



The Hamilton 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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HTPS Proceedings

October's meeting was a lot of fun. Members brought in a variety of items as giveaways, for trade or for sale. Wade Saadi provided a captivating presentation on early U.S. cancellations.



Ron Gonzalez delivers the Treasurer's report.

Sherm Britton announced that we have shipped 91 lbs. of stamps to the Vets and 34 lbs. to School programs. Ron Gonzalez showed a Tin Can Mail Cover from Puerto Rico to Tonga. Tony Zingale reported on Joe Pavelchak's move to Virginia.

November's meeting is highlighted by the presentation of "The History of Railway Mail Service" slide show. Produced in 2007 by the National Postal Museum, the show presents the evolution of this early mail service from 1860 to its demise in 1970. Thanks to Joe Seliga for his recommendation on this program.

HTPS Meetings . . .

Meetings are held 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.

In this Issue . . .

- *Vienna Stamp Show*
- *Library Exhibit*
- *Stamp Identification*
- *Club Notices*
- . . . and much more!

President's Message



Our thanks to Wade Saadi for his excellent presentation on early U.S. cancellations ("Struck on Stamps") at our October meeting. One of the major goals of our monthly meetings is to further the philatelic knowledge of our fellow members.

That was certainly accomplished in spades. In a short period of time, Wade enlightened us on a fascinating area of philately. We are extremely grateful to Wade for making us more knowledgeable philatelists.

On the international front, roving reporter Frank O. Bollo reports on the WIPA'08 show, held in Vienna this past September.

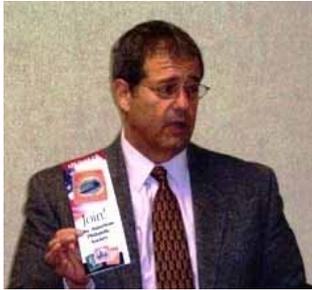
This month we are presenting an APS slide show on the "History of Railway Mail Service" covering over 100 years of postal service.

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 interesting evening on the 18th . . . Ed

October's Presentation

... by Jack Sack

Those attending our October meeting, including some visitors and guests from the Morrisville Stamp Club, were treated to a wonderful talk by Wade Saadi entitled "Struck on Stamps – 1847 to 1868."



Mr. Saadi, who is the President of the APS, gave a fascinating presentation on the evolution of cancellations on early U.S. stamps. His talk covered the use of old postal markers to cancel stamp issues,

postmaster-created cancellation devices and the various fancy designs used during this period.



Some of the early cancellations were simple lines, stars, or bull's-eyes, but they soon evolved into more complex designs. Mr. Saadi showed many examples from his personal collection of fancy and patriotic cancels.



Early cancels: Postal marking ("PAID") ... Simple concentric circles design ... Intricate six-pointed star.

On behalf of the HTPS, we thank Wade for taking time out of his busy schedule to visit us. Also thanks to the members and guests who turned out and made the October meeting truly enjoyable.

Stamp Identification

Congratulations to Andy Kupersmit and Paul Schumacher for identifying last month's stamp as Eastern Silesia #20.

This month we have another unusual issue. The winner can pick five U.S. FDC's from the HTPS sale boxes.



Where have you seen this stamp?

Library Exhibit

HTPS has setup an exhibit at the Lawrenceville Library (located at Darrah Lane and Route 1) for the month of November. The display cases include Event Covers, Postcards, Plate Blocks, Topical Stamps, and Publications.



Thanks to Sherm Britton, Don Bunker, Gary Mackunze and Andrew Boyajian for their donated material.

Poster Boards ...

Why not loan or donate something for display during our 3rd Tuesday monthly meetings? Any philatelic item, including scans, is fine. We prefer 8.5 x 11 Portrait or Landscape sized items, but we accept anything of interest.



Philatelic Pieces – WIPA '08 Show

. . . by European correspondent Frank O. Bollo

After a beautiful train ride through the Moravian region from Prague, my wife Maria and I arrived in Vienna in time for the opening of the WIPA'08 stamp exposition. The Vienna International Stamp Exhibition, which began in 1881, was held this year at the Austrian Center, just north of central Vienna. The show was spread over three floors of the exhibition hall, and included more than 400 exhibits and 100 stamp dealers and postal administrations.



The Austrian Post Office Band

We arrived on opening day in time to hear the Austrian Post Office Band play a number of Viennese waltzes as we entered the exhibition hall. The attendance appeared to be much less than that of the PRAGA show on the previous weekend, perhaps due to the high entrance fee of €9 (US \$14), or because I was visiting on a weekday morning rather than on the weekend.

The highlight of the show was the "Bordeaux letter" exhibit. This cover contains both the one penny blue and two pence red Mauritius first issues. The cover got its name from the original recipient, a wine merchant in Bordeaux, France. It has been called "the greatest item in all philately" and last sold for over four million dollars in 1993. I immediately headed for the exhibit, and was fortunate enough to see the cover close up (albeit under thick glass) before there was a long line.



The "Bordeaux Letter"

The dealers were located on the third floor and included many from the same group who attended the PRAGA exhibition in Prague. Given the smaller crowds, I was able to check out some of their items.

As expected, the prices, both for stamps and covers, were very high. Even philatelic supplies were expensive; a pack of Showgard mounts, which are made in Europe, cost €8 (US \$12) as compared to under \$7 in the U.S.



I also happened to be in one of the exhibit areas with the judging committee as they critiqued each of the frames. Unfortunately, they were speaking German so I did not understand them, but I was able to get the gist of how they felt about each exhibit. Anyone interested in exhibiting should attend a critiquing session to understand all the details that judges consider.

After an enjoyable morning at the show, we headed back into town to see some of the many famous sights of Vienna, including the Hofburg Palace (home of the famous Spanish Riding School) and the St. Stephansdome church. I look forward to my next foreign assignment – perhaps at the Italia '09 or the London 2010 show?

Club Notices

Spray-on Cancels: Please remember to save those city spray-on cancellations in your everyday mail. A number of our members are attempting to collect the nearly 300 different cancel combinations.

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.

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.

On-line Newsletters: HTPS Newsletters are available online at hamilton.home.att.net. One helpful advantage is that you can use the live links to Internet sites and email addresses.

Show 'n Tell . . .

Please remember to bring a philatelic item or two of interest to the monthly meetings. This is an ideal way for all of us to share information and learn more about other collecting areas.

Web Watch – HTPS Web Site

We recently made the following changes to our web site at hamilton@att.net.

⇒ **Links Page:** Added a Postcard section, and new entries to the Organizations and Stamp Identification groups.

⇒ **Sales Page:** Added new sale items.

Thanks to Jim Cope and Jeff Boyarsky for suggesting the new links.

Upcoming Stamp Events

11/6 – Merchantville Stamp Club (MSC) Meeting –
Temple Lutheran Church –
Pennsauken, NJ – 7 PM

11/8 – 2nd Saturday Bourse – American Legion Hall
– Hightstown, NJ – 9:30 AM - 4 PM

11/9 – 2nd Sunday Stamp Bourse – Holiday Inn –
Cherry Hill, NJ – 10 AM to 4 PM

11/16 – 3rd Sunday Stamp/Coin Show – Wyndham
Hotel – Saddle Brook, NJ – 9 AM - 4 PM

11/18 – HTPS Meeting – Hamilton Township
Library – Hamilton, NJ – 7 PM

11/19 – MSC Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church –
Pennsauken, NJ – 7 PM

11/22 – Woodbridge Stamp Expo – Hampton Inn –
Woodbridge, NJ – 9:30 AM to 5 PM

11/23 – Tri-State Coin & Stamp – Holiday Inn – Ft.
Washington, PA – 10 AM to 4 PM

12/12-14 – MetroExpo NY– Midtown Holiday Inn
– 440 W. 57th Street – Fri: Noon - 6 PM
Sat: 10 AM - 6 PM – Sun: 10 AM - 4 PM

12/13 – 2nd Saturday Bourse – American Legion
Hall – Hightstown, NJ – 9:30 AM - 4 PM

12/14 – 2nd Sunday Stamp Bourse – Holiday Inn –
Cherry Hill, NJ – 10 AM to 4 PM

Newsletter Articles . . .

We are always looking for interesting items, articles, ideas or suggestions you might have.

You can write, call or email Tony Zingale at
P.O. Box 3443, Mercerville, NJ 08619;
609-890-8211; hamilton@att.net.

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