

THE PHILATELIC FREEMASON

Journal of the
MASONIC STUDY UNIT



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

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WHOLE NO. 131

JONAS CHICKERING

The USPS regular issue of July 13, 1978, Scott 1615C can be directly associated with the life of Jonas Chickering.



Jonas Chickering, a piano inventor and manufacturer was born April 5, 1797, at New Ipswich, NH. The son of a blacksmith, he learned the trade of cabinet making and became a workman in a Boston piano manufactory. He went into business for himself in 1823 and later into partnership with John Mackay in 1830. Mackay was a shipmaster and they imported fine woods for piano cases. When Mackay was drowned at sea in 1841, Chickering carried on alone. He received a number of patents on piano construction and improvements. He died December 8, 1853.

Bro. Chickering was initiated in St. Andrews Lodge, Boston, Mass., in 1821. He was also a member of St. Andrews Chapter, R.A.M., and DeMolay Commandery, K.T., as well as 32nd degree A.A.S.R.

-article contributed by Bro. Robert M. Allardice, member No. 178
of Surrey, B.C., Canada

ANOTHER MASONIC STAMP

New Zealand issued a set of Art Deco Buildings on February 10, 1999. The \$1 value of the set pictures the Masonic Hotel at Napier. Does any member have any information on this hotel, its connection with the Fraternity and how the name was chosen? It is a colorful stamp and hopefully should be included in our collections. My copy was given to me by an English friend, Wor. Bro. Derek Holden, who recently visited New Zealand and brought it to me when he visited in April.



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

NEW MEMBERS:

318. Richard C. Erskine, 104 W. Elm St., Yarmouth, Maine 04096
487. Edward P. Smith, 8019 Candlewood Dr., Alexandria, VA 22306
492. Gil Bemis, 46 Sharri-Ann Ave., Nashua, NH 03660

ADDRESS CHANGES:

118. Thomas C. Ehlers, 11056 Palatine Ave. N, Seattle, WA 98133
126. John O. Welch, 120 State Loop 92, La Grange, TX 78945
358. J. H. Meijer, Willinge Prinsstraat 12, 8421 PE Oldeberkoop, Netherlands
396. John F. Leak, P.O. Box 733, Essex Junction, VT 05453

RESIGNED:

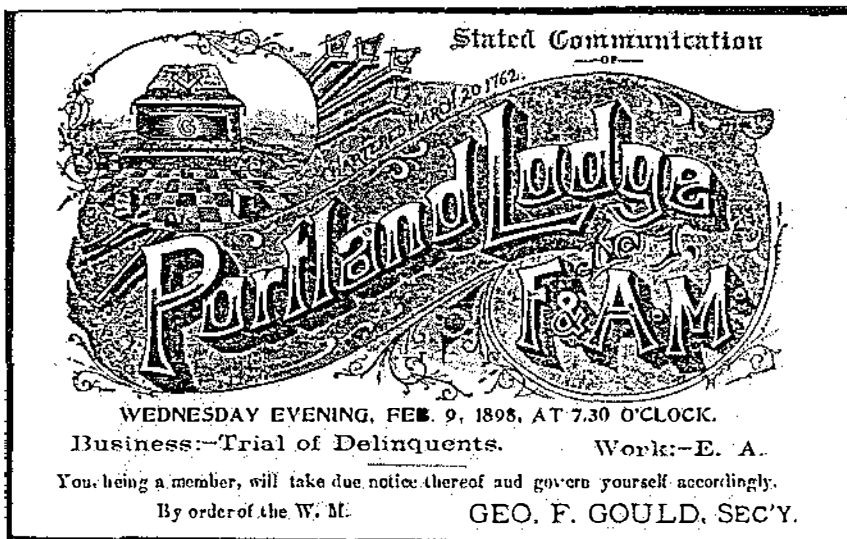
4. Adrian Faigin, Mission Viejo, CA

Bro. Erskine has been a member but has not been recognized (a long story). Bro. Smith is the newly elected President of the George Washington Masonic Stamp Club. Bro. Bemis is a stamp dealer who participates in the various bourses in New Hampshire. Welcome aboard to all.

Bro. Ehlers is the recently retired Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Washington.

Bro. John D. Turpie, member No. 473 of Renfrewshire, Scotland, has forwarded a copy of the Installation Program for the Right Worshipful Master and Office-bearers of The Anchor Lodge of Research No. 1814 held on October 2, 1998. Bro. Turpie was installed as the Right Worshipful Master that evening. Congratulations!

MASONIC MEETING NOTICE



Your Editor secured this postal card at a recent bourse. Printed in blue, it is a striking example of how meetings were announced in days of 'yore. Portland Lodge #1 was originally chartered under St. John's Provincial Grand Lodge of Boston in 1762 and again in 1769 by the Grand Master of Masons in North America. It became No. 1 in 1820 when the Grand Lodge of Maine was formed.

PHILIPPE VILLIERS DE L'ISLE ADAM

A set of four stamps was issued Feb. 26, 1999, for the 900th anniversary of the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Rhodes and Malta. The 6c value depicts Grand Master L'Isle Adam. During the 11th Century a hospital of St. John was established in Jerusalem to treat pilgrims to the Holy Land. After the success of the First Crusade, an Order of Knights was established in 1099 to manage the hospital. They became known as the Hospitallers. They wore black robes with a white cross on the right sleeve. The Order prospered and eventually became rivals and enemies of the Knights Templar. In 1180 there were about 600 Hospitallers and 300 Templars.

By the end of the 13th Century the internal quarrels of the Crusaders and the superior fighting abilities of the Saracens led to the loss of Jerusalem and Acre. The Hospitallers moved to Limisso, Cyprus, in 1287 and in 1310 conquered the Island of Rhodes where they remained for 200 years. L'Isle Adam was born in Auvergne, France, in 1464. He was from an aristocratic family and learned to be an excellent seaman as well as a skilled diplomat after joining the Hospitallers who were now known as the Knights of Rhodes. He led the Christian fleet to victory at Laiazzo in 1510 and in 1521 was elected Grand Master of the Order.

Meanwhile, Suleiman the Magnificent (1494-1566) became the Moslem leader and laid siege to the Island of Rhodes on July 26, 1522. The Knights were outnumbered ten to one, but had the advantage of an excellent defensive position. After five months of fighting, Suleiman permitted the Knights to leave Rhodes. For eight years they wandered seeking a permanent home. Finally, in 1530, the Emperor Charles V ceded them the Island of Malta for one falcon per year rent. L'Isle Adam died on Malta in 1534.

Suleiman failed in an attempt to capture Malta in 1565. Napoleon Bonaparte finally ended the Order in 1798 though the Sovereign Military Order of Malta lives on in the Vatican. The Knights Templar ended with the death of the last Grand Master Jacques De Molay in 1312. Masonic tradition indicates the Templars lived on in Scotland helping Robert Bruce at Bannockburn.

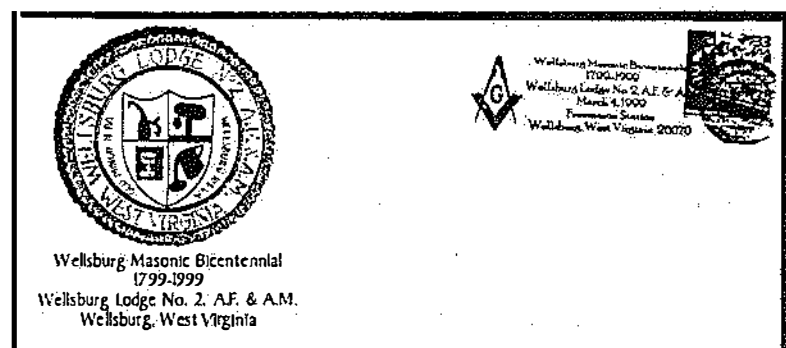
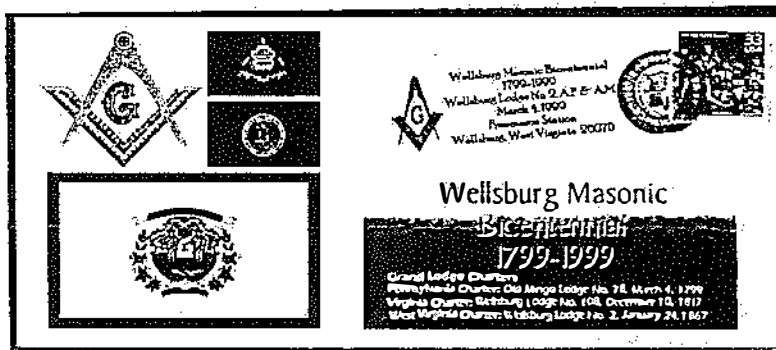
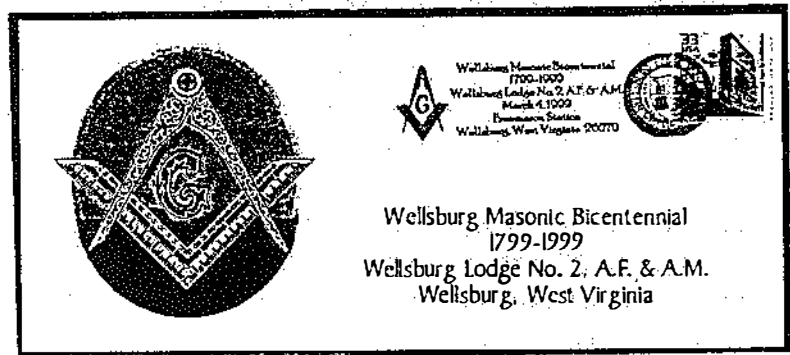
The Masonic Orders of Malta and the Temple were being conferred in England by 1780. The St. John Ambulance Association was chartered by Queen Victoria in 1888 with the Duke of Connaught as Grand Master. The Masonic Commanderies were first found in Providence, Rhode Island, in 1805. A previous pair of stamps from Malta (Scott 196 - *shown* - and 196A) also depicted L'Isle Adam, one of the brightest names in the history of the Order.



-article contributed by our Unit President, Bro. Norman Lincoln

WELLSBURG LODGE NO. 2 BICENTENNIAL COVERS

Wellsburg Lodge No. 2 of Wellsburg, West Virginia, celebrated their Bicentennial on March 6, 1999. They issued a very colorful set of three cacheted #10 covers to commemorate the event. Shown here, they are available at a cost of \$2 each or \$5 for the set from: Wellsburg Lodge No. 2, ACLAM, H.D. Griffin, c/o Postmaster, Wellsburg, WV 26070.



LISTING OF MASONIC GOVERNMENT STAMPS

Bro. Allan Boudreau, member No. 132 of New York City has provided a listing of those stamps he calls Masonic Government Stamps; others call them "pure" Masonic issues. That listing is printed here to not only share it with others, but to ask if we have missed any. If you have any additions or corrections please contact your Editor or Bro. Boudreau at 1 Washington Square Village, New York, NY 10012-1601 or at his e-mail address aabnyc@juno.com.

ISSUES TO HONOR MASONIC EVENTS

COUNTRY	DATE	SCOTT	EVENT
Serbia	1/1/42	2NB15/8	Anti-Masonic Conference
Cuba	6/5/56	558,C135	Inauguration of Masonic Temple
Costa Rica	5/18/05	Seal	Centenary of Masonry in Costa Rica
Dominican Republic	3/2/76	672,C177	8th InterAmerican Masonic Conference
Honduras	5/15/72	C500/3	50th Anniversary of Grand Lodge
France	5/12/73	1368	Bicent. Of Grande Orient of France
Brazil	8/24/73	1303	150th Anniversary - Grande Orient do Brasil
Brazil	7/18/77	1517	Cent. of Grand Lodge of Brazil
Luxembourg	9/11/78	617	175th Anniversary - Grand Lodge of Luxembourg
Belgium	10/16/82	1132	150th Anniversary - Grand Orient of Belgium
Dominican Republic	10/24/83	888	125th Anniversary of Freemasonry in D.R.
Netherlands Antillies	2/21/85	531/3	Bicent. Of Lodge "De Vergenoeging"
St. Kitts	11/9/85	169/72	150th Anniversary - Mount Olive Lodge
Philippines	12/19/87	1906	75th Anniversary - Grand Lodge of Philippines
Mexico	10/8/90	1667	XIV World Conference, Supreme Council
Barbados	9/17/91	803/6	250th Anniversary of Freemasonry in Barbados
Jamaica	5/1/92	768/71a	250th Anniversary - 1st Provincial G.M. of English Freemasonry in Jamaica
Brazil	8/20/92	2388	To honor the Grand Orient of Brazil
Philippines	8/30/92	2175/7	Centenary of Nilad Lodge
France	4/3/93	2328	The Human Right
Antigua & Barbuda	8/16/93	1732-5	150th Anniversary of St. John's Lodge
New Caledonia	9/15/94	C265	125th Anniversary of Presence of Freemasonry
France	11/5/94	2446	Centenary of Grande Loge de France
Wallis & Futuna	11/24/94	463	Centenary of Founding of Grande Loge de France
France	9/16/95	2494	50th Anniversary of Female Grand Masonic Lodge
Aruba	7/26/96	1343/4	75th Anniversary of Lodge El Sol Naciente
Chile	4/8/97	New	50th InterAmerican Masonic Conference
Luxembourg	9/21/98	New	50th Anniversary of Reactivation of Lodge St. Jean de l'Esperance & 150th of Freemasonry in Duchy

STAMPS WHICH PICTURE MASONIC BUILDINGS

COUNTRY	DATE	SCOTT	EVENT
Australia	10/31/56	290	Collins St. - Masonic Temple is red-domed building
China	1909	131/3	Temple of Heaven - used for Masonic meetings
China	10/17/23	270/3	Temple of Heaven - used for Masonic meetings
Honduras	1/12/35	328	Masonic Temple, Tegucigalpa
Surinam	4/1/61	293	Concordia Lodge

STAMPS ISSUED TO HONOR INDIVIDUALS & INCLUDE THE MASONIC SYMBOL

COUNTRY	DATE	SCOTT	EVENT
Barbados	8/17/76	443	Prince Hall
Guinee	11/1/87	1041,4,6	G. Washington, Lafayette, W. Churchill
Brazil	4/6/88	2131	150th Death Anniversary of Jose Bonifacio
Dominica	11/17/89	1204/7	U. S. Presidents that were Masons

TO THE GOLDEN APPLE IN THE ORIENT OF DRESDEN No. 119 REACTIVATION COVER



The "light" was brought into the Masonic Lodge "To the Golden Apple No. 119" on March 6, 1999. The "bringing in of light" is what Masons use to describe the ceremony in which a Lodge takes up its active work. This festive ceremony took place in the presence of the Grand Master of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in Germany Klaus Horneffer, members of the sister Lodge "To the Three Swords and Astrea to the Green Rue No. 3" as well as from other German and international Lodges. Juergen Mettlemann was inducted into the office of Master of the Lodge.

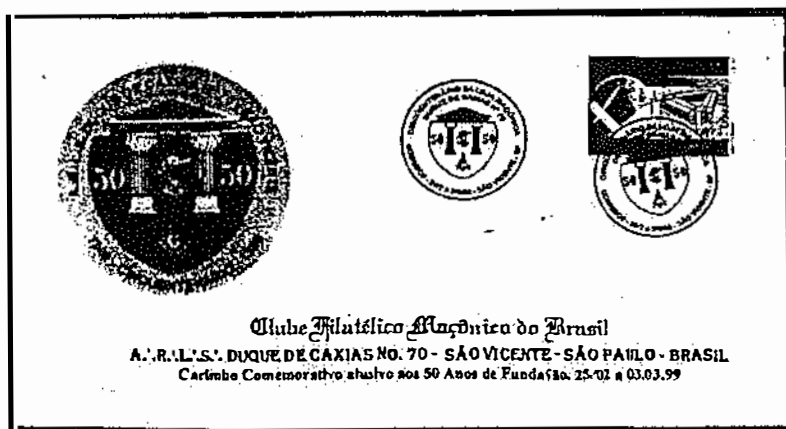
The Golden Apple Lodge was founded in 1776 and had to dissolve itself in 1935 with all other German Lodges due to the Nazi dictatorship. After 1945, Freemasonry was not tolerated under the East German regime so old Masonic traditions could first be continued after the reunification. The Lodge always saw its main objectives as to soften agony and despair and to spread education and enlightenment. Here are a few examples: support for the rearing of children in the Boy's Institute, starting in 1818 support for a Blind Institute, starting in 1852 scholarships for students and free education places in schools. In 1852 a girl's education institute was founded and a teacher's college was formed. The main goal was always to support needy and worthy students. One of the most important students was Andreas Schubert whose name is closely associated with the construction of the first German locomotive and founder of the Technical University in Dresden.

-cover illustration and article provided by Bro. George F. Beard, Toledo, OH,
whose son attended the ceremony.

Have you tried to interest a Masonic friend in the Masonic Study Unit? New members will help us grow and will widen the potential base for new information. Help your Unit today!

MASONIC COVER FROM BRAZIL

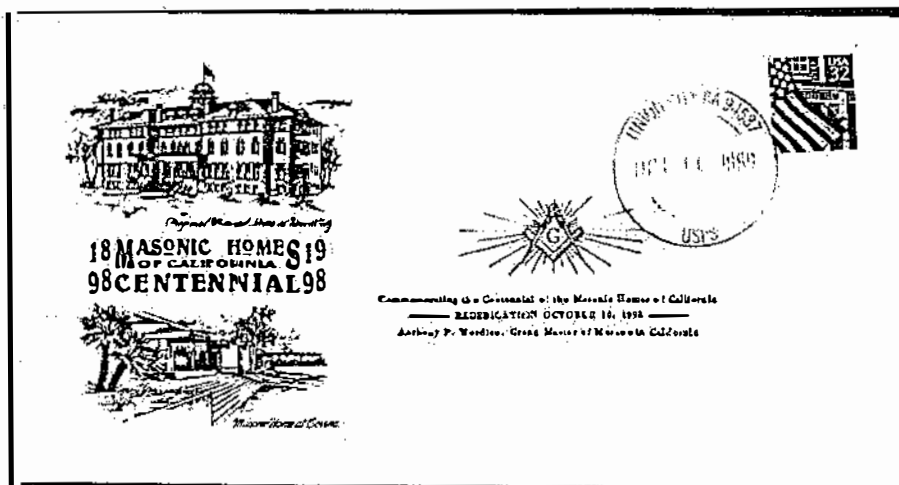
One of the latest Masonic covers from Brazil is pictured here. It commemorates the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Lodge Duque de Caxias No. 70 in Sao Vicente. It is available from Bro. Renato Mauro Schramm, President, Clube Filatélico Maconico do Brasil, Caixa Postal 3085, CEP 88010-960 Florianopolis SC, Brazil. I believe the cost is \$5.00. I also have a few copies available for sale or trade.



CALIFORNIA MASONIC HOMES CENTENNIAL COVER

For the first time in its 150 year history, the Grand Lodge of California has issued a commemorative cover. The cover features two engraved illustrations in military blue by Bro. Ron Cooper depicting the original "Masonic Home for Widows and Orphans" which opened in 1898 at Union City and the Masonic Home at Covina as it appears today. Designed to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Masonic Homes of California, these cream colored envelopes also include the Masonic Homes Centennial logo. In addition, each commemorative cover boasts a hand-stamped Masonic image celebrating the Rededication Ceremony and were hand cancelled at the Union City, CA Post Office.

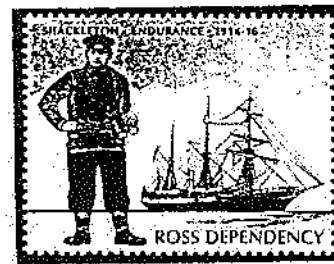
There is a very limited number of these covers available at a cost of \$5.00 each. To order, send your check made payable to *The Masonic Homes of California* to: Masonic Homes of California at Covina, 1650 Old Badillo Street, Covino, CA 91724-3163.



ERNEST HENRY SHACKLETON

More than 80 years after Bro. Sir Ernest Henry Shackleton stunned the world by staggering into the whaling station of Stromness, South Georgia, the British Explorer is taking America by storm. A movie is being made about his doomed 55-man Antarctic expedition. A book of photographs of his epic story of survival is currently riding high and it is reported that there are seven other major publishing deals on the subject under way. The American Museum of Natural History in Manhattan has launched a major new exhibition on the saga and a book of expedition photographer Frank Hurley's work, "The Endurance" has sold more than 200,000 hardback copies since publication late last year. It is only right that we should revisit this noted Mason here.

There are many stamps which have been issued around the world to honor Bro. Shackleton. Shown here are issues from South Georgia (Jan. 5, 1972), Hungary (June 30, 1987) and New Zealand - Ross Dependency (Nov. 9, 1995).



Bro. Shackleton was born in County Kildare in Ireland Feb. 15, 1874. Educated at Dulwich College, he entered the mercantile marine service and was a lieutenant in the Royal Navy Reserve. He made four expeditions to the Antarctic, first sailing under Bro. Capt. Robert Falcon Scott in 1900 on the "Discovery". Like Capt. Scott, he had little interest in Antarctica itself but saw reaching the South Pole as a route to fame and fortune. Unlike Capt. Scott, however, he thought survival more important than glory - in 1909, 97 miles from the Pole, he turned his men around.

After Roald Amundsen's successful conquest of the South Pole and Capt. Scott's death, Shackleton returned to Antarctica in the "Endurance", during the early days of World War I, to attempt to traverse the entire continent. His ship was caught in heavy ice and crushed, forcing his crew to leave the vessel. After drifting on an ice pack for five months, they sailed in the Endurance's lifeboats to Elephant Island, a tiny speck of land in the South Atlantic. He then sailed with a crew of five in an open lifeboat across 800 miles of the worst seas on earth to reach South Georgia. The men had to cross mountains and glaciers to summon help. "Not a life lost, and we have been through hell" Bro. Shackleton wrote after his team was rescued from Elephant Island by Bro. Luis Alberto Pardo Villalon. Several of his crew were killed in the war. He died on South Georgia on Jan. 5, 1922, at the start of the Shackleton-Rowett Antarctic Expedition aboard the "Quest".

Bro. Shackleton was initiated July 9, 1801, in Navy Lodge No. 2612, London. He attended the first regular meeting of Guild of Freeman Lodge No. 3525 in 1911 and was passed in that Lodge on Nov. 2, 1911. He was raised on May 30, 1913 in that same Lodge. A year later he was made Honorary Member of that Lodge and remained a member of both Navy Lodge and Guild of Freeman Lodge until his death. On Sept. 30, 1916, the English-speaking Lodges in Valparaiso, Chile, received the Brothers Sir Ernest Shackleton and Luis Alberto Pardo Villalon of the Lodge "Independencia" No. 38 in a ceremonious session as an expression of joy and appreciation for the courage and the knowledge of the latter who, with the ship "Yelcho" succeeded in bringing back members of Shackleton's crew from Elephant Island.

EDWARD KENNEDY "DUKE" ELLINGTON

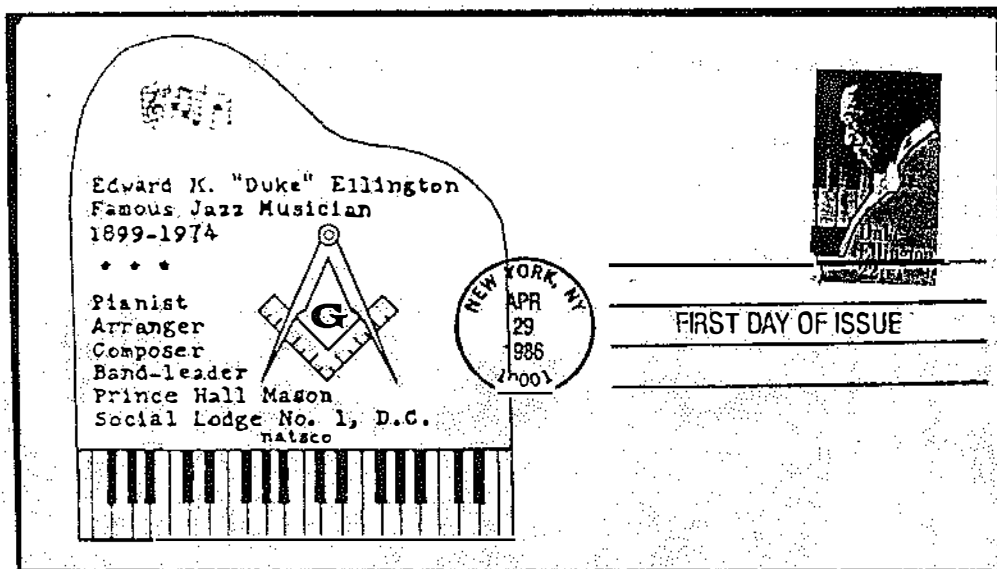
April 29, 1999, would have been Bro. Duke Ellington's 100th Birthday. He also has been honored by postage stamps issued by many countries around the world. Shown here are those issued by Mali (1994), Gambia (1999) and Dominica (1996). A Masonic cacheted cover prepared for the US release on April 29, 1986, is shown at the end of the article.



The petition of Bro. Edward K. Ellington was received by Social Lodge No. 1 of the District of Columbia Prince Hall Grand Lodge on October 20, 1931. His Initiation and Passing dates have not been located in the records but he received his Master Mason Degree on May 5, 1932. He later was a member of Mecca Temple No. 10.

Born in Washington DC on April 29, 1899, he was educated in the public schools there. His father, James Edward Ellington was a butler who later became a caterer and then a blueprint technician; he provided well for his family. Young Edward acquired the nickname "Duke" at an early age because of his careful attention to dress and dapper appearance. He took art lessons on the side and piano lessons which he never mastered formally. His professional debut, however, was as a pianist in Washington in 1916. Shortly thereafter he formed his first small jazz band. He married in 1918 but separated four years later when he moved to New York where jazz was becoming "hot". The separation became permanent but his son, Mercer, later played trumpet in his band.

The Duke's big break came in 1927 at Harlem's famed Cotton Club. He made several world-wide tours starting in 1933 which covered Europe, Great Britain and Japan. He also appeared in concerts in Carnegie Hall from 1943 to 1950 and in the Metropolitan Opera House in 1951. At the age of 14 he wrote his first piece, "Soda Fountain Rag" and during his career he wrote more than 1000 compositions. In later years he poured out a prodigious stream of longer orchestral pieces, tone poems, sacred works, choral pieces, movie, television and ballet scores and even an opera or two. In 1969, on his 70th birthday, President Nixon presented him with the Medal of Freedom, America's highest civilian award. He died on May 24, 1974 at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, New York City, of cancer and pneumonia.



EDITOR'S COMMENTS

This issue will probably be late as was the last one. Unfortunately, I still have to work for a living and in this present business world, there are not many slack periods. In addition to work and my various Blue Lodge duties, I have been on a three month rollercoaster ride with a bad knee. The prognosis has ranged from knee replacement to merely fluid in the joint; I have now received the Synvisc shots and hope to postpone any surgery until the fall. My wife and I are planning to celebrate our 40th anniversary in Hawaii in June.

As you can tell from this issue, the inputs from members were not as plentiful as desired so I had to reach into my research files. Please submit articles on the types of articles you want to see in this, your Newsletter. I enjoy researching, writing and editing but I need some guidelines. I still have a good stock of Masonic Cacheted Covers - any interests?

MASONIC STUDY UNIT OF THE AMERICAN TOPICAL ASSOCIATION

Secretary-Treasurer

Otto Steding
1033 Hollytree Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45231

Membership
\$8.00 - North America
\$14.00 All Other

President

Norman Lincoln
P.O. Box 454
Eaton, OH 45320

FINNISH FREEMASONS ON STAMPS

by Eero Tahtinen

Masonic Philatelic Club (England)

This article has appeared in both the magazine of the Masonic Philatelic Club and "The Masonic Philatelist" of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York. Since we have previously covered Bros. Risto H. Ryti, Johan Julius Christian Sibelius, they are not repeated here.

Hannes (Johannes) Kolehmainen (1889-1996), athlete, retailer of sports gear. In the Olympic Games of 1912, he won the 5,000 meter, 10,000 meter and cross country running events and in 1920 the marathon. He was initiated into Suomi Lodge No. 1 on November 21, 1947, passed on March 4, 1948, and raised on February 3, 1949. He is shown on a 1989 Finland issue.



Matti Helge Ranin (1926-), actor and theatre director. He was initiated into Eureka Lodge No.20 on January 8, 1974, passed on April 2, 1974 and raised on September 3, 1974. Finland issued four postal stationaries or maxim cards on April 1, 1996. One of them was on the film "The Unknown Soldier" featuring Matti Ranin. On the stamp-like impression, Matti Ranin is seen on the right.

Gottfried Eliel Saarinen (1873-1950), architect. He was initiated into Suomi Lodge No. 1 on January 17, 1923, passed on the same day and raised on January 24, 1923. He moved to the U.S.A. in 1923. He designed the first few stamps for the Republic of Finland, 1917 as well as many others with the same design. Buildings he designed are also illustrated on many stamps.



Axel (Akseli) Waldemar Gallen-Kallela (1865-1931), artist. He received the first degree according to the Swedish system in St. Johannes Lodge St. Augustin in Helsinki in 1931 but he did not advance any further. Finland celebrated the Centenary of his birth in 1965 and the stamps depict his paintings. He was also responsible for the design of several stamps and his paintings have served as models for many others.



NEW ISSUES

The following new issues of Masonic philatelic note have been mentioned in recent philatelic media.

- 1998 - Madagascar - Balloons, 9 se-tenant stamps which include Montgolfier and Pilatre de Rozier.
- 1998 - Pakistan - 21st International Congress of Ophthalmology, Islambad, 1 value which pictures an eye (All-Seeing?).
- May 18, 1998 - Philippines - Heroes of the Revolution, 3 values which picture Jose P. Rizal, Gregorio del Pilar and Juan Luna.
- July 20, 1998 - Phillipines - Heroes of the Revolution, 1 value, shows Marcelo del Pilar.
- Nov. 28, 1998 - Nepal - Preventing Blindness, 1 value which shows an eye.
- Dec. 1998 - Tanzania - 19th World Jamboree of Boy Scouts, Chile, 3 se-tenant stamps which include William Howard Taft and Dan Beard
- Dec. 11, 1998 - Brazil - Maj. Gen. Calixto Garcia Iniguez, 100th Death Anniversary, 1 val.
- Jan. 25, 1999 - Belgium - Philately/Kings, 3 values including Leopold I.
- Feb. 1, 1999 - Palau - Environmental Heroes, 16 s etenant stamps including Prince Philip.
- Feb. 10, 1999 - New Zealand - Art Deco Buildings, 4 values, \$1 value is the Masonic Hotel, Napier
- Feb. 17, 1999 - Vanuatu - European explorers, 34 values including Capt. Cook
- March 1, 1999 - Grenada - Space Exploration, 2 panes of 6 stamps each include Buzz Aldrin and John Glenn.
- March 4, 1999 - Palau - Prominent People in Palau's History, 10 values which include Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry Truman.
- March 8, 1999 - Nevis - 20th Century World Leaders, 8 se-tenant stamps including Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt.
- March 10, 1999 - New Zealand - Millenium/Nostalgia, 6 values including Prince Philip.
- March 15, 1999 - Marshall Islands - The 20th Century, 15 s e-tenant stamps include Douglas MacArthur.