



The Hamilton Hinge



APS Chapter #1095-104282

Hamilton Township Philatelic Society Newsletter

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President's Message



Once again the year end is upon us. This time also marks my first few months as president. Both events cause me to reflect on the status of our group.

For the HTPS, the past year has provided a number of memorable experiences and events including philatelic presentations, auctions and exchanges of ideas. Hopefully you have also enjoyed a good year. Some of our members are currently experiencing health problems. We trust that they will recover and enjoy the upcoming year.

One of my interests as president is how to involve more people in our exciting hobby. This is especially true for the younger generation. Perhaps a gift – maybe topical stamps or covers – during the holiday season might encourage some youngsters.

Over the years, our group has attempted to reach out to non-collectors though not in an ongoing process. The Merchantville Stamp Club (MSC) has run an outreach program for the past few years. They have provided philatelic presentations at some local schools in their area. Perhaps this is something we can copy.

I intend to continue working on this process and welcome suggestions from HTPS members. You can contact me at jeff@HamiltonPhilatelic.org.

Have a good holiday – see you on the 18th . . . Jeff.

HTPS Meetings . . .

Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Hamilton Township Library, 1 Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr. Way (off Whitehorse Mercerville Road) in Hamilton, NJ.

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December Meeting

Another year is ending and that means the HTPS **holiday party** is on the agenda for our December meeting. We ask that you make something to celebrate the season – perhaps cookies, cheese and crackers, pigs in a blanket or a homemade specialty. Our members can sample your offering while sharing their philatelic interests and stamping experiences during the past year.

We will have plenty of time for another member **“Show & Tell”** so bring in a favorite item from your collection or a philatelic story to share with your fellow members. We can use the document camera to display your items. If you need help with setting up your display, please contact Tony at the email address in the masthead.

One reminder – the **2013 Society dues** are due by January 1st. They remain at just \$10 which is a bargain considering what HTPS offers for the year – philatelic presentations, the Hamilton Hinge newsletter and our website to name a few. You can pay at the meeting or send your check, payable to HTPS, to the address in our masthead above.

We hope you join us and we look forward to what promises to be another enjoyable meeting on December 18th.

November Proceedings . . . by Tony Zingale

The business portion of our meeting started with the flag salute, reading of the minutes from the last meeting and the treasurer's report.

Our president, **Jeff Boyarsky**, related that he succeeded in placing a notice of the HTPS meetings in his senior community notices. He asked that other members check with their community boards to see if they would do the same.

It was reported that several HTPS members – **John Ranto, Ron Dobrowolski** and **Sherman Britton** – are not feeling well. Also, **Warren Scheible** is back in rehab for his foot. The group wished them all a speedy recovery.

Tony Zingale provided four large boxes of "Books on Tape" (aka "audiobooks") for sale. These are unabridged books on tape cassettes. Tony has over 1,000 titles priced at ten cents (10¢) per cassette with a maximum of \$1.00 for any audiobooks on more than ten cassettes. All proceeds go to the "Friends of the Library" (FOTL) group who raise money to purchase furniture and computer equipment for our host – the Hamilton Township Public Library.



Our presentation for the evening, *Forgeries & Fakes from the Philatelic Foundation*, was provided by **Robert G. Rose**.

Bob is a philatelic renaissance man – Philatelist – Author – President of the New Jersey Postal History Society – Chairman of NOJEX – Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Philatelic Foundation.

Bob showed a variety of counterfeited and forged philatelic items that the Philatelic Foundation (PF) has acquired over the years.

His presentation focused on U.S. issues starting with U.S. #1 and continued into the early 20th century. The example at the right is typical of early fakes – a cover with real U.S. #1-2 stamps, but with the two pen cancels removed and replaced with a counterfeit postmark. An identical fake postmark was also applied to the left side of the cover.

What followed was a seemingly endless and dazzling array of forged and faked philatelic material including stamps, proofs and covers!

An interesting cover is shown below. I never knew how they created a grill – now I know one method. Note that the recipient's town of Marblehead, MA is the home town of HTPS member **Jack Sack**.



3¢ Rose with all over grill made by pressing a piece of cheese cloth over the stamps. Note that the grill is "points up" and should be "points down". Additionally, the color of these stamps is too rosy for the issued all over griled stamps.

One example showed a stamp proof which was "shaved" to mimic a postage stamp. Another fake had paper ADDED to a postage stamp to resemble a stamp proof. Of course, Bob showed some perf stamp issues that were trimmed to become coils. He also showed some imperfs that had fake perfs added.

Our thanks to Bob Rose for another informative and entertaining presentation.



5¢ Brown and 10¢ Black with pen cancellations removed
Tied by counterfeit blue oval "Buffalo, NY Aug 26" postmark

[NOTE: Images courtesy of the Philatelic Foundation.]

Stamp Identification

Congratulations to Bill McCarroll for correctly identifying last month's mystery stamp as Russia – Army of the North, Scott #2, issued in 1919.



For this month, we have an unusual issue. We enlarged the stamp since the cancel hides much of the description.

This is a tricky one!

\$1.00 in mint US stamps to the first correct responder.

ASDA Fall Show

The American Stamp Dealers Association (ASDA) has announced that the fall 2014 ASDA National Postage Stamp Show will be held in a new venue – the New York Hilton hotel, located at 1335 Avenue of the Americas (aka 6th Avenue) in New York City. 2014 is the 100th anniversary of the ASDA so extra events are planned.



The ASDA plans to make the Hilton the permanent location for the fall show. The spring show will continue to be held at the New Yorker hotel.

The Hilton will provide one floor for all show activities marking a difference from the New Yorker hotel. 80 to 90 dealers are expected to attend and will include dealers from around the country. A USPS booth is also planned. There will also be floor space for non-competitive exhibits.

Visit the comprehensive ASDA website at www.americanstampdealer.com/ for details as available. Also check out the many philatelic articles, stories and links located there.

Membership Dues . . .

HTPS dues of \$10.00 are payable by January 1st. You can pay at the December meeting with cash or check (payable to HTPS), or send payment to Ron Gonzalez at P.O. Box 3443, Mercerville, NJ 08619.

APS Album Pages

For the past few years, the American Philatelic Society (APS) has provided downloadable stamp albums, in PDF format, for the general collector.

The albums are offered in three categories:

- Countries
- States / Cities
- Thematic / Topical



The latest album is the first volume in the *Military History of America* and covers the French and Indian War through the War of 1812 (cover page shown at the left).

Albums range from a few pages to over 30. The albums are not meant to be comprehensive, but rather to illustrate stamps that the average collector has a reasonable chance to acquire.

Background information and descriptions are included and most albums provide Scott Catalog numbers. To date, more than 50 FREE albums are available for downloading.

For additional information, and to download the album pages, check the APS site at stamps.org/Free-Album-Pages.

USPS Rate Changes

The new year brings another round of postal rate changes. Effective, January 27, 2013, some USPS postage rates will change for single-piece First-Class Mail including:

- Letters (1 oz.) – 46¢ (up 1¢)
- Letters additional ounces – 20¢ (unchanged)
- Postcards – 33¢ (up 1¢)
- Letters to Canada/Mexico (1 oz.) – \$1.10 (up 25¢)
- Letters to Other Countries (1 oz.) – \$1.10 (up 5¢)

Price changes are also planned for priority mail and other postal services. Information on the new pricing is available at: about.usps.com/news/national-releases/2012/pr12_114.htm (underscore after “pr12”).

HTPS Holiday Party . . .

Do not forget to bring something to eat or drink for the Dec 18th meeting and holiday party.

Upcoming Events

- 12/1 → MSC Stamp Bourse – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (at Merchantville Avenue) – Pennsauken, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM – <http://mysite.verizon.net/vzexkfun/>.
- 12/2 → Garden State Coin & Stamp Show – P.A.L. Building – 33 Baldwin Rd – Parsippany, NJ – 10 AM to 4 PM – 201-584-0424.
- 12/6 → MSC Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (at Merchantville Avenue) – Pennsauken, NJ – Opens at 7 PM.
- 12/8 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – American Legion Post – Rtes. 130 North & 33 East – Hightstown, NJ – 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM.
- 12/16 → Clifton Money, Stamp and Postcard Show – Community Recreation Center – 1232 Main Avenue – Clifton, NJ – 9 AM to 5 PM

12/18 → HTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Public Library – Hamilton, NJ – 7 PM.

12/19 → MSC Meeting (see 12/6 Meeting for details).

12/xx → Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show (4th Sunday) – Holiday **NO DEC. SHOW** 9) & Rt. 309 – Ft. Washington, PA – 10 AM to 4 PM.

12/xx → Stamp Show – Hilton Garden Inn – 530 West Penns **NO DEC. SHOW** it 339 & Rt. 309) – Ft. Washington, PA – 9:30 AM to 4 PM.

1/3 → MSC Meeting (see 12/6 Meeting for details).

1/4-6 → Garden State Stamp & Coin Show – Bethwood Manor – 38 Lackawanna Avenue (off Union Blvd) – Totowa, NJ – Fri. 10 AM - 6 PM – Sat. 10 AM - 5 PM – Sun. 10 AM - 4 PM.

1/5 → MSC Saturday Stamp Bourse – 9 AM to 4 PM – [see 12/1 MSC Stamp Bourse for details].

1/12 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – American Legion Post – Hightstown, NJ – [see 12/8 show for details].

NOTE: For updated or additional information, see www.stampshows.com, www.stamps.org and www.postal-history.com/showpage.html.

The objective of this Newsletter is to promote philately, educate and inform our members and to encourage other like-minded individuals to join the Hamilton Township Philatelic Society.

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

President Jeff Boyarsky
Vice President Andrew Boyajian
Treasurer / Publicity Ron Gonzalez
Secretary Bob Stolarz

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

APS Representative Jon Madsen
Advertising and PR Bill Andersen
Historian Joe Seliga
Membership Chairman Jack Sack
Newsletter Editor Tony Zingale
NOJEX Contact Andrew Boyajian
Philatelic Donations Sherm Britton
Webmaster Jack Sack
50 / 50 Handlers Jim Cope, Ken Steel

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

- ⇒ Dec. 18 – Holiday Party / Show & Tell
- ⇒ Jan. 15 – Society Auction
- ⇒ Feb. 19 – Tom Deluca --- always a surprise!
- ⇒ Mar. 19 – TBA
- ⇒ Apr. 16 – TBA
- ⇒ May 21 – Member Mini-Presentations

We are looking for speakers for our 2012-2013 meeting programs. Please contact us for details.

Newsletter Articles . . .

We always welcome philatelic articles, ideas or suggestions. Contact Tony Zingale at P.O. Box 3443, Mercerville, NJ 08619; or call 609-890-8211; or email us at hinge@HamiltonPhilatelic.org.