



# The MASONIC PHILATELIST

Volume II No. 5 October 1945

PUBLISHED BY THE MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK

**EDITORIAL BOARD...** Harry M. Konwiser, Sam Brooks & Forrest Ellis  
Address them at 22 East 35th Street New York, on matters relating to this publication. **Masonic Stamp Club Secretary...**  
**Dr. Irwin M. Yarry, 61-23 Roosevelt Ave., Woodside, Long Island, N.Y.**

## MASONIC CANCELS

From time to time you have been requested to send in information about Masonic Cancell in your possession or which you know about. Our purpose is two-fold. First, we want to bring this information to the attention of all our members. Second, we are compiling a list of all the known Masonic Cancells which we hope to present to you in a more permanent form.

This is a project worthy of all our efforts. Each of us is interested in anything Masonic, connected with our collecting activities. By bringing this information to the members, it may lead some of us to delve a little further into the reason for these Masonic Cancells. Why were they used in this manner? Were the Postmasters of these towns members of the Craft? This is the kind of research that makes stamp collecting of greater interest to all of us. Won't you help us?

## MEMBERS COMPETITION - OCTOBER 5th

Great Britain and Colonies is the subject of our first Members Competition. Will you show? Please drop a line to Charlie Brooks, Programme Chairman, and tell him. If you collect these countries, this is your night. The following have promised to show parts of their collections: Irving E. Black, Dr. George Cannitzer, Charles E. Carpenter, Bert Ehrenberg, Henry M. Friedman, Carl E. Pelander, and Dr. Irwin M. Yarry. Why not join them? And if you don't collect this group, come out and join the cheering section.

## October 26th---ARTHUR DEAS NIGHT.

This is a "must" for every member of the Club. Help to make this a big night and let's show Arthur that we really like him. Put this date on your calendar. Don't miss it.

## MEETINGS

Oct. 5th Members' Competition-- Great Britain and Colonies. 40 pages or 15 minutes.

26th Arthur Deas Night Come out and greet our President Emeritus.

MEETINGS FIRST AND LAST FRIDAY EACH MONTH  
COLLECTORS CLUB BUILDING 22 East 35th St. N.Y.

## PAST PERFORMANCES

The evening of May 25th presented an opportunity to our president George Camnitzer to welcome a large group of visitors to the Club. The occasion our first Family Night. This evening was dedicated to Carla Pelander, the late daughter of our past-president, Carl Pelander.

The meeting was opened by Dr. Camnitzer who took the opportunity to welcome many members and their wives, and a large number of visitors. He introduced Miss Eva Daniel who was Carla's teacher, together with eight of Carla's classmates; Mr. Frank Mayberry, Vice-President of the Scandinavian Collectors Club; Mr. Paul deKruif, of the Teaneck Stamp Club; Mr. Hans G. Zervas, Treasurer of the Collectors Club; Brother Paul Jensen of Aruba, N.W.I. a member of the Club whom we haven't seen for sometime; Father Ford of Sparta, N.J.; and Mrs. Brewster of Hackensack, N.J.

Brother Carl Pelander was then introduced. He spoke about Carla's collection of "Animals on Stamps", showing part of it from an album and speaking of the balance of the collection as he pointed out the stamps displayed in the wall frames.

The evening proved to be very pleasant, and we hope to see "Family Night" repeated each year.

### JULY 27th

The weather was pleasant and a surprising number of members turned out to show parts of their collections. Brother Szabo, a young man of 78, showed a nice collection of Germany, States and Austria. Brothers Seebe and Camnitzer also displayed some nice stamps. Charlie Brooks showed some of his U.S. which is getting better all the time.

### AUGUST 31st

The attendance was not so hot - but the weather - on boy! However about a dozen turned up and we had a nice cozy gab-fest. Bro. Bert Ehrenberg showed a splendid collection of U.S. and Dr. Irwin Yarry some of his Leeward Islands.

## TEXAS LODGE NAMED FOR PRESIDENT

Tyler Lodge No. 50, chartered at Town Bluff, Tyler County, Texas, in 1854, was demised in 1858.

This Lodge, duly chartered by the Grand Lodge of Texas was named (it is believed) in honor of President John Tyler. There are no recorded facts at hand to prove this. However, historians are agreed Tyler County was named after the President of the United States.

Tyler County was created in 1846, and Town Bluff, now a ghost town, was in 1846 a regular town, later in 1846 becoming a U.S. Post Office. The exact date is not known to this writer, who recently acquired a Confederate Period Bluff Town cover. This was in the form of a handwritten "Bluff Town", (dated) with "Paid 10" on a U.S. envelope.

The main point of Masonic interest is this: Conceding that the one-time Tyler Lodge of Texas was named after a former President of the United States, how many other Masonic Lodges (in the U.S.) were so named? and when did these towns also become post offices? Don't suggest "writing to Washington" - the answer is obvious. It is a well defined buck-passing reply! If you, you-this present reader - are a member of a Masonic Lodge bearing the name of a President of the U.S. do something in the way of research (if you please) and ascertain whether any town (and post office) was named in honor of that President.

--- H. K.



## ANNUAL MEETING

Our annual meeting was held on June 1st, with Dr. George Camnitzer presiding. He opened the meeting by welcoming Brother Julius Windner, of Philadelphia, and congratulated him on his 70th birthday, today.

The various officers and committees read their reports, headed by our Treasurer, Harry M. Konwiser, who's report was audited by Charles W. Brooks. Ferrars Tows, chairman of the "Philatelic Lodge" Committee reported on behalf of that group, to postpone this project for the present. Charles W. Brooks, reported for the Programme Committee, and was commended for the splendid programme provided. The Nominating Committee, composed of Brothers Stacher, Lott & Konwiser, submitted a report nominating, Charles H. Johnson, George Camnitzer and Sam Brooks as members of the Board of Governors. Nominations were then opened from the floor, and Clarence Brazer, Gordon Johnson and Irwin Yarry, were added to the list. The President appointed Ferrars Tows and Julius Windner as Tellers for the Voting. The members balloted and the votes were canvassed by the Tellers. The following were declared to be elected to the Board of Governors for three years: Charles H. Johnson, Irwin Yarry, and Sam Brooks.

Dr. George Camnitzer then submitted his report as President of the Club. He requested the members to rise for silent prayer in memory of our Honorary Member, the late Franklin Delano Roosevelt. A rising vote of thanks was given to Dr. Camnitzer at the conclusion of his address.

A recess was called to permit the Board of Governors to meet and elect officers for 1945-1946. The Board then returned and Dr. Camnitzer introduced the new officers: President, Sam Brooks; First Vice-President, Charles H. Johnson; Second Vice-President, Ferrars Tows; Secretary, Dr. Irwin M. Yarry; Treasurer, Harry M. Konwiser. President Sam Brooks thanked the members of the Board of Governors for choosing him to lead the Club for 1945-1946. He then appointed Chairman of Standing Committees: Charles Brooks, Programme; Carl Pelander, Membership and Dr. George Camnitzer, Publicity.

Brother Julius Windner thanked the members for their congratulations on his 70th birthday. Brother Paul Jensen then told some of his experiences in Aruba in the Netherland West Indies, where he has been for nearly 16 years.

The meeting closed on a note of good-fellowship, to convene on July 27th for an informal get-together.

---

## ANOTHER SPIRITUAL MEMBER

No doubt the graybeards amongst us, especially the Organizing Group, or say the Founding Fathers of the Masonic Stamp Club, will recall Bro. Harry L. De Vall, of New Brunswick, N.J. Bro. De Vall, living as he does in a town where the last nite train leaves New York at ten o'clock, to meet a bus, makes it inconvenient for him to attend meetings. Bro. De Vall is a member of Guiding Star Lodge, Ivy Chapter, Manhattan Consistory, Union Council and the Grotto.

---

## GEORGE WASHINGTON STAMPS

We would like to build a frame containing one each of all the known stamps picturing George Washington. Many of you have duplicates of such stamps. Would you part with them for this Club project? Each stamp sent to me will be properly acknowledged and when the job is complete you will be proud to have had a share in it. Please send them to me in care of the Club.

----Sam Brooks



THE BURGOPYNE CAMPAIGN  
AND SOME OF THE FREEMASONS WHO PARTICIPATED.



Issued on August 3, 1927 at Albany, Rome, Utica, and Syracuse, N.Y. to commemorate the Military Campaign in New York State, which ended with the surrender of Burgoyne on October 17, 1777. The design shows the surrender of Burgoyne and mentions the Battles of Ft. Stanwix, Oriskany, Saratoga, and Bennington.

The several battles fought in upper New York State in 1777, and ending the surrender of Burgoyne, practically saved the new nation from disaster. The British sent an Army from Canada for the purpose of meeting with another Army under Howe, sent from New York, to meet at Albany, and practically cut the colonies in two. A third Army under St. Leger was to cross from Oswego down the Mohawk trail. The orders for this campaign were drawn up in London, but apparently Lord Howe never received them, and he and his fleet remained at New York.

St. Leger landed at Oswego and advanced down the Mohawk Trail. His first obstacle was Ft. Stanwix (now Ft. Schuyler) near Rome, N.Y. Col. Peter Gansevort, jr. a member of Union Lodge of Albany, and General Nicholas Herkimer of St. Patrick's Lodge of Johnstown, raised about 1400 men to aid the embattled Fort. They were ambushed by Sir John Johnson and Joseph Brant (both Masons) and one of the bloodiest battles of the Revolution, took place. General Herkimer though fatally wounded, directed the battle until the British forces gave way. The Stars and Stripes were raised at the fort after the battle, this being the first time they were displayed. Materials at hand including a blue coat, belonging to Captain Abraham Swartout of King Solomons Lodge, were used to make the flag.

While this battle was in progress, Burgoyne was having trouble in making his advance. Without opposition he captured Ticonderoga on July 6th. The Americans under St. Clair escaped to Ft. Edward. Then began the slow progress through the woods, and finally the Battle of Bennington. Here, the loss of men, arms, and ammunition, was a serious blow. Burgoyne decided to go to Albany and crossed the Hudson on September 13th, and went into camp. Waiting for him, was an American Army including Kosciusko, Benedict Arnold, Daniel Morgan, and General Gates, all Masons. Near Saratoga, was Bemis Heights, which was fortified by Kosciusko, with a series of earthen redoubts, Morgan's Rifleman were in the fore front to greet Burgoyne and there began the Battle of Saratoga which ended with Burgoyne's surrender. It was during this battle that Benedict Arnold was the inspiration of his men. Against the orders of General Gates he attacked the British and was wounded. However, in making his report, Gates took all the glory and did not even mention Arnold's brilliant exploits.

The May issue of the "Bureau Specialist" informs us that Brother Sol Glass of Baltimore, Md., has been elected by the Executive Committee of the Board of the B.I.A. as Vice-President and Washington Representative. Though but a member of the B.I.A. of about a year, Mr. Glass was unanimously elected to the Board of Governors, because of his reputation as a student and writer on the stamps of the United States. Mr. Glass is well known in Washington Philatelic circles and though not living in that city, has and will do much for the collector.

ORCHIDS

"The Masonic Philatelist is a grand piece of work. Keep it up. It's swell".  
Bro. Harold Mat