



Hamilton Township Philatelic Society

APS Chapter #1095-104282



June 2007 Newsletter

email: hamilton@att.net

Meetings are held on the third 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), Hamilton, NJ 08619

June 19th Meeting

On June 19, 2007 we will have a club auction. If you have some extra philatelic material you think others might be interested in, why not put it up for auction? See the article on Page 2 for more information on preparing your material for auction. We should also have time for "Show & Tell" if you have an interesting philatelic item or story to tell.

The meeting will start at 7:30 PM. Please come earlier if you wish to view the APS Circuit Books or if you have stamps or philatelic material to offer for sale or trade.

HTPS Web Page

Hamilton Township Philatelic Society
Mercer County, NJ • APS #1095-104282

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Welcome to the HTPS Web Site . . .

The Hamilton Township Philatelic Society (HTPS) includes enthusiasts from the local and surrounding areas, including East Windsor, Lawrenceville, Trenton, Princeton, Bordentown and Mercerville.

HTPS Focus & Highlights:

- ... Monthly Meetings
- ... Member Show'n Tell
- ... Library Exhibits
- ... Philatelic Programs ([see current list](#))
- ... Semi-Annual Auctions

We meet on the third Tuesday of each month at the Public Library right behind the Hamilton Township Municipal buildings. Always welcome to attend!

The HTPS web site is now available!. Please take a look at <http://hamilton.home.att.net>. We will try to have the website available for members to look at during the June meeting, but the internet connection in the basement of the library is not always reliable.

In this Issue ...

June Auction
Summer Activities
... and much more

President's Message

The May HTPS meeting was very well attended although there were a few notable absentees. With the large conference area all to ourselves, we had our normal meeting and then moved over to the other side and watched the web site presentation and then the slide show. The presentation on "Number Ones of the World" was well received. We plan to have other APS presentations in the future.



I also hope you were able to attend the NOJEX show in Secaucus last month. The show was well attended and I saw a number of fellow HTPS members wandering among the exhibits and dealer booths.

A club auction is planned for the June meeting. Our auctions have always been a lot of fun. You never know what might be put up for auction, and you might come away with a prize item for your collection. I look forward to seeing you at the June 19th meeting....Ed

Society Auction

Its auction time again! Attached is a description of the Auction process and a **submission sheet** to enter your lots. We have a limit of five lots per member although exceptions are possible.

If you wish to donate the sales proceeds to the Society for one or more lots, please indicate that on the Auction form.

Some **considerations** for creating lots:

- Put up items that fellow members collect.
- Set realistic minimum bids.

- Most items rarely get above 20-25% of CV.
- Choice / special material can sell for more.
- Old catalogs, including foreign, are popular.
- Specialized reference material is also good.

Please **place a description on the lot item** as well as on the bid sheet. **The more detail the better!** This lets bidders know exactly what is for sale and helps the Auctioneer sell the item.

Here is an example of a completed Auction sheet with some representative lots.

Auction List – Seller's Name: TONY ZINGALE Date: 6-20-06

Item No.	Item Name or Scott Number	Item Description and/or Condition (e.g., Blue Columbian, MNH, F-VF, Gum Crease)	Minimum Bid	Sales Price	Winning Bid Number
1.	U.S. # 330	Jamestown HV - MH - CV \$150-	25 -		
2.	U.S. # 3555	13"x11" Mounted & Framed Color FDC			
X	(olympics)	sold by USPS for \$39.95 (see back)	3 25		
3.	X Conf. States	Springfield Facsimiles (12) - 'Real' CV \$6000-	3 50		
4.	X Colorado FDC	Collection - 20 diff - RV \$40-	4 -		
5.	X GB #1	Used 4 m - Pos MD - Red MC - CV \$280-	42 -		
6.	X ROMAN St. #17	Counterfeit - MH - APEX cert. - 'Real' CV \$190-	4 -		
7.	X U.S. Box	Mixture - Stamps - Covers	5 -		
8.	X Wld. Box	Mixture - Stamps - Covers	5 -		
X					

Total Sales _____

Club Commission (-10%) _____

Net to Seller _____

Member **collecting interests** include:

- US – Mint /Used / Plate Blocks / Panels
- GB & B/Commonwealth (including India)
- Czechoslovakia
- Danzig
- Denmark
- Germany
- Ireland
- Israel
- Netherlands
- Poland
- Scandinavia & Iceland
- Sudan

Topical interests are Animals, Boy Scouts, Fire-related Issues, Counterfeits, Forgeries, Fakes, Lighthouses, Ships and Technology Issues.

Remember: All lots are sold **AS IS**. Please review the lots carefully before bidding. We will have catalogs and supplies (perf gauge, watermarking fluid, etc.) available at the meeting. Note that the Society deducts a **seller's fee of 10%** from each lot's final sale price. This fee will go directly into the Society treasury.

Bidding on Stamp Auctions

This month, we will be holding a stamp auction. I thought it would be a good opportunity to give some advice on how to bid at a stamp auction. Our auction is a friendly local auction, but it might get you interested to bidding in a larger auction. There are three important rules about bidding at auctions.

Buyer Beware

At most reputable auction firms, the stamps have been fairly graded and the price estimates given are realistic values of the stamp is expected to be worth. On the internet, however, the price estimate is provided by the seller, and may or may not be a reasonable estimate. You should always be aware of the return policy if the lot is not as described.

Know the Rules

Before you bid, be aware of some of the particulars of stamp auctions and how they affect the bidding. At most public and mail auctions, the final selling price is set at a slight premium over the second highest bid, so you may win the stamp for less than what you bid. However, in some mail auctions, the selling price is the highest bid, regardless of any other bids.

On an internet auction site, such as eBay, some items have a "Buy It Now" price. You can either purchase the stamp immediately at the "Buy It Now" price or take your chances and bid lower. At the end of the auction, if you are the high bidder, you will get the stamp at a lower price.

You should also beware of any added costs, such as a buyer's premium, postage and handling charges, or other transaction fees.

Be a Discipline Bidder

Finally, the most disciplined approach to bidding is to decide how much you are willing to spend for a particular lot, keeping in mind any added bidder premiums and S&H costs, and placing a bid for that amount. This prevents you from paying too much for an item.

Of course, there have been many times I kick myself for not bidding more when I see something being sold for a dollar or two more than my bid. At the same time, however, I have never gotten caught up in a bidding war with someone and ended up paying too much for a lot.

In a future article, we will consider the advantages and disadvantages of selling your stamps at auction.

Plans for Future HTPS Meetings

In July and August there will be an informal gathering of members rather than the normal meeting format. The monthly newsletter will not be emailed or mailed and the APS Circuit books will not be available. These will resume in September.

On July 17th, a swap meet is planned. Please bring whatever philatelic items that you think may be of interest to your fellow members and hopefully they will have something that will interest you.

On August 21st, please bring a small display (a page is fine) of whatever you like and enjoy collecting. For example, Ed M. will display Sudan punctured stamps (perfins) and Jack S. will show the common design issues for the British Commonwealth during the reign of George VI. There is a prize for the best exhibit.

Our normal club activities will resume in September when we will have a "What I Did Philatelically Over the Summer" show and tell.



Suggestion for a summer vacation: the outdoor stamp market near the Champs d'Elysee in Paris.

HTPS News and Events

New Members: We welcome Dick C. who collects US mint/used. Jeff B. collects US (preferably mint). We hope our visitors at the last meeting will consider joining the club.

Newsletter via e-mail: Our Newsletter is now available via email. If you would like to receive it that way, please let us know and provide us with your email address. We will also include the newsletters on the HTPS website.

Save Your Extra Stamps: Remember to please save your extra stamps for Sherm Britton to send to the "Stamps for Wounded Vets" and to a number of other worthy programs

Financials: Treasurer Joe Pavelchak reported the club's balance was \$928.14 as of our last meeting. The Treasurer's report will also be on the website.

Election of Officers: The current officers were re-elected for another term. In a future article, we will consider the advantages and disadvantages of selling your stamps at auction.

The Newsletter Editor is interested in any items of interest, articles, suggestions or ideas you might have. Please write, call or email me – Jack Sack, 50 Merion Place, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648 – hamilton@att.net – 609-896-8193

Some Upcoming Stamp Events...

June 2nd – West Jersey Stamp Show, Masonic Center, Cherry Hill

June 3rd – Garden State Stamp Show – PAL Building, Parsippany

June 4th – Coryell's Ferry Stamp Club, 8 PM at Lambertville Baptist Church, 57 Bridge St. Lambertville

June 7th – Merchantville Stamp Club – Temple Lutheran Church, Pennsauken, NJ. (also June 20th)

June 9th-10th – Garden State spring Stamp Show, La Quinta Inn, Fairfield

June 9th – Hightstown Stamp Bourse – American Legion Hall, Rt. 130, Hightstown

June 10th – Second Sunday Stamp Bourse – Holiday Inn, Route 70, Cherry Hill, NJ.

June 17th - Hasbrouck Heights Stamp & Coin Show – Holiday Inn, Hasbrouck Heights

June 18th – Coryell's Ferry Stamp Club 8 PM at the Washington Crossing Methodist Church, Washington Crossing, PA

June 19th – Hamilton Township Philatelic Society Meeting – 7:30pm Hamilton Library

June 24th – Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show – Holiday Inn, Ft. Washington, PA

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.

Officers of the Society

President Ed Murtha
Vice President Tony Zingale
Treasurer Joseph Pavelchak

Secretary Klaus Wagner
APS Representative Sherm Britton
Newsletter Editor Jack Sack