



# Hamilton Township Philatelic Society

APS Chapter #1095-104282



May 2007 Newsletter

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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

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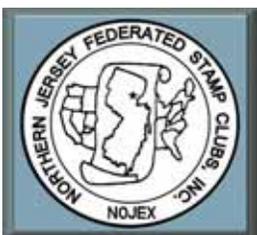
## May 15th Meeting

Our May meeting will feature a slide show provided by the APS on "Number Ones of the World". According to the description, the program begins by asking what exactly constitutes the designation Number One: Is it the actual first stamp issued by a particular country, or only the one listed in a stamp catalogue as number "1"? The "first" stamp issues of many countries are reviewed, beginning with the Penny Black in 1840 and ending with the Dutch Indies first issue of 1864. Also explored are the conditions in various countries that led them to begin issuing stamps when they did.

Ben Burwell will give a presentation on the new HTPS website at the meeting. We should also have time for a "Show & Tell". If you have an interesting philatelic item or a story you would like to share, please bring it to the meeting.

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.

## NOJEX Philatelic Exposition



Bob Rose has asked us to help with NOJEX, the major stamp exhibition and show that is held over the Memorial Day weekend in Secaucus. If you would like to volunteer, please

contact either Tony or Ed. In any event, be sure to mark your calendar!

### In this Issue ...

*May Presentation*

*Lawrenceville Library display*

*... and much more*

## President's Message

Hopefully, everyone enjoyed Hank Applegate's Lakehurst Zeppelin/Airship presentation as much as I did. It was a fascinating and informative presentation. We are deeply appreciative to Hank for providing us with this wonderful presentation.

Have you ever looked at the APS Circuit books that are available before each of the monthly meetings? If not, I would like to suggest that you take a moment and do so before the start of the meetings. You might be pleasantly surprised by what you will find. Sherm Britton is responsible for getting the circuit books from APS. If you can not find your specific country or collecting area of interest, please mention this to Sherm. If it's available and APS has the circuit books, Sherm can usually have them at one of the next meetings.

A slide show from APS is planned for our May meeting. It is on the first (or number ones) postage stamps of the world. It should be very interesting and educational. I wonder how many of these Number Ones each of us may have in our own collection.

I look forward to seeing you at the May 15th meeting....Ed

## April Presentation – Hank Applegate

Our April presentation was by Hank Applegate, president of the Lakehurst Historical Society, on the Naval Air Station. He explained the history of the station, beginning with the conversion from army Camp Kendrick to the Air Station and



the construction of the 962 foot long zeppelin hanger. He then gave us the history of the various dirigibles that were stationed or visited Lakehurst from 1921 to 1939 and showed photos of a number of flight covers.

Among the zeppelins stationed at Lakehurst was the USS Shenandoah, built in 1923, which made the first crossing of the North American continent by airship; the USS Akron and USS Macon which both crashed shortly after being commissioned, and the USS Los Angeles, built in Germany, converted from hydrogen to helium, and remained part of the US fleet until 1939.

Hank also showed a number of covers from various visiting airships including the Graf Zeppelin and the Hindenburg. He ended his talk showing some event covers including one from the 50th anniversary of the Hindenburg disaster of May 6th, 1937, signed by all the surviving passengers and crew from that fateful trip.

We thank Hank for taking the time to come and make his very interesting presentation.



## Lawrenceville Library Display



Tony Z. Preparing the exhibit at the library

We thank all the members who lent material for the display at the Lawrenceville library last month: Joe Pavelchak, Jim Cope, Sherman Britton, Jacob Camins-Esakov, Don Bunker, Glenn Buzzi and John Ranto.

Unfortunately, there were only three display cases available so we had to limit the amount of material presented. Included in the exhibit were displays on Collecting Topicals, Event Covers and Postcards. There was also a display of stamp catalogs and periodicals. Our next display is at Hamilton library in September.



Editor's note: Several of my neighbors, knowing that I am a stamp collector, called to tell me there was a stamp exhibit over at the library. It proves the library displays give the club a lot of exposure!

## Trenton Cover



Earlier in the year, Neil Wood was in Fall River, Massachusetts and found a Trenton cover at a local stamp store that might interest the club membership. It has a corner card for a financial broker (E.B. Sterling) but also contains references to selling United States stamps and catalogues.



The cover is from Edward Boker Sterling, a famous collector and dealer of U.S. Revenue stamps. He also published the first catalog of revenue stamps and was elected to the A.P.S. Hall of Fame in 1967. Perhaps some member can tell us more about Mr. Sterling? Incidentally, the cover cost Neil \$1.00.

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](mailto:hamilton@att.net) – 609-896-8193

## New Members

We welcome new members Wayne C. (who collects Early US), Jon M. (US and Europe), Gary M. (New World & Colonial French) and Doug F. We hope our visitors at the last meeting will consider joining the club.

## Plans for Future HTPS Meetings

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

On June 19, 2007 we will have a club auction. If you have some extra philatelic material you think others might be interested in, why not place it up for auction? We will have more about this in the next newsletter.

In July and August there will be an informal gathering of members rather than the normal meeting format. The monthly newsletter will not be emailed or mailed and the APS Circuit books will not be available. Both will resume in September.

On July 17<sup>th</sup>, a swap meet is planned. Please bring whatever philatelic items that you think may be of interest to your fellow members and hopefully they will have something that will interest you.

On August 21<sup>st</sup>, please bring a small display (a page is fine) of whatever you like and enjoy collecting. For example, Ed M. will display Sudan punctured stamps (perfins). They are rather inexpensive but some issues are difficult to find. Jack S. will show the common design issues for the British Commonwealth during the reign of George VI. There will be a prize for the best exhibit.

In September we will have a “What I Did Over the Summer” show and tell and in October, we are planning another stamp refresher course.

## Postal Rate Decrease on May 14<sup>th</sup>

Reminder: The cost of a first-class letter goes up to 41¢ on May 14<sup>th</sup>. But did you know that the cost of a two-ounce letter actually goes down from 63¢ to 58¢ at the same time?



## HTPS News and Events

**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.

**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

**Financials:** Treasurer Joe Pavelchak reported the club’s balance was \$946.14 as of our last meeting. The Treasurer’s report will also be on the website.

**Election of Officers:** Our constitution requires that we officially elect officers at our May Meeting. If you would like to nominate someone, please contact one of the current officers.

## Some Upcoming Stamp Events...

May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Merchantville Stamp Club – Temple Lutheran Church, Pennsauken, NJ.  
(also May 16<sup>th</sup> and June 7<sup>th</sup>)

May 5<sup>th</sup> – West Jersey Stamp Show, Masonic Center, Cherry Hill (also June 2<sup>nd</sup>)

May 6<sup>th</sup> – C&W Stamp Show, VFW Home, Cranford

May 6<sup>th</sup> – Garden State Stamp Show – PAL Building, Parsippany (also June 3<sup>rd</sup>)

May 7<sup>th</sup> – Coryell's Ferry Stamp Club, 8 PM at Lambertville Baptist Church, 57 Bridge St. Lambertville

May 12<sup>th</sup> – Hightstown Stamp Bourse – American Legion Hall, Rt. 130, Hightstown

May 15<sup>th</sup> – Hamilton Township Philatelic Society Meeting – 7:30pm Hamilton Library

May 20<sup>th</sup> - Third Sunday Stamp Bourse – Holiday Inn, Hasbrouck Heights

May 21<sup>st</sup> – Coryell's Ferry Stamp Club 8 PM at the Washington Crossing Methodist Church, Washington Crossing, PA

May 25<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> – NOJEX’07 –Secaucus (See note on page 1).

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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.

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### 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