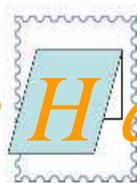




The *H*amilton Hinge



APS Chapter #1095-104282



Hamilton Township Philatelic Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 3443, Hamilton, NJ 08619-0443

email: hamilton@att.net website: hamilton.home.att.net

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September Program

Welcome back to another great year of fun and learning with the HTPS. Our theme for September is an open discussion on what we did philatelically (and otherwise) over the summer.

Tell us about your experiences searching for additions to your collecting interests. Bring in some of the purchases or finds you made during the past few months.

The formal meeting starts at 7:30 PM, but come earlier to check out the APS books, trade items of interest or just to socialize. We promise an enjoyable and fascinating evening.

Our poster boards are back containing a variety of philatelic information and displays. Look for information on upcoming stamp shows and bourses, and inspect the latest exhibit material.

HTPS Meetings . . .

We meet on the 3rd 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) in Hamilton, NJ 08619.

President's Message

I hope everyone had a great summer and is ready for another year with the HTPS.



I was delighted to learn that the HTPS Newsletter received a GOLD award from the APS for the 2007 issues (thus, the reason for the masthead color).

Our thanks to Jack Sack, Editor, and to all who helped in the Newsletter's publication. We anticipate another year of exciting articles with our new Editor, Tony Zingale.

The presentation and event programs are being finalized. However, we are always looking for our members to help in this area. Maybe you know someone who can give a talk. Perhaps you have thought about it yourself. If so, let us know, and don't forget that we can help in preparing slides, posters or handouts. I am sure the group would love to learn more about your collecting interests.

We welcome two new contributors. The *Collecting Czechoslovakia Stamps* article was written by Joe Pavelchak. Even though Joe has relocated to Virginia, he is still an active dues-paying member, and now a contributing writer. The story on the APS Hartford show is the work of our roving reporter Frank O. Bollo.

This month, we will have our annual "What I Did Last Summer" show and tell. Please bring an item or story about your latest stamping experiences. We look forward to seeing you on the 16th . . . Ed

Summer Meetings Report

by Jack Sack

On **June 17th**, our newly elected Officers chaired their first meeting. The highlight was the presentation of a plaque to Joe Pavelchak who stepped down as HTPS Treasurer after thirty years of service.



Certificates were also presented to outgoing Officers Tony Zingale (VP), Klaus Wagner (Secretary) and Newsletter Editor Jack Sack.

The evening concluded with our semi-annual member's auction. Auctioneer Zingale made an effort to sell everything, with a bit of humor along the way.



Thanks to Ron Dobrowolski and Andrew Boyajian for their donations to the auction. \$43 was raised for the HTPS treasury.

In **July**, we held our annual "swap meet". A number of members brought in their extra material for sale or trade to other members. We had a turnout of about 20 members, and had a pleasant evening of stamp talk.

HAMPEX '08, held in **August**, saw some creative exhibit entries from our members. A few are included in our September library display.



Ron Dobrowolski and Jim Cope's Winning Exhibits

2008-2009 Program

Our program schedule for the year is coming along nicely with only a few openings remaining:

- ... Sept. 16 – What I Did Last Summer
- ... Oct. 21 – Struck on Stamps – 1851 to 1868
(by Wade Saadi)
- ... Nov. 18 – APS Slide Show
- ... Dec. 16 – Holiday Party / Show 'n Tell
- ... Jan. 20 – Society Auction
- ... Feb. 17 – Inside an Auction House
(by Andy Kupersmit)
- ... Mar. 17 – Presentation
- ... Apr. 21 – The Prominent American Series
(by Roger Brody)
- ... May 19 – APS Slide Show
- ... June 16 – Society Auction

The HTPS website contains updates and details on the 2008-2009 program events.

Stamp Identification



Is this stamp a regular postal issue, revenue, local, cinderella or something else? Can someone supply a catalog number, source reference or both?

Fifty WW commems, or pick from the prize box, to the first correct identification.

Chapters Activity Committee Award

The Hamilton Hinge received an APS gold medal for the calendar year's 2007 issues. Thanks to all those who helped in preparing the HTPS Newsletter. We also send our congratulations to the Merchantville Stamp Club, for their gold medal award for the *MSC Monthly Bulletin*.



Collecting Czechoslovakia Stamps

... by Joseph Pavelchak

Why do I collect Czechoslovakia stamps? Everybody has a reason for collecting the stamps they collect. I began as a young kid when my grandfather gave me stamps from the mail he received from Czechoslovakia. I saved all those stamps and was intrigued by their design and colors.



Examples of 1950-60's Czechoslovakia Issues

In high school, a friend of mine had a Czechoslovakia stamp album he was selling, so I bought it from him so I could mount my stamps. I purchased all the supplements to keep it current. There was a stamp store on Broad Street in Trenton which was on my way to school, so it was convenient to get the supplements.

The biggest mistake I made, early on, was in purchasing stamps that were not a complete set. I think many young collectors make that mistake. It usually means, that sometime later, you wind up purchasing the complete set as the higher values of a set are rarely sold by themselves.

Czechoslovakia being part of my heritage has kept me collecting these stamps over the years. I am still intrigued by the beauty and design of the stamps. Over the last few years, I obtained a contact in Czech Republic, so I send him current US stamps and he sends me current Czech Republic stamps. This has been a great relationship. Now, I just need a contact in the Slovakia Republic to obtain those issues.

In a future article, I plan to talk about Czechoslovakia's history and how it is reflected in its stamps.

Philatelic Pieces – APS Hartford Show

... by Frank O. Bollo



The APS Stampshow 2008 was held last month in Hartford at the Connecticut Convention Center. There were 170 dealers present, many of whom rarely come to this area, and thousands of exhibit pages on display. Two First Day of Issue ceremonies were held – for the 42 cent Albert Bierstadt and sunflower definitive stamps.



Given the short distance from both New York and Boston, one would expect this to be an ideal location. Surprisingly, the show did not seem to draw a large crowd, and a number of dealers commented on the less than expected sales.

On a positive note, there were many young people in attendance, particularly at the “Kids Zone” on Saturday afternoon. Among the activities was a “Stamps by the Bucket” treasure hunt, where one could search through two tables of stamps looking for interesting or unusual items.



Searching and Sorting at the “Bucket of Stamps” Table

Club Notices

FDC Sale: Dr. Bruce Pullen contacted us looking to sell his father's FDC collection. The covers are posted on our Web Site in the Sales section. You can contact Dr. Pullen at brpabc@aol.com.

Dr. Pullen has donated some locally postmarked Event covers to the HTPS. We used some covers in our current Library exhibit and will offer the rest to club members.

Stamp Donations: Please save your extra U.S. and Worldwide stamps. We donate them to schools and to the Stamps for Wounded Vets program. See Sherm Britton for details.

Library Exhibit: Take a look at the HTPS exhibit at the Hamilton Township Library (upstairs from our meeting room). It includes a variety of philatelic items and collecting interests including topical collections, NJ event covers and other fascinating material. Thanks to Andrew Boyajian, Sherman Britton, Don Bunker, Gary Machunze and John Ranto for their donations.

HTPS Flyers: Pick up some advertising flyers at the next meeting. These can be posted on library and community center bulletin boards throughout the local area. Copies are also available on our web site in the About Us section.

Philatelic Donation . . .

Our thanks to Steve Gates for his contribution of stamps, covers and binders. We sent the stamps to Stamps for Wounded Vets and have the covers for sale to our members. Receipts will help support our annual Library gift.

Upcoming Stamp Events

- 8/29-31 – MERPEX – Masonic Hall – Cherry Hill, NJ
- 9/1-30 – Hamilton Township Public Library – Philatelic Exhibit – Sponsored by the Hamilton Township Philatelic Society
- 9/4 – Merchantville Stamp Club – Temple Lutheran Church – Pennsauken, NJ
- 9/5-7 – Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition – Valley Forge Convention Center – King of Prussia, PA
- 9/7 – Garden State Coin & Stamp Show – P.A.L. Building – Parsippany, NJ
- 9/13 – Hightstown Stamp Bourse – American Legion Hall – Hightstown, NJ
- 9/14 – Sunday Stamp Bourse – Holiday Inn – Cherry Hill, NJ
- 9/16 – HTPS Meeting – Library – Hamilton, NJ
- 9/17 – Merchantville Stamp Club – Temple Lutheran Church – Pennsauken, NJ
- 9/20 – 3rd Saturday Show – Holiday Inn – Somerset, NJ
- 9/21 – 3rd Sunday Show – Holiday Inn – Saddle Brook, NJ
- 9/27 – Woodbridge Stamp Show – Hampton Inn – Woodbridge, NJ
- 10/2 – Merchantville Stamp Club – Temple Lutheran Church – Pennsauken, NJ
- 10/4-5 – CASDA 2008 – Doubletree Guest Suites – Mt. Laurel, NJ
- 10/11 – Hightstown Stamp Bourse – American Legion Hall – Hightstown, 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.

----- HTPS Officers -----

President Ed Murtha
Vice President Jeff Boyarsky
Treasurer / Publicity Ron Gonzalez
Secretary Bob Stolarz

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

APS Representative Sherm Britton
Membership Chairman Jack Sack
Newsletter Editor Tony Zingale
50/50 Handlers Dennis Buss, Jim Cope