



The Hamilton Hinge

APS Chapter #1095-104282



Newsletter of the Hamilton Township Philatelic Society

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This Month's Program



This month, we are pleased to have one of our HTPS members, Andrew Boyajian, give a presentation on Anderson Cachets.

The Anderson Cachets have the special feature of narrative text, as well as a picture or drawing, giving more detail about the subject matter. We look forward to an interesting and informative presentation from Andrew.



The formal meeting starts at 7:30 PM in the basement community room of the Hamilton Library. Come early if you would like to pick up some free publications, check out the APS circuit books or to chat with your fellow philatelists.

HTPS 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.

In this Issue ...

October 16th Program

Theatre Review

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... and much more

President's Message

It was great to see so many of you at last month's meeting, and to hear about all of your adventures over the summer. I hope everyone had as good a time at the meeting as I did.

This month, we are delighted to have fellow HTPS member Andrew Boyajian speak to us on Anderson cachets. We should also have some time for more show and tell and perhaps a discussion about the Philatelic Ethics article that appears on page 3 of this issue.

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

- ... Oct. 16 – Anderson Cachet Presentation
- ... Nov. 20 – Fakes and Forgeries Presentation
- ... Dec. 18 – Holiday Party

The best presentations are from our members. I am continually amazed at our various philatelic interests and how much information each of us has acquired. Many of the things that you take for granted about your philatelic expertise are revelations to a good number of us. So, if you have not spoken to the group in a while, I hope that you will consider giving a presentation. We would love to hear and learn more from you.

I look forward to seeing you all at the library on Tuesday the 16th Ed.

September Meeting

The first HTPS meeting of the year attracted a large turnout of both old and new members. The theme for the evening was a “show and tell” of what members did philatelically last summer.

Bob Stolarz showed off the expertized United States #1 stamp and framed poster he received at his retirement after 46 years at FMC.



Bob with Retirement Poster

Jim Cope took a tour of lighthouses in Canada and the Pacific Northwest on his way to the APS Stamp Show 2007 in Portland.

Eileen Dobrowolski bought in a Trenton cover from a seed company on South Broad Street.

Jack Sack showed off a custom-made Palo album for Montenegro and Serbia.

Sherman Britton made a pitch for Stamps for the Wounded and asked us to be on the lookout for other organizations in need of excess stamps.

Jockey Hollow Bourse

A collector / non-dealer Bourse is set for November 11 at the Parsippany PAL (off Rts. 287 / 46). Tables are \$25. Contact Hugh Merritt at 973-263-9012 or hughtowaco@optonline.net.

Web Watch – Local Posts

Local Post issues are an interesting and varied segment of philately. Local Posts often operate where government service is not readily available such as small towns or remote areas.



The first Local Post was the Penny Post which operated in London during the 17th century. Above is the Boyd's City Express local stamp used in New York City from 1844-67.

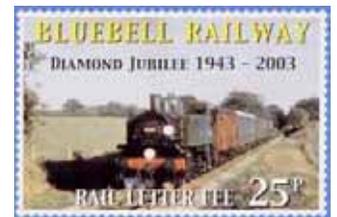
An excellent, though somewhat disjointed, site for Local Post information is:

<http://www.stampshows.com/local-post.html>

This site divides the Posts into five types:

- Public with local delivery
- Public for national or international delivery
- Private Posts
- Railway (Railroad) Posts
- Airmail Posts

Post listings are included for active and inactive sites. Some images are provided and there is a link to local post publications.



There is also a section on Cinderellas, Bogus and Fantasy issues.

The Local Post Collectors Society provides a bi-monthly bulletin and links to local posts. It will also help you print up your own local stamps. Check it out at <http://www.lpopcollectors.com/>.

The Carriers & Locals Society publishes a quarterly journal and concentrates on U.S. locals. <http://www.pennypost.org/>.

General information on Local Posts is also available at [Linn's](#) and [Wikipedia](#).

Stamp Ethics

A major stamp journal runs a column on “Philatelic Ethics” where it gives a hypothetical situation, and solicits comments from readers on what the response of an ethical stamp collector should be. Most of the time, the answer is clear. For example, suppose you place an order from a dealer and you are sent the wrong stamp – a much more valuable one – in return. Even though it was the fault of the dealer, most people would agree that you should return the stamp.

But what if you order a stamp mixture, perhaps even one that is advertised by the dealer as an “uncatalogued”, “unreviewed”, or “mystery” lot and find a very valuable stamp. Are you under any obligation to tell the dealer of your find?

Some readers argued that since the lot was advertised as unreviewed, the dealer was taking the risk that there was such a stamp in the mix and you have no obligation to tell.

Others think the honest thing to do was telling the dealer and perhaps split the profit from the sale of the stamp.

One reader turned the situation around and suggested that you write to the dealer and say that you wish to return the mixture because of its low value. If the dealer refuses – saying there was no guarantee of value – then you have no obligation to tell him of your find.

I was recently faced with a similar, though much less dramatic, situation. At a recent show, the organizers had set up a table with a huge mound of world-wide stamps priced at a nickel each. I assume the stamps were donated to help the organizing club by its members.

The pile contained mostly minimum catalog stamps, but there were a few items I saw with slightly higher value. While searching through the mixture, I found a number of King



George VI commonwealth stamps with nice CDS cancellations which I picked up for my collection.

It was only after I got home and went through my purchase that I found that one of the stamps, the 30c KGVI definitive from K.U.T. was the relatively rare perf 14 variety and had a catalog value of \$10 rather than 25 cents. Was I under any obligation to tell the show organizers?

What would you do?

Library Display

Hoped you checked out the HTPS exhibits at the Hamilton Library. It included Topicals, Holiday Postcards, WW-II era stamps, NJ Event Covers and a sampling of member exhibits.



Library Display Case

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



New Jersey Event Covers

Theatre Review – Mauritius

A new play, *Mauritius*, has opened on Broadway with a strong stamp collecting theme. The plot involves two sisters who inherit a possibly valuable stamp collection and their dealings with a trio of stamp dealer / collectors. The collection includes the rare Mauritius “Post Office” 1d and 2d stamps, the “Crown Jewels” of Philately. The three collectors attempt to make a private purchase of the two stamps. But which of the sisters actually owns the stamps, and are the stamps genuine?



As a stamp collector, I thoroughly enjoyed all of the stamp references in the play. Since the playwright, Theresa Rebeck, is not a stamp collector, I expected some inaccuracies when it came to the philatelic references. Some of them were minor – the stamps are referred to as “uncancelled” rather than “mint” or that the gum is “pristine” rather than “never hinged”. Also, the collectors pass judgment on the authenticity of the stamps after only a passing glance without even an aid of a magnifying glass and offer to purchase them without being expertised.

However, the most glaring error in the play occurs when the stamp dealer initially refuses to look at the collection, expecting it to be a waste of his time. A bystander collector in the shop offers to take a look and starts to comment –

“There is a nice set of Zepps, and, oh, an inverted Jenny.”



Hearing this, any dealer would realize this is no ordinary collection and would want to take a

look, but this one doesn't seem to care. The play also has a fair amount of foul language and violence, and the stamp collectors act in a less

than scrupulous fashion. The conduct of the trio was not a credit to stamp collecting.

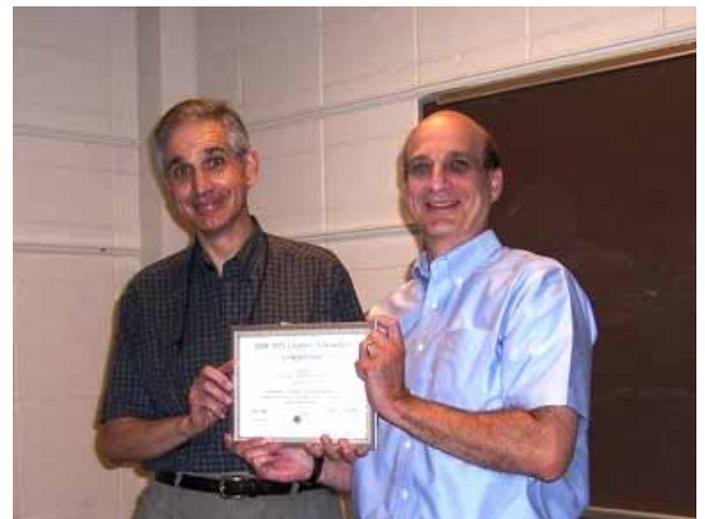
A key philatelic event occurs when the collector gives a soliloquy on why he loves stamp collecting – “An error might make a stamp valuable, but I love them for their pure beauty.” He recounts the first time he saw a four dollar Columbian, with Isabella and Columbus in pink staring at each other. He had to touch it. It was the most beautiful thing he had ever seen!



Despite the inaccuracies, I found the play to be extremely enjoyable and the philatelic theme gave the play a special ambiance. The cast includes Katie Finneran and Alison Pill as the two sisters with F. Murray Abraham (of *Amadeus* fame), Dylan Baker, and Bobby Cannavale as the three dealer / collectors. The play runs through November at the Biltmore Theatre in New York.

HTPS Newsletter Wins Award

As mentioned last month, the Hamilton Hinge (formally the HTPS Newsletter), received a Vermeil award in the annual APS newsletter competition. The award was presented to our editor at the September meeting.



V.P. Tony Zingale presents award to editor Jack Sack

Stamp Identification

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



Stamp Collecting Terms

Last month, we mentioned the unusual terms used in the catalog to describe Serbian stamps. Here are the answers:

- Granite Paper: Paper with embedded bits of colored cloth or fine paper fibers.
- Burelage: A design of fine, intricate lines printed on the paper's face to discourage counterfeiting or reuse of a stamp.
- Pellure Paper: Very thin translucent paper.
- Cliché: The printing unit for a single stamp design.

Poster Boards

We are always looking for new material to display at our meetings or on the poster boards. Why not loan or donate something dealing with philately? Stock sheet size (8 ½ x 11) is best, but we accept anything including scans.

Thanks to Andrew Boyajian for donating event and topical cover scans. They will be on display during the coming months.

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.

New Member . . .

We welcome Eileen Dobrowolski to the HTPS. Eileen collects old postcards, holiday covers, and Trenton related items.

APS Sales Books

You have probably looked though the APS Sales books at the club meetings, but have you considered preparing a book to sell? The club has ordered some blank sales books for members to make up with their duplicates.

Classified Ads

All members in good standing can run a free 50-word classified advertisement each month in this Newsletter. Here is an example.

WANTED – One postally used stamp from Abkhazia. La Agüera, Argentina (Cordova Province), Australia (British Occ. Forces), Biafra, Corfu (Italian Occupation of 1923). East Timor, Karella Kionga Peru (Provincial Issues), Southern Cameroons, Turkmenistan, and Upper Yafa. See Jack Sack for a complete want list.

Please send your classified ad to our editor.

Jim Cope – 50 Years in the APS

Our own Jim Cope attended the Stampshow'07 in Portland to receive his 50-year membership award from the APS.



Jim Cope with Past and Current APS Presidents
Janet Klug and Nick Carter

Club Notices . . .

Stamps for the Wounded: Please save your extra stamps for the Stamps for Wounded Vets program. Sherm Britton is also interested in other worthwhile organizations which are looking for stamp donations.

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 (manila or black poly). 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 flyers and 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 as appropriate.

Date-Type Cancels: Tony Z. is working on a collection of 20th Century date cancels. He has 97 years and only needs 1912, 1913 and 1918 to complete the collection. Please keep a lookout for those dates. Also, any four-year dates are always welcomed.



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 Z.

Upcoming Stamp Events

- 10/04 – Merchantville Stamp Club – Temple Lutheran Church – Pennsauken, NJ
- 10/06 – West Jersey Stamp Show – Masonic Hall (I-295 Exit 32) – Cherry Hill, NJ
- 10/07 – Parsippany Show – PAL Building – Parsippany, NJ
- 10/12 – Friday Stamp Show – Holiday Inn (Route 70) – Cherry Hill, NJ
- 10/13 – Hightstown Stamp Bourse – American Legion Hall – Hightstown, NJ
- 10/13-14 – Garden State Postcard Show – PAL Center – Parsippany, NJ
- 10/13-14 – Fall Stamp Fair – La Quinta Inn – Fairfield NJ
- 10/14 – Sunday Stamp Bourse – Holiday Inn – Cherry Hill, NJ
- 10/16 – **HTPS Meeting – Hamilton Library – Hamilton, NJ**
- 10/17 – Merchantville Stamp Club – Temple Lutheran Church – Pennsauken, NJ
- 10/20 – Dover Stamp Club Show – Andrews Church – Dover, DE
- 10/20 – Lehigh Valley Stamp and Postcard Expo – Allentown, PA
- 10/21 – Hasbrouck Heights Show – Holiday Inn – Hasbrouck Heights, NJ
- 10/25-28 – ASDA "MegaEvent" – Madison Square Garden – NYC
- 10/27 – BuxMont Stampshow – Wilson Senior Center – Warminster, 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