

50 year Mason

1968 - 2018

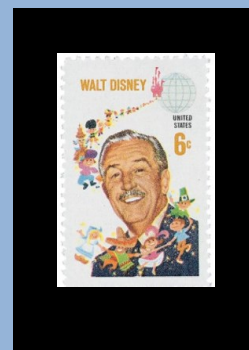
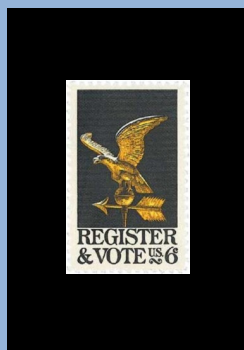
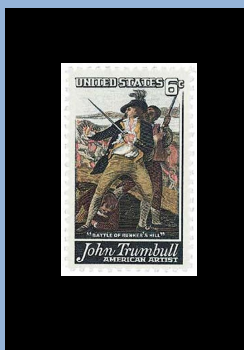
Presented to:

Bro.

Initiated xx/xx/1968



Commemorating 1968



Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks



Similar to the Free and Accepted Masons, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks is a fraternal charitable organization. One of the oldest and largest fraternal organizations in America, the Order of Elks has grown to include 1.2 million members since its creation in 1868. This stamp honors the youth service program of the Order of Elks, on the organization's 100th anniversary, now in 2018 their 150th anniversary. There are about 2,300 lodges. Throughout their history, the Elks are known for contributing billions in cash, goods, and services to America's youth, its veterans, the disadvantaged and handicapped, and in support of patriotic and civic programs. This is similar to the Freemasons who are known to donate over 2 million dollars to charitable causes every day. The Elks headquarters are located at Elks National Memorial Building in Chicago, Illinois. The stamp illustrates how we support our youth. This is an equally important trait of Freemasonry where we support the Masonic connected youth groups of DeMolay, Jobs Daughters, and the Rainbow for Girls organization. Freemasons are also well-known for supporting Veterans, those in the armed forces, and presenting college scholarships to the youth in their local communities.



Philadelphia Light Horse Troop



The First Continental Congress met in September 1774, in the Hall of Carpenters' Company, Philadelphia. A Committee of Correspondence was elected by the citizens of Philadelphia to determine the most effective means of resisting the British. The Committee first met on the afternoon of Thursday, November 17, 1774, in the Pennsylvania State House and associated as the Light Horse of the City of Philadelphia, a name that was later changed to First Troop Philadelphia City Cavalry. This purely volunteer cavalry troop was the first organized in defense of the colonies. Today the Troop is certainly the oldest mounted military unit and quite possibly the oldest military unit of any kind that has been in continuous service to the Republic. The stamp features the banner associated with the Philadelphia Light Horse Troop. It was carried in the battles of Princeton, Brandywine, Germantown, and Trenton. This 6¢ stamp is a great addition to the collection as the city of Philadelphia is also where the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania is located.



John Trumbull (1756-1843) - American Artist



Born in Lebanon, Connecticut, Trumbull graduated from Harvard College and enrolled in the Continental Army, serving as an aide to Bro. George Washington. After the American Revolution, he studied painting in London under artist Benjamin West. Although he was not a Mason, Trumbull became known for his paintings of scenes from the Revolutionary War. The designs of several U.S. postage stamps have been based on Trumbull's paintings, especially those of Bro. George Washington.



Daniel Boone (1734-1820) - American Pioneer

Boone is one of the greatest pioneers in American history. This frontiersman paved the way for settlement by leading settlers through the Cumberland Gap in the Appalachian Mountains from North Carolina and Tennessee into Kentucky. Boone founded Boonesborough there, near present-day Lexington, KY. Boone's exploits as a frontiersman, hunter, and trapper have earned him a special place in American folklore. Although his Masonic membership is unproven, here is what Nathan Boone had to say about his father's funeral: "Father's body was conveyed to Flanders Callaway's home at Charette, Missouri and there the funeral took place. There were no military or Masonic honors, the latter of which he was a member, as there were then but very few in that region of the country."

Register and Vote



This stamp was issued as part of the campaign to encourage Americans to exercise their right to vote. In the Masonic lodge, one of the privileges of a Master Mason is the right to vote on motions in the lodge he is a member of. The third degree charge also notes that "you are free to introduce any motion which you may suppose will be for the advantage or honor of the fraternity."



America's First Disney Stamp

In September 1968, the United States Postal Authority issued its first Disney stamp, thereby commemorating Walter Elias Disney's (1901-1966) contributions to America and to the world. It would be 36 years before another U.S. stamp honored the contributions of Walt Disney. Walt Disney was a member of the original Mother Chapter (first DeMolay Chapter ever) of the Order of DeMolay, Kansas City, Missouri with his initiation shortly after the inception of the organization. Disney is noted for saying, "I feel a great sense of obligation and gratitude toward the Order of DeMolay for the important part it played in my life. Its precepts have been invaluable in making decisions, facing dilemmas and crises. DeMolay stands for all that is good for the family and for our country. I feel privileged to have enjoyed membership in DeMolay." Disney is a shining example of how Masons should be proud of supporting and in many cases sponsoring the youth groups of today, especially those in DeMolay.



Kenneth S. Van Fleet W.M. — 2018 Ephrata Lodge No. 665 - Ephrata, Pennsylvania