

The Masonic Philatelist

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RICHARD EVELYN BYRD

The Little America stamp was issued on October 9, 1933, at the Philatelic Agency, Washington, D.C. Originally intended for use only on mail of the Second Byrd Antarctic Expedition, it was later released for ordinary postage. On the globe are shown the routes of Byrd's earlier flights and expeditions.



Byrd was born at Winchester, Va., October 25, 1888.

He was raised March 19, 1921 in Federal Lodge No. 1, Washington, D.C. On Sept. 18, 1928, he affiliated with Kane Lodge No. 454 of New York City.

Byrd, member of a famous Virginia family, early in life showed his liking for the Navy and for exploration. At the age of 12 he made a round-the-world trip alone. In 1912 he was graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy. He accompanied the MacMillan Greenland Expedition in 1925. The next year he flew over the North Pole. In 1927 he made a flight across the Atlantic. He sailed on his first expedition to the Antarctic in 1929, and from his base there he flew over the South Pole.

He eighty-two members of his second expedition to Antarctica, sixty were Masons.

NEW MEMBERS 1946

Charles William Beare
Richard S. Bohn
Richard C. Dahlem
Gordon S. Dills
Cecil Gus Gaston

Frank Glanz
Peter Gouled
Burleigh E. Jacobs
W. H. Kne Meyer
C. Max Lentz
Leonard E. Livingston

Hans P. Nielson
Pete Panagiotou
Paul W. Savage
K. William Schumacher
Max A. Weintraub

• Meetings •

FIRST AND LAST FRIDAY EACH MONTH - COLLECTORS CLUB BLDG., 22 E. 35th Street

Nov. 29th - Social Evening

and visit by members of the Aero-Philatelists Inc.,
headed by Mr. John J. Britt, president of this national group.

Dec. 6th - N. Y. W. Charles H. Johnson Night

A treat for you and your friends.

A COLLECTION OF MASONIC INTEREST

by Sam Brooks

So you're a stamp collector! And if you're in the same financial group as most of us, you've probably reached the stage where it costs real money to

add to your collection. Perhaps, then, you store the album away—but you have been bitten by the stamp bug; and eventually you return to philately's fold. For there's nothing so relaxing as a session with your stamps. (Of course, if you are a bloated plutocrat or one of those "philatelic investors," these lines are not for you).

But instead of attempting to break the bank in an effort to secure an elusive bit of paper, why not try a new type of collecting? As a member of the Craft, what is more natural than that you turn to building a collection of lasting Masonic interest! There are actually three branches of this interesting sideline, any one of which will reward you with hours and hours of enjoyment. Number one is the collecting of Masonic cancellations. I'll tell right off the bat that this branch may cost money—unless, of course, you happen to be a lucky fellow with lots of friends who can help. When you build this collection get the cancels in any form available, on cover or off. Don't look only for the square and compasses; you'll be surprised how many other Masonic symbols have been used as obliterating devices. When you begin your search, it may be well to go to a library and read a good book on Masonry. (What! You mean to say that reading a book will benefit my collecting! Alas, Brother, it's only too true!) But look at the fun that's in store for you. Yes, read that book on Masonry. Then visit the dealers, ask at your stamp club, and follow the many devious paths open to the enterprising philatelist. Look for the square and compasses, various stars, crosses, anchors, the trowel, the sun, the moon, an open book, the keystone, and many others. And when you find them, write them up. What a "kick" you'll get when you show this collection at your Lodge or club. But, as I said before, it will require a good deal of work, and maybe a considerable outlay of cash. Number two on our list is the collecting of Masonic corner cards and envelopes addressed to Masonic Lodges. This

type may be started by obtaining some of the present-day covers from your own and other Lodges. Remember, the Masonic connection must be clear. But here, again, most of the fun comes in looking for the "oldies." In the period from 1885 to about 1910, many Masonic organizations used beautiful corner cards with the so-called "illuminated" designs. These are the ones to uncover. (And if you find any duplicates, don't forget me). Mount these covers in an album and write them up. Try to discover if the Lodge is in existence. Tell something about its history. You will find much material of great interest to make this type of collection distinctive.

Number three in our group is not only the easiest to collect, but it is the least exacting on your pocketbook. I refer to the historical type of collection. To be certain that your work is both Masonically and historically correct, you must know your stamps and your Masonic history. Yes, Brother—back to the library. Here you obtain your facts. The stamps are easy, for most of them are common low-priced items. For example, let's start with the thirteen presidents of the U. S. who were Masons. Twelve of them are shown on our stamps, (Truman, of course, being the lone exception). Even if you decide to feature them in mint condition, the cost is not great. Eleven are included in the Presidential issue. F.D.R., the twelfth, is depicted on the recent Roosevelt commemorative issue. In order of service, the Masonic chief executives follow: Washington, Monroe, Jackson, Polk, Buchanan, Johnson, Garfield, McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt, Taft, Harding, and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Where will you find material about the Presidents' Masonic history? Well, here are some good sources: "Famous Masons and Masonic Presidents" by H. L. Maywood; "Famous Masons"—J.A. Bell; "Freemasonry in the Formation of our Government"—Philip Roth. In reading these books, you will recognize other names that have appeared on our stamps—Clay, Franklin, John Paul Jones, Von Steuben, Gen. Sullivan...but why deprive you of the thrill of uncovering this information for yourself! You can spend years on this kind of collection. And what do you have when you've finished? There

---continued next page---

E. S. ZEVELEY MAKER OF POST OFFICE HANDSTAMPS

Perhaps one of our members can do a bit of research at Pleasant Grove, Maryland. The post office handstamps illustrated below were made by E. N. Zeveley—for his own use and for sale to other United States post offices in the 1850's.

These were used by post offices not supplied with town handstamps (and killers) in the early days of postage stamps. Offices without "killers" were permitted by postal regulation to cancel stamps by "strokes of a pen." This brought about many pen-cancelled copies in the 1847-51 adhesives.

Zeveley's ornate advertising envelopes are much sought after by collectors. They follow the double circle type illustrated. Zeveley, in the latter part of the 1850's became attached to the U.S. Post Office Department at Washington.

Members who have access to old lodge records—in the smaller towns—might check up on the 1850-65 membership. Many of these rosters will show names of postmasters.

—H.M.K.

A COLLECTION OF MASONIC INTEREST

--continued-- are many compensations: Pride that you are a member of an organization that included these historical greats; an increased knowledge not only of the history of Freemasonry, but also of our nation's history. Learn how members of the Craft helped to write the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, how they helped to build our country and helped to keep it great. Write it up so that you can show it in your Lodge and to your friends. You'll be surprised what intense interest will be shown in your work—by Masons and non-Masons alike. And I think you will take greater pride in this Masonic collection than in your regular stamp album.

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PLEASANT GROVE
JUNE 25
Md.
FREE



HIGH SPOTS OF OCTOBER 25th MEETING

Following Bro. Secretary Yarry's invitation to "come early," a group of 20 to 25 Masonic philatelists came early and were promptly put to work under the direction of Bro. Harry Lindquist, president of CIPEX, stuffing prospectuses of the Exhibition (next key) into envelopes. Several of the Prothers recalled that their first job was stuffing circulars in envelopes. The bogey set up was just short of 10,000. Soon cries of "only 5,000 more" diminished to "only 2,000 more," and finally "only 1,000 more." The job was done quickly and efficiently. Incidentally, we learned (those of us who did not know it) that bulk mailing has its complications too. Each 25 envelopes addressed to the same city must be tied in a package with a label on the front to facilitate counting by the post office so that the proper postage is collected against the permit.

The regular meeting was called to order by Pres. Glaser. Bro. Brooks called for material for the donation auction February 7th. Some has been received, but much more is needed to assure a successful sale. Send your material to Bro. Brooks whose address is on the masthead of the "Philatelist."

Bro. Yarry read an interesting description of the recent British Peace issue from the notice of a lodge in Buenos Aires, Argentina, which also commented on the Masonic Stamp Club.

Brother Harry Konwiser gave us a short dissertation on Seebecks and their history, surprising some of us with the information that at one time they were much sought after.

Early English revenues on original parchment "pieces" big enough for tablecloths were displayed by Brother Charles Lott.

In closing, Brother Glaser emphasized the need for every member's participation in club activities, particularly in manning the Masonic Stamp Club lounge at the CIPEX in May.

—Gus Gaston.

74  NASHUA, N. H. '65 3¢ 1861	75  MIDDLEVILLE, MICH 3¢ 1861	76  NASHUA, N. H. 1869	77  3¢ 1861
78  3¢ 1861	79  3¢ 1861	80  3¢ GREEN	81  LOUISVILLE, KY. 1861
82  DAYTON, OHIO 1879	83  FRANKFORD SPRINGS, PA.	84  SARATOGA SPRINGS, N. Y. 1869	85  1861
86  WESTCHESTER, PA. 1869	87  S. WILBRAHAM, MASS 1861	88  BOSTON, MASS. 1861	89  NASHUA, N. H. 1869
90  ROCHESTER, N. H. 1879	91  BOSTON, MASS. 1869	92  SARATOGA SPRINGS, N. Y. 3¢ 1869	93 
94  DENMARK, ME.	95  ST. PAUL, MINN.	96	97

MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK - - - - - OFFICERS 1946-1947

President.....Jacob S. Glasser
1st Vice-President....Charles H. Johnson
2nd Vice-President.....Ferrars H. Tows
Secretary.....Irwin K. Yarry
Treasurer.....Harry K. Konwiser

BOARD	1949	1948	1947
OF	Bert Ehrenberg	Charles H. Johnson	Harry K. Konwiser
GOVERNORS:-	Gordon G. Johnson	Irwin K. Yarry	Henry W. Holcombe
-----	Russell E. Roane	Sam Brooks	Ferrars H. Tows

			
GREENFIELD, MASS. 2¢ 1861	GREENFIELD, MASS.	GREENFIELD, MASS. 1861	#65
			
1870-1873	1870-1873	1870-1873	PITTSBURGH, PA. 1869
			
PUTNAM, CONN. 2¢ 1883	QUINCY, MASS. 1869	QUINCY, MASS. 1869	BRIDGEWATER, PA. 1869
			
RUTLAND, VT. 1861	#88 3¢ 1867		1861
			
1870-1873	RUTLAND, VT. 1882-1883	1894	DEERFIELD, MASS. 1869

Two pages of Masonic cancellations are reproduced in this issue of the Masonic Philatelist. If you have any of the items shown, please assist us by checking the accuracy of our notations and advising us at once. Won't you help?

MEMBERSHIP IN THE MASONIC STAMP CLUB

is open to every Mason in good standing in his Lodge, who is interested in any phase of stamp collecting. The cost is low, dues are one dollar per year and the entrance fee is one dollar. If you have a friend who is interested, have him complete the application form and send it with two dollars to Carl E. Felander, Chairman of the Membership Committee.

Masonic Stamp Club of New York
22 East 35th St. New York, 16, N.Y.

Name _____ (Print)
Address _____

Name of Lodge _____ No. _____
Proposed by _____
Date _____
Applicant's Signature _____



Concluding: HAROLD JAY SNYDER'S STORY ABOUT
OUR PAST PRESIDENTS

Before our President Emeritus, Bro. Arthur Deas, was called upon to enlighten us on another load of his so-called "philatelic junk," we asked him for a message to the stamp collectors of America, to commemorate his approaching 80th Birthday. He smilingly and simply stated: "The primary joy of life is acceptance, approval,-- the sense of appreciation and companionship of our human comrades; and if you start early in life collecting stamps, that helps, also, in realizing that life is just contact, through service, with our fellow-man." Then he distributed to each one present a loose-leaf binder as a token of his friendship and brotherly love, and a reminder to him of a venture lost, but not forgotten. Bro. Arthur Deas is one man in philately who can give you a thousand and one reasons why stamp collecting is the top hobby whenever the urge to accumulate things seizes one. Fortunate for those present, he seized upon this occasion to show us some of his recent "philatelic ephemera" which had us laughing no how. They may be sumerly characterized as the "Flotsam and Jetsam" of the mail-bags. But Arturo, the old Maestro, comes back with the terse remark: "Try and find another one like it!" Not manufactured stampic "rarities," but to be sure each item shown was "priceless" as far as Bro. Deas was concerned. Some day they may grace the collections of those big moguls who want the unique and unusual in philately. Nothing like what he showed us has ever been exhibited anywhere. It begs a description to put down in words some of the oddities shown and which fall into the realm of what he so aptly called "the perver City of philately." The "Tin-Can" mail of today will be the treasured "tid-bits" of tomorrow. His new Koreans, on cover, sent him by W. Lloyd Heath, will bring fabulous prices when the Dean of Philately releases them for public acceptance. His "bi-sexes" aroused chuckles from the hard-boiled specialists present. But, remember, the world laughed at Galileo, at Robert Fulton, at Chris. Columbus! And, look at what history thinks of these adventurers and pioneers in the once untrodden fields of astronomy, science, discovery, etc., etc. More power to you, Noble One, and less foot work from now on! Get this: Bro. Deas has opened up more new fields in philately than any living collector we know of, except, perhaps, Bro. Harry "Postal-Markings" Knowiser. We can at times be philosophical about the peculiarities of human behavior, but in Arthur's case his collecting instincts have proven to be more therapeutic than philatelic, particularly at his present stage of the game. Don't you ever try to stop this "young" man, because he has ideas that we oldsters can adopt freely and with little financing. (Is Hetty Green's little son, The Colonel, around?) Arthur's eyes are getting dim, but his mind is still as bright as a new silver dollar. So, Brethren, in giving you again our "El Presidente Emeritus," we say, God Bless him and keep him for many years to come! Though faltering a bit at the knees, still, Sir Arthur put in an early appearance at the meeting, and with Pythagorean wisdom really held us spellbound in his unapproachable technique in digging up "junk", and then asserting on the frivolities and foibles of us philatelists, en casserole. With the adroitness of a Barnum & Bailey acrobat, this loveable laugh-maker spanned the Seven Seas, via constant correspondence, to corral the elusive, evasive bits of colored paper we sometimes recognize as the ubiquitous, little postage stamp. Come what may, the Right Hon. Arthur Deas is determined to continue to capture these exotic examples of the engraver's skill, "without let or hindrance," as the Barristers of Old Bailey's are wont to say. He promised to reveal, at our next meeting, one of his outstanding pieces of ephemera, namely: The original leaf that Adam used as a "Cover" in the Garden of Eden episode. Though Bro. Deas is also a post-card fancier (oui, oui!) per se, the Maestro of the metered-mail bags his philatelic prizes with a finesse that borders on cajolery coupled with the naivette of the innocent novice. The world is his philatelic oyster-bed when it comes to getting his "man-made" freaks and oddities in stampic stunting. One hard and fast rule he sticks to, however, is: before any item is added to his varied store-house of antediluvian ephemera, it must be considered, labeled, characterized, and called "junk" in the eyes of the "so-called" stamp experts; but, as he affirmatively proclaims: "Try and get another copy like this one."

"Our Past Presidents" (continued)

And, believe you me, that just shuts his detractors up like clams. This pro-ing prestidigitator of the printed impressions on postal paper holds dominion over the choicest selection of philate-tonics this side of the collector's paradise. The humanness of Arthur is what strikes you like a sledge-hammer. He beats all h--l out of the most clever of collectors in getting there the firstest ere some unusual stamp is about to appear on the philate-lic horizon. Thank you, old pal! Buenos Deas! Buenas Snatchet as the Castillian sayeth.

The RALPH A. PARRY PUBLICATION FUND

received the sum of \$7.50 through the sale of stamps and covers at our last "spot auction." These lots were submitted by Harry K. Konwiser, Bert Ehrenberg, and Dr. Irwin K. Yarry. We are also indebted to Carl E. Pelander for sending us fine lots of stamps for our donation auction, to Dr. George Camnitzner for a nice cover worth about \$15.00, and to Charles A. Lott for several additional items for the sale. We need more material! Won't you help?

CHECK LIST OF A short time ago, we announced the formation of a complete
GEORGE WASHINGTON collection of George Washington stamps as issued by other
STAMPS ISSUED BY governments. This group of stamps has been presented to
FOREIGN COUNTRIES the Club by Mrs. Bert Ehrenberg. The stamps are being
mounted in a suitable frame and will soon be presented to
the George Washington Masonic Shrine at Teppan, N. Y., as a companion-piece
to the frame previously presented.

The list of stamps follows:

Philippines #424 (A66)	Guatemala.. #C92a (AP12)	Poland..... #267 (A57)
Brazil..... 191 (A62)	Haiti..... C11 (AP4)	Poland..... 319 (A82)
Brazil..... 480 (A159a)	France..... 243 (A34)	Turkey..... 820 (A104)
Ecuador.... C32 (AP6)	France..... 244 (A34)	Turkey..... 822 (A104)

If you notice any errors or omissions in the list, please advise the Editor at once. We would like this collection to be complete.

Thank you, Mrs. Ehrenberg!

Grand Master, Burton H. Saxton, Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Iowa Com-
tee on Masonic Education writes to Editor Konwiser: "I have seen a copy of
the 'Masonic Philatelist' and think so highly of it, I am wondering if you
would be willing to put the Iowa Masonic Library on your list to receive this
regularly." We are most pleased to comply with this request, and will extend
this courtesy to any Masonic Library which requests it.

* * *

Gus Gaston calls our attention to an article in the "Saturday Evening Post" of
Oct. 19 on the U. S. Capitol building. The article tells about the cornerstone
laying in an elaborate Masonic ceremony presided over by W. George Washington.
If you are interested in Masonic philately, add a copy of U.S. #572 to your
collection.

* * *

Our Oct. 25th meeting was made all the more pleasant by visits from some of
our real "old timers." Present and accounted for were: Charlie Carpenter,
Harry Lindquist, Francis Vander Beeck, and Fred Wendel. Come often, fellows!
We miss you when you're away.

* * *

Brother Elliot M. Nordheim, specialist in Italy and Hungary who became a mem-
ber last year, has been recently appointed Probationary Patrolman Bedge No.
15787, and is now one of New York's finest.

* * *

STOP PRESS!!!

Announcing the latest selection of the "Birth-of-the-Month" Club. A Stork Pub-
lication. The title is JILL MARIE by Edith and Dick Dahlem, of Dever, N.J.
The size is small and hide-bound in delicate hand-washed pink. Guaranteed to
stand a life-time of wear and tear. Date of publication November 10th.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

James B. Green of Worcester, Mass., collects United States, Sweden, and predeceals (he writes). This member buys but doesn't sell.

Arthur Kirk represents the "Western Stamp Collector" in the metropolitan area and accepts advertising orders. Al Burns (also a member) edits the W. S. C.

W. R. McCoy "majordomo-ed" (did yeoman's work) on the November American Philatelic Congress held at Boston. He is editor of the Congress book.

Herman Herst has been well "written up" in the stamp press recently, in detail.

Dick Bohn is one of the chief assistants to President Jake Glaser in arranging the exhibit space, etc., for the 1947 International Philatelic Exhibition.

Since it is desired to produce a Washington-Franklin Masonic cachet, for next May, when the U. S. P. O. Dept. will commemorate the 100th year of "regular adhesive postage stamps," who will aid on this project? Tell it to Jake.

Forrest Ellis is back on home grounds and soon will be induced to supply copy on United States stamps.

Paul Savage of Worcester is now on the roster. Paul is a press photographer, also collects China postage stamps and all sorts of things philatelic.

K. W. Schumacher, a new member, is about to be retired from his present vocation and is thinking of going into the stamp business.

Max Weintreub has given up Connecticut farming for city life.

Information wanted on F. W. Herman Jr. Where does he receive mail? This info is desired by the Secretary. Also wanted: Where is Frank Sasso? Frank joined us in 1938, kept attending meetings regularly till 1942, paid up dues, but hasn't been heard from for over a year. (Now don't get the idea that you must disappear to get your name in this column. You send us a story. We'll print it!).

More of our local members are expected to attend more of our regular meetings now that the war is "almost over." Our next meeting on Nov. 29th is listed as a "social evening." Bring your friends and bring your stamps. Jake Glaser has promised to have members of the Aero-Philatelists Inc. with us and may induce its president, John J. Britt, to show some of his "puffins." —"Daddy, what are puffins?" —"I don't know, son. Come down on Nov. 29th and find out." —"Thank you, Daddy. I'll be there."

The committee for the CIPEX, New York, May 1947, has announced the names of the American judges. These include Bros. Sol Glass and C. W. Fennan.

Julius Windner is up and around with his usual happy mien despite the fact that he must claim Philly as his home grounds.

Our president, Jake Glaser, will show his Colombian air mails at the New Rochelle Stamp Club on Friday, Dec. 13th. The club, of which Brother Gus Gaston is president, meets at the New Rochelle Y. M. C. A.

Your editors went a folded letter carrying franking signatures of Isiah Thomas, famous Mass. printer, who was also Grand Master (Pass.) and was Worcester's first postmaster. No doubt Marcus White will come to the rescue on this cover required "for a good Masonic objective." Reminder: In tying up Masonry with philately—in philatelic history, say—don't overlook the collecting of franking signatures of postmasters, postmaster-generals and other cabinet officers, as well as U.S. presidents, generals, and admirals. Many were members of the Craft. ###