

# The Hamilton Hinge



APS Chapter #C-104282 – ATA Chapter #127

Hamilton Township Philatelic Society (HTPS)

P.O. Box 3014, Mercerville, NJ 08619-0014

email: [hinge@HamiltonPhilatelic.org](mailto:hinge@HamiltonPhilatelic.org) website: [www.HamiltonPhilatelic.org](http://www.HamiltonPhilatelic.org)

Volume 16, No. 2

Founded 1975

Winter 2023-24

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Hamilton Township Public Library, 1 Justice Samuel A Alito Jr Way, (off of Whitehorse Mercerville Road), Hamilton, NJ 08619

## December-January Meetings

Our December 19<sup>th</sup> meeting will be our annual holiday party. Please bring a snack or a dessert to share. We will also have time for members' "Show & Tell". Perhaps you found a particularly interesting stamp or cover you would like to share with the group?

On January 16<sup>th</sup>, our speaker will be Rod Juell. Many of you will remember his talk earlier this year on the Fourth Bureau



Issue (1922-1930).

This is the second part of his presentation, where he will show some unusual uses of this issue. Rod has served as a columnist for multiple journals and is a co-editor of the Encyclopedia of United States Stamps and Stamp Collecting.

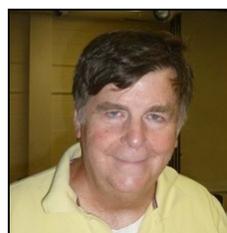


In February, our own Ron Gonzalez, a renowned expert in Puerto Rican philately, will give a presentation on "Puerto Rico Military Stations 1898-99".

**We hope you will be able to join us for these events!**

**REMINDER** – 2024 HTPS membership dues are now due! Please sent them to the address above, or bring them to the next meeting !

## President's Message



We've had a wonderful series of presentations so far this year – Tom Geiger, Hal Vogel & Robert Benninghoff, and Trish Kaufmann. I would like to thank all of our speakers for taking the time

and effort to impart some of their philatelic knowledge to us.

December will be our holiday party with short member presentations and show and tell. In January, Rod Juell will present a talk on the Fourth Bureau Issue. Ron Gonzalez will speak in February on Puerto Rican Military Stations.

In April, Scott English, the Executive Director of the APS, will speak at our meeting. Scott will be making a special trip to visit us in person and to talk about the APS.

I would like to encourage all members to attend our meetings. Invite your friends who might have an interest in the hobby. Remember it's your club and you must continue to support it, or it will fail to exist in the future. I am looking forward to seeing you at the December 19<sup>th</sup> meeting . . . Dennis.

## Our Fall Presentations...

In September, Tom Geiger gave a presentation on the Private Perforations of the Franklin one



cent stamp from the Series of 1902. The advent of postage vending machines brought about the need for stamp coil

rolls. The machine manufacturers made coils from imperforated sheets of the 1¢ Franklin (Scott 314) and applied various perforations to suit the particular needs of their machines. Tom showed us the different types of perforations and even one of the early vending machines!



In October, Hal Vogel and Robert Benninghoff spoke on “This Is Polar Philately”.

They gave us a nice introduction to this field, describing its major



areas, and showed types of material that constitute Polar Philately.

On November 21<sup>st</sup>, we were pleased to have Patricia Kaufmann return to give a presentation on “The Civil War, A postal system divided”. Trish showed numerous examples of Civil War postal history both from the Union and Confederate sides. Pictured here is an example of a Madison Florida provisional from 1861.



## Merchantville Stamp Bourse



We are sad to report that this December will be the last scheduled Merchantville Stamp Club bourse. The MSC started a monthly Saturday Bourse back in 2008, first held at the Temple Lutheran Church, and more recently at the Martin Luther School gym in Pennsauken. Over the years, the show attracted up to 16 dealers and many area philatelists. It will be sorely missed.

## Stamp Collecting 101 – “Flat Plate vs. Rotary” (38<sup>th</sup> in our series of helpful hints and tricks)



A key to identifying some of the early U.S. stamps, such as the Washington/Franklin series, is to determine if they were printed using the flat plate or rotary press; the later stamps will be slightly longer in one dimension. I have a simple tool that can quickly and easily determine which type it is. I have taken an inexpensive “flat plate” stamp (Scott #332) where I have cut off the corners. I can then use this stamp as a template, placing it over the stamp in question and immediately see if it is the same size as my flat plate stamp, or if it is the larger rotary press version.

## Website views . . .

We are fast approaching 20,000 views on our website [www.hamiltonphilatelic.org](http://www.hamiltonphilatelic.org). If you haven't taken a look at it lately, please do. You may be the lucky 20,000<sup>th</sup> visitor!



Imperforate



Roulette



Perforated



Die-cut

### Philatelic Pieces - Perforations

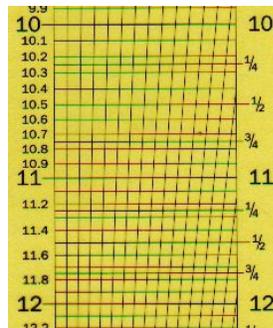
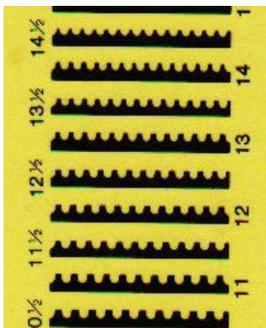
You would think the identification of stamp perforations would be a rather trivial task. All you have to do is determine which of the four types of separations between stamps you have – Imperforated, Roulette, Perforated, or die-cut. In the latter two cases, you simply count the number of points in 2cm, and you have determined the stamps perforation. Not so fast!

The Helvetic issue of Switzerland from 1882-1904

has multiple printings, which vary in value by several hundred dollars. One of the distinguishing features of this issue is the precise number of perforations, either  $10\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $10\frac{3}{4}$ , or 11.



In this case an old-fashioned perforation gauge with markings of  $\frac{1}{2}$  a perforation unit are not fine enough. One needs a multi-gauge with continuous markings:



Straight (left) vs. pointed perforations (right) from Montenegro

Another example is some of the modern U.S. die-cut stamp booklets where stamps with slight differences in the serpentine die-cut perforations are given unique catalog numbers!



Scott 4107

Scott 4111

Scott 4115

----- **HTPS Officers** -----

President ..... Dennis Kennedy  
Vice President ..... Jerry Davis  
Treasurer ..... Matt Visco  
Secretary ..... Jeff Pappano

----- **HTPS Support Team** -----

Speaker Procurement ..... Jerry Davis  
Philatelic Donations ..... Ken Steel  
Webmaster ..... Ed Murtha  
50 / 50 Handlers ..... Jim Cope, Ken Steel

**Newsletter Articles . . .**

We welcome articles, ideas, or suggestions.  
Email us at [hinge@HamiltonPhilatelic.org](mailto:hinge@HamiltonPhilatelic.org).

If you would like to be added to the Zoom invitation to our meetings, or have a suggestion for a future HTPS program, please email us at [info@HamiltonPhilatelic.org](mailto:info@HamiltonPhilatelic.org)

----- **HTPS Meeting Program** -----

- ⇒ Dec. 19 – Holiday Party / Show ‘n Tell
- ⇒ Jan. 16 – Rod Juell - Fourth Bureau Era
- ⇒ Feb. 20 – Ron Gonzalez - Puerto Rico Military Stations 1898-99
- ⇒ Mar. 19 – To Be Announced
- ⇒ Apr. 20 – Scott English – APS Executive Director
- ⇒ May. 20 – To Be Announced
- ⇒ Jun. 20 – Society Auction

**Upcoming Events**

**December 2023 . . .**

12/02 Merchantville Saturday Stamp Bourse, Martin Luther Chapel, 4100 Terrace Ave., Pennsauken, NJ 08110 – 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM  
<https://www.merchantvillestampclub.org/>  
NOTE: This is the last scheduled MSC Show

12/16 3rd Saturday Bourse – Burlington Masonic 2308 Mt Holly Rd, Burlington Township, NJ 08016 – 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM – Call Ryan at 215-287-9326

12/17 Tri-State Monthly Stamp & Coin Show, Sheraton Bucks County, 400 Oxford Valley Rd, Langhorne, PA 19047 – 9:30 to 3:30.

**12/19 HTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Library – Hamilton, NJ – Opens at 6:30 PM – Meeting starts at 7:00 PM**

**January 2024...**

**01/16 HTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Library – Hamilton, NJ – Opens at 6:30 PM – Meeting starts at 7:00 PM**

01/20 3rd Saturday Bourse – Burlington Masonic 2308 Mt Holly Rd, Burlington Township, NJ 08016 – 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM

01/21 Tri-State Monthly Stamp & Coin Show, Sheraton Bucks County, 400 Oxford Valley Rd, Langhorne, PA 19047 9:30 to 3:30

**NOJEX 2024 Dates & Venue Announced!**

The NOJEX organization has announced the 2024 Stamp, Coin & Ephemera Show will be held September 27-29 at the Hilton hotel in Hasbrouck Heights. The venue is conveniently located off of I-80, about one hour from Hamilton via the NJ Turnpike.