



# The Hamilton Hinge



APS Chapter #C-104282 – ATA Chapter #127

Hamilton Township Philatelic Society (HTPS)

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Volume 16, No. 3

Founded 1975

Spring 2024

**Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Hamilton Township Public Library,  
1 Justice Samuel A Alito Jr Way, (off of Whitehorse Mercerville Road), Hamilton, NJ 08619**

## Spring Meetings



Charles Epting from Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries will be our speaker on March 19th. He has served as secretary of the American Philatelic Research Library, chairman of the American Philatelic Society's

Committee on the Philatelic Marketplace, and director of the United Postal Stationery Society. Many of you have read articles by Charles in the APS magazine, American Philatelist. He will present some "Postal History Snapshots", based on the column he writes for the AP.

On April 16th, Scott English, the Executive Director of the APS since 2015 will be here in person to discuss the about the current state of affairs at the society. We might also hear about his collecting interests, which include Cuba and South Carolina postal history.



As of this writing, our May 21th presentation is still being finalized. Details will be announced soon and will be available on our website.

The 2023-24 schedule ends with the June 18th auction. This is the perfect time to sell some of your unwanted items. See Page 3 for more information.

## President's Message



As you know, our club's mission is to promote the hobby of stamp collecting, to share our knowledge and passion, and to foster friendship and camaraderie among our members. We have a lot of exciting speakers coming up in the coming month, including the executive director of the APS, Scott English.

I would like to address the problem that all stamp clubs are facing, declining membership. Prior to the pandemic we consistently had about 50 members. This year we have 25 dues paying members. We have tried numerous methods to attract members over the years, with very little success. One thing that has worked for me is if you know someone who collects stamps, ask them if they would like to come to a meeting with you. I was able to bring three members into the club just by asking. If you know some friends, family members or acquaintances ask them if they would like to come to a meeting.

In June we will have our first auction in over a year. Start rounding up your duplicate stamps that you no longer need. I have some supplies and stamps that will be in the auction.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the March 19th meeting . . . Dennis.

## Our Winter Meetings

The highlight of our holiday party on December 19<sup>th</sup> was, besides an array of edible delights, a “Show & Tell” by Don Getzin on private perforations of early US Stamps. Don shared with the group an album he created with a number of examples.



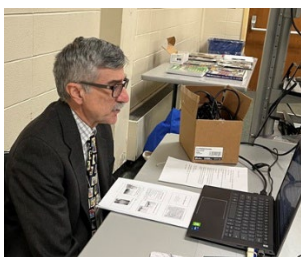
On January 16<sup>th</sup>, Rod Juell gave a presentation on example of uses of the stamps of the Fourth Bureau Issue era (1922-1930). Rod shared unusual uses of stamps from this period. For example, a seemingly



ordinary cover of the electric light issue of 1929 is actually a First Day Cover,

cancelled on June 5<sup>th</sup> of that year.

Long time HTPS member Ron Gonzalez was the speaker for our February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, where he showed us examples from the Puerto Rico Military Stations of 1898-99. As a result of the Spanish-American war, the U.S. obtained control of the island, and established bases in San Juan and several other cities. Ron showed examples of mail originating from these bases before the island returned to civilian rule.



If you would like to be added to the Zoom invitation to our meetings, or have a suggestion for a future HTPS program, please email us at [info@HamiltonPhilatelic.org](mailto:info@HamiltonPhilatelic.org)

## Stamp Collecting 101 – “Canadian Small Queens” (39<sup>th</sup> in our series of helpful hints and tricks)



Between 1870 and 1889, Canada issued a set of seven stamps featuring the bust of Queen Victoria. Because of their small size, they are referred to as the “Small Queens”.

There are three printings of these stamps, first in Ottawa (1870-73), then in Montreal (1873-88), and finally back in Ottawa (1889-97). Identifying the different printings – by color shades, paper quality, or gum color - can be very difficult. Fortunately, the three printings differ in the perforations used. Using a very accurate gauge, such as the Stanley Gibbons Instanta gauge, one can distinguish the first Ottawa (11.7x11.9), the Montreal printing (11.5x12), and the second Ottawa printing (12x12).



## Stamp Paper Types



Of the many factors in identifying stamp issues, paper type is one of the easiest to understand. The Scott catalog contains specific information on paper types

and identifies some common paper types, such as wove, laid, granite and pelure. However, numerous other paper types have been used in the printing of stamps. The Scott catalog lists over 25 different types, including “Goldbeater's



skin” (Prussia #22) and Palimpsest (Mexico #195). Don't forget about the US “Spooky Silhouettes” stamps from 2019 which were printed using “rainbow foil” which causes the stamps to have an eerie reflection under light! How many types of paper can you name?



## Burlington Stamp Show Schedule

The Burlington Stamp Show is held on the third Saturday of the month (with some exceptions) at the Burlington Masonic Lodge, conveniently located just off I-295 Exit 47A. There is free admission and free parking. There are usually 12 dealers at the show, which runs from 8:30am to 2:30pm. Please contact Ryan Terlecky (215-287-9326 or [rterlecky@hotmail.com](mailto:rterlecky@hotmail.com)) for more information or to be put on the email list. The 2024 Dates are:

March 16<sup>th</sup> (hours 8:15am-1:45pm)

April 20<sup>th</sup>

May 18<sup>th</sup>

June 15<sup>th</sup>

July 20<sup>th</sup>

August 10<sup>th</sup> (Second Saturday)

September 21<sup>st</sup>

October 19<sup>th</sup>

November 23<sup>rd</sup> (Fourth Saturday)

December 21<sup>st</sup>

### **NOJEX 2024 Dates & Venue Announced!**

The NOJEX organization has announced the 2024 Stamp, Coin & Ephemera Show will be held September 27-29 at the Hilton hotel in Hasbrouck Heights. The venue is conveniently located off of I-80, about one hour from Hamilton via the NJ Turnpike.

## Virtual Stamp Webinars

If you are looking to increase your knowledge of stamps and stamp collecting, check out a number of webinars:

[APS Stamp Chats \(stamps.org\)](https://stamps.org)

The next chat will be on March 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, featuring Harold Krische on Prisoner of War mail.

[Collector's Club \(www.collectorsclub.org\)](http://www.collectorsclub.org)

The next lecture will be on March 13th at 5:30pm, featuring Eric Scherer who will speak on International Reply Cards.

[British Empire Study Group \(bestudygroup.org\)](http://bestudygroup.org)

The next lecture will be on March 7th at 6:00pm, featuring Robin Harris, editor of the Canadian Unitrade Stamp Catalogue.

## Society Auction

With Spring in the air, now is a good time to do a little "Spring Cleaning" with your stamp collection. Are there albums you are no longer collecting or supplies you are no longer using? Our annual auction is scheduled for June 18<sup>th</sup>. Why not put together some unwanted items and bring them to the auction.

In particular, reference publications like specialized or color catalogs, postcards, postal history, and ephemera sell well. Be realistic about minimum bids. Common items usually sell for 10-20% of CV.

The auction list sheet and lot description forms are available on our website. A clear description of your items will help the auctioneer.

Bidding starts with the seller's minimum bid as shown on the Lot Description form. All items are SOLD AS IS – so carefully check the auction lots for content and quality before the auction starts.

If you wish to donate the sales proceeds to the HTPS, please indicate that on the Auction List Sheet.

Sellers are paid the price realized MINUS a 10% commission for HTPS. See our website for detailed info and forms.

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