



The Hamilton Hinge



APS Chapter #1095-104282



Hamilton Township Philatelic Society Newsletter

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President's Message



As some of you know, I collect British Sudan. I find it fascinating and extremely interesting. The majority of Sudan collectors reside in England and this is where I have been fortunate to acquire most of the unique items in my collection.

OK, why do I mention all this? My Sudan collection has provided me much enjoyment. When I can no longer enjoy it, I do not want it to become a burden or a task for someone else to handle. I would like my Sudan collection to go to a person who values it as much as I do. For whoever makes that possible, I would like to see them rewarded monetarily for their effort.

In order to make this transition easier, I have typed up a few pages and placed them inside my Sudan album. One page lists my collection and notes the unique items along with the prices paid and an estimated value of the overall collection based on prices from the 2006 Stanley Gibbons Catalogue. Another page has the location of those odd size covers, postcards, sheets and other unique material in the collection.

The last page contains the names of five auction houses: three in the UK and two in the US who have offices/affiliates in the UK. It instructs whoever is responsible to send my list to each of these auction houses. If there an interest in the material, it asks the auction houses for a projected return, fees, time frames, what happens to unsold material, etc.

Maybe you will want to consider doing something similar with your collection . . . 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.

In this Issue . . .

- *January's Proceedings*
- *The Stamp Center*
- *Upcoming Stamp Events*
- . . . and much more!

February Meeting

Well, it's that time of the year again – Tom DeLuca will speak at the February meeting. This will mark thirty plus consecutive years that Tom has made a presentation at a HTPS meeting.



Last year, Tom showed us some unusual Mickey Mouse postcards from the 1930-40's. Surprisingly, Mickey was not always portrayed as the 'happy go lucky' fellow that is his image today.

This time, Tom's topic is U.S. Back of the Book items. We look forward to Tom's discussion of this varied area. One guarantee is that we all will learn something of interest.

Don't forget to bring items for the Show and Tell segment or something to add to our poster board. See you on the 16th . . . Tony.

Stamp Identification

Last month's stamp was South Russia #68 issued in 1919. For the third month in a row, there were no correct answers from our readers. Shame, shame.



This month's issue may seem familiar, but watch out for that overprint. It does provide a clue to the issuing country's identity. The first correct responder can select \$1.00 in face value from the US mint box.

January's Meeting

... by Jack Sack

Another large crowd was on hand for our January get-together. The brief business meeting included a reminder that the group is planning a trip to the A.P.S. headquarters in Bellefonte, PA this spring. Since the drive will take over three hours each way, the plan is to make it a two day trip, staying overnight nearby. If you are interested in going, please contact Todd Tucker.



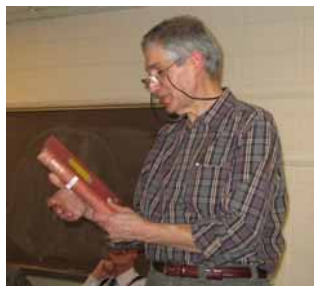
There was also a special birthday greeting to long time HTPS member Sherm Britton. The "Show & Tell" segment of the meeting included Jeff Boyarsky showing Victorian Trading Cards and a quiz based on a "Stamp Collecting" category during a recent Jeopardy program. Even the non-collectors in the audience were able to get all of the answers right.



The program for the evening was the HTPS semi-annual auction. Another record was broken with nearly 100 auction lots put up

for bid including stamps, covers, postcards, catalogs, and stamp albums. Members arrived early to examine the lots and decide on their bidding strategy.

With so many items up for bid, auctioneer Tony Zingale tried to keep things moving along. While most lots sold at or near their opening bid, a few choice items sold at a premium. An early estimate is that the society made over \$70 on this fun event.



We thank everyone who participated, especially those who donated philatelic items to the club for the auction. Some members are already preparing their lots for our next auction scheduled during the June meeting.

Web Watch

Here's another web site for the philatelist. At **AJ's Encyclopedia of Stamps and Philatelic Links**, you will have access to an incredible array of philatelic information including:

- ⇒ Stamp Issuing Entities
- ⇒ Stamp Dealer Sites
- ⇒ Topical Collecting Information
- ⇒ ... it's never ending



The site is a bit confusing at first with hundreds of links to view, but it's worth the effort. Check it out at ajward.tripod.com/stamps/links.htm.

Boy Scout Issues

The USPS has announced an issue to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts in the U.S. The first-day ceremony for the 44-cent stamp will be held in July during the Boy Scout Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia.



Previous U.S. issues honoring the Scouts include the 1950 3-cent stamp for the 2nd Annual Jamboree held in Valley Forge, PA (#995) and the 1960 4-cent issue for the Scout's 50th Anniversary (#1145). Both are shown below.



Other U.S. Boy Scout issues are the 22-cent issue commemorating the 75th anniversary of U.S. scouting (#2161) and a 32-cent stamp on the 1910s Celebrate the Century pane (#3183j).

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.

The Stamp Center . . . by Joe Seliga & Ed Murtha

It's good to hang around people who smile a lot and even better when you discover the reason why. One Friday in January, we found one of the reasons why Tony Zingale and Jack Sack smile so much. Tony invited the two of us and Bob Stolarz to tag along with him on a visit to one of his and Jack's favorite philatelic haunts: The Stamp Center in Wilmington, DE.

During the 75 minute trip down from Hamilton, Tony prepared us for what was to come. He provided several copies of the 92 page current auction catalog for review. That was important since there were over 1600 lots in the upcoming auction scheduled for Jan 22nd and 23rd. It allowed us to focus on the items that interested us.

Upon entering The Stamp Center, we felt close to heaven on earth. There are three main customer areas:

- ⇒ The entry room contains sales counters, shelves and tables offering a varied assortment of philatelic and numismatic items for sale.
- ⇒ Two other rooms are filled with albums, envelopes and mounds of boxes containing lots for the upcoming auction.
- ⇒ The walls in two rooms hold cards with stamps, coins, postcards, etc. for a Bid Board auction.



Joe Seliga (middle) and Bob Stolarz (left) check out the 5¢ boxes; Jerry McNew (just coming in) is ready to join the party.

The Bid Board is a little different than a regular auction, in that you must be present to enter bids for the material you want. However, it is worth the trip since most items sell for much less than catalog value.

You need to register for the auctions and Bid Board by obtaining a bid identification number. This is understandable since there is some rather expensive material being offered and most of it belongs to someone else. After this process, we started looking at the enormous amount of philatelic material.

Tony introduced us to Keith Marsh, the proprietor of this incredible philatelic establishment. Keith and his staff were very gracious and checked in on us from time to time to see if we needed anything.

We split up with some of us looking through the boxes of loose stamps, and others going directly to the auction lots. Tony dropped off 60 Bid Board lots with Shou-Lan who handles that part of the business.



Jerry, Ed Murtha & Bob at work – only 1,000 boxes to go!

Prior and current auction catalogs are available as are the prices realized for the prior auction. There is no need to bring magnifying glasses or tongs or catalogs. All are in plentiful supply. We would recommend you bring a small calculator though.

What a wonderful day, looking at potential stamp buys in the auction lots, purchasing some stamps from the large selection, and spending some pleasant hours with warm friends. What more could a person want?

Normal hours are Monday by appointment, Tuesday through Thursday from 11-6, Friday at 11-6 (Auction day is 9 to 8 PM) and most Saturdays from 9:30 to 2 PM. For further details, check out their internet site at <http://www.thestampcenter.com>.

The Stamp Center can be crazy on Auction and Bid Board closing days, but that Friday it was perfect. It felt like sitting in your own home with a number of good friends and being surrounded by all the stamps, coins, books, catalogues, etc. that any one could ever want.

If I could have found a couple of cold beers or a bottle of good scotch, it very well could have been Heaven! We all agreed that we will be going back. Many thanks to Tony for sharing this treasure with us!!!

[Editor's Note: Don't forget the annual **Stamp Day** at The Stamp Center on Feb. 6th from 10 AM to 5 PM. Dealer Tables, a USPS Facility, Specially Priced Collections and Lots, Door Prizes and Free Stamp Starter Kit for all Kids!]

HTPS Notices

Stamp Donations: Please donate your extra stamps or philatelic material to the Stamps for Wounded Vets program. Contact Sherm Britton for details at a meeting or via the HTPS email.

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.

Upcoming Stamp Events

2/4 – MSC Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (at Merchantville Ave) – Pennsauken, NJ – 7 PM.

2/6 – MSC Saturday Stamp Bourse – 9 AM to 4 PM – [See 2/4 MSC Meeting for location].

2/6 – Stamp Day (at The Stamp Center) – 4115 Concord Pike – Wilmington, DE – 10 AM to 5 PM.

2/7 – Garden State Coin & Stamp Show – P.A.L. Building – 33 Baldwin Rd (off Route 46) – Parsippany, NJ – 10 AM to 4 PM

2/12-14 – MetroExpo – Holiday Inn – 440 W. 57th St – NYC – Fri: 12 to 6 PM – Sat: 10 AM to 6 PM – Sun: 10 AM to 4 PM – www.metroexp.com

2/13 – 2nd Saturday Bourse – American Legion Post – Rtes. 130 North & 33 East – Hightstown, NJ – 9:30 AM to 4 PM.

2/14 – 2nd Sunday Stamp Bourse – Holiday Inn – Rt. 70 – Cherry Hill, NJ – 10 AM to 4 PM.

2/16 – **HTPS MEETING** – Hamilton Township Public Library – Hamilton, NJ – 7 PM.

2/18 – MSC Meeting (See 2/4 MSC Meeting info).

2/21 – Money, Stamps & Postcard Show – Clifton Recreation Center – 1232 Main Avenue – Clifton, NJ – 9 AM to 5 PM

2/21 – NESS 3rd Sunday Stamp & Coin Show – Wyndham Garden Hotel – 50 Kenney Place – Saddle Brook, NJ – 9 AM to 3 PM.

2/28 – Coin, Stamp & Postcard Show – Ramada Inn – 1083 Route 206 North (near NJ Tpke Exit 7) – Bordentown, NJ – 9 AM to 3 PM.

2/28 – Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show (4th Sunday) – Holiday Inn – PA Tpke (Exit 339) & Rt. 309 – Ft. Washington, PA – 10 AM to 4 PM.

3/4 – MSC Meeting (See 2/4 MSC Meeting info).

3/6 – MSC Saturday Stamp Bourse – 9 AM to 4 PM – [See 2/4 MSC Meeting for location].

3/6-7 – BuxMont Stamp Show – Benjamin H. Wilson Center – 580 Delmont Ave – Warminster, PA – Sat: 10 AM to 5 PM – Sun: 10 AM to 4 PM

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

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 -----

- ⇒ Feb. 16 – U.S. Back of the Book (Tom DeLuca)
- ⇒ Mar. 16 – "Gambian Philately" (by Gary Loew)
- ⇒ April 20 – TBA (by Sid Morginstin)
- ⇒ 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
- ⇒ Oct. 19 – TBA

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