

*** HAPPY NEW YEAR ***



The Hamilton Hinge

APS Chapter #1095-104282

Hamilton Township Philatelic Society Newsletter

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January's Meeting

Our first meeting of the New Year features our semi-annual auction. Details on the auction process and an advanced look at items up for bid are found inside.

No formal presentation this month, but bring items for Show and Tell. We can also use the document camera to show some of the auction items.

Finally, HTPS DUES (\$10.00) are past due – please bring to the meeting or send to our P.O. Box address.

Stamp Paper Edgers

Here's an idea for those of you struggling with "unsoakable" stamps. Use a paper edger that has perforation-like edges to cut the stamp from the envelope or postcard.

The result looks pretty good, and when the next great idea comes along to get those "unsoakables" off envelopes safely, no harm has been done to the stamp.



These paper edgers cost about \$2.50 each. We have not found any at local hobby and craft stores so we are placing an online order for interested members.

President's Message



As my son and daughter grew up, I kept hoping that one of them would develop some interest in philately. That never happened. Now the question is . . . what to do with this assortment of stamps, albums, covers, etc. that no one knows much about except me. I

certainly do not want my collection to be discarded or stored improperly.

It's OK if you are unsure about the disposition of your collection. Just make certain that someone else knows the importance of storing your philatelic items correctly and placing them in a safe, secure place should something ever happen to you.

I would like to suggest that you make a New Year's resolution to do three things in the next few weeks.

- ⇒ Write down what you want done with your collection and tell family members of your decision.
- ⇒ Create a list of your collection's contents. It does not have to be elaborate. Note items that are unique, are of a higher value, or that you cherish. Equally important is noting where each item can be found in the collection.
- ⇒ Distribute copies to family members and store the original with your other important financial papers.

These simple tasks – creating a secure storage area, and documenting key items in your collection – will be most helpful to whoever is involved in handling your philatelic treasures. One nice thing about starting something like this – you can expand and update it as needed or as desired.

I would like you to consider these thoughts as part of your New Year's resolutions. You will be happy that you did. Best wishes to all for the New Year . . . Ed.

December's Meeting

... by Jack Sack



We all look forward to our December holiday party, where we have the opportunity to socialize with our fellow philatelists. With a big crowd on hand and a large spread of various foods, desserts and

beverages, this year was no exception.

The business meeting included the final vote on our revised Constitution and a thank you to Todd Tucker for organizing the trip to the National Postal Museum in Washington. Without a formal program, there was an opportunity to have an extended "Show & Tell" session.

Among the speakers was Warren Scheible who showed a U.S. \$2 bill postmarked on its first day of circulation, April 13, 1976 (also Thomas Jefferson's 233rd birthday). The bill has a picture of Jefferson and John Adams signing the Declaration of Independence.



Jeff Boyarsky displayed some covers related to breakfast foods he is accumulating. Tony Zingale showed a Fiskar Stamp Paper Edger that can be used to create a simulated perforation around those annoying U.S. (and foreign) stamps that are difficult to soak off paper.

Don Bunker's Machin stamps with unusual "dots" opened some discussion as to their use. Joe Seliga thought they related to sorting mail. Sounds good since *Linn's Stamp News* in their April 24, 2006 issue (page 42, Collectors' Forum), notes the following: "The spots are British mail-test markings that are applied to the faces of envelopes in tracking mail pieces during a mail test. Some of them happened to fall on the stamps affixed to the face of the envelope."



Cancellation and Sorting 'circles and triangles'.

Ed Muench's presentation on Bicycle Stamps and Covers capped off the evening. Ed showed a number of bicycle-related philatelic items that he has accumulated over the years. Included in his collection



are stamps, covers and picture post cards (at the left is Santa on a bicycle). It was amazing to see the number of different stamp related items featuring bicycles. Quite an interesting topic.



There are several stamp associations and individuals devoted to collecting this topic. Check out the Bicycle Stamps Club at <http://bicyclestamps.tripod.com> for further details. We thank Ed for sharing with us his love of bicycles and bicycle-related stamps and covers.

By this time, everyone was ready for the Holiday party treats. Actually, some members had already sampled the offerings on the party tables. A nice addition to the "goodies" was Bill Case's tray of meatballs, sausages and franks and Bob Stolarz's cheese platter. Several members included a philatelic theme with their food contribution. Jim Cope outdid himself again this year with his elaborate lighthouse-themed dessert tray.



We thank everyone who brought something to the party, and everyone who showed up to enjoy the company.

Newsletter Articles ...

We are always looking for interesting items, articles, ideas or suggestions. Contact Tony Zingale at P.O. Box 3443, Mercerville, NJ 08619; call us at 609-890-8211; email to 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. A limit of ten (10) auction items per member is in effect but exceptions abound.



Considerations and ideas include:

- Put up items that fellow members collect (see list on web site).
- Reference publications and specialized auction 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 are in demand.

The **Auction List Sheet** (included with this Newsletter) lists items for sale. Complete as follows:

- Put Seller's Name and Date at the top.
- List 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, FVF, Gum Crease)	Minimum Bid	Sales Price	Wording No. Number
1.	Scott 2004	US SPECIALIZED CATALOG – Good cond.	1.00		
2.	Scott PB	Album, 1901-1964 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 Sheet.

Auction Items MUST contain a description that at least matches the Auction List Sheet. The more detail the better. You can use a label or post-it note for large items.

Auction items are SOLD AS IS so examine the lots before bidding. Plan your bids based on what you see, not what is written on the auction item. Use tongs and magnifiers check for faults. Philatelic accessories and some stamp catalogs will be available for your use. Talk to the seller for details on larger or mixed lots.

Bidding: Obtain a bidder number before the auction starts. Bidding opens with the seller's minimum bid. Increments are 25-50¢ depending on the item. The Auctioneer may change increments based on competitive bidding. No bids after the Auctioneer calls the lot.

Payments are made by winning bidders after all auction items are sold. Sellers are then paid the sales price realized MINUS a 10% commission for HTPS. Amounts are rounded to 5¢ increments.

Donations of lots for HTPS are always welcome. Please indicate on the Auction List Sheet or tell the Auctioneer.

Auction Lot Listings . . .

Here are items up for auction with the (starting bid):

- Scott 2003 US Specialized Catalog – (50¢).
- Scott 2004 WW Catalog, Vol. 3 G-I – (\$1.00).
- Stamping Our History*, U.S. history portrayed through stamps, 1990 First Ed., library copy, 253 pages, 11x11", excellent condition, retail \$50 – (\$2.00).
- 1980 Lake Placid Album and Event Cover Collection with ?? covers – (2.00).
- All American Album, 1847-1964, with a few common stamps – (50¢).
- Denmark: used #9 // 126 (8), CV \$75+ – (\$5.00).
- Germany: 70 diff used, CV \$120 – (\$4.00).
- Finland: 100 different used, CV \$70 – (\$2.00).
- B/Commonwealth: 50 diff. used, CV \$80 – (\$2.00).
- 50+ WW Revenues, Used / Mint – (\$9.00).

Check the HTPS web site for updates. Contact us if you want to add items to the web site list.

Stamp Identification

For the first time in over two years, no one identified our monthly mystery stamp. It was Mongolia #1 issued in 1924 (shown here on the right).



This month we have another difficult issue. Pay close attention to the stamp design, issue value and the letter markings for help on this one. We can't have two non-answer months in a row from our readers, can we?



Choice of an item from the gift box to the first correct answer.

HTPS Notices

Member Award: Last month we congratulated Sid Morginstin for receiving a Silver Award at the Pittsburgh APS StampShow for his exhibit titled *The Maximum Cards Stamp Information Folders & Stamp Information Bulletins of Israel*. Sid asked us to cite his co-authors – Stan Rassel and Bernard Perrin.

Membership Dues . . .

HTPS dues of \$10.00 are now past due! Please pay at the January meeting with cash or check (payable to HTPS), or send payment to: P.O. Box 3443, Mercerville, NJ 08619.

Upcoming Stamp Events

- 1/2 – MSC Saturday Stamp Bourse – 9 AM to 4 PM –
[See 1/7 MSC Meeting for location].
- 1/7 – MSC Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600
Route 130 North (at Merchantville Ave) –
Pennsauken, NJ – 7 PM.
- 1/8-10 – Garden State Stamp & Postcard Show –
Bethwood Manor – 38 Lackawanna Avenue (off
Union Blvd) – Totowa, NJ – Fri. 10 AM - 6 PM
– Sat. 10 AM - 5 PM – Sun. 10 AM - 4 PM.
- 1/9 – 2nd Saturday Bourse – American Legion Post –
Rtes. 130 North & 33 East – Hightstown, NJ –
9:30 AM to 4 PM.

1/10 – 2nd Sunday Stamp Bourse – Holiday Inn – Rt. 70
– Cherry Hill, NJ – 10 AM to 4 PM.

1/17 – NESS 3rd Sunday Stamp & Coin Show –
Wyndham Garden Hotel – 50 Kenney Place –
Saddle Brook, NJ – 9 AM to 3 PM.

1/19 – **HTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Public
Library – Hamilton, NJ – 7 PM.**

1/20 – MSC Meeting (See 1/7 MSC Meeting info).

1/24 – Coin, Stamp & Postcard Show – Ramada Inn –
1083 Route 206 North (NJ Tpke Exit 7) –
Bordentown, NJ – 9 AM to 3 PM.

1/24 – Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show (4th Sunday) –
Holiday Inn – PA Tpke (Exit 339) & Rt. 309 –
Ft. Washington, PA – 10 AM to 4 PM.

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

New HTPS Member . . .

Welcome to **Hank Applegate**. Hank's primary
collecting interest is flown Zeppelin covers. He also
collects Germany up to 1977. His latest endeavor is
the 1926 Philadelphia Sesquicentennial Exhibition.

Hank's exhibits have won numerous awards. He is
also an accomplished speaker and has spoken at
HTPS in the past (and hopefully in the future).

The objective of this Newsletter is to promote philately, educate and inform our members and to encourage other like-minded individuals to join the Hamilton Township Philatelic Society.

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

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

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

APS Representative Jon Madsen
Membership Chairman Jack Sack
Newsletter Editor Tony Zingale
NOJEX Contact Andrew Boyajian
Parliamentarian Jerry McNew
Stamp Donations Sherm Britton
50/50 Handlers Jim Cope, Ed Murray

----- HTPS Meeting Program -----

- ⇒ Jan. 19 – Society Auction
- ⇒ Feb. 16 – Tom DeLuca Presentation: TBA
- ⇒ Mar. 16 – "Gambian Philately" (by Gary Loew)
- ⇒ April 20 – Presentation or Slide Show: TBD
- ⇒ May 18 – "The ABC's of Philatelic Exhibiting
(by Dr. Edwin Andrews)
- ⇒ June 15 – Society Auction
- ⇒ July 20 – Informal Meeting: Swap & Trade
- ⇒ Aug. 17 – Informal Meeting: HAMPEX '10
- ⇒ Sept. 21 – TBA

**Looking for Speakers
for the 2010 – 2011 Season.**