

Hamilton Township Philatelic Society (HTPS) - Oct 15, 2019

The October meeting of 2019 took place on Tuesday, Oct 15, 2019 at the Hamilton Township Library. All HTPS officers were present. There were twenty-two (22) members present. It began at 7:15 pm.

The meeting began with a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Dennis Kennedy. Treasurer Ken Steel reported that the club has a balance of \$4,760 and that the last interest payment was \$0.20; he also said that he sent 23 pounds and 4 ounces to Stamps for Wounded. President Kennedy said that he spoke to John Hotchner who told him that much of the stamp donations went to the creation of collages in both Veterans Administration Hospitals and Clinics.

President Dennis Kennedy said that the tour of the Amazon facility in Robbinsville, NJ was very interesting; Amazon gave every tourist a water bottle. Anyone who would like to go on one should go on the internet and look under Amazon Robbinsville Tour. Matt Visco is still attempting to arrange a tour of the United States Post Office facility on Route 130; it is difficult to reach the Post Master.

The next NOJEX show will be at the Hilton at the Secaucus exit (15W) on November 15-17, 2019. Jeff Boyarsky will give a talk at the Westfield stamp club on October 31, 2019. The dates for various auctions were given. Ed Murtha said that he may go to the Dutch Country Auction in Wilmington, DE before their next auction in November; he said that he would have room for some others to go with him. It was said that there will be an American Civil War symposium on Oct. 24-26 at the APS facility in Bellefonte, PA. MERPEX will be an Exhibit in the Pennsauken Library.

Jeff Boyarsky said that he and Mark Spinner visited the father of an acquaintance of Jeff to look at his stamp collection. Jeff said that Mark did a mitzvah.

A motion to adjourn was made by Edward Murtha, seconded by Andrew Boyajian and passed unanimously. The meeting ended at 7:33 pm.

The HTPS guest speaker this month was Mac Sarreal, former president of the Merchantville Stamp Club. His presentation started at 7:49 pm and ended at 8:10 pm. His presentation was by power point starting with a list of his collecting interests, which are: the Philippines, all aspects, including the Japanese Occupations; Rohm and Hass Company (which brought him to the United States); General Douglas MacArthur; First Flight Covers of FAM14; USA mint singles and First Day Covers; Pan American Airlines; US Modern Uncut sheets; Contemporary Great Classics; and Contemporary Great Philatelist's Envelopes which either were sent to or were sent from and were signed by the Contemporary Great Philatelist. His presentation was in two parts: Stamp Collecting Strategy and the Outreach Program. *What I Want to Do* was his opening slide, *Little Cost times Lots of Effort equals Great Fun* was the next.

Most of us don't collect stamps because of their investment capability. We collect for many other reasons. He said that he found many of his latest project covers in the \$1 bins of dealers. He looked for covers which were from Modern Philatelists who made a name within the hobby. These envelopes were either sent to or were sent from them. Mac then sent them to those people and asked them to sign the cover and return it to him. Some of the covers he showed at the meeting were from Cardinal Spellman, Janet Klug, John Hotchner, Cheryl Ganz, Patricia Kaufman, and Robert E. Lamb. He now has enough covers to fill an exhibit frame. His first exhibit will be at a Virginia show. He said that one of Robert Lamb collecting interests is planning to visit and collect stamped post cards from the 282 stamp issuing countries; he has 142 to date.

The second section was a ten minute video of the outreach program operated by the Merchantville stamp club. They gave programs on the **Joys and Fun of Stamp Collecting** at Roman Catholic schools. Part of the program was to have students create stamp designs; they were graded and the winners received Gold medals (\$8 each), which were engraved with their name. The video showed some of the very creative stamp designs. He said that the Merchantville stamp club has entered into partnership with the Friends of the Pennsauken named **Knowledge for Books and Stamps**. He also mentioned that on October 26, 2019 at the MERPEX exhibit at the Library there will be free hoagies and pizza.

Respectively submitted,
Joseph Francis Seliga, secretary