



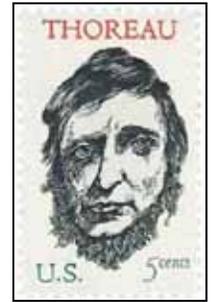
The *H*amilton Hinge

APS Chapter #C-104282 – ATA Chapter #127

Hamilton Township Philatelic Society (HTPS)

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Vol. 8, No. 5

May-June 2015

May - June Meetings

The **May meeting** includes the election of HTPS officers for the 2015-2016 year. The current officers have agreed to stay on and are the only nominees for those positions.

We will have a presentation by **Milton Keiles** on “*Milton Postal History*” (wonder if there is a connection). Perhaps Milt will even include a few of those airmail etiquettes he collects.

The **June meeting** ends the current season with our semi-annual auction. The January auction was a big success so we hope for another varied collection of philatelic items for this season-ending event. Auction forms were included with the mailing, but check out our website for an explanation of the auction process.

Stamp Identification

Two winners this time. No one identified the **Jan-Feb** issue stamp. But **Ron Kane** was on a five-week cruise around South America and only recently read the last two issues. He correctly identified the Jan-Feb mystery stamp as Wurttemberg #O93 issued in 1923.

Lots of correct answers for the **Mar-Apr** issue. **Bill McCarroll** was the first responder to correctly identify the stamp as Yugoslavia #RA12A issued in 1954.



This month we have an unusual entry. The stamp shown was cropped from a 16-

issue stamp sheet. Can you identify the country and sheet number as listed by Scott?

\$1.00 in mint U.S. stamps for the first correct responder.

In this Issue . . .

- *Meeting Proceedings*
- *Early Transatlantic Mail Service*
- *Sherm Britton*
- *Philatelic Events*
- . . . and much more!

President’s Message



What are some of the benefits from stamp collecting? One clear benefit is that you can enjoy it for your whole life, wherever you live, in good health or not. You can tailor your collecting interests as you desire – from a worldwide collection of issues from all countries – to a single topic like lighthouses or bicycles. You control the costs based on what you collect, though perhaps not if you collect the entire world!

Philately offers an opportunity to learn about geography, historical events, people, languages, currencies, artwork and graphic design, printing processes – even fraud and chicanery. It provides social interaction with a variety of people via club meetings and stamp shows, and with pen pals.

Some not so obvious benefits include developing research and organization skills (just do not look in my den closet).

So keep on enjoying this wonderful hobby!

HTPS Meetings . . .

Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday each month starting at 7:15pm at the Hamilton Township Library, 1 Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr. Way, off Whitehorse Mercerville Road, Hamilton, NJ (Mercer County).

Meeting Proceedings . . . by Jack Sack

March Meeting . . .

A good gathering of members took time out from their St. Patrick's Day celebrations to attend our **March meeting**. Among those attending was **John Rusnak, Jr.** from Chicago. His late father, John Rusnak, Sr., was an early member of the HTPS. While John does not collect stamps, he has inherited his father's collection. He was in the area on business and stopped by to see if the group was still active.

The business proceedings included a discussion on the need for continuing support of group activities. **Jeff Boyarsky** and **Bill Andersen** will meet with anyone interested in holding a HTPS officer or support team position. Please contact Jeff if you are interested.

Ken Steel and **Tony Zingale** reported that they received acknowledgements from **John Hotchner** for our recent donations (7 lbs of stamps and \$640) to the "Stamps for the Wounded" program.

Ron González brought up the idea of creating HTPS coffee mugs. He will look into the cost and minimum quantities. There was also discussion about having additional HTPS shirts made. Please contact Ron if you are interested in a HTPS mug or shirt.

The presentation for March was made by **Gary Loew**. See the write-up on Gary's talk on page 4.

April Meeting . . .

President **Jeff Boyarsky** led off the April meeting with a call for our members to help run the club by taking on some of the support team responsibilities. Of particular need is a Program Chairman. Jeff also described the goals of the "Mighty Buck Club" which solicits donations from APS members to provide additional resources and equipment for the society. Jeff urged our members to become members, not only of the APS, but also of the Mighty Buck Club.

Ed Murtha has contacted several members to assist with the **NOJEX 2015** show set-up on Thursday, May 28. Please contact Ed if you are interested in helping out. Roger Randall noted that the **MERPEX 2015** stamp show, originally scheduled for Labor Day weekend, has been cancelled. However, they will have the regular MSC Stamp Bourse on Saturday, September 5th.

The formal meeting ended with nominations of officers for 2016. The current group of officers has agreed to run for another term. The election will be held at the May meeting.

Several members participated in the Show and Tell presentations. **Ed Muench** started off with a set of first day covers from Staffa, an island off the coast of Scotland. Each cover was posted with a stamp showing actual bicycles. The cachets were drawings of bicycles though most were imaginary. The cover below shows a bike with a printing press on back that stamps a message on the ground as the bike travels along. What!



After some research, Ed learned that the Staffa stamps are considered bogus since no one actually lives on the island and the stamps cannot be used to mail letters. Regardless, the covers make a nice addition to Ed's collection of bicycle-themed items.

Jeff Boyarsky continued the program by showing some of the beautifully decorated advertising covers that he collects. The example below is from the Standard Crayon Co. of Lynn, Mass addressed to an Export Agent named A.S. Lascelles Co. in New York City. Standard Crayon was the largest crayon manufacturer at the beginning of the 20th century. They were later sold to Binney & Smith, the makers of Crayola crayons.



April Meeting (continued) . . .

Klaus Wagner and **Don Bunker** showed an Encased Postage Stamp from Germany. In the early 20th century, encased postage stamps were used throughout Europe as legal tender due to a coin shortage.

In many cases, companies were allowed to place advertisements on the reverse in exchange for paying for the production of the “coins”. This example translates as “Drink liquors from Ruberg.” The heindorffhus.motivsamlar.dk/shoebox/frame-Encased.htm website has more info on this topic.



Jim Cope had some of the new US “Waves” dollar postage stamps. Some members thought it would have been better to commemorate an historic figure or event rather than the wave designs selected.

Jim also showed a cover (cropped corner shown) from Cuba with the images of Russian spies Julius and Ethel Rosenberg. The inscription reads: “Anniversary of the Assassination of the Rosenbergs.” The US postal service has refused to accept letters with this stamp. The stamp is also significant as it is believed to be the only stamp in the world which pictures an electric chair.

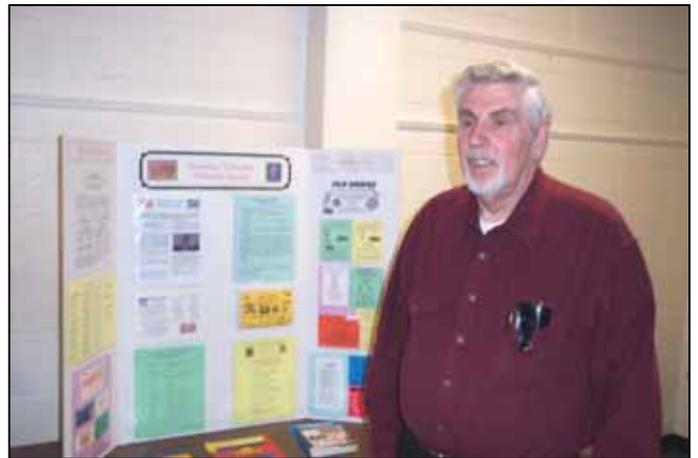


Andrew Boyajian ended the evening by showing some Anderson FDC's bearing the Dag Hammarskjold stamp of 1962. The stamp is famous for the error in which a sheet of stamps was printed with the yellow color inverted. The Post Office reprinted the stamp with the error to prevent it becoming a rarity. Andrew is looking for each combination of the Anderson cachet with both the normal and inverted color stamp.

Thanks to the members for showing us a variety of interesting philatelic items. Why not show us some of your philatelic items at the next Show and Tell?

Sherman “Sherm” Britton

Sherman R. “Sherm” Britton Jr., 85, of Hamilton passed away on March 19 at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in Hamilton. Born in Trenton, he was a lifelong area resident.



Sherm worked as a letter carrier for the United States Postal Service. He was a member of the AARP, St. Anthony Church and the St. Anthony Seniors. He met every Tuesday with his “Second Family” church members for lunch.

He was a founder and active member of the HTPS serving in a number of officer and support positions. He provided leadership and financial support for our group especially during the lean years. Sherm was active in setting up the group’s newsletter. He last served the HTPS, for many years, as Coordinator for the Stamps for the Wounded (SFTW) program.

Sherm provided exhibits and presentations for HTPS over the years usually on his collecting interests which included U.S. Postal Stationery and Souvenir Cards.

The FDC below used a photo of Sherm delivering mail as the cachet for the 1989 Letter Carriers issue.

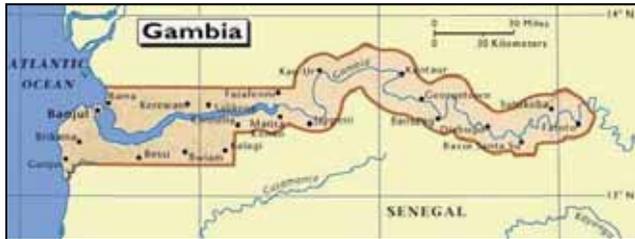


Sherm was always smiling and had a knack for putting people at ease. He will be sorely missed!

Early Transatlantic Mail Service



The highlight of our March meeting was a presentation by HTPS member **Gary Loew** on the importance of Gambia in the establishment of transatlantic mail service. Because of Gambia's location as the closest point between Africa and South America, it became an important transit point on the Europe to South America mail routes in the 1930's.



Using a complex mix of trains, land and sea planes, steamers and a mid-ocean catapult ship, the German DLH company was able to provide 4-day mail service between Germany and Brazil.



Between the test flights in 1933 and the end of the service at outbreak of World War II in 1939, nearly 500 mail flights passed through Gambia.

Gary showed many covers flown on the route. Below is a third test flight cover (dated 1933) from Natal, Brazil to Friedrichshafen, Germany via the *Westfalen* and Bathurst, Gambia. The *Westfalen* was a catapult ship stationed mid-ocean that refueled and re-launched the sea planes used to carry mail.



The "Gambia" route also was used to process mail from other worldwide locations. The cover below originated in Canton, China for delivery in Sao Paulo, Brazil. It required a complicated route that took 26 days to reach its destination with stops in Hong Kong, Brindisi, Paris, Marseilles, Stuttgart, Marseilles (again), Valencia, Seville, Las Palmas, Bathurst, Fernando and Natal.



Gary's presentation included a historical background on Gambia in the 1860-70's when it was almost ceded to France by England. Gary also spoke about various other plans for the Germany to Brazil mail service.

You can view a PDF file of Gary's presentation on our website at www.HamiltonPhilatelic.org.

We greatly thank Gary for his fascinating and informative presentation giving new insight to this important period in aviation and philatelic history.

Upcoming Events

May 2015 . . .

- 5/3 → Garden State Stamp, Coin & Currency Show – P.A.L. Building – 33 Baldwin Rd – Parsippany, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM – 973-335-0555.
- 5/7 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (Merchantville Ave) – Pennsauken, NJ – Opens at 7 PM – merchantvillestampclub.org.
- 5/9 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – Bordentown Senior Center – 3 Municipal Drive – Bordentown, NJ – 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM – 215-287-9327 – hamiltonphilatelic.org/bordentown.
- 5/9 → PoCax 2015 – Double Tree Guest Suites – 515 Fellowship Road North (near I-295 & Turnpike Exits) – Mount Laurel, NJ – 9 AM to 3:30 PM.
- 5/17 → Wayne Stamp & Collectibles Bourse – Fire Company #1 – 93 Parrish Drive – Wayne, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM.
- 5/17 → Old Bridge Coin & Stamp Show – First Aid and Rescue Squad Building – 200 Marlboro Road – Old Bridge, NJ – 8 AM to 1 PM.
- 5/19 → HTTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Public Library – Hamilton, NJ – 7:00 PM – Philatelic Presentation.**
- 5/20 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – see 5/7 meeting for details.
- 5/24 → Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show (4th Sunday) – Williamson’s Restaurant – 500 Blair Mill Rd – Horsham, PA – 10 AM to 4 PM – 305-852-7678.
- 5/29-31 → **NOJEX 2015** – Empire Meadowlands Hotel & Suites – Two Harmon Plaza – Secaucus, NJ – Fri. / Sat. 10 to 6 PM – Sun. 10 to 3 PM – Admission \$2.00 (Sun. is Free) – www.nojex.org/.
- 5/30 → Washington Crossing Club Postcard Show & Sale – Union Fire Hall – 1396 River Road (Route 29) – Titusville, NJ – 9 to 4 PM – Donation \$3.00

June 2015 . . .

- 6/4 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (Merchantville Ave) – Pennsauken, NJ – Opens at 7 PM – merchantvillestampclub.org.

- 6/6 → MSC Stamp Bourse – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (at Merchantville Avenue) – Pennsauken, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM – merchantvillestampclub.org.

- 6/7 → Garden State Stamp, Coin & Currency Show – P.A.L. Building – 33 Baldwin Rd – Parsippany, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM – 973-335-0555.

- 6/13 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – Bordentown Senior Center – 3 Municipal Drive – Bordentown, NJ – 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM – 215-287-9327 – hamiltonphilatelic.org/bordentown.

- 6/16 → HTTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Public Library – Hamilton, NJ – 7:00 PM – Philatelic Presentation.**

- 6/17 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – see 6/4 meeting for details.

- 6/21 → Wayne Stamp & Collectibles Bourse – Fire Company #1 – 93 Parrish Drive – Wayne, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM.

- 6/21 → Old Bridge Coin & Stamp Show – First Aid and Rescue Squad Building – 200 Marlboro Road – Old Bridge, NJ – 8 AM to 1 PM.

- 6/27 → MSC Stamp Bourse – Temple Lutheran Church – see 6/6 show for details.

- 6/28 → Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show (4th Sunday) – Williamson’s Restaurant – 500 Blair Mill Rd – Horsham, PA – 10 AM to 4 PM – 305-852-7678.

July 2015 . . .

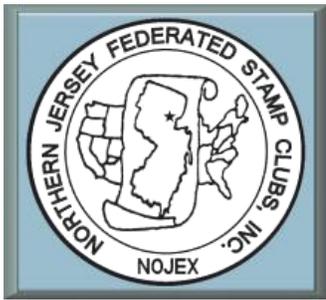
- 7/2 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (Merchantville Ave) – Pennsauken, NJ – Opens at 7 PM – merchantvillestampclub.org.

- 7/5 → Garden State Stamp, Coin & Currency Show – P.A.L. Building – 33 Baldwin Rd – Parsippany, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM – 973-335-0555.

- 7/11 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – Bordentown Senior Center – 3 Municipal Drive – Bordentown, NJ – 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM – 215-287-9327 – hamiltonphilatelic.org/bordentown.

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

NOJEX 2015



The NOJEX stamp show will be held **May 29-31** at the Empire Meadowlands Hotel in Secaucus, NJ.

The show houses approximately 40 dealers and societies offering a wide range of philatelic material for all types of collectors. It is also an APS-sponsored exhibition event with 196 frames.

Due to damage to the convention center during the winter, the show has been moved to the hotel ballroom. The parking garage partially collapsed during a snow storm, so parking will be in a lot down the road from the hotel.

See the Upcoming Events section for show hours. For further details on NOJEX visit their website at www.nojex.org.

Batsto Post Office

Starting May 3, the Batsto, NJ Post Office will be open on Sundays from 12 Noon to 3 PM. For details, see: www.batstovillage.org/post-office.htm.

Donations

Thanks to **Don Bunker, Jim Cope** and **Angelo Sanelli** for their recent donations for the “Stamps for the Wounded” program. Also thanks to Jan at the Hillsborough library for their donation.

Bordentown Bourse

After 13 years at its previous location in East Windsor, the Hightstown Stamp Bourse, run by **Ryan Terlecky**, has moved South and has been renamed the “Bordentown Stamp Bourse.” Many of the “old” dealers, along with a few new ones, set up shop on April 11th at the Bordentown Senior Community Center located at 3 Municipal Drive (off the intersection of Routes 206 and 130).

For more information, contact Ryan at 215-287-9327 or rterlecky@hotmail.com. You can also visit the website at hamiltonphilatelic.org/bordentown.

USPS Postal Rates

On March 27, the USPS announced they will delay the implementation of the 2015 postal rate increases and classification changes that were scheduled to start on April 26. A tentative date of May 15 is planned, but that is subject to change.

The objective of our 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 Milt Keiles
Treasurer / Publicity Ron Gonzalez
Secretary Bob Stolarz

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

Advertising and PR Bill Andersen
APS Representative Dennis Kennedy
ATA Representative Len DeGroot
Historian Joe Seliga
Membership Chairman Jack Sack
Newsletter Editor Tony Zingale
NOJEX Contact Andrew Boyajian
Philatelic Donations Ken Steel
Webmaster Jack Sack
50 / 50 Handlers Jim Cope, Ken Steel

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

- ⇒ May 19 – “Milton Postal History”
by Milt Keiles
- ⇒ June 16 – Society Auction
- ⇒ July 21 – Sell / Swap Meeting (informal)
- ⇒ Aug. 18 – HAMPEX’15
- ⇒ Sept. 15 – WIP
- ⇒ Oct. 20 – WIP

We are looking for speakers for the 2015-2016 season. Please contact us if interested.

Newsletter Articles . . .

We always welcome philatelic articles, ideas or suggestions. Contact Tony Zingale at P.O. Box 3443, Mercerville, NJ 08619; or call 609-586-7663; or email us at hinge@HamiltonPhilatelic.org.