, 2590 – 9/15/08 – Fight for Mexican Independence – Ignacio Allende, Jose Maria Morelos and Miguel Hidalgo (two)

Uruguay – 2233 – 6/26/08 – Salvador Allende (1908-1973), death 235th Anniversary.