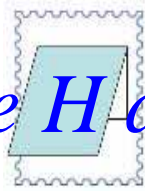




The Hamilton Hinge



APS Chapter #1095-104282

Hamilton Township Philatelic Society Newsletter

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HTPS Proceedings



Our final meeting of the year ended on a high note with an incredible array of food and pastries at our Holiday Party. The selection ranged from cheese plates to fruit bowls to every kind of cake and cookie. Thankfully, there were some leftovers which my wife (and others) appreciated.

New Members . . .

We welcome Robert Holmes and James Eckert to our group. Bob's collecting interest centers on British Colonies specifically Ceylon, India, Hong Kong and Straits Settlements/Malaya. Jim collects US singles, plate blocks and the USPS Commemorative sets.

Once again we are starting the New Year with our semi-annual auction. It's a great opportunity to acquire interesting items at reasonable prices. You also have a chance to sell some of your unneeded material – so why not bring something to the auction this month?

For ideas, check out the HTPS Member's collecting interests on the Poster Board or at our web site. Also remember that unique items usually do well in our auction.

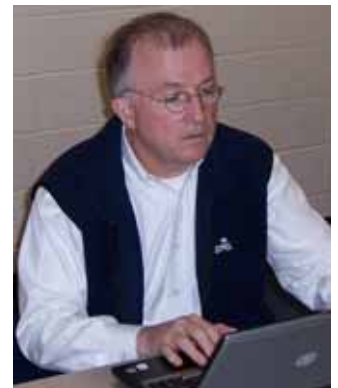
This month's Web Watch column identifies a number of interesting web sites. The Internet continues to provide incredible access to philatelic information pertinent to our hobby.

In this Issue . . .

- *December's Meeting*
 - *Society Auction*
 - *Web Watch Items*
 - *Club Notices*
- . . . and much more!**

President's Message

I hope you all enjoyed our annual holiday party. Thanks to all the members who brought something and special congratulations to Gerry McNew for his piña colada pie which was quickly devoured.



January brings our first meeting of the New Year with the highlight being our semi-annual auction. Everyone is invited to participate by either selling or buying, or both. Check out the auction procedures and details on the following pages.

Please don't forget your 2009 dues of \$10. You can pay at the meeting or check out the notice in this issue for mailing details. We look forward to seeing you on Jan. 20. . . Ed

HTPS Meetings . . .

Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Hamilton Township Library, 1 Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr. Way (off Whitehorse Mercerville Road) in Hamilton, NJ.

December's Meeting

... by Jack Sack

Our December meeting is traditionally a members' "Show & Tell" and there were several very interesting presentations this year.



Andrew B. showed a USPS Souvenir page with both the 18c and 20c James Hoban stamps from 1981 (Scott #'s 1935-36). The commemoratives were issued two weeks before a postal rate increase in both the old and new first class denominations. (**Quiz:**

What stamp was issued AFTER the Hoban stamps but with the old 18c denomination?)

Tony Z. showed a Canal Zone FDC which opened to a map of the Panama Canal showing its route through the isthmus. Doug F. related the story of finding a 100 year old cover containing a love letter, and how he was able to track down the great grandson of the writer. Don B. recently purchased a box lot of covers only to find a 35 year old cover addressed to himself from his mother! There was also a discussion on the future of MERPEX normally scheduled for the Labor Day weekend.

The second part of the December meeting was our traditional holiday party. There was a wide



assortment of food, drink, and good cheer. A number of spouses joined in the festivities. We hope this will become a new tradition.

Several members brought in food with a stamp related theme. The best design, perhaps, was Jim Cope's "Forever" Liberty Bell Cake featuring cake pieces in the shape of the Liberty Bell used on the Forever stamp of 2007 (Scott #'s 4126-28). No one went home from the party hungry!

Stamp Identification

Congratulations to Andrew Boyajian for identifying last month's stamp as Armenia #286 picturing Mt. Ararat.



This month's entry is an unusual issue. No easy clues in the design. Maybe the Internet or the APS Stamp Identifier will help. I do not know the answer to this one.

The winner can select an item from the HTPS gift box.

Web Watch – Internet Sites

⇒ **Linn's** continues to update and improve their web site at www.linns.com. Lots of reference material, an informative 'How To' section, and many other features of note.

⇒ Ever wonder about the face value of those non-denominated U.S. issues? The **Knottywood Treasures** web site at <http://www.knottywood-treasures.com/id39.html> contains full color images and values for those stamp types.



⇒ The **Local Post Collectors Society** has changed the address of their internet site to www.localcollectorspost.org.

⇒ Check out the **Glassine Surfer** site at www.glassinesurfer.com for some excellent and informative reference material including links to other sites. I use the Stamp Identifier when researching stamp issues.

Newsletter Articles ...

We are always looking for interesting items, articles, ideas or suggestions you might have.

You can write, call or email Tony Zingale at P.O. Box 3443, Mercerville, NJ 08619; 609-890-8211; hamilton@att.net.

Society Auction



Its auction time again! This is a good opportunity to dispose of some of that extra material we all have. Usually a limit of five (5) auction items per member is in effect, but exceptions abound. Here are some **considerations** for creating lots:

- Put up items that fellow members collect.
- Reference publications, especially specialized catalogs, are always popular.
- Postcards, covers, even coins do well in the sale.
- Common mint U.S. usually sells for face value.
- The condition of the item is key; choice and unique items do sell for more.

Preparing the Auction List Sheet

A description of each auction lot is entered onto the Auction List sheet as follows:

- Enter Seller's Name and Date at the top.
- Enter Item Name, Country or Scott # and a Description of the item including condition, faults and catalog / retail values.
- Enter the minimum bid in 25¢ increments. Be realistic – common items usually go for a small fraction of catalog value.

Auction List – Seller's Name: JOHN DOE		Date: 1-15-08			
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	Starting Bid Number
1.	Scott 2004	US SPECIALIZED CATALOG – Good cond.	1.00		
2.	Scott PB	Album, 1961-1964 Commemoratives, no stamps, some mounts – ex. cond.	2.00		
3.	* DENMARK	# 9 // 126 (8) Used – CV \$75+	5.00		
4.	* NETHERLANDS	200 DIFF Used – CV \$45	5.00		
5.	* FDC ALBUM	with 25 two-up Clear Pages	3.00		
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					

Total Sales _____
Club Commission (-10%) _____
Net to Seller _____

If necessary, use 2-3 lines to describe the auction lot and then renumber the line item on the Auction List form.

Include a detailed description on the actual auction item to at least match the Auction List form description. The more detail the better. You can use a label or post-it note for large items.

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

We have included a blank copy of the Auction List form with this Newsletter. A copy is also available on the HTTPS web site.

Use tongs and magnifiers to check for hinge marks, faults, etc. Some stamp catalogs will be available for your use. For specialized items, talk to the Seller for details. Jot down items of interest for bidding. Plan your bidding strategy.

APS Stamps of Arizona Album



To promote [ARIPEX](#) in Tucson on January 23-25, the APS has prepared a free, downloadable 21-page *Stamps of Arizona* album in PDF format.

The album has spaces and stories for 87 color-illustrated U.S. stamps and postal cards that are associated with the

"Grand Canyon State." You can download the album at www.stamps.org/albums/arizona.pdf.

Club Notices

HTPS Flyers: Pick up some advertising flyers at the next meeting. These can be posted on library and community center bulletin boards throughout the local area. Copies are also available on our web site in the About Us section.

Spray-on Cancels: Remember to save those city spray-on cancellations in your everyday mail. Some of our members are attempting to collect the nearly 300 different cancel combinations.

Stamp Donations: Please save your extra U.S. and Worldwide stamps. We donate them to schools and to the Stamps for Wounded Vets program. See Sherm Britton for details.

Membership Dues . . .

HTPS dues are \$10 for 2009. You can pay at the January meeting with cash or check (payable to HTPS), or send payment to Ron Gonzalez at P.O. Box 3443, Mercerville, NJ 08619.

Stamp Out Cancer

Over the past 31 years, the Quad City Stamp Club has raised \$209,346 for the American Cancer Society via their annual auction.



This year's auction will be held on March 29 at 1:00 PM at *The Lodge* in Bettendorf, IA. The entire proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society. All material is donated and is greatly appreciated.

Complete auction details are available on the Club's web site at www.qcstampclub.com, or just contact George Pettigrew at pmasts5@aol.cim.

Upcoming Stamp Events

- 1/4 – Garden State Coin & Stamp Show – P.A.L. Building – 33 Baldwin Rd – Parsippany, NJ – 10 AM to 4 PM
- 1/8 – MSC Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – Pennsauken, NJ – 7 PM
- 1/9-11 – Garden State Stamp Show – Bethwood Manor – 38 Lackawanna Ave. (off Rte. 46) – Totowa, NJ – Fri: 10 AM to 6 PM – Sat: 10 AM to 5 PM – Sun: 10 AM - 4 PM
- 1/10 – 2nd Saturday Bourse – American Legion Hall – Hightstown, NJ – 9:30 AM to 4 PM
- 1/11 – 2nd Sunday Stamp Bourse – Holiday Inn – Cherry Hill, NJ – 10 AM to 4 PM
- 1/18 – Money, Stamps & Postcard Show – Clifton Recreation Center – 1232 Main Avenue – Clifton, NJ – 9 AM to 5 PM
- 1/18 – 3rd Sunday Stamp/Coin Show – Wyndham Hotel – Saddle Brook, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM
- 1/20 – HTPS Meeting – Hamilton Township Public Library – Hamilton, NJ – 7 PM
- 1/21 – MSC Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – Pennsauken, NJ – 7 PM
- 1/25 – Tri-State Coin & Stamp – Holiday Inn – Ft. Washington, PA – 10 AM to 4 PM

NOTE: See www.stampshows.com for additional and/or updated information on shows.

Poster Boards . . .

Why not loan or donate something for display during our 3rd Tuesday monthly meetings? Any philatelic item, including scans, is fine. We prefer 8.5 x 11 Portrait or Landscape sized items, but we accept anything of interest.

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.

----- HTPS Officers -----

President Ed Murtha
Vice President Jeff Boyarsky
Treasurer / Publicity Ron Gonzalez
Secretary Bob Stolarz

----- HTPS Support Team -----

APS Representative Sherm Britton
Membership Chairman Jack Sack
Newsletter Editor Tony Zingale
50/50 Handlers Dennis Buss, Jim Cope