



The Masonic Philatelist

VOL. 10

APRIL 1954

NO. 9



BRO. AL VAN DAHL

The MASONIC PHILATELIST

VOL. 10 NO. 9
APRIL 1954



Published by
The Ralph A. Barry Publication Fund
of
The Masonic Stamp Club of New York



EDITOR
F. L. Ellis, P. O. Box 477
Pearl River, N. Y.

ASSOCIATED EDITORS

John A. Mirt, 644 Melrose St., Chicago 13, Ill.
R. M. Needham, 7/8 B.I.S., Lancaster, Ohio
F. T. Anderson, 1235 Idylwild Dr., Lincoln, Neb.

OFFICERS

Carl H. Pihl	President
Thomas Phillips	1st Vice-Pres.
George B. Wray	2nd Vice-Pres.
Dr. Irwin M. Yarry 31-12 54 Street	Secretary Woodside, N. Y.
Russell B. Roane 126 Tenth Avenue	Treasurer New York 11, N. Y.
Treasurer Emeritus Harry M. Konwiser	



● Meetings ●

First Friday of Each Month
Collectors Club Bldg., 22 E. 35th Street

April 2, 1954—Master of Philately Degree, followed by "Turkey Hash."

We expect one of our members from the West Coast to attend this meeting; perhaps we shall have the pleasure of seeing you there, too.

May 7, 1954 — Annual Members' Exhibition—arranged by Emmanuel Reggel. If you have a nice collection of Rhodesia, bring it in and make Bro. Reggel's eyes light up.

By the Sign of the GAVEL

It is with deep regret that we must record the passing "to that place above not made with hands" of Brother Al Van Dahl of Albany, Oregon. Bro. Van Dahl was a staunch Mason, keen philatelist and successful publisher of Western Stamp Collector, Covers

IN MEMORIAM

Bro. Al Van DAHL

Suddenly the evening of March 3. Laid to rest in the Masonic Cemetery, Albany, Oregon, on March 6.

"When our toils on earth shall have ceased, may we be raised to the enjoyment of fadeless light and immortal life in that kingdom where faith and hope shall end—and love and joy prevail through eternal ages."

magazine and other publications. His untimely passing is a great loss to Masonry, philately and humanity.

Many members had the pleasure of greeting Bro. Van Dahl at the Annual Dinner of the MSC last year when he recounted many amusing aspects of his early days in the West. He was a true friend of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York and contributed generously to the success of "The Masonic Philatelist." On behalf of every member of the MSC I express the heartfelt condolence of us all to the family, associates and friends of a man we are all proud to call brother.

MEMORIAL TO BRO. VAN DAHL

The members of the Masonic Stamp Club of N. Y. were shocked to hear of the demise of Brother Al Van Dahl. At the March 5th meeting, after the invocation by Bro. Sam. Brooks, a minute of silent prayer was observed in his memory.

It was moved and seconded that the secretary forward the following letter to Mrs. Van Dahl:

Dear Mrs. Van Dahl:

The members of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York, assembled at the Collectors Club, Friday, March 5th, 1954, mourn the loss of our dear friend and member,

Brother Al Van Dahl,
and further resolve that this meeting be inscribed in our minutes as a memorial in his behalf.

We mourn with you and pray that you and yours be blessed with consolation and good health.

With deepest affection and sympathy,

Irwin M. Yarry, Sec'y.

About the Club

Bro. Fred Hill informs us that on March 17, 1954 the District Deputy Grand Master R. W. William Link presented four brothers with 50 year medals, in his lodge "Corner Stone Lodge, N. Y. #367." One of the four brothers is our own Bro. Jacob S. Glaser, Past President of the Masonic Stamp Club.

Bro. Hill's nephew, W. Benjamin J. Searby is the Master of Corner Stone Lodge. A number of our club members attended.

The March, 1954 issue of Covers featured a photograph of Bro. Fred Barovick on the front cover. Bro. Barovick also had a short article, "Souvenir Sheets On Cover, The Unusual," in this issue.

Will Visit Here

Bro. Wm. Dabel of San Francisco, California, writes in part to Dr. Yarry: "My wife and I leave here on Feb. 28, going south through New Orleans and Washington, D. C. and land in New York City on April 1 at Hotel Elysee on East 54th.

"We are staying over a few days longer to probably visit an Eastern Star Chapter and one of the national T.V. shows that show here in the West, as we only get certain ones as Toast of Town, Jackie Gleason, What's My Line and the Godfrey shows.

"I can't stop for precancels in every town, so will have to give my co-pilot a little diversion.

"So it is definite I will be there April 2nd."

In and Around the Club

By Emanuel M. Reggel

Meeting of March 5 was opened by our President, Brother Carl H. Pihl, who announced the untimely passing of our Brother, Al Van Dahl. The Brothers attending were asked to rise and a few minutes of silence and meditation were observed in his memory. The evening was dedicated as a "Memorial Evening" for our beloved Brother, Al Van Dahl. He was a true Mason in every sense of the word, kind, generous and understanding, ever ready to lend a helping hand! He will be greatly missed by all who knew him and will always be remembered.

Brother Charles A. Lott came all the way from Niagara Falls to show us a

very fine collection of stamps of the United States. Then after a wonderful showing of these, he surprised us by continuing a showing of cases of U. S. coins, gold and otherwise, the likes of which we had never before seen, nor even knew existed.

Brothers, who will be in and around New York for the next meeting, April 2, should make every effort to attend, as the Master of Philately Degree will be presented.

Brother Charles A. Lott, who resides in Niagara Falls, N. Y. and who attends more MSC meetings than many members from the Metropolitan area, was recently elected a member of the board of directors of the Association for Stamp Exhibitions, Inc. This is the organization that conducts international stamp exhibitions in the United States, which is currently planning for the next one to be held in New York City in 1956. Many MSC members are active in the Association for Stamp Exhibitions, Inc. Bro. Harry L. Lindquist is honorary president and Bro. Richard S. Bohn is president of the organization.

Brother Carl H. Pihl, President of the MSC, was recently promoted from Major to Lieutenant Colonel in the Army Reserve. Bro. Pihl is Commander of the 809th Field Artillery Battalion (8-inch howitzer), a reserve unit of First Army. He is a veteran of World War II.

ANNUAL DINNER

Final plans for the 20th Annual Dinner of the MSC, to be held Friday evening, May 21, 1954 at the Masonic Club in New York City, will be announced in the next issue of "The Masonic Philatelist." Meanwhile, don't forget to attend our meetings whenever you can. They are held on the first Friday of each month.

NOTICE

The Club is about to issue a new By-Laws and Membership List as the last one was issued in 1952.

Will all the new members since 1952 please contact Bro. Carl Pihl at 77 Amherst Road, Albertson, N. Y. and inform him of their philatelic interests and whether they will correspond or not with other brothers.

Do not put this off, as the sooner all information is in, the quicker we shall have our new list.

MASTER OF PHILATELY DEGREE

On April 2nd, the ritual committee, headed by our Junior Past President, Bro. Arthur I. Heim, will be ready to receive candidates for the degree of Master of Philately.

Since this degree was inaugurated during the CIPEX show, on May 19th, 1947, seventy-three members have been awarded the coveted certificate, suitable for framing, as a token of the occasion.

Any member is eligible. Bro. Wm. Dabel, of San Francisco, Calif., writes: "I intend to come to New York on April 2nd. My prime motive is to receive the Degree of Philately."

If you have not received this degree, all you have to do is to be present on Friday, April 2nd, 1954, the Collectors Club, at 8:00 P. M.

FROM NEEDHAM'S LINOTYPE ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON— A MASON

Depicted on the 1¢ 1904 Louisiana Purchase commemorative issue of the United States (#323) is the likeness of Robert R. Livingston from a portrait by Stuart. First day of issue was April 30, 1904. Twenty-four plates were used in printing this stamp—starting with #2113-20, 29-32, 37-40, 49-52, 61-4. There were 79,779,200 stamps issued. As Livingston was the prime mover in bringing about the sale of the Louisiana territory (he was minister to France at the time), it was thought fitting that he be depicted on the first value of the series. These were the second commemorative series produced by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in Washington, D. C.

Robert R. Livingston, better known as Chancellor Livingston, was born in New York in 1746, and died at Clermont, N. Y. March 26, 1813. He was educated at Kings College, later Columbia University, graduating in 1765, admitted to the bar in 1775. He formed a partnership with John Jay. In 1777 he was made Chancellor of the State of New York, and while holding this office had the honor of administering the oath of office to General George Washington, as first President of the new nation.

Livingston opened negotiations which resulted in the Louisiana purchase. He helped finance Robert Fulton's steamboat schemes. He introduced merino sheep in this country; was first to utilize gypsum in the making of fertilizer. He was a founder of the Fine Arts Academy and first presi-



Livingston was also pictured on the 1953 Louisiana Purchase commemorative, issued in honor of the 150th anniversary of the purchase of this vast addition to the United States.

dent thereof; and was one of the original members of the Order of the Cincinnati.

Livingston had been Worshipful Master of the Old Union Lodge (under English constitution) in 1771, a lodge which appears to have suspended its labor during the Revolution. He was only 38 years old when he first became Grand Master. It seems that he was the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York, strictly so-called, as the former Grand Body was in reality a Provincial Grand Lodge. He held this office for six years, from 1784 to 1800 inclusive; also being such when he gave the oath of office to Washington.

As George W. Baird, PGM, Dist. of Columbia, said in Feb., 1924 issue of *The Builder*: "Livingston did a great and lasting work in Building up Freemasonry in the state of New York. His Grand Mastership fell upon a critical period, just at the time when New York Masons were getting control of their lodge affairs in their own country, and where there was misunderstanding, bitterness, and strife."

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Edwin Trachsler from 413 East 18th street, Paterson, N. J., to 18 Belle avenue, Paterson, N. J.

The membership list of the club is now in the process of revision. The roster committee will appreciate receiving from any member not listed in the 1952 edition for forwarding to the committee their respective collecting specialties for inclusion in the new edition. Just drop a short note to either the secretary or to:

Emanuel M. Reggel,
690 Ft. Washington Av.
New York 33, N. Y.