



Hamilton Township Philatelic Society

APS Chapter #1095-104282



March 2007 Newsletter

email: hamilton@att.net

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Hamilton Township Public Library,
1 Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr. Way (off of Whitehorse Mercerville Road), Hamilton, NJ 08619

March 20th Meeting

Our March meeting will feature a presentation by Robert Rose, president of the New Jersey Postal History Society. Mr. Rose will present a slide show entitled "New Jersey Postal History of the Nineteenth Century" and will provide a comprehensive overview of New Jersey postal markings from the use of stampless covers through the Banknote period.

Mr. Rose is also Chairperson for NOJEX which is sponsored by the North Jersey Federated Stamp Clubs. HTPS is a member of that group.

NOJEX is a major stamp exhibition that is held over the Memorial Day weekend in Secaucus. A number of dealers we don't normally see in our area usually attend NOJEX. If you haven't been to this show, you should consider a trip this year. We hope Mr. Rose will spend a few minutes telling us the plans for this year's show.

As always, the meeting will start at 7:30 PM. Please come earlier if you wish to view the APS Circuit Books or if you have stamps or philatelic material to offer for sale or trade.

The Newsletter Editor is interested in any items of interest, articles, suggestions or ideas you might have. Please write, call or email me – Jack Sack, 50 Merion Place, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648 – hamilton@att.net – 609-896-8193

In this Issue ...

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President's Message

Last month we had a talk by HTPS member Tom DeLuca on the "Art of Collecting". One of his main points was that we should all enjoy our stamp collections. I heartily agree with Tom. Take some time to dust off your albums and re-examine your stamps. I also enjoyed Joe Pavelchak's Rattlesnake Island stamp collection. It was quite fascinating and very informative. I hope that you concur. Thank you, Joe, and thank you to Tom for another enjoyable presentation.

I am also hoping that you will consider preparing a small exhibit for our "Show & Tell" segment each meeting, for our library displays in Lawrenceville and Hamilton or for our HAMPEX'07 event in August.

This month, we have a presentation by Robert Rose on New Jersey postal history. We look forward to an interesting talk. I hope you will be able to join us, and perhaps bring a friend with you.

Looking forward to seeing you on the 20th.

... Ed

FUN WITH PHILATELY!

by Rita Cleary

It's a year now since I resumed my earlier (1980's) interest in stamp collecting. I took it up then, and again now, thru the influence of my brother-in-law Jussie -- a lifelong collector.

My primary area of interest is US used and mint. I recently set up a table in a corner of a small bedroom, where I can work on my stamps as time permits. It's great to be able to pick up right where I left off, if I get busy with other things.

I enjoy the interesting stores in Linn's and Global Stamp News. I've joined two stamp clubs. I learn a lot thru interactions with seasoned collectors, and from the programs, speakers, auctions, show and tell, and other activities. It's also a treat to attend the monthly bourse in Hightstown, especially when my brother-in-law and my husband John join me.

I rarely spend more than an hour a week on my collection, but enjoy every minute of that hour! I'm developing an interest in US postal history, particularly the era when the West was being won. I hope to identify some topical areas of interest, and incorporate topical stamps into crafts. I have enjoyed finding books devoted to particular stamps -- for example, the USPS book about the Classic Comics -- and then acquiring and affixing those stamps into the book, while reading the stories behind the various strips.

If only I'd been interested in stamps when I was in school! They would have added a wonderful enrichment to some very dry history lessons.

Remember to tune into Rita's radio program, "The Faces of Life" which airs from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. on alternate Mondays on WDVR-FM, 89.7 in Delaware Township, 91.9 in Lawrence, Princeton and Trenton, and on the web at www.wdvrfm.org. Rita welcomes your questions or comments about the show. Her email is: keepitreal08628@yahoo.com.

February Presentation: Tom De Luca – The Art of Stamp Collecting



Our February presentation featured a talk by Tom De Luca from Trenton Stamp and Coin on "The Art of Stamp Collecting." He offered several interesting insights on how and why we collect stamps.

Tom divides stamp collecting into three parts. First comes "Research & Definition" where one decides what they want to collect and begins to research that area of collecting, learns how stamps are graded, and decides what to collect. An important part of this stage is deciding on the grade / quality of stamps you want to collect and how it matches to your budget.

The second phase is "Acquisition" where one begins the process of purchasing stamps from various sources, and mounting them in your album or display media. Tom discussed the various sources for stamps such as dealers, auctions, and stamp shows.

The third, and often overlooked part of the hobby, is the "Appreciation" phase, where one allocates time to take out your albums and admire the stamps you have acquired – as Tom put it, "to stop and smell the roses." He suggested we devote an hour or two a month to simply study our collections.

We thank Tom for a very interesting and thought provoking presentation to the club.

Stamp Identification

Here are this month's unidentified stamps. If you have any information on these stamps, please write or email hamilton@att.net.



Answers from last month: Several HTPS members, including Klaus Wagner and Herman Berenson were able to identify one of the stamps from last month. It is a Private Local Post stamp from Koln (Cologne) Germany. The other stamp remains unidentified.

WebWatch: American Philatelic Society

A number of us are members of the APS, the American Philatelic Society. How many of you have taken the time to explore the APS website, www.stamps.org, to see all that the organization has to offer.

We have all looked through the circuit books from the APS at our meetings, but have you thought about using Stampstore, the on-line system for purchasing stamps. It is not an auction, but rather a search engine to look at stamp lists and then buy from multiple dealers.

Did you know that the card catalogue of the American Philatelic Research Library is available on-line. For example, a search of "Indian States" listed over sixty books in the collection. Note, however, the cost of having the APS ship you books is rather expensive.

Are your stamps insured? The APS sponsors a Stamp Insurance program, through Hugh Wood, at very reasonable rates. There is lots of other information on the APS web site from expertizing and translation services to estate planning. Take a few moments to see what the APS has to offer.

A "One Stamp" Stamp Collection



The idea might sound a bit strange at first, but have you ever thought of collecting a single stamp? After an article a few months back in one of the stamp magazines, I decided to start a collection of the 1976 stamp depicting Archibald M. Willard's painting "The Spirit of '76." The famous painting hangs in the town hall of my home town, Marblehead, Mass.

Whenever I come across it – mint, used, plate block, on cover, etc. – I have taken the opportunity of purchasing it. On one hand, it is not that easy finding different examples of this stamp's use. The good news, however, is that it is not expensive. A full sheet can be had at face value, a First Day cover for under \$1.00, and a number of used stamps with different postmarks at 5-10c each. If you ever see an interesting cancel or cover with the "Spirit of '76" stamp on it for a dollar or two, please pick it up for me!

... Jack Sack

Plans for Future HTPS Meetings

Here is the current schedule of activities for future HTPS meetings (subject to change):

April 17, 2007 – Presentation on Zeppelin Covers by Henry Applegate

May 15, 2007 – APS Slide Show (subject to be determined)

June 19, 2007 – Society Auction

July 17, 2007 – Swap Meet

August 21, 2007 – HAMPEX'07 Exhibit

Sept. 18, 2007 – What I Did Over the Summer

October 16, 2007 – Refresher Topics

HTPS News and Events ...

Library Display: In April, we will exhibit at the **Lawrenceville Library**. We are looking for contributors. ANY type of philatelic material is suitable including stamps, covers, postcards or publications. We are also looking for people in each community to visit their local library every month or so to restock our flyers and posters. Next up is the Hamilton Library in September.

Newsletter via e-mail: Our Newsletter is now available via email. If you would like to receive it that way, please let us know and provide us with your email address. We will also include the newsletters on the HTPS website.

Lending Library: Klaus Wagner has organized the HTPS lending library. If you have any reference books you are willing to lend out or there is a catalog or book you are interested in reading, check out the available titles on the Poster Board listing.

Stock Pages and Binders: We are looking for contributions of binders and stock pages (preferably the black poly type). Recycled items are fine. The purpose is to supply new collectors with a "storage kit" before they decide on an album.

Save Your Extra Stamps: Remember to please save your extra stamps for Sherm Britton to send to the "Stamps for Wounded Vets" and to a number of other worthy programs. See the thank you note in the adjoining column.

Some Upcoming Stamp Events ...

March 10th – Hightstown Stamp Bourse – American Legion Hall, Rt. 130, Hightstown, NJ.

March 11th – Second Sunday Stamp Bourse – Holiday Inn, Route 70, Cherry Hill, NJ.

March 11th – C&W Stamp Show – VFW Memorial, Cranford, NJ.

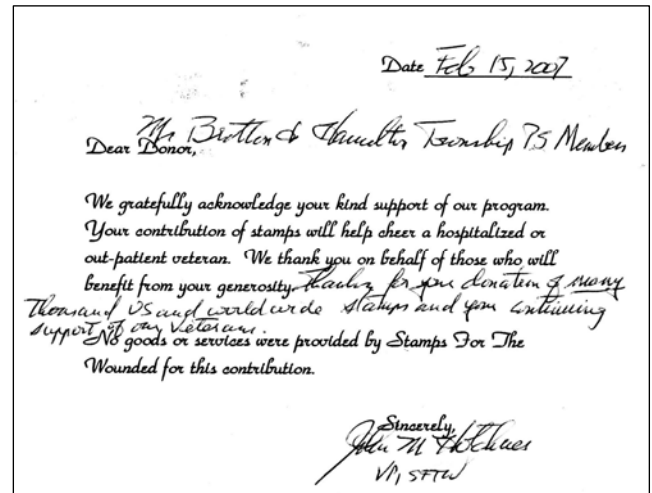
March 15th-18th – Spring Postage Stamp Mega-Event, Madison Square Garden, NYC.

March 18th – Third Sunday Stamp Bourse – Courtyard Marriott, Lyndhurst, NJ.

March 20th – **Hamilton Township Philatelic Society Meeting – Hamilton Library**

March 22nd – Merchantville Stamp Club – Temple Lutheran Church, Pennsauken, NJ.

March 31st – Westfield Stamp Show – (Westfield Stamp Club) – Municipal Building, 425 E. Broad St. Westfield, NJ.



The purpose of this newsletter is to promote philately, inform our members and to encourage other like-minded individuals to attend the monthly meetings of the Society.

Officers of the Society

President Ed Murtha
Vice President Tony Zingale
Treasurer Joseph Pavelchak

Secretary Klaus Wagner
APS Representative Sherm Britton
Newsletter Editor Jack Sack