



The *H*amilton Hinge



APS Chapter #1095-104282

Newsletter of the Hamilton Township Philatelic Society

P.O. Box 3443, Hamilton, NJ 08619-0443

email: hamilton@att.net website: hamilton.home.att.net



Vol. 1, No. 1

September 2007

In this Issue ...

September Program
Summer Activities
Stamp Identification
... and much more

This Month's Program

Welcome back for the first program of the year at the HTPS. For our September meeting, we will have a "What I Did Philatelically Last Summer" show and tell.

Perhaps you went to an out-of-town, state, or country stamp shop or show while on vacation and found an unusual philatelic related item. Maybe you opened up an old forgotten box of stamps and found a lost gem. It could be that you have a stamp related experience to tell. Whatever the case, please bring it with you to the meeting and share it with the group. The winning exhibit from August's HAMPEX '07 will be on display.

So, put away your surf board and come to the library on the 18th! The meeting will begin at 7:30 PM. Come earlier if you would like to look at the APS books or have some items you want to sell. If you haven't come to a meeting in a while, we've missed you. You are sure to have an entertaining and interesting evening.

Our 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) in Hamilton. NJ 08619.

President's Message

I hope everyone had a great summer, and are ready for another year with the HTPS.

We are working on a schedule of events and speakers for the coming year. Along with our auctions and outside speakers, we would like to encourage our members to give short presentations. If you would like to give a talk to the group sometime this year – even if it is only for a few minutes, please let me know. I am sure the group would love to learn more about your collecting interests.

I was delighted to learn that the HTPS Newsletter received a Vermeil award in the APS Newsletter Competition. We thank Jack Sack and all the people who help contribute to the newsletter for their efforts. I'm sure this year's newsletters will be even better!

This month, we will have our annual "What I Did Last Summer" show and tell. Please bring an item or story about your latest stamping experiences. I look forward to seeing you on the 18th.... Ed

New Look for the "Hamilton Hinge"

You have probably already noticed some differences in this issue of our newsletter. We've decided to enliven things up a bit with a new name and masthead.

We are working on some new features and more stamp related contests in future issues. We hope you will enjoy the new look of the "Hamilton Hinge" newsletter.

Catching Up ...

The official HTPS year ended with an exciting auction at our June meeting. Over 70 lots were sold off, ranging from a huge box of pre-940 US stamps to donated clocks (our thanks to Bob Stolarz). More than \$80 was raised for the club treasury.

In July we held a "Swapfest" meeting. A good number of people brought in their extra stock of stamps and other items to sell. We even saw some wooden nickels for sale! The best part of the evening was the conversation among the members in a relaxed atmosphere.

In August, we held our own HAMPEX '07. Several people brought in exhibits of their collecting interests. As with most shows, we also had a dealer's bourse. Several of our member/dealers brought in some of their stock to sell.

Everyone had a good time and a welcome break from the heat. For those who missed it, the winning exhibit will be displayed again at our September meeting.



Portion of winning exhibit from HAMPEX '07

Since the informal summer meetings were such a success, we plan to have them again next year.

Stamp Donations

Thanks to Robert Selles and Ron Dobrowolski for their donations to the "Stamps for the Wounded" program.

Congratulations to Karen and Glenn



We are pleased to report the marriage of HTPS member and past president Glenn Buzzi to Karen Marie Kowalewski on August 4th. We offer best wishes to the newlyweds. We have been assured by Karen that Glenn will be allowed out of the house to attend the club meetings each month.

Preliminary Program

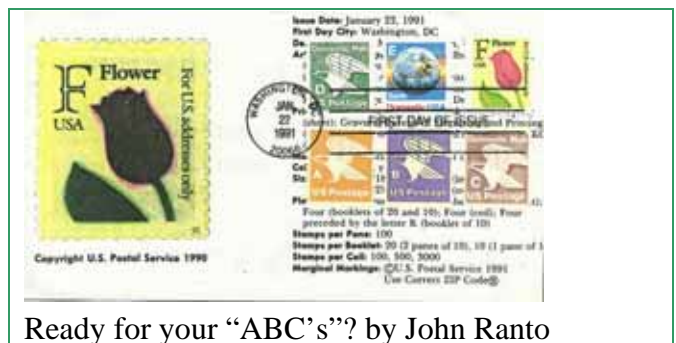
While our program for the year is being arranged, here is the proposed schedule for the remainder of 2007:

- ... Sept. 18 – What I Did Last Summer
- ... Oct. 16 – Anderson Cachet Presentation
- ... Nov. 20 – Slide Presentation (tbd)
- ... Dec. 18 – Holiday Party

Library Display

Check out the HTPS exhibit at the Hamilton Library (upstairs from our meeting room). It includes topicals, FDC's, WW-II era stamps, event covers and a sampling of member exhibits.

Thanks to those who lent material for the display: Andrew Boyajian, Sherman Britton, Don Bunker, Jim Cope, Doug Filmore, Gary Machunze, John Ranto, Jack Sack and Tony Z.



Ready for your "ABC's"?' by John Ranto

My Summer Vacation

During a recent trip to London, I spent an enjoyable afternoon sightseeing. No, I did not go to Buckingham Palace or the British Museum, but to the marvelous stamp shops along the Strand in central London.

While I did not buy much since the current exchange rate made the prices very high, I had a great time just looking at Indian States stamps, many of which were in better condition than I had ever seen before.

I counted five large stamp dealers within a three block radius, centered on the Stanley Gibbons shop. How many stamp shops are left in New York City or Philadelphia?



Unidentified HTPS Member loitering near 399 Strand in London's West End

Philadelphia National Stamp Expo

Be sure to mark your calendar for the Philadelphia National Stamp Exposition to be held at the Valley Forge Convention Center in King of Prussia, PA the weekend of September 7-9. There will be over 3500 exhibition pages on display, 50 dealers, and numerous postal stations.

The Philly Expo is one of the closest national shows to our area, less than an hour away, just off the PA turnpike Exit #326. It is always a lot of fun and you can usually find a number of dealers that do not normally travel to this area.

Jordan Marsh Stamp Department

I recently read a story about the final closing of the Jordan Marsh department store in downtown Boston. One of my earliest recollections is going to downtown Boston with my mother to Jordan Marsh. While my mother went shopping, she would drop me off at the Stamp Department.

I would spend the next hour staring at the displays of stamps and supplies making lists of which stamps I needed and how much they cost. When she returned – which always seemed way too quickly – I would be ready. Whatever amount of money she gave me - \$2, \$3 or sometimes even \$5, I knew exactly what to buy.

The stamp department at Jordan Marsh, like the ones at Gimbels in New York and Marshall Fields in Chicago closed long ago. It is too bad younger collectors are missing out on that experience. Perhaps some of our members have recollections of department store stamp counters.

Stamp Identification

Here are this month's truly unidentified stamps. If you have any ideas of what and where these are from, please let us know.



Stamp Collecting 101: Stamp Terms

I recently started a collection of Serbian stamps. My first job was to study the Scott catalog to identify the differences in stamps with similar designs. I was struck by the number of unusual terms used in the catalog to describe Serbian stamps: Granite Paper, Burelage, Pelure Paper and cliché overprint. Can you guess what they mean? Answers next month.

Club Notices ...

Stamps for the Wounded: Please save your extra stamps for the Stamps for Wounded Vets program. See Sherm Britton.

Spray-on Cancels: Please remember to save those city spray-on cancellations in your everyday mail. A number of our members are attempting to collect the nearly 300 different city spray-on cancellations.

Stock Pages and Binders: We are looking for contributions of binders and stock pages (preferably the black poly type). Recycled items are fine. The purpose is to supply new collectors with a "storage kit" before they decide on an album.

Library Notices: We have a stack of notices advertising our club to be posted on library and community center bulletin boards across Mercer County. Please take a few of these and pin them up whenever you are at the library.

Date-Type Cancels: Tony Z. is working on a collection of 20th Century date cancels. He has 96 so far and only needs 1912, 1913, 1918 and 1998 to complete the collection. Keep a lookout for those years.



HTPS Web Site: Please visit our website at hamilton.home.att.net. It still needs some work. If you would like to help out with this endeavor, or have some favorite websites you'd like to tell us about, please contact Tony.

The Newsletter Editor is interested in any news, 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.

Upcoming Stamp Events

8/31-9/2 – MERPEX XXXI – Masonic Hall –
Cherry Hill, NJ

9/7-9 – Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition
– King of Prussia, PA

9/8 – Hightstown Stamp Bourse – American
Legion Hall – Hightstown, NJ

9/9 – Sunday Stamp Bourse – Holiday Inn –
Cherry Hill, NJ

9/16 – Hasbrouck Heights Show – Holiday Inn –
Hasbrouck Heights, NJ

9/18 – HTPS Meeting – Library – Hamilton, NJ

9/28 – Friday Stamp Show - Radisson Hotel –
Philadelphia, PA

9/28-30 – MetroExpo New York – Holiday Inn –
New York City

9/29-30 – Clifton Stamp Club Show – Clifton
Recreation Center – Clifton, NJ

And coming in October...

10/6 – West Jersey Stamp Show – Masonic Hall
– Cherry Hill, NJ

10/7 – Parsippany Show – PAL Building –
Parsippany, NJ

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