

# *The Masonic Philatelist*

PUBLISHED BY THE MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK

VOLUME VIII

NO. 1



SEPTEMBER, 1951

## BY THE SIGN OF THE GAVEL

Now that we are about to start a new season, it might be well to see what is before us. Much consideration has been given to possible changes in our meeting procedure. As many of you know, a postcard ballot was held, with those members in the Metropolitan New York area doing the voting. The results of the ballot are printed elsewhere in this issue of the Philatelist. In a way, it was somewhat of a surprise to find the general feeling in favor of two meetings a month in some form or other. We were glad indeed to see this, and the new program has been arranged on this basis.

It goes without saying that your program chairman, Maj. Tom Phillips, will be greatly gratified if we have the increased attendance the fine program warrants. See page 3 for the entire season's program. This program may be subject to change should conditions warrant.

One of the suggestions that came out of the recent ballot is that some of us would like to get together for dinner on meeting nights. This is a sound suggestion and will be carried out. Until further notice those who wish to join the gang for dinner will meet at the entrance to the Club, from which we will leave promptly at 6:00 p.m. Until we can find what the response is going to be, the arrangements will be informal, leaving the selection of a place until we see how many there are. It will be strictly Dutch treat. These pre-meeting dinners used to be a high spot in our evenings, so let's revive the pleasant custom.

The By-Laws Committee is soon to present a proposal for some amendments to the by-laws. Among these will be a new by-law providing for the formation of Chapters of the Club outside the Metropolitan New York area. Assuming that such a proposal will be approved, your President would like very much to hear from out-of-town members who would be interested in getting a local chapter started in their areas.

This is the first issue of the Philatelist under the editorship of Bro. Forrest Ellis and as you can see, we can look forward to a healthy continuance of the fine publication so ably started and maintained by its now ex-editor Bro. Sam Brooks. You can help by sending Bro. Ellis items of interest and articles about your stamps. You can't swamp him--he can use all you can send--so don't wait, get your ideas on paper and send them in.

I hope to greet you all at our next meeting.

ARTHUR I. HEIM

## THE MASONIC PHILATELIST

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Carl H. Pihl	1st Vice-Pres.
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Harry M. Konwiser	Treasurer
181 Claremont Ave,	New York 27, N.Y.

### Board of Governors

1952

Arthur I. Heim  
Harold Matters  
Russell B. Roane

1953

Richard S. Bohn  
Harry O. Henneman  
George B. Wray

1954

Fred C. Hill  
Carl H. Pihl  
Morris Strauss

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Thomas Phillips

#### ENTERTAINMENT:

George B. Wray

#### MEMBERSHIP:

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#### EXHIBITION:

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Charles Brooks

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Alex Koomanoff and  
Emanuel Reggel

#### ROSTER:

Carl Pihl

#### BY-LAWS:

Dr. Irwin Yarry  
Harry M. Konwiser and  
Sam Brooks

Bro. Franklin R. Bruns, Jr.,  
of the Division of Philately,  
Smithsonian Institution,  
United States National Museum,  
Washington, 25, D. C.  
needs the following numbers  
of the Masonic Philatelist  
to complete the Smithsonian  
files of this publication,  
and would be pleased if any  
Brother could supply same.

Those needed are:

Vol. I, Nos. 2, 5 and 8

Vol. 8II, No. 1

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A.E. Walton, 636-60 St. Oakland,  
California, is interested in  
collecting Masonic covers showing  
corner cards from a lodge or  
addressed to a lodge. He has  
just started to collect same of  
all branches of the order and  
has duplicates of local lodges  
of current date to exchange.  
He is a member of Oakland  
Lodge, No. 188 F. & A. M.

-----

'The Wheel Turneth and the  
Spoke again comes into position  
to carry the load,' for we find  
the name of Heim as head of our  
Club seven years after his name  
appeared, with Dr. Camnitzer,  
at the bottom of our first Issue  
of the Masonic Philatelist, then  
but a bulletin.



## PROGRAM OF EVENTS -- SEASON 1951-1952

- 1951
- It has been proposed that those who wish to enjoy a period of conversation and to partake of refreshment before the Meeting gathers at the Collectors Club at Six o'clock sharp each meeting night, after which we will pursue a Westerly Course to one of the several Spots in the immediate vicinity, where food can be obtained on a strictly Dutch treat basis, following which we will return to the Clubhouse and enjoy the fruits of our Labor in accordance with the schedule which is shown hereafter.
- Sept. 14 A Special Meeting devoted to Bro. P. A. Wilde, who is visiting us en route to CAPEX and who will entertain us with a talk on the Treaty Ports and Hong Kong Postmarks.
- Sept. 28 Open Forum. Subject 'The Past Summer'. Wha' Hoppen!!
- Oct. 5 7:30 Board of Governors Meeting.  
8:00 Propaganda on War Stamps. Auspices Bro. F. Hill.
- Oct. 26 Honors Night. Guest, Bro. Harry Linquest. He will tell us about CAP-EX and will have a story of his own.
- Nov. 2 7:30 Board of Governors Meeting.  
8:00 'Pumpkin Pie' under control of Chef C. Pihl.
- Nov. 30 Visit of The Maximum Card Club of America.
- Dec. 7 7:30 Board of Governors Meeting.  
8:00 Members Stamp Bourse.
- 1952
- Jan. 4 7:30 Board of Governors Meeting.  
8:00 Quiz Night. Submit questions, and the answers on a Postcard to Major T. Phillips, 41 Fifth Avenue, New York City 3, and do it NOW before you forget.
- Jan. 25 Disquisition on 'MY FAVORITE STAMP'. Five minutes allotted to each member to root for his favorite stamp telling what and why. Dig'em up!
- Feb. 1 7:30 Board of Governors Meeting.  
8:00 Philatelic Adventures. The Stamp Hunters.  
Led by Herman Herst, Jr. Remember last year? Come out.
- Feb. 29 Past President's Night.
- March 7 7:30 Board of Governors Meeting.  
8:00 Masonic Philately. A general discussion.
- March 28 Club Visit. Details later.
- April 4 7:30 Board of Governors Meeting.  
8:00 Master of Philately Degree. All members who have not received this degree are urged to present themselves for initiation.
- April 15 Annual Exhibition by Members. Bring in your treasures and share them with the Brethren.
- May 2 7:30 Board of Governors Meeting.  
The Annual Dinner. Time and Place to be the subject of a later announcement.
- June 6 7:30 Board of Governors Meeting.  
8:00 The Annual Meeting. Mark it well upon your Tablets that you may remember the date and grace us with your presence.

## YARRY'S REPORT

## RESULTS OF BALLOT ON MEETING NIGHTS

Total cards returned: .....	56
Not voting: .....	3
Voted for one meeting night (plan B .....	11
Preference: first Friday .....	7
last Friday .....	4
Voted for two meetings (total plans A & C)..	42
Preference: Plan A .....	16
Plan C, first Friday...	9*
Plan C, last Friday....	17*

\* Two voted for 'either' have been counted as  $\frac{1}{2}$  for each.

The result shows an overwhelming preference for two meetings a month, with the preference for Plan C. For those preferring Plan C, it is 2 to 1 in favor of the last Friday. Therefor I propose that we continue with two meetings a month on the basis that the last meeting of the month, which is the first of the two in successive weeks, be devoted to prepared talks either by our own members or visitors, annual exhibit, etc.

The second meeting, which is the first Friday of the month, would be a business meeting, including meetings of the Board of Governors as called, to be followed by more informal programs, such as Turkey hash, quizzes, perhaps members competitions, including swapping if anyone is so inclined. If for any reason such as a holiday the meeting night for business would not be available, the business meeting could still be held the previous week.

This proposal may or may not require a change in the by-laws--which the by-laws committee will investigate and report on at the September meeting.

In connection with the ballots on meeting nights, only five cards contained any comments at all, and only two contained suggestions.

Bro. Brazer misses the pre-meeting get-togethers we used to have at the Masonic Club and suggests that arrangements be made for those who want to have dinner together before the meeting can do so. Bro. Matters tried quite unsuccessfully to make such arrangements about a year or two ago, and got few if any takers. Still it's a good idea.

Bro. Lindquist endorses the idea of local chapters, in other cities in the State. This will be attempted when and if the membership approves the necessary changes in our by-laws.

DR. YARRY

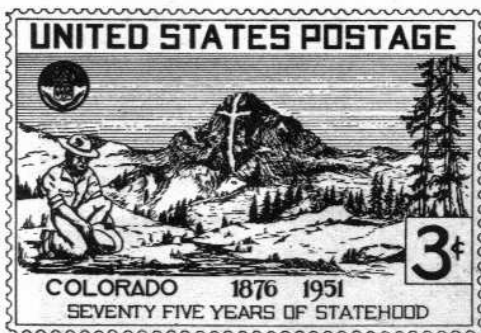


## PROPOSED DESIGN FOR THE COLORADO COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

It was at a meeting of the Denver Masonic Stamp Club, last year, that the subject of a Colorado stamp was proposed, because on August 1, 1951, Colorado became 75 years old. The idea was enthusiastically received and a committee appointed. Bro. John C. Kringle as Chairman of the Committee had done practically all the promotion work. All the other stamp clubs in Denver joined in the movement as well as stamp clubs about the State. Wide publicity was secured in the Press including the Catholic press because they were interested in the dominant theme of the design, the Mountain of the Holy Cross.

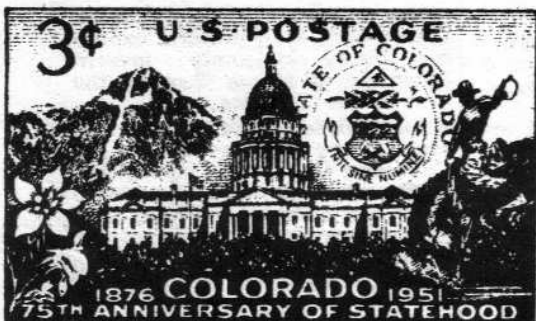
Our Congressmen get behind the request, especially our U.S. Senators Ed. C. Johnson, who is a Mason and Eugene Milliken, who is not a Mason. I think it was the work of these Senators which really put it over against the expressed wishes of the P.O. Department. Up until the middle of February 1951, the P.O. insisted that no recognition could be given for a 75th anniversary of any kind. Consequently we were very much pleased when we had our Senators' telegram announcing the approval of the stamp.

Of course, we did not know if our suggested design was to be adopted but at least we were on record as desiring to commemorate the most distinctive feature of Colorado scenery and history, the Mount of the Holy Cross. The proposed design was not the work of Bro. William A. Goebel, who is a member and officer of the Denver Masonic Stamp Club. He may have been the author of the first suggested design which did not contain the Holy Cross. This distinctive feature was incorporated into the design by the committee and the new design approved by the club. The best photograph of the famous mountain was made in the 1870's by a noteworthy photographer by the name of Jackson



We followed his picture. We asked that the date of issue be set as August 1st, 1951, and the release of first day of issue in the small town of Minturn on the D & R G W, which is the nearest town to the mountain. Harry W. Bundy, third member of the committee, is the Grand Secretary of all four Grand Bodies of Colorado. I am on his office staff.

GEORGE B. CLARK





**HENRY HOLCOMBE**

Potentate of Mecca Temple  
A.A.O.N.M.S., New York, N.Y.

Past Master of Corinthian  
Lodge No. 488, F. & A. M.

District Deputy Grand Master,  
4th Manhattan District, 1943

Past President  
Masonic Stamp Club

Specialist in the study of the Match and Medicine revenue stamps and writer of many fine articles on this subject. His articles have appeared in so many Philatelic magazines that the New York City Public Library has bound them to form a large volume.

## Western Stamp Collector 7-24-51 Shriners View Stamp Display

During the New York City convention of the Shrine, July 8 to 14, the Masonic Stamp Club of New York, under the auspices of Major Thomas Phillips, staged a Masonic stamp exhibition, at the Collectors Club. The club frames were filled with exhibits by Sidney Barrett, Sam Brooks, Jacob S. Glaser and Harry M. Konwiser.

The Barrett collection consists of stamps on and off cover showing Masonic cancellations, placed on them by Masons who were postmasters in the 1861-81 period.

The Brooks collection ties up the Masonic Presidents of the United States, showing their autographs and stamps on which they are depicted.

The Jake Glaser display featured "philatelic items" relating to the Masonic Stamp Club and Masonry in general. Harry M. Konwiser showed a Valley Forge letter of 1778, as written by Nathaniel Greene, who is depicted on a stamp and who was a mason; also, a War Order, as signed by Gen. Winfield Scott, together with a block of 24¢ War Department stamps. Washington and Houston postmarks were shown, likewise the Serbian anti-Masonic stamps of 1941. John A. Mirt's Masonic covers were also on exhibition.

Many members of the Masonic Stamp club are Shriners, including Henry Holcombe, present Potentate of Mecca Temple, the first of the Temples.

Jake Glaser, active in the Masonic Stamp Club, as well as the Collectors Club, made certain the nobles were advised of the stamp show for shriners. The official Shriners program mentioned the Collectors Club as the place to visit for Shriners interested in stamps.



Dear Brother Philatelist:

The recent poll of Round Robin Members for their opinion as to whether this information should be issued in a permanent form for each member resulted in an overwhelming vote in favor of such a plan.

Accordingly, the Vol. 1, No. 1 issue of 'MASONRY ON POSTAGE STAMPS' has been issued. It is being sent to everyone heretofore on the Round Robin list, including those who failed to reply and those few who did not care for such a plan. The latter have been included in the initial number to acquaint them with the new form.

For those who wish to participate in the new plan, here is the way it works.

About once a month material of interest to Masonic philatelists will be sent out in mimeographed form, to be retained by the recipients. For this they will pay 25¢ for each issue (a suggested method is \$1 a time, commemorative stamps acceptable). Any surplus remaining after actual production and mailing costs will be turned over to the entertainment fund of the Illinois Masonic Orphans Home. There will be no compensation for anyone connected with the Service. Any member may drop out at any time upon notice. An effort will be made to provide about three pages each issue, although this may not always be possible.

For those who prefer the old method, the information will be placed in circulation. The recipient is expected to forward the material as rapidly as possible to the next name on the list. The disadvantage of that plan, it was found by experience, is that when the list is a long one there are many delays and often times the Round Robin is lost along the way. That was one of the objections which resulted in requests for the material in individual form.

Please signify your desires on the enclosure and return to me immediately.

Faternally yours,

(s) JOHN A. MIRT

-----  
John A. Mirt,  
644 Melrose Street  
Chicago 13, Illinois

Please enroll me in the permanent 'Masonry on Postage Stamps' plan, to cost 25¢ for each issue, beginning with September 1951. I am in accord with the idea that any surplus over actual cost of production and mailing be donated to the entertainment fund of the Illinois Masonic Orphans Home.

NAME AND ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

MY LODGE IS: \_\_\_\_\_ AT: \_\_\_\_\_

(If present or past officer of any Masonic body, please state below)

## U. S. POSTAL SLOGAN CANCELS

Slogan cancels are used in the "KILLER" part of the cancelling device by the Post Office Department in order to deface and cancel the postage stamp. Meter Slogans affixed by means of the Pitney Bowes or Commercial Controls meter machines are not classified as Slogan Cancels.

### WHAT TO COLLECT

- A- All slogans from all cities including all machines and machine numbers and hand cancel.
- B- One copy of each slogan from each type of machine and/or hand cancel.
- C- Specialized and/or limited (Special Subjects).
  - 1- Historical - Bicentennials, Centennials, Sesquicentennials, Anniversaries, Jubilees
  - 2- Conventions, Congresses, Shows
  - 3- Fairs and Expositions - N.Y. WORLD'S FAIR, GOLDEN GATE EXPOSITION
  - 4- War Slogans - ENLIST TODAY, BUY WAR SAVINGS, FOOD WILL WIN THE WAR
  - 5- Post Office Utility - MAIL EARLY, ADDRESS YOUR MAIL, NOTIFY, REGISTER
  - 6- Health - CHRISTMAS SEALS, ERASE TB, CHECK YOUR CHEST, FIGHT TB
  - 7- Contributions - GIVE RED CROSS, GIVE COMMUNITY CHEST/FUND
  - 8- Special Events - NAVY DAY, CONSTITUTION WEEK, ALOHA WEEK
  - 9- Special Drives - HIRE THE HANDICAPPED, FOREST FIRES, SAVE WATER
  - 10- Advertising - SANGER THE NATIONS CHRISTMAS TREE CITY  
VISIT ROCHESTERS HIGHLAND PARK DURING LILAC TIME
  - 12- Topicals - Parks, Army, Navy, etc.

### HOW TO COLLECT

- A- Entire Cover - 6 3/4 envelope (3 5/8" x 6 1/2")
  - 1- Mount in standard cover or photo albums
  - 2- File alphabetically by slogan or city in shoe boxes, 6 3/4 envelope boxes or drawer files.
- B- Government Postcards, 3 1/4 x 5 1/2 cards, 3 x 5 cards.
  - 1- Mount or file same as covers. Slogans appear best when using 2 1/2 cent Presidentials on cards.
- C- 2x4's - Strip cut from the envelopes or cards 2" x 4" including the dater circle, slogan cancel and stamp.
  - 1- Hinge mount on album pages in any way or position that suits you.
  - 2- File in match book boxes or any other suitable item.
- D- Socked On The Nose - Slogan appearing on the stamp and stamp removed from envelope or card.
  - 1- Hinge mount by stamp and endeavour to obtain the same stamp with as many slogans as possible.
  - 2- Hinge mount on standard stamp album pages allowing a page for each slogan and endeavor to obtain the slogan on as many different stamps as possible.

When sending to Postmasters for Slogan Cancels it is advisable to make use of stamps with light colors, such as, GOLD STAR, ANNAPOLIS, 1/2¢ and 6¢ Pres. on the envelopes or cards which are to bear the cancel. Dark colored stamps will conceal the cancel unless the stamps are placed in a position to receive the strike of the dater circle.

Further information pertaining to the U.S. XX CENTURY POSTAL SLOGAN CANCELLATION SOCIETY can be obtained from Moe Luff, 1557 Hoe Ave., New York 60, N.Y.