

# 60 year Mason



## *Commemorating 1957*





In 1932 the cost of mailing a One-ounce first class letter to anywhere in the United States rose from 2¢ to 3¢. It had been 2¢ for about 50 years. By 1957, 25 years later, the rate was still 3¢, but was about to increase to 4¢ in 1958. The stamp commonly used to mail letters was a blue stamp featuring the Statue of Liberty. The Statue of Liberty was designed by Bro. Frederic Auguste Bartholdi, a French sculptor, and was a gift to the United States from the people of France in 1876. The actual name of the Statue of Liberty is *Liberty Enlightening the World*. The inside support of the statue was designed by Bro. Gustav Eiffel, who had designed what is now called the Eiffel Tower. The pedestal for the Statue took a long time to finance and build, but finally on October 22, 1886, the Statue was dedicated by President Grover Cleveland. The parade that day in New York City went past the New York Stock Exchange. Instead of confetti, ticker tape was thrown out of windows, and thus occurred the very first “ticker tape parade.”



The year 1957 marked the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, now known as the March of Dimes. Polio was a dread disease that infected over 58,000 Americans in 1957 – mostly children. A survey in 1957 found that polio was the second most feared thing in the U.S. – right after atomic war.



A polio vaccine was developed on 1952 by Dr. Jonas Salk. In 1957 vaccination campaigns in the U.S. resulted in the number of polio cases dropping to 5,600. (Since 1979 there have been zero cases of polio originating in the U.S.) In 1921 Bro. Franklin D. Roosevelt was stricken with polio which paralyzed him from the waist down for the remainder of his life.



The American Institute of Architects stamp commemorates their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and features in the background the capital of a Corinthian column. In the Masonic second degree, the five principal orders of architectures esteemed by a Mason are the Tuscan, the Doric, the Ionic, the Corinthian, and the Composite.



The Marquis de Lafayette (Marie-Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette) was born September 6, 1757 to a French aristocratic family and was commissioned a military officer at the age of 13. At age 14 he was married in an arranged marriage to 12-year-old Marie Adrienne Francoise. They subsequently fell in love and remained married until her death in 1807. In 1779 Marie gave birth to their son whom they named Georges Washington Louis Gilbert de Lafayette. At age 19 he came to the American Colonies and was given the rank of Major General. He was instrumental in helping win the Revolutionary War. Bro. Lafayette was a well known Freemason.



Old Glory is the nickname for the flag of the United States of America. At this time in our nation’s history, the flag contained 48 stars. Alaska was admitted as the 49th state of the US on January 3, 1959 and Hawaii received its statehood as the 50th state in the US on August 21, 1959.



Freemasonry requires all members to have a belief in a Supreme Being, but makes no further requirement about a member’s personal religion. The stamp “Religious Freedom in America” commemorates the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the agreement between Peter Stuyvesant, Governor of New Amsterdam (later called New York) and a group of 30 Quakers. The agreement, called the Flushing Remonstrance granted freedom of religion to them, and is the basis of the First Amendment of the United States Constitution adopted December 15, 1791 which is the first of the first 10 Amendments called the Bill of Rights, guaranteeing that Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of religion.



*Ephrata Lodge No. 665*  
*Ephrata, Pennsylvania*

*Jason A. Martin W.M.*  
Jason A. Martin, W.M.

