



# The Masonic Philatelist

VOL. 32

OCTOBER 1975

NO. 2

## APOLLO - SOYUZ



First Day of Issue



U.S. Air Force Brigadier General Thomas P. Stafford—Member of Western Star Lodge No. 138, Weatherford, Okla. Stafford flew the Gemini 6, 7, 9 and Apollo 10 missions. The natural choice as U.S. Commander of the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project.

Sponsored by the Masonic Stamp Club of N. Y.



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The Masonic Stamp Club of New York was organized in 1934 for the purpose of encouraging research and study in Masonic Philately, and to establish bonds of good fellowship among Masons who are stamp collectors. The need for the organization has proved itself through the years with its ever-increasing membership and the formation of other Masonic stamp clubs in the United States.

## ★ MEETINGS ★

First Friday of Every Month  
(Except July and August)

COLLECTORS CLUB BUILDING  
22 East 35th St., N.Y., N.Y. 10017

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of Available

## MASONIC COVERS PAST AND PRESENT

Write to

MASONIC CACHETS  
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# How To Build A Masonic Stamp Collection

W. Joseph Nathan Kane

Past Master, King Solomon Lodge No. 279

Most people believe that philatelists are nuts until they read that a certain stamp brought \$200,000 at an auction sale. Then they make a quick about-face and await the day when millions of gold pieces will pour into their coffers. But, they generally suffer the inevitable disappointment.

Before advising what stamps a Mason should collect, let us first look at various types of collectors.

There is the individual who buys mixtures of a thousand stamps for a dollar or five thousand stamps for a dollar seventy-five until his attic, cellar and garage are stuffed full of these bits of gaily colored paper. He is looking for the proverbial needle in the haystack—the rarity of rarities. From an investment point of view, he would do better to put his dollar in the savings bank, collect his 5% interest, and receive a set of dishes when he opens his account.

On the other hand, there is the individual with the healthy bank account on the lookout for bargains. He buys stamps with a high catalog value without the ability to judge their worth. His wife and kids can go without food and clothes while his album increases in size. His hopes know no bounds until he is confronted with the sad fact that his rarities are clever forgeries.

We must not overlook the meticulous chap who hoards stamps, as you and I accumulate stocks and bonds, awaiting the day when he can sell them and reap the great dividends so that he can trudge 36 holes a day in the hot Florida sun.

All of these chaps, despite the blurbs of optimistic stamp dealers, are heading straight for perdition.

The way to start a stamp collection, especially a Masonic collection, is to adopt the same attitude that you have when you go to the theater. After the performance, you have nothing to redeem, nothing to cash in, no returns of any kind but the enjoyment while you were in the theater. Once you start with this realization, you will never be disappointed.

The second step is to select the type of show you want to see: comedy, drama, musical, etc. In like vein, once you have decided to become a stamp



collector, pinpoint the kind of collection you would like to have: pictorial, air mail, envelopes, 1st day covers, etc.

Before you start to save stamps, you must realize that no matter how long you live, no matter how much time you have, no matter how much money is at your disposal, you cannot generalize. It cannot be done!

You must specialize. You must be specific. Save only the stamps of one country. Save only stamps that have been canceled. Save only stamps that are in mint condition with the original gum.

Save only horizontal stamps; save only triangular or vertical stamps; save only red stamps; save only green

stamps; save only stamps showing flags; save only stamps showing spiders, etc. The selection should be yours, regardless of what it is.

Save only stamps which bear the pictures of living Masons; save only stamps which bear the pictures of deceased Masons; save only stamps which bear the pictures of Masons; or save only stamps commemorating events in which Masons or an individual Mason participated.

Or save stamps on which the square and compass appear. This is not as simple as it sounds. These emblems will not be as prominently displayed on stamps as on the lapel of an insurance agent who just received his third degree. These designs appear on stamps and in many instances are evident only when you put on your bi-focals.

If your interest is in architecture, you may save stamps showing pillars or buildings with Corinthian, Doric or Ionic columns. If you are religiously inclined, endeavor to save stamps depicting the Bible or scenes from the Bible or biblical characters.

These stamps may be saved in singles, pairs, strips or sheets. They may be affixed to envelopes or on first day covers or cachets.

Regardless of how carefully you specialize, you will amass other stamps. You will receive them on your foreign mail, your friends will give you stamps.

You can exchange your surplus/duplicate stamps, etc., with other collectors. There are numerous societies where specialized collectors gather, such as the Masonic Stamp Club of New York. At specified times, you can offer lots for trade or exchange, or even for sale at their auctions. Should you desire, you can buy stamps from your fellow members to fill in the gaps in your own collection.

Other means of increasing your collection is by corresponding with collectors in foreign countries. Many collectors located all over the world belong to the Masonic Stamp Club of New York who in like manner are interested in exchange.

The advantage of a collection is that you can always refer to it and get enjoyment from it, unlike a theater production. And, oddly enough, you may be the one to defy all traditions and find the rarity which will cause the collectors to jump about in glee.

## **HIS HIGHNESS RAJAH SIR JAMES BROOKE, K.C.B.—1803-68.**

James Brooke, born at Benares, retired from the Army of the Honourable East India Company in 1830 on account of wounds contracted during the Burmese War.

On his father's death in 1835 he inherited a fortune of £30,000, bought a yacht, the *Royalist*, and in 1838 sailed to the South China Sea in search of adventure. Appealed to by the uncle of the Sultan of Brunei to assist in subduing a rebel rising, he succeeded in defeating the rebels; as a reward the Sultan of Brunei gave him Sarawak (at that time part of Brunei) with the rank of Rajah. The area of the Rajah's territory was extended at various times and in 1863 Britain recognized Sarawak as an independent state. Created a K.C.B. in 1848 (the *Encyclopedia Britannica* gives the date wrongly as 1863) he died at Burrator, Devonshire, on June 11th, 1868.

His Highness was a member of Lodge "Zetland in the East", Singapore, No. 508, E.C.

Sir James is represented in my collection by two portraits, an unflattering one on the 3 cent issued by Sarawak in 1869 (S. G. Sim. 1) which, as he died the previous year, he never saw; incidentally, it was printed by the firm of Maclure and Macdonald, Glasgow; the other is the 30 cents (S. G. Sim. 132) of the set of four values showing portraits of the three Rajahs Brooke issued in 1945 to commemorate the Centenary of the Colony; it had been intended to issue the set in 1941, but the war and subsequent occupation of the territory by Japan delayed the issue till after liberation. The bust portrait depicted on the stamp is taken from the full length portrait by Sir Francis Grant, A.R.A., in the National Gallery, London.

## **STEPHEN F. AUSTIN**

Stephen Austin became a member of Louisiana Lodge No. 109, St. Genevieve, Territory of Louisiana (now Missouri), in 1815. This Lodge is now extinct. He afterwards affiliated with St. Louis Lodge No. 3. In 1828 he organized the Lodge of Union in his colony and petitioned the New York Grand Lodge at Mexico City for a charter. The petition was lost in transit and because of the uncertainty between the superior bodies of the York, Scottish and French Rites in the capital city, nothing further seems to have been undertaken.

He died before the first steps were taken toward the organization of the Grand Lodge of Texas.

# SIBELIUS COMPOSED MASONIC MUSIC

By WILLIAM G. PEACHER, 32°

Reprinted from "THE NORTHERN LIGHT"

New York Masons can be proud of the part they played in re-establishing Freemasonry in Finland. The heritage this state achieved during post-colonial Masonic expansion and the formation of daughter lodges in other states, territories, islands, and countries was rekindled by warranting Suomi Lodge No. 1 at Helsinki on August 18, 1922.

This was followed by Tammer No. 2 at Tampere on January 8, 1923, and Phoenix No. 3 at Turko (Abo) on February 8, 1923. These three lodges applied to the Grand Lodge of New York and were granted a charter to establish the Grand Lodge of Finland. Constitution ceremonies were conducted by M. W. Arthur S. Tomkins, Grand Master of Masons of New York, and Grand Lodge Officers at the Masonic Temple in Helsinki on September 9, 1924.

Although Freemasonry declined in Finland during World War II, there has been a steady growth since 1945. There are now 54 craft lodges under the Grand Lodge of Finland and three working through the Grand Lodge of Sweden.

The history of Freemasonry in Finland has followed the tides of time. Linked to Sweden in the early years of Masonry during dissemination of the rite from England, St. Augustine Lodge was organized at Helsinki in 1756 (revised in 1923). This was followed by Phoenix Lodge in 1777 and Finska Kapitlet in 1778, also in Helsinki.

St. Augustine with three other Swedish lodges founded the National Grand Lodge of Sweden in 1759. All disbanded after the Russo-Swedish War of 1808-1809, and Finland became an autonomous Grand Duchy, the Czar serving as Grand Duke. Alexander I banned all secret societies in 1822 which was reiterated by Nicholas I in 1848. These acts terminated all Freemasonry in Finland until it attained its independence in 1917, at which time all prior statutes were abolished.

The most celebrated member of the class of 27 which was raised in Suomi Lodge No. 1 on August 18, 1922, when it was warranted by the Grand Lodge of New York, was Johann Julius Christian Sibelius, better known to the world as Jan Sibelius, who was 56 then. He



Jean Sibelius  
1865-1957

was initiated, passed, and raised from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. with an intermission of an hour for lunch.

Sibelius, who had been a noted musician more than 25 years, was appointed Grand Organist for the new Grand Lodge, a post he held throughout his life. He became interested in improvising music for the regular work and was persuaded to compose specific selections adapted for use in the lodge room. This culminated in the ritual music known as "Musique Religieuse," opus 113. Initially, there were nine pieces which ultimately became fully orchestrated.

His mother Lodge, Suomi Lodge No. 1, was the first to hear this remarkable music on January 5, 1927. It remained in manuscript form written in Finnish and Swedish until 1935, when an inscribed, bound copy of this great work was presented to the Grand Lodge of New York by Sibelius. It was published for Masonic use that year by Grand Lodge with an English text by R. W. Marshall Kernochan, a Past Grand Trustee of New York.

A second edition appeared in 1950,

which was revised with three additions including the well known "Finlandia," the national Finnish anthem written in 1899. This opus is adapted to New York craft work which serves as the basis of current Finnish ritual.

The various parts of Sibelius' Masonic music are entitled "Adagio," "Thoughts Be Our Comfort," "Hymn: Though Gung Leaves," "Who Ne'er Hath Blent His Bread with Tears," "How Fair an Earth and Loving," "Onward, Ye Brethren," "Whosoever Hath a Love of Justice," "Ode to Fraternity: Good and Pleasant. O Ye Brethren," "Hymn: Praise Thy Holy Name on High," "Marche Funebre," "Ode: The Lofty Heaven and Widespread Earth," and "Finlandia Hymn."

There are suggestions for the appropriate use of these based on the standard New York work of which the Finnish work is originally a translation. The suggestions are not in any way intended to limit the use of any of the numbers to prescribed places in the ritual. The music is highly adaptable and enterprising Masters, organists, and singers will find many places where individual numbers will be found appropriate.

For complete details of this Masonic ritualistic music, one should consult "The Masonic Ritual Music of Jean Sibelius" by Arthur Sharp, which appeared in the Transactions of the Manchester Association for Masonic Research in 1955. Copies of Sibelius' music may be obtained by writing to the Committee on Lodge Sales, Masonic Temple, 71 W. 23rd St., New York, NY 10010.

Charles Johnson, Marshall Kernochan, and A. Walter Kramer conceived the idea of popularizing a section of this ritualistic music removing Masonic references. A choral arrangement resulted, changing "Onward, Ye Brethren" to "Onward, Ye People." It was first given at the New York World's Fair on May 1, 1938. The chorus was revised by Channing LeFebere with an orchestral accompaniment by Sibelius in 1939, and 100,000 copies were sold in the first 10 years.

Sibelius' works record his great versatility and creativity. He composed more than a hundred songs, over 50 compositions for the violin, and many for the piano. The latter were mostly short with the exception of the "Sonata in F Major," three sonatinas and the Kyllikki cycle.

His theatre music included selections

for Shakespeare's "Tempest," Maeterlinck's "Pelleas and Melisande," and Hofmannsthal's "Everyman." Perhaps the greatest of all are his rich orchestral compositions: the seven immortal symphonies with the "Kalevala" (Finnish Folklore) motif. Sibelius conducted the first performance of all his orchestral compositions in Finland and abroad with the exception of "Tapiola." He has been praised by Cecil Gray as "the greatest composer of symphonies since Beethoven."

Sibelius was the recipient of many honors during his life and his name has been immortalized for all time in his music. Parks, streets, and a museum were named for him; the annual music festival since 1951 sponsored by the Republic of Finland and the City of Helsinki is in his honor, as is the Music Institute since 1939, and a quartet.

An honorary doctorate was conferred upon him by Yale University on his only visit to the United States in 1914. His 70th birthday was celebrated as a national holiday throughout Finland in 1935, and a commemorative postage stamp was issued on his 80th birthday. Sibelius was honored by the American Lodge of Research on six occasions when his music formed an integral part of the program in 1935, 1938, 1940, 1945, 1949, and 1952. He was elected a fellow in 1935. The Distinguished Achievement Award was presented to him by the Grand Lodge of New York in 1938 and special exhibits were arranged in the Grand Lodge Museum and Library on his 85th and 90th anniversaries in 1950 and 1955.

Sibelius was born December 8, 1865, at Hamenlinna, Finland, the second of three children. Both parents were of Scandinavian-German descent, his father being a successful local physician. He received his primary and secondary education in a middle-class neighborhood.

Even in youth, he revealed qualities of musical genius which were harbingers of future greatness. Learning to play the piano and violin at five, he had completed his first pizzicato composition, "Drops of Water," for violin and cello at 14. This was followed by chamber music adapted for the pleasure of his family. He dreamed of being a celebrated violinist.

Surprisingly, he matriculated in law at the Imperial Alexander University in Helsinki in 1885, but the following year he transferred to the Music Institute, his first love. He was awarded a Master



of Arts Degree in 1888 and completed post-graduate study in Vienna and Berlin.

Sibelius married Aino Jarnefelt in 1893, and was the proud father of six daughters. After spending his early years teaching as Professor of Composition at Helsinki Conservatory of Music, he was honored by the government with an annual grant to devote his life to creative work. He then spent 25 years composing, studying, and arranging concert tours at home and abroad.

He spent much of the latter part of his life in relative seclusion at Ainola, the country estate he had purchased in 1904. It was near Jarvenpaa (Lake's End) near Lake Tuusula, about 25 miles northeast of Helsinki. He died September 20, 1957, of a cerebral hemorrhage in his 92nd year.

### ELOY ALFARO

A letter from the grandson of Jose Abel Castillo states he (Castillo) and Alfaro were both raised in 1880 in Lodge Luz Del Guayas of Guayaquil, Ecuador. The letter further states that, "their friendship flourished when both joined a Masonic Lodge—the only place where young men of Jewish ancestry could express in deed, ideals contrary to those of the ruling Catholic Church, etc."

He was an Ecuadorian liberator and President, serving two terms—1897-1901 and 1907-1911. As President, he reduced the power of the Roman Catholic Church. As a disciple of Bolivar (a Mason), he advocated Pan-Americanism and convened the second Pan-American Congress in Mexico City, Mexico in 1896.

Alfaro was responsible for the introduction of the 'Panama hat'. While in exile in Panama, he imported the Ecuador-made toquilla hat which he sold in great numbers to the travelers passing through the isthmus. Having been purchased in Panama, the hats were presumably made there and thus became known as the 'Panama hat'.

—Elwing D. Carlsen

### CECIL JOHN RHODES. EMPIRE BUILDER. 1853-1902.

Cecil Rhodes, pioneer and Empire builder, was the fifth son of a clergyman. Sent to Natal for his health, he made a fortune in the Kimberley Diamond Mines. Became Prime Minister of Cape Colony in 1890. Managing Director of the British South Africa Company, he devoted himself to the development of their territories, overcame

the hostility of the Matabele, and founded the Colony of Rhodesia. The 3d. stamp issued by Rhodesia in 1940 depicts the incident of August 21st, 1896, when Rhodes, accompanied by Dr. Sauer and Mr. J. Colenbrander—all three unarmed—met Secombo and other chiefs of the Matabele, who agreed to surrender unconditionally.

He bequeathed his house "Groote Schuur", near Cape Town, to the Government of the Union of South Africa as a residence for the Prime Minister of the Union. His will also made provision for foundation of the Rhodes scholarship at Oxford, his old University. In accordance with his wish he is buried in the Matoppos, on the hill he called "the view of the world".

I have no information as to Brother Rhodes' Mother Lodge, but his name appears on the Charter of "Bulawayo" Lodge, No. 2566, E.C., as a Charter member. The Lodge was consecrated in 1895, and Brother Rhodes gave it a site on which to build a Temple, together with a cheque towards cost of erection.

### DANIEL O'CONNELL.— "THE LIBERATOR" 1775-1847.

A zealous and enthusiastic Freemason, Brother O'Connell served as Worshipful Master of Lodge No. 189, I.C.

As a Barrister he served the Craft professionally in a law suit which lasted five years. The details are:—

In 1806 Alexander Seton, a Barrister-at-Law, on being superseded in his post as Depute Grand Secretary retained the books, seal and other properties of the Grand Lodge of Ireland; he also took possession of the Grand Lodge room in Taylor's Hall, Dublin, and immediately formed a rival Grand Lodge in Ireland. In 1808 the Grand Secretary filed a Bill in Chancery against Seton for restitution of Grand Lodge property and funds, craving an injunction against him issuing certificates in name of Grand Lodge. W. Brother Daniel O'Connell was retained as Junior Counsel for the Grand Lodge of Ireland in the action against Seton. The suit lasted until May, 1813, when a Decree was made absolute against Seton granting all the claims of Grand Lodge.

Worshipful Brother O'Connell was a member of the Roman branch of the Catholic Church and in 1838 was induced by his Church to withdraw from the Order. His masonic regalia is preserved by his old lodge in Molesworth Street, Dublin.

ADDENDA TO THE LIST OF MASONIC COVERS  
ISSUED BY THE MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK

GEORGE WASHINGTON — THE MASON

NOVEMBER 4, 1752	Initiated into "The Lodge at Fredericksburgh", now Lodge No. 4, Fredericksburg, Virginia.
MARCH 3, 1753	Passed a Fellow Craft.
AUGUST 4, 1753	Raised a Master Mason.
JUNE 24, 1784	Made Honorary Member of Lodge No. 39 at Alexandria, Virginia, then under jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.
APRIL 28, 1788	Charter from the Grand Lodge of Virginia granted to Lodge No. 39 at Alexandria, Va. George Washington served as Charter Worshipful Master.
APRIL 30, 1789	Took oath of office as First President of the United States of America on the Bible of St. John's Lodge No. 1 of New York City.
SEPTEMBER 18, 1793	Took part in Masonic ceremonies of laying the cornerstone of the U. S. Capitol at Washington, D. C.
DECEMBER 14, 1799	Died, buried with Masonic funeral service.

MASONIC STAMP CLUB OF NEW YORK

1752 ★ 1952



GEORGE WASHINGTON  
THE MASON

INITIATED NOVEMBER 4, 1752  
FREDERICKSBURG  
VIRGINIA



This cover has been submitted to us by Bro. Charles Morris. As you can see by the illustration, the cover does not show any evidence that the club issued the cover. The filler card gives all the information.