



THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

Journal of the
MASONIC STUDY UNIT



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APPARENTLY ANOTHER PURE MASONIC ISSUE

A set of three postal cards from Turkey was shown on page 2243 of the previous Newsletter; the imprinted stamp used on those cards was definitely a “pure Masonic design” but there was no indication as of that date that there were postal stamps bearing the same design. Recently, however, a pair of these stamps was offered on eBay. I can’t remember right now whether or not I entered the bidding foray at the time. I do know that I do not own one yet. The eBay offering, shown here is the only reference to the existence of this design as a postage stamp and I will now have to find out how we can acquire copies. If any of the readers know of a source, please let me know.



Apparently there has been an increase of Masonic Philately activity in the Turkish world lately. In addition to this release, I have also seen a cover bearing a Masonic event cancel offered on eBay. These discoveries may be the indication of a very positive trend which will benefit our topical interest and Freemasonry in general.

PORTUGAL STAMP DISPLAYING MASONIC ALLEGORIES

Wor. Bro. Gene Fricks, the President of our Masonic Study Unit, informs us that Portugal issued a set of stamps and a souvenir sheet on October 12, 2009 honoring the centenary of Louis Braille. The design of these releases portrays a series of illustrations of the five senses of nature – Hearing, Seeing, Feeling, Smelling and Tasting. The Scott numbers assigned to the stamps are 3157 to 3161, the souvenir sheet is 3162.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

NEW MEMBERS:

161. K.P. Acher, Flat No.G1, Samskruthi Heaven, 12-5-55/1, Vijaypuri, Tarnaka, Secunderabad
– 500017, India
162. Howard Ness, Box 18967, Spokane, WA 99218

ADDRESS CHANGES:

None received.

MEMBERS NEWS:

Bro. Achar is a member of Lodge Neoshir Chenoy No. 187 of the Grand Lodge of India. He belongs to a couple of Philatelic societies in his local area and s a retired Senior Superintendent of Post Offices.

Bro. Ness has been coroneted a 33rd degree Mason of the Spokane Valley and a member of Oriental Lodge No. 74.

The recent series of snowstorms around the upper half of our globe dealt a “dirty deal” to Bro. Trevor Frey, President of the Masonic Stamp Club (of Great Britain) resulting in a broken arm. A recent note from him states “I am much better now and can drive the car again. It is amazing what modern medicine can do. I have a plate inserted, held in place by nine screws. In Nelson’s time, they would have amputated my arm.”

About two years ago, your Editor finally joined the local stamp club – I had exhibited at their annual stamp exhibition back as far as the early 1960s but for one reason or another, never joined the club. This past year I took over the duties of Bourse Manager for our dealings with the United Stamp Societies out of Little Egg Harbor, NJ. I had never dealt with a bourse before nor had I reviewed the bourse books available through them. I now know that they offer great opportunities to acquire stamps reasonably and are even more of a benefit to a topical collector as most stamps are offered singly – you don’t have to buy the whole set to get the one you want. I know that the Masonic Stamp Club (of Great Britain) has had good luck with this type of activity and I believe that I would like to start a similar activity within our Masonic Study Unit.

Over the years I have been somewhat lax in comparing my want list with my true inventory when I purchased and I have also bought a few general collections. As a result I have built up a set of five 4 inch binders of stock pages loaded with “duplicates and stamps which are not in line with my collecting interests. From this I have culled a 3 inch binder of stock pages full of foreign stamps which are applicable to a Masonic collection. I have designed bourse pages and am in the process of selecting stamps to offer to the members thereon. Normally the purchase price is about 50% of Scott Catalog (I use a 2008 set). I would like to know which of our members would like to receive a bourse book for their review and possible purchase of stamps. In addition, I would like to know your individual desires of countries you would like to see – that way I could tailor some of them to particular desires. Please let me know via e-mail (radpm@comcast.net) or snail mail. We’ll see how it works out and I would encourage other members to do the same if they have duplicates to offer.

eMail ADDRESS ERROR

In the previous newsletter, I announced the availability of a Masonic Philately lapel pin but I cited an incorrect e-mail address. The correct address is markbardell1@verizon.net

AVERY BRUNDAGE

The 2010 Winter Olympics started have started and are well underway, despite the unfortunate accident before the opening ceremony. There have only been eight Presidents of the International Olympic Committee, the first one beginning in 1894 through the present president of the games. One of those presidents was a noted Freemason – Bro. Avery Brundage who was a member of North Shore Lodge # 937, Chicago, Illinois. He was also a member of Scottish Rite, Valley of Chicago and Medina Shrine Temple, Chicago.

Born on September 28, 1887 in Detroit, Michigan, Bro. Avery was elected fifth President of the International Olympic Committee at its meeting in Helsinki, Finland in 1952. No one could have been better prepared for this most responsible position as head of the worldwide Olympic Movement. For twenty years he had been working closely, first with President Count Baillet-Latour, and afterwards with President Edström. Prior to those activities he had occupied a prominent position in amateur sports for more than 20 years, first as competitor and later as administrator. He had traveled widely in Europe, Africa, North and South America, and the Orient, and was thoroughly familiar with the problems of amateur sports and the Olympic Movement in nearly all countries.

His athletic career began in 1905 when as a high school athlete he was heralded as "the find of the season". At the University of Illinois he was intercollegiate discus champion, member of the basketball team, and winner of a special medal for athletic achievement. After graduation from the university in 1909, he entered all-around athletics and for 10 years, until 1918, when he won his last national championship, he was one of the leading all-around athletes of the world. As a member of the 1912 United States Olympic team he competed in the Games of the 5th Olympiad at Stockholm, Sweden. Three times he was All-Around Amateur Champion of America. The all-around championship is probably the most difficult test of speed, stamina, strength, agility and endurance combined, ever devised. It should be noted that while Mr. Brundage was making this enviable record as a competitor he, as an engineer, was also engaged in establishing his own successful construction business.

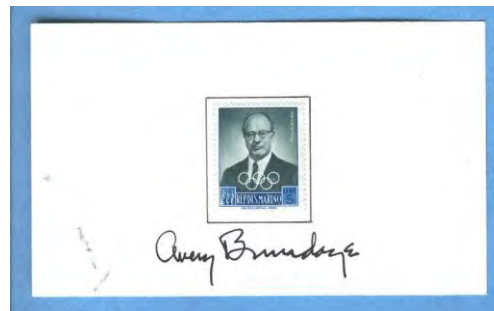
After retiring from all-around competition he became interested in the administrative side of amateur sport. In 1928 he was elected President of the Amateur Athletic Union of the United States, an office to which he was re-elected for seven terms. In 1929 he was chosen President of the United States Olympic Association and Chairman of the United States Olympic Committee. Six times he was unanimously re-elected for a four year term by the one hundred and twenty organizations regulating amateur sport in the United States, which compose this Association. In Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1940 he was unanimously elected first President of the Committee Deportivo Panamericano by the delegates from the countries of the Western Hemisphere at a congress called to organize Pan American Games. For twenty or more years he served as Vice-President of the Congress and on the council of the International Amateur Athletic Federation, the powerful organization which controls track and field athletics. He had also taken an active part as officer and director in several other International Federations.

When Mr. Brundage became a member of the International Olympic Committee he was elected to the Executive Board and in 1946 he was also known throughout the world as the apostle of amateurism and one of the leading exponents in the world of fair play and good sportsmanship and was the author of numerous articles on amateur sports. He died in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany on 7. May 1975.

-Condensed from a "Masonic Did U Know" issued by Bro. Dwight Seals – Thank you

AVERY BRUNDAGE (Cont'd)

To accompany the preceding article on Bro. Avery Brundage, your editor would like to include a file card from his collection which he sent to Bro. Brundage in the mid 1960s for his autograph. He graciously complied.



A FEW CANADIAN SPORTSMEN THAT WERE/ARE FREEMASONS

Since the Olympics are being held in Canada, Bro. Seals has also offered the names of a few Canadian athletes who were/are Freemasons:

Harold Ballard, Owner of the Toronto Maple Leafs hockey team. Member of Corinthian Lodge No. 481.

George Brent, Saskatchewan Huskies hockey Tem Captain, 1940

J.G. "Jake" Gasuda, Canadian Football League Commissioner.

Tim Horton, Canadian hockey star, Kroy Lodge No. 676, Thornhill, ON

Fred "Cyclone" Taylor, Civil Service Lodge No. 148, Ottawa

"Whipper" Billy Watson, Canadian wrestling legend.

COVERS FROM THE NETHERLANDS MASONIC STAMP CLUB

The covers shown below have been provided by Bro. Emiel Crab of De Getande Rand in the Netherlands. Bro. Crab's e-mail address is emiel@emicra.be while his mail address is Nothomblei 8, Brasschaat (MTH), 2930 Belgium,



RON ADAIR – NOT A FREEMASON

Bro. Larry Burden noted that Bro. Chris Murphy, in one of his books, claimed that Ron Adair, the artist who designed the "John Hansen" stamp, Scott #1941 and several others, was a Freemason. No details were provided so Bro. Burden contacted Ron Adair to acquire his Masonic history. Ron responded that he has never been a Mason.

INTERESTING MASONIC COVER BY A MEMBER

On November 30, 2009, the officers of Tropical Lodge No. 56, F. & A.M. of Fort Myers, Florida traveled to Cuba to perform a humanitarian act. Their mission was to deliver some donated sporting goods to Logia Soles de Marti as a gift for the Pediatric Oncology Program under a license from the U.S. Government. This mission was a success and it was a first under the U.S. Embargo with Cuba. While performing this act, a Twinning Ceremony also took place on December 2nd between Tropical Lodge and Logia Soles de Marti. The ceremony took place in Logia Soles de Marti's Lodge room in the Gran Templo Nacional Masones located on Avenida Salvadore Allende in Havana, Cuba. This was the first time in Tropical Lodge's history that a meeting of the Lodge was officially and formally opened on foreign soil in the Master Mason Degree by dispensation from both the Grand Master of Cuba and the Grand Master of Florida. The ceremony was performed in conjunction with the 150th Anniversary of the Gran Logia de Cuba A.L. y A.M. The Lodge room that evening was so packed, there were many Brothers standing in the West because there were not enough seats for everyone.



A Masonic cacheted envelope, postmarked in Havana, Cuba on December 2nd was created by R.W. James W. Hogg, PDDGM, to commemorate this event. One of those covers was placed in a special frame and formally presented to Tropical Lodge at their stated communication on December 15, 2009. There are a very limited number of these covers still available from Bro. Hogg for a cost of \$4.00. His address is P.O. Box 60112, Fort Myers, FL 33906.

IVAN PETROVYCH KOTLYAREVSKY

Russia commemorated the bicentennial of the birth of Ivan Kotlyarevsky with the release of a stamp on June 25, 1969. Bro. Kotlyarevsky was a member of the Lodge "Amour de la Verite" (Love and Truth) in Poltava, a town located in the Ukraine. He was Secretary and Orator of that Lodge from 1818 to 1819.



IVAN PETROVYCH KOTLYAREVSKY (Cont'd)

He was born September 9, 1769 at Poltava. After studying at the Poltava Theological Seminary from 1780 to 1789, Ivan Kotlyarevsky worked as a tutor for the gentry at rural estates where he became familiar with Ukrainian folk life and peasant vernacular. He served in the Imperial Russian Army between, 1796 and 1808. Two years later he became the trustee of an institution for the education of children of impoverished nobles. In 1812, during the French invasion of Imperial Russia, he organized a Cossack cavalry regiment to fight the French and served in it as a major. From 1812 to 1821 he helped stage theatrical productions at the Poltava governor-general's residence and was the artistic director of the Poltava Theater. His epic-style 1798 poem, Eneyida, is considered to be the first literary work published wholly in the modern Ukrainian language; he is regarded as the pioneer of modern Ukrainian literature. He died November 10, 1838 in Poltava.

ITALIAN MASONIC STAMP CLUB ACTIVITIES AND COVERS

At the next GOI Grand Lodge in Rimini, held at the Conference Center on March 26 to 28, the Italian Association of Masonic Philately will present a thematic exhibition dedicated to the Earth exploration and space belonging to Freemasonry. They expect to display about 120 to 150 tables in 15 panels. This exhibition is part of the "Boeri collection".

Recent covers published by this organization are shown here.



MASONIC STUDY UNIT OF THE AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

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MASONIC SYMBOLS STORY TOLD BY STAMPS

Bro. Sergio Ferrando has sent in an interesting application of stamps bearing Masonic symbols telling a story of Masonry. I have found that every symbol and allegory of Masonic ritual can be found on at least one postage stamp issued by the various nations around the world.

TO BUILD A GOTHIC CATHEDRAL IS NEEDED:

A STONE-WORKER TO DRAW STONES ON THE GROUND AT FIRST,

THEN CARPENTERS TO BUILD STAIRS, CENTRES AND THE REST OF THE STRUCTURE

THEN FREEMASONS TO CEMENT THE STONES

AND THE LABOR OF THE BLACKSMITHS,

FINALLY, GLASS MAKERS TO FINISH THE GLASS WINDOWS.

AS REPRESENTED ON THESE STAMPS

By **SERGIO FERRANDO**
 CASELLA POSTALE 65
 16032 CASMOGLI - ITALIA

CHRIS RAFFERTY

Bro. Eddie Levey of Australia has sent in a very interesting "Collectors Pack of 'Film Lovers'" comprising four miniature sheets featuring the 2009 Australian Screen Legends One of these features Chips Rafferty, an iconic Australian actor called "The living Symbol of the Typical Australian". Bro. Rafferty was initiated on the 5th of December 1957 in the "Literature Lodge" No. 500 on the register of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales. He was passed on February 6th and raised on June 5th, both in 1958. When he

applied for membership in the Craft he gave his occupation as Film Producer. He remained a member until his death in 1971.



Chips Rafferty was born John William Pilbean Goffage in Broken Hill, New South Wales. He studied at the Parramatta Commercial High School before working in a variety of jobs including opal mining, sheep shearer, drover, airman and pearl diver. He made his first film debut in "Ants in Your Pants" in 1938. His career stretched from the 1940s until his death in 1971 and during this time he performed regularly in major Australian films as well as appearing in British and American productions. He also appeared in commercials in Britain during the late 1950s. His on-screen image as a lanky, laconic bushman struck a chord with film goers and he soon became a most popular actor in Australia appearing in such films as "Forty Thousand Horsemen", "Rats of Tobruk", "The Overseerers" and "Eureka Stockade". He enlisted in the Royal Australian Air Force in 1941 and reached the rank of Flying Officer before his discharge in 1945, His appearances in American films included "The Desert Rats" (1952) with Richard Burton, "The Sundowners" (1960) with Robert Mitchum and Deborah Kerr and "Mutiny on the Bounty" (1962) with Marlon Brando. He died of a heart attack shortly after he completed his role in the film "Wake in Flight".

UPCOMING NATIONAL TOPICAL STAMP SHOW

On April 3, 1860 a young man named Johnny Fry left St. Joseph, MO, on horseback as the first of a relay of riders on a new mail service to California. The company he worked for was originally called the *Central Overland California and Pikes Peak Express Company*; it became better known as the "Pony Express". For the sesquicentennial of that event the American Topical Association will have the Pony Express as its theme for its June 25-27 annual show in Denver, CO. This year's events will be held at the Crowne Plaza Denver International Airport Hotel. This World Series of Philately show is topical in its exhibits, meetings and management but dealers from around the country will cover all aspects of philately. The National Topical Stamp Show stands out for not only giving thematic exhibits a singular place in which to compete on common ground but provides one of the most interesting and diverse grouping of exhibits for collectors and non-collectors to enjoy. In conjunction with the show, two tours are planned: one to include stops at the Denver Mint, a tour of the (Unsinkable) Molly Brown House and a visit to the Miller-Coors Brewery, the other to visit the gold mine area and other memorable sites of the Old West.

NEW MASONIC COVER FROM INDIA

Abdul Aziz has informed us of a new Masonic cover which has been released in India on November 21, 2009 on the occasion of the Installation of the Grand Master. He is willing to provide copies of this cover and its story for a cost of \$US5.00 - \$US3 for the cover and \$US2 for registered letter mailing. Payment options will be given on request at rajus2001@gmail.com His address is A-32/146 Chittanpura, Varnasi, 221001 India.

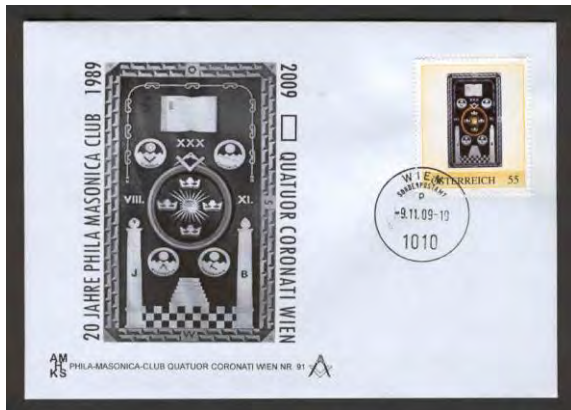


ANOTHER INFORMATION REQUEST RESOLVED

Another request was received seeking information on potential Masonic membership of Robert H. Goddard (1883-1945), pioneer of rocketry who resided in Massachusetts. The Grand Lodge of Mass states that he is not in their records – the closest is a Robert Stevens Goddard (1877-????) who was a woodworker and a 1909 member of Webster Lodge.

NEW AUSTRIAN MASONIC COVERS

Bro. Dr. Herbert Schmid-Korlath, President of the Phila Masonica Club, Quatuor Coronati, Wien, has graciously sent along a copy of each of the two most recent covers published by his Club – one recognizes the 20th anniversary of his Masonic Philatelic Study group. The other celebrates the chartering of a Lodge. Information on the acquisition of these covers can be obtained from him at Hackenberggasse 29/33/3, Wien, a-1190, Austria. (Please note that Dr. Schmid-Korlath's command of languages other than his native tongue is very limited – it would be very helpful if you could communicate accordingly.)



NIKOLAI MIKHAILOVICH KARAMIZIN

Nikolai Karamizin was honored by the release of a stamp on December 12, 1991 as part of a set recognizing Russian historians. He was a member of the Lodge “Couronne d’Or” in 1784 receiving his First and Second Degrees there. The following year he joined the “Circle des Martinistes de Moscou”. He left the Fraternity in 1789 and in the 1820s refused an offer to advance to the higher degrees.



Born December 1, 1766 in Mikhailovka, Russia, Nikolai Karamizin was sent to Moscow to study under a Swiss-German teacher and later moved to St. Petersburg where he made the acquaintance of Dmitriev, a Russian poet of some merit, and occupied himself with translating essays by foreign writers. After some time he went to live in Simbirsk, living in retirement until induced to revisit Moscow where he again took to literary work. In 1789 he traveled, visiting Germany, France, Switzerland and England. Upon his return he published his *Letters of a Russian Traveler* which met with great success. In 1794 he abandoned his literary journal and published other works and stories. In 1802 and 1803 he edited the journal *The European Messenger* and realized that his strength lay in this kind of writing; he commenced his 12 volume *History of the Russian State*. Toward this end, he secluded himself for two years in Simbirsk. Alexander invited him to Tver where he read the first eight volumes to the emperor. Moving back to St. Petersburg, he enjoyed the favor of Alexander I and submitted his work to him for review. He did not live to carry his work further than the eleventh volume, terminating it at the accession of Michael Romanov in 1613. He died May 22, 1826 in Taurida, Russia.

NEW ISSUES

The following new issues which are of Masonic interest have been reported in the January, February and March issues of the Scott Stamp Monthly.

Burkina Faso – 4/8/97 – 1120Y – Single stamp honoring Heinrich von Stephan

France – 11/6/09 – 3729 – One stamp showing Francisco de Miranda – Twin issue with Venezuela.

Great Britain – 10/8/09 – 2697 and 2698 – A. C. Doyle and Donald Campbell included in two strips of five stamps each honoring famous people.

Greenland – 6/21/09 – 543 – One stamp issued to honor Matthew Henson, Polar Explorer.

Ireland – 8/14/09 – 1847/50 – Set of four stamps honoring composers - including W. A. Mozart and F. J. Haydn.

Liberia – 5/4/09 – 2567/9 – Three souvenir sheets picturing all the U.S. Presidents.

Macedonia – 3/18/09 – 470/1 – Two stamp honoring composers including Joseph Haydn on 471.

Marshall Islands – 7/13/09 – 947a – Strip of five stamps picturing hot air balloons, including Montgolfier's.

Peru – 8/2/09 – 1707 – Single stamp honoring Victor Raul Hoya de la Torre, Politician.

Philippines – 6/14/09 – 3223d – Block of four stamps issued for the 150th anniversary of the Ateneo de Manila University, one pictures Jose Rizal.

Sweden – 7/28/09 – 977 – Souvenir sheet marking the 200th anniversary of the first contact between Russia and Vanuatu, one of the two stamps pictures Russian Admiral V. M. Golovnin

ALEKSANDR SERGEYEVICH PUSHKIN

Born June 6, 1799 in Moscow, Alexander Pushkin published his first poem at the age of fifteen and was widely recognized by the literary establishment by the time of his graduation from the Imperial Lyceum in Tsarskoye Selo (later renamed Pushkin in his honor). He entered the government office of foreign affairs in 1817 as a clerk and gradually becoming committed to social reform, he emerged as a spokesman for literary radicals, was discharged in 1820 and sent into exile in southern Russia. While under the strict surveillance of government censors and unable to travel or publish at will, he wrote his most famous play, the drama *Boris Godunov*, but could not publish it until years later. Pushkin was recalled in 1825 by the Emperor Nicholas who restored him to his office and charged him with writing the history of Peter the Great. He is considered to be the greatest Russian poet and the founder of modern Russian literature. He pioneered the use of vernacular speech in his poems and plays, creating a style of storytelling – mixing drama, romance and satire – which greatly influenced later Russian writers. He and his wife, whom he married in 1831, became regulars of court society. In 1837, while falling into debt amidst rumors that his wife had started a scandalous affair, he challenged her alleged lover to a duel. He was mortally wounded and died two days later on February 10, 1837 in Saint Petersburg; Nicholas gave Pushkin's widow a pension of 10,000 rubles following that death.

While in exile in South Russia at the town of Kishinev, Alexander Pushkin became acquainted with some prominent Masons and joined their ranks in the Lodge "Ovid" which received its charter from the Grand Lodge "Astrea" on September 17, 1821. The following year all Russian Lodges were closed but the "Ovid" remained open because it had been transferred to the Romanian Lodges' Jurisdiction. There is no official record of his Masonic membership except a note in his diary in which he states that he was a Mason and one of his letters to Jhukovsky in which he wrote, "I was a Mason in Kishinev Lodge...". His father was a Mason and most of the prominent men of Russia at that period were members of the Fraternity.

ALEKSANDR SERGEYEVICH PUSHKIN (Cont'd)

Russia commemorated the 110th anniversary of the death of Alexander Pushkin with the issuance of a pair of stamps in February 1947.



FYODOR PETROWITSCH TOLSTOY

Russia issued a stamp on January 5, 1983 to commemorate the bicentennial of the death of Fyodor Tolstoy. He became involved in Freemasonry in 1816, eventually participating in the organization of the “Lancasterian schools”, designed to propagate literacy. He was a member of the Lodge “Perre a la Verite” in St. Petersburg and served this Lodge as Director of Ceremonies. In 1818-1821 he was Worshipful Master of the Lodge “Michel l’Elu” also in St. Petersburg and District Deputy to the “Astrea de l’Orient” Grand Lodge. He was also an Honorary Member of Lodges in Simbirsk (“Clef de la Vertu”), Tomsk (“Flambeau de l’Orient”), Plock, Poland (“Triangl” and “Perfection”) and Varsovic (“Bouclier du Nord”).



Born February 17, 1782 in Kologriv, Fyodor Tolstoy began to paint at an early age under the direction of his mother; his first drawings were made when he was 4 years old. At the age of ten he entered the Jesuit College of Gavriil Gruber in Polotsk where he studied painting as well as the sciences. From June 1798 to June 1802 he was educated in the Naval Cadet Corps and, upon completion, continued his education under the direction of famous scientists. He also continued his painting of still lifes, portraits and landscapes. He was appointed an adjutant to an admiral in 1804 and was forced to retire. He worked at the Hermitage from 1806 to 1810 then for the Department of the Mint becoming the founder of medal working in Russia. His medal works led to his election as a member of almost all of the European academies of fine arts. From 1820 to 1833 he employed the Neoclassical technique of “raw sketch” to execute 63 illustrations for a book by Bogdanovich. He wrote two treatises for Nicholas in 1826 and in 1838 composed a ballet, *The Aeolian Harp*. Neither this opera, nor one written in 1842, were ever staged. Pushkin regarded Tolstoy as the finest of the contemporary Russian artists. He died November 5, 1846 in Moscow.

ALEXANDER VASILYEVICH SUVOROV

Alexander Suvorov was a member of the Lodge “Aux trois Etoile” in St. Petersburg where he was initiated, passed and raised. During the occupation of Koenigsberg, he served as governor and affiliated with Koenigsberg Lodge “Zu den drei Kronen” in appreciation of his help to the city and on January 25, 1761, he received the fifth degree, “Maitre Ecosais”, in that Lodge. He also visited the Scottish Lodge “Zum goldenon Leuchter” in that city.