



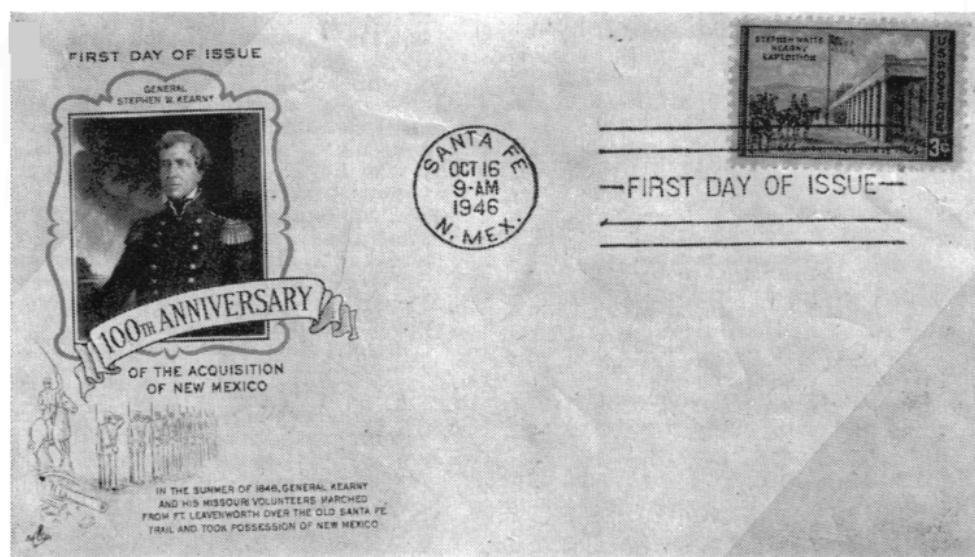
# *the Masonic Philatelist*

VOL. 16

JUNE 1960

NO. 10

## *The Palace of Governors*



In the summer of 1846, General Kearny and his Missouri volunteers marched from Fort Leavenworth over the old Santa Fe Trail and effected the acquisition of New Mexico.

# The MASONIC PHILATELIST

JUNE 1960  
VOL. 16 NO. 10



Published by  
The Ralph A. Barry-Al Van Dahl  
Publication Fund  
of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York  
22 East 35th St., New York 16, N. Y.



## OFFICERS

President ..... Emanuel M. Reggel  
1st V. Pres. .... Dr. S. Duffield Swan  
2nd V. Pres. .... Joseph A. Ferola  
Secretary ..... Fred J. Gommo  
37-20 75th St., Jackson Hts. 72, N. Y.  
Treasurer ..... Joseph Munk  
1010 Sherman Ave., Bronx 56, N. Y.  
Curator of Archives, M.P. Shelton W. Osterlund

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Charles C. Sanna ..... 3 years  
E. Milnor Peck ..... 2 years  
Herman S. Kerstein ..... 1 year

## Publication Committee

Carl Pihl ..... Chairman  
Sam Brooks, Dr. S. Duffield Swan,  
Dr. Irwin Yarry

## EDITOR

Leo Passon, 1250 Ocean Ave., Brooklyn 30, N. Y.

Treasurer Emeritus  
Harry M. Konwiser

Membership—Carl E. Pelander  
545 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.  
Back Numbers: Masonic Philatelist  
Harold E. Gunter  
141-06 Glassboro Ave., Jamaica 4, N. Y.  
Member of the  
National Federation of Stamp Clubs

## OUR COVER

The 1¼¢ "regular" to be issued June 17, 1960, in the U.S. series of national shrines, features the Palace of the Governors, Santa Fe, New Mexico. This historic structure was also shown on the Stephen Watts Kearny stamp of 1946. (U.S. #944).

Santa Fe, dating from 1610, claims to be the first capital city in the country, and the Palace of the Governors is the oldest public building in the United States. One source says it was built in 1598 with walls five feet thick. It was used continuously until 1901 as the official residence of the chief executive under whatever title and superior authority he has served. It is now a museum. The first Ameri-

## IN MEMORIAM

BRO. CHARLES A. LOTT

May his soul rest in peace.

can to occupy the Palace after General Kearny took possession of the region for the United States in 1846 and New Mexico was formed into a territory was Charles Bent who was named the first territorial governor. Bent, a pioneer trader and a close friend of Kit Carson, had been initiated into Masonry on June 8, 1822, in Missouri Lodge No. 1, St. Louis. Brother Bent's term of office was short lived for when he went to Taos to bring his family to the capitol, he was shot in an Indian uprising and scalped while still alive.

The Palace of the Governors had long been a familiar sight to Brother Kit Carson who visited Santa Fe many times. Kit was initiated into the Craft in Montezuma Lodge No. 109 at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on March 29, 1854. He was passed on June 17 and raised to the sublime degree on December 26, 1854. At that time Montezuma Lodge was the only Lodge in a radius of a thousand miles.

The Palace was occupied in 1878-81 by General Lew Wallace when he was governor of the New Mexico Territory. It was there he wrote **Ben Hur**, his most famous and best selling novel. Lew Wallace was an Indiana Mason who was raised January 15, 1851, in Fountain Lodge No. 60, Covington, Indiana. On June 3, 1895, he affiliated with Montgomery Lodge No. 50, Crawfordsville, Indiana.—Marshall S. Loke, 56 Langford Road, Rochester 15, N. Y.

## BY THE SIGN OF THE GAVEL

On the evening of May 6th, we had as our guest speaker, none other than our old friend Mr. Edwin E. Elkins. ("Mr. Penny Black.") He showed us some of his famous Gt. Britain 1840 penny blacks, which consisted of stamps in strips, blocks and used covers of that period. It was a most unusual showing because of the quantity of the material, and variety. There is no doubt that this is the finest collection of its kind in the U.S.A. We all enjoyed this showing and gave Eddie a rising vote of thanks. We look forward to a return visit in the future.

Our editor, Bro. Leo Passon, says that he needs more articles for our Philatelist. Brothers, please send to him items of Masonic Philatelic in-

terest. I know there are many of you who can do this.

Our treasurer, Bro. Joseph Munk, says that there are some Brothers who haven't paid their dues for two or three years. He has sent them notices, which have been ignored. He will appreciate remittance of these dues within the next few days, otherwise we will be forced to drop them as members. (This we never like to do!)

The Annual Dinner on May 20th was a success. It will be reported (with pictures, we hope) in the next issue.

—Emmanuel M. Reggel.

#### MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNOR'S MEETING OF APRIL 29, 1960

At Dr. Yarry's Office.

Present were Bros.: Brooks, Sanna, Reggel, Yarry, Glaser, Munk, Ferola and Gommo.

Delinquent Members: To be dropped after 2 years arrears — write and so inform them. The list presented by Bro. Munk contained 39 delinquents of 2 years or more. Bro. Munk was requested to write all involved.

Annual Dinner: Bro. Carl Pihl will M/C at the dinner, May 20th. It was noted for the record that Bro. Pihl was also elected V.P. of Silurians, Organization of N. Y. veteran newspapermen.

Cleveland Chapter: Letter received April 27, charter application for the Cleveland chapter, 18 certified members and 35 prospects.

New Officers: Discussion of new officers, and members of the Board of Governors, Bro. Brooks suggested Bro. Osterland for the Board.

Audit of Books: Was brought up at meeting and to be audited at next meeting.

New Jersey Chapter: Discussion of N. J. Chapter, voted against as within 50 miles radius of Greater, N. Y.

A discussion followed covering chapters, entailing their problems and cost to us, together with a discussion of restrictions and problems involved in new chapters.

The following motion was made: Section 11 of the By Laws of the Masonic Stamp Club of New York be amended as follows: First Paragraph delete following: "No chapter may be formed in the Metropolitan New York Area (New York City and Westchester and Nassau Counties)." Substitute following "No chapter may be formed within a 50 mile radius of New York City." Carried unanimously.

Four new members were voted on and accepted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Fred J. Gommo, secretary.

#### "A SPRIG OF ACACIA"

The acacia is a woody shrub or tree of the mimosa family, with pinnate leaves and ball like clusters of white or yellow flowers. It grows in warm parts of the world, and one variety grows abundantly in the vicinity of Jerusalem. There are some 500 native species of acacia in Australia where it is the national tree. In the United States its equivalent is the locust tree. The acacia is valuable for its gum (gum arabic).

When water holes dry up and other animals feel the pangs of thirst, the giraffe suffers little discomfort. He can live for months on the moisture he gets from eating the leaves of mimosa and acacia trees. A group of giraffes will place themselves around an acacia tree, nibbling daintily at the tender top growth. The fragrant leaves are not only nourishing; they impart a sweet and pleasing aroma to the giraffe.

"A sprig of acacia" is plainly shown on Australia #170. The ornamental wattle leaf and berries in the upper corners of the stamp is definitely acacia. The 2/3 denomination Australian stamp issued Sept. 9, 1959 also depicts the wattle (acacia).

For acacia trees on stamps, there are AP3 of Eritrea and A37 and A38 of Southwest Africa.

—Marshall S. Loke, 56 Langford Road, Rochester 15, N.Y.

#### ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON AND JAMES MONROE, MASONS

By R. M. Needham, 32° K. T.

Depicted on the 3¢ Louisiana Purchase stamp issue of the United States of 1953 (Scott's #1020, Minkus #CM362) are the likenesses of two Masons who represented the U.S. in the transfer of the vast territory from French to U.S. control. This likeness was from the sculpture by Karl Bitter, in the Jefferson Memorial in St. Louis, Mo.

Robert Livingston, at the time of these meetings with French representatives, was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York. James Monroe, later 5th President of the U.S., was a member of Williamsburg (Va.) Lodge #6.

# Rambling Through Life

FREDERICK WENDEL

Frederick Wendel, of 176 E. 88th St., is one of Yorkville's few commissioned officers. After a thorough training at Plattsburg last summer he was made a captain.

His army career originated when he was 20 years old as a private in the 22d Regt., Co. H, in 1895, and while in that company he rose in succession from corporal to sergeant, to first class sergeant. He re-enlisted in 1910 in Co. K, of the same regiment. In that year he was commissioned as Second Lieutenant. In 1914 he was promoted to First Lieutenant. Assigned to Co. F under Capt. Dieges; transferred to command of Company C 102d Engineers, remained in command until reorganization of the Regiment into 7 companies Dec. 1916.

His first real experience came during the Border Service where he served as Post Supply officer. The following year he was appointed Assistant Engineer Instructor by the New York Training Commission and served with that title during June and July of 1917 at Peekskill, N. Y., teaching the New York State Cadets the war game. On Aug. 23d, he entered Plattsburg and at the termination of teaching at the famous war camp was awarded a captaincy in the infantry.

Wendel is an expert rifleman, having been a member of the 22d Engineers Rifle Team for the last seven years. In the last match held by the team, which took place in 1915, Wendel led his team with a high score of 146 out of a possible 150 shots. He has won the long service medal for the state which he cherishes dearly. He also has won two silver cups for shooting and so many prizes and medals in the same line that he has lost count of the number.

## High Lights in Shooting

My first match won in Co. H. 22d Inf. Sharpshooter score. Medal. In 1900 an all year competition, the Murphy gold medal, score 68 out of possible 70 (old 45 single shot Springfield rifle); the score was made in February 1900 and never equaled by any one during the year. During 1901 the expert class gold medal was won by the writer, the same conditions as in 1900. In 1902 a sharpshooter class was set up by Major B. Usher, same conditions as in 1900, once again this medal was won by the writer. The practice was dis-

continued. The above three matches were all competed for at night on the armory range of 100 yards.

Turning to the outdoor rifle range at Peekskill, N. Y. the Thurston trophy was competed for—ranges 200, 300, 600 and 1000; ten shots each position. This match constituted the State Champion. Was won by Captain Fred Wendel of the 102d Engineers. N. Y. N. G. Being the first contest for the trophy and He Col. Thurston an old 22d Officer and Ordinance of the State and the first winning by a 22d Regt. man. Quite an ado was made about it, the Herald carried a colored page of the many Colonels and Generals gathered at the reception after the trophy presentation on the drill floor of the armory. There were several thousands gathered to pay tribute to the name of Col. Nathaniel B. Thurston. I am proud of the honor of being the first winner. In 1923 I again competed and won the match by a single point at the 1000 yard range.

## Rambling Thru Life

This section will deal with the Masonic Stamp Club of New York; Some 25 years ago (April 1934) several Masons gathered in the Library of the Masonic Building for the purpose of forming a stamp club under the leadership of Arthur Deas. Formalities of getting under way, the meeting was called to order and plans laid down as to how and what to do was outlined by the temporary chairman Bro. Deas; a president, vice president, a secretary and a treasurer were the officers to be chosen; a rules committee to be formed and a time and place of meetings to be arranged: at this time a recess was taken to choose the officers and committees.

The meeting reconvened and the following names offered: For president, Arthur Deas; vice president, Charles Johnson (past Grand Master of Masons State of New York); secretary, Henry Walwyn; treasurer, Fred Wendel. committees were left to the president to appoint. This was the start of the Masonic Stamp Club.

Meetings were held in the library for succeeding months; owing to the extra work involved in gathering chairs for the meeting and the cleaning up after, we were advised that we would have to find another place to meet. Your treasurer, having a good friend in the employment bu-

reau Mr. Peterson granted us the use of his office to hold our meetings until such times as we could be located properly. Our Vice President Dr. Johnson came to the rescue and gave us a board room of Grand Lodge where we met and held our meetings for many months. Our next meeting place found us on the ground floor of the building in a room in the rear of the superintendent's office; we met there for some time, then came the news that we would have to pay rent for the use of the room. To the rescue came those members of our club who were members of the Collectors Club and who granted us permission to meet in their building as a STUDY group where we are to this day.

It is of note that we did have a hard struggle before settling down to become a well known organization now known throughout the stamp world with many prominent collectors and dealers helping to build up the standing of the Masonic stamp club of New York. Passing lightly over may it be noted that for the first few years we operated on a budget on One Dollar a year per member, from this scant income not much could be done to entertain the members, pay for the bare requirements of keeping the members advised of meetings, etc. Our first snack was served in one of the small rooms by a caterer (Kemp) paid for by the club, followed by two dinners at the Hotel Dixey, this by the members paying for the meals; the last and final dinner was held at the Hotel Bradford on West 70th Street, also paid for by the members, \$1.50 per person. Thus came to an end my services as your first treasurer, in all 9 years of services as your treasurer, turning over \$200.00 to the new treasurer, Harry Konwiser, all from a scant \$1.00 per year dues. Our membership at that time was about 100.

My Masonic service — Raised on June 26, 1901, Master 1932, Historian for the past 15 years and now serving as Trustee of the lodge; was granted Grand Lodge medal for 50 years service 1951. Served as secretary in the Masonic Veterans for 3 years, now a life member of that body. Taking over at the death of the secretary and helped in rebuilding up of the Vets. Lead the first Division of uniformed members at the dedication of the hospital at Utica then to the Home in Utica, N. Y. It was my pleasure and honor to direct the Flag Ceremonies held in Grand Lodge room where the exercises were held.

## EARLY OHIO MASONRY

By Walter R. Harbeson

According to the record book of Winthrop Sargent dated Jan. 10, 1787, the first evidence of a Masonic gathering in the northwest territory, was the burial of the distinguished brother, James Mitchell Varnum. An occasional Lodge was formed for this purpose. The mourners in his funeral procession included a delegation of Indian chiefs there on a peace mission, officers of the garrison at Fort Harmar, colleagues in the civil government, compatriots of the society of the Cincinnati, and brethren of the Masonic fraternity. Ahead of the coffin marched four masters of ceremony bearing on mourning cushions appropriate emblems of his connection with the military, the judiciary, the Cincinnati and the Masons.

General Varnum was a member of old St. John's Lodge of Providence, R. I. He has been spoken of as "perhaps the ablest and most esteemed gentleman of this dynamic company." He was an orator of uncommon talents and most brilliant eloquence. He was much in demand as an orator at Masonic gatherings especially of the celebration of St. John's Day. He enjoyed the shortest stay in the new territory, only eight months. He left his home in Providence with an advanced stage of tuberculosis with the hope that a change in climate might help him, arriving at Marietta on May 1, 1786 and passed away Jan. 10, 1787 at the age of 40.

On June 10, 1790, ten brethren requested Worshipful Brother Jonathan Heart at Fort Harmar who brought with him the warrant on American Union Lodge from Connecticut, to re-establish them. The first meeting was held at Campus Martius on June 28, 1790, Jonathan Heart was the first master, Benj. Tupper S.W. and Rufus Putman J.W. General Heart was killed on an expedition against the Indians under Anthony Wayne, and Rufus Putman was elected the first Master.

On the first Monday in January 1808, delegates of the following six chartered Lodges then operating in Ohio, met at Chillicothe to establish a Grand Lodge American Union #1, Nova Caesarea Harmony #10, Erie #47, New England #48, Amity #5 and Scioto #2. The delegates labored for four days and resulted in the following resolution proposed by Brother Sass to be unanimously adopted "Resolved, that it is expedient to form a Grand Lodge in the State of Ohio." An election was then held and Rufus Putman was un-

animously chosen as the first Grand Master. This occurred on Jan. 7, 1808.

Brother Lewis Cass, who was Master and represented Amity Lodge #5 received his degrees in American Union Lodge and Chapter #1, he demitted to Amity Lodge #5. He later served as Grand Master of Ohio, and also as governor. He was appointed the first territorial governor of Michigan. He affiliated with Zion Lodge #1 and was the first Grand Master of Michigan and after the anti-Masonic furor died down was re-elected. He also was the first High Priest of Monroe Chapter #1, R.A.M. and one of the guiding spirits in the construction of the Soo Locks.

The first Grand Lodge Communication was held at Chillicothe on Jan. 2, 1809, at which time the following communication from Brother Putman was read by Grand Senior Warden, George Tod:

"To the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of Ohio.

Your Brother sendeth greeting:

It was with high sensibility and gratitude I received the information that the Grand Convention of Masons, convened at Chillicothe, in January last, elected me to the office of Grand Master of your Ancient and Honorable Society, but, however sensibly I feel the high honor done me by the Convention, and am disposed to promote the interest of the Craft in general, and in this State in particular, I must decline the appointment. My sun is far past the meridian; it is almost set; a few sands only remain in my glass; I am unable to undergo the necessary labors of that high and important office; unable to make you a visit at this time, without a sacrifice and hazard of health which prudence forbids.

May the Great Architect, under whose all-seeing-eye all Masons profess to labor, have you in His holy keeping, that when our labors here are finished, we may, through the merits of Him that died, but now is alive, and lives forevermore, be admitted into that Temple not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens, Amen. So prays your friend and Brother,

Rufus Putman

Marietta, December 26, 1808."

Brother Putman's death did not occur until 1824, at which time, with the exception of Brother Lafayette, he was the last surviving general officer of the Revolutionary Army.

The election of officers at this meeting resulted in Brother Samuel Hunt-

ington being elected the second Grand Master which office he held while serving as governor of the State of Ohio.

Note: The Grand Lodge portion of the above was taken from the 150th Anniversary program of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, held at Columbus O. 10-11, 1958.

## Quite A Gift!

The Denver, Colorado Stamp Club can be very proud of its Treasurer, L. Van Buskirk, also a member of our own Masonic Stamp Club of New York.

Bro. Buskirk gave his entire Masonic Stamp Collection to the Grand Lodge and Library where it is now on exhibition and under the protection of the Masonic Grand Lodge. He did not want to wait until he passed away and now has the pleasure of watching and listening to Brothers and Philatelists discuss his collection and this pleasure seems to be something that Bro. Buskirk wants to be carried over to other Brothers. Not to wait until they have passed away and then the widow or relatives, with little or no knowledge, dispose of a collection that has taken time and effort to accumulate.

The letter stating the acceptance by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Colorado states that the Grand Lodge Library and Museum lists the following volumes on postage stamps:

American Masons	467 stamps
Emblems and Signs	754 stamps
Topical: Philippines and Statues	592 stamps
Emblems and Flowers	188 stamps
Masonic Connection	343 stamps
Israel	220 stamps
Foreign Masons	386 stamps
George Washington	119 stamps
Crosses	347 stamps

In addition to the above, there are the following:

2 Volumes of the John Mirt's "Masonry on Stamps" complete. A gold chain and other awards, won with the exhibition of this collection.

Quite a Collection! Quite a Gift! Quite an Idea! Quite a guy!

The first letter sheets were issued for the Civil War soldiers of the union but usage did not prove popular so they were withdrawn in April 1864.



#### GUTZON BORGLUM (1871-1941)

The Mt. Rushmore National Memorial in the Black Hills of South Dakota, U.S. Scott No. 1011, and the marble head of Lincoln in rotunda of Capitol in Washington, D.C. U.S. Scott No. 1115, illustrate but two of the many famous works of Gutzon Borglum, sculptor, painter and Freemason.

Born March 25, 1871 in Idaho and educated in the public schools of Nebraska, Gutzon Borglum studied art in San Francisco and Paris, traveled, studied and painted in Europe until 1901 when he settled in New York City.

Gutzon Borglum was made a Mason in Howard Lodge No. 35 New York City June 10, 1904. While serving as Master of the Lodge in 1910-11 he used a gavel of his own design in the form of a bronze lion's paw holding a stone from King Solomon's Temple. It is now owned by the Lodge. He received the Scottish Rite Degrees in the New York City Consistory October 25, 1917.

Of all his works, the Mt. Rushmore job which he designed and started in 1927 is the greatest. He did not live to see it completely finished for he died on March 6, 1941.

His son, Lincoln Borglum, also a sculptor and Freemason, who had worked with him, completed the memorial.



Lincoln Borglum was born April 9, 1912 at Stamford, Conn., where his father had a studio. He became a Mason in Battle River Lodge No. 92, Hermosa, S. D.

To those I would like to add U.S. stamp #837 (N. W. Territory). This stamp shows another of G. Borglum's products, a memorial statue by him located at Marietta, Ohio, and symbolizing the colonization of the West.

— M. Loke

#### MERIWETHER LEWIS AND WILLIAM CLARK, MASONS

By R. M. Needham, 32° K. T.

Depicted on the 3¢ Lewis & Clark Expedition issue of the United States of 1954 (Scott's #1063, Minkus #CM405) is the likeness of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, both captains in the army and both Masons. Clark was later a brigadier general. He was also governor of Missouri territory until it became a state in 1822.

Lewis was the first Master of what is now Missouri Lodge #1 (was made a Mason in Va. in 1797) which was originally St. Louis Lodge #111 on the Penn. registry. Clark was also a member of that same Lodge.



# Did You Know?



ENGLAND'S FIRST POSTAGE STAMP,  
THE FAMOUS "PENNY BLACK"  
ISSUED IN 1840, WAS ENGRAVED BY  
AMERICAN-BORN JACOB PERKINS,  
A MEMBER OF ST. PETER'S LODGE  
AND NEWBURYPORT COMMANDERY,  
K.T., NEWBURYPORT, MASS.

CHAPTER  
PRESIDENT HARDING'S  
LAST ADDRESS TO THE  
AMERICAN PEOPLE  
WAS DELIVERED BY HIS  
SECRETARY, SIR KNIGHT  
GEORGE B. CHRISTIAN,  
BEFORE HOLLYWOOD  
COMMANDERY NO. 56,  
K.T. IN HOLLYWOOD,  
CALIF. ON AUG. 2, 1923.  
HARDING, WHO HAD  
INTENDED TO DELIVER  
IT PERSONALLY, DIED  
THAT DAY.



FIRST OFFICER  
OF THE MARINE CORPS WAS  
SAMUEL NICHOLAS (1744-1790),  
A MEMBER OF LODGE NO. 13  
AT PHILADELPHIA, PA.

THE FIRST OIL WELL WAS DRILLED  
100 YEARS AGO (AUG. 27,  
1859) AT TITUSVILLE,  
PA. BY EDWIN L. DRAKE,  
A MEMBER OF OIL CREEK  
LODGE NO. 303 (NOW  
TITUSVILLE NO. 754).

