



The Hamilton Hinge



APS Chapter #1095-104282

Hamilton Township Philatelic Society Newsletter

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President's Message



Red breasted robins are a harbinger of Spring. The ever increasing number of weekend stamp shows may be another sign.

Take a look at the Upcoming Events section of this month's newsletter. A dozen shows are listed for the month of April including PNSE, the ASDA Mega Show and DELPEX. All are within an easy drive or train trip.

The Mega Show in NYC especially interests me since I want to finally visit the NYC Collectors Club and the Philatelic Foundation.

Also upcoming this year are two stamp exhibitions that I hope all of our HTPS members will visit and, if possible, assist with the set up and take down tasks. NOJEX is sponsored by the North New Jersey Federated Stamp Clubs (HTPS is a member). It is held over the Memorial Day weekend in Secaucus, NJ. MERPEX is run by the Merchantville Stamp Club over the Labor Day weekend in Pennsauken, NJ.

The folks from both of these organizations have been extremely kind and generous to our Society. As many of you know, some of our monthly speakers are members of these groups. Besides sharing a common interest and enjoy being in their company, HTPS members have reciprocated by providing assistance for their shows. Setting up a show is a time consuming process especially if you do not have enough people to assist.

It is for this reason that I am asking for HTPS members to volunteer their services to these organizations. If you have the time and are in reasonably good health, think about joining us on Thursday May 27th or Sunday May 30th to help out at NOJEX. A similar request will be made for assistance on September 2nd and 4th at MERPEX. I am sure that both organizations will appreciate any help you can offer.

See you at our meeting on Tuesday April 20th . . . Ed.

In this Issue . . .

- *March Meeting Proceedings*
- *Website and Email Changes*
- *Upcoming Stamp Events*
- . . . and much more!

April Meeting

This month includes the MLB season opener, the NCAA final four and the HTPS meeting on April 20th. Our first order of business is nominations for the HTPS 2010-2011 Officer positions. See page two for details.

Our presentation this month is an APS slide show titled *The American Revolution: A Glorious Undertaking*. The APS describes the program as "... U.S. stamps that tell the story of our country's journey to independence." So come and join us for an evening of philatelic fun.

Our thanks to the eBay sellers (including popcornjohn) for use of the April Fool's postcard images . . . Tony.

Stamp Identification

Last month's stamp was Turkey in Asia #78 issued in 1922. Our congratulations to Bob Stolarz for again being the first correct responder.

This month's issue is very difficult since it is relatively unknown. However, check out the design, language and value, and you may be able to venture a guess.



Since this issue is so difficult, we are offering a lifetime HTPS membership to the first correct responder.

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 (Mercer County).

March Meeting Proceedings . . . by Jack Sack

Another overflow crowd was on-hand for our March meeting. After the business meeting, we had several interesting Show & Tell presentations, including a projection of a YouTube video showing Peter Goodwin repairing a worn envelope.



Our speaker in March was Gary Loew, a member of the Westfield Stamp Club and one of the few collectors of Gambian stamps. Gary's talk, "*Philatelic Opportunities with Gambia*," began with a short history and description of the country. He spoke about the

philatelic history of Gambia, beginning with the beautiful Queen Victoria "Cameo" stamps of 1869 through the King George VI issues into the 1950's. Gary also described many of the printing errors and plate varieties of the early issues.



Much of the talk centered on covers and other marcophily (postmarks) from the many "up-river" villages, including the river-based traveling post office. Gary showed examples of covers from many of the 24 different postal villages in the country.



São Paulo Brazil - Bathurst - Friedrichshafen - Bulgaria



Gary ended his presentation with a humorous review of some modern Gambia issues which feature such figures as Shakespeare, Fred Astaire, the Marx brothers and none other than Elvis, who is believed to be hiding in the up-river area of the country.

We thank Gary for presenting a wonderful look into the history and philately of an unusual country. Be on the lookout for Gary's exhibits at major stamp shows.

American Diner Series . . . by Jack Sack

The USPS has announced a new series of stamps to commemorate American diners. Everyone loves those eating establishments which offer large amounts of food for reasonable prices.

The first representative for this exciting series has been chosen – it is our own Golden Dawn diner (pictured at the right). The "Dawn" is located about a mile west from our Hamilton Township Public Library meeting site.



Source: www.donponder.com

Some HTPS members meet at the Golden Dawn for dinner before the monthly meeting. We also invite our speakers to join us for a "last" meal before their scheduled talk.

Website and Email Changes

AT&T has decided to drop its web hosting support effective March 31st! We are directly affected by this sudden decision since the HTPS website is hosted by AT&T. We have created a temporary 'barebones' website on Google – <http://sites.google.com/site/htps75>.

Although the hamilton@att.net email address is still valid, we have setup a replacement address of htps75@gmail.com. (The '75' represents '1975' – the year that HTPS was formed.) We will maintain the AT&T address for a few months until we change the references on the Internet and in our literature. Fortunately, our international websites are not affected.

HTPS Officer Nominations

The primary business function at our April meeting is the nominations for the four HTPS Officer positions to take effect in June:

- ⇒ President
- ⇒ Vice-President
- ⇒ Treasurer
- ⇒ Secretary

We also have seven Support Team functions, listed on the back page, that require member participation. Responsibilities for all positions will be discussed at the April meeting. A detailed list of duties for these positions is always posted at meetings and is also available on our web site.

We urge all HTPS members to consider running for election or volunteering for one of the support positions.

HTPS to Host FDC Ceremony . . . by Jack Sack

We were pleased to learn that the U.S. Postal Service will be issuing a new 28c Postal Card honoring the Trenton War Memorial. The HTPS has been asked to help in the planning for the first day of issue ceremony, tentatively scheduled for November 11th.



Trenton War Memorial Auditorium USA 28

The War Memorial was opened on Jan. 19, 1932, at the swearing in ceremony of Governor Harry Moore. The building cost over \$900,000 to build, half paid for by the city and county, and the rest from private donations. The building is dedicated to the American servicemen who died in World War I.

We will be asking for the help of all HTPS members as we prepare for the FDC ceremony – details to follow.

Heidi Klum to Speak at HTPS Meeting



You probably know Heidi Klum as a super model, but did you know that she is also a stamp collector? Heidi is preparing a nationwide tour sponsored by the government of Grenada to promote collecting that nation's stamps and philately in general.

Her agent has contacted the HTPS and asked if Ms. Klum could speak at one of our meetings. The date of Heidi's talk, titled *Supermodels on Stamps*, will be coordinated with her visit to New York for a taping of her "Project Runway" program.

Heidi also promised to bring some of her modeling friends. I am not familiar with the names she mentioned – Gisele, Cindy, Tyra, Christie, Elle and so on.

Because of the large crowd expected, we are considering moving our meeting to a larger venue – perhaps the Sun National Bank Center (formerly Sovereign Bank Arena). We are also considering charging an entrance fee for non-HTPS members.

Frank O. Bollo Arrested . . . by Les Timbres

HTPS international correspondent Frank O. Bollo was arrested yesterday by police in Venice, Italy. Details are sketchy, but apparently the charges involve misuse of public property and the use of uncanceled stamps from previously mailed letters.

Mr. Bollo, who is an international philatelic reporter for HTPS, is being investigated for soaking self-adhesive Euro-valued stamps in the Venetian canals for re-use on mailings.



Apparently, there is something in the local water that helps remove the backing from adhesive-type stamps. Soaking off the adhesive on recent issues is such a big problem that many collectors just save the used stamp on paper. Some even use 'stamp paper edgers' to simulate perforations around the adhesive stamps.

Italian authorities are also investigating charges that Mr. Bollo is part of a mysterious international group specializing in selling Venetian water to stamp collectors for use in soaking stamps off covers and packages.

The local magistrate set bail at 3,000 Euros and rejected Mr. Bollo's attempt to pay the bail with "mint" un gummed Italian stamps. HTPS has suspended Mr. Bollo pending the results of the investigation.

[Editor's Note: HTPS has hired Les Timbres as an international correspondent. Les has recently written articles for *The Hamilton Hinge*. He will be stationed in Paris.]

HTPS Membership

We are pleased to announce that membership in the Hamilton Township Philatelic Society has exceeded 500 members. With the advent of our international editions last year, now published in eight languages, we are able to reach an entire new group of collectors in Europe, the Far East and Australia.

Space does not permit us to list all the new members, but here are a few recent additions and their native country:

- ⇒ Munt Zegel – Belgium
- ⇒ Pika Merkki – Finland
- ⇒ Braun Block – Germany
- ⇒ Nuevo Sellos – Spain
- ⇒ Jarvag S. Marke – Sweden

HTPS Notices

Society Info: Pick up some HTPS Calendars and 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

4/2-3 → Garden State Spring Stamp & Postcard Show – La Quinta Inn – Route 46 West – Fairfield, NJ – Fri. 10 AM to 6 PM – Sat. 10 AM to 5 PM.

4/8 → MSC Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (at Merchantville Ave) – Pennsauken, NJ – 7 PM.

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

4/9-11 → PNSE – Philadelphia Expo Center at Oaks – 100 Station Ave. – Oaks, PA – Fri., Sat. 10-6 PM – Sun. 10-3 PM – pnse.home.att.net.

4/10 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – American Legion Post – Rtes. 130 North & 33 East – Hightstown, NJ – 9:30 AM to 4 PM.

4/11 → 2nd Sunday Stamp Bourse – Holiday Inn – Rt. 70 – Cherry Hill, NJ – 10 AM to 4 PM.

4/15-18 → Spring MEGA Event – New Yorker Hotel – 481 Eighth Ave. – NYC – Thur. to Sat. 10-6 PM – Sun. 10-4 PM.

4/17 → DELPEX 2010 – Nur Shrine Center – 198 South Dupont Highway (U.S. Routes 13 & 40) – New Castle, DE – 10 AM to 5 PM.

4/18 → 3rd Sunday Stamp & Coin Show – Saddlebrook, NJ – Call 973-875-3793 to VERIFY location.

4/20 → **HTPS MEETING** – Hamilton Township Public Library – Hamilton, NJ – 7 PM.

4/21 → MSC Meeting (See 4/8 MSC Meeting info).

4/24-25 → Stamp, Cover, Postcard Show – Community Recreation Center – 1232 Main Avenue – Clifton, NJ – Sat. 10-5 PM – Sun. 10-4 PM.

4/24 → MSC Saturday Stamp Bourse – 9 AM to 4 PM – [See 4/8 MSC Meeting for location].

4/25 → Coin, Stamp & Postcard Show – Ramada Inn – 1083 Route 206 North (near NJ Tpke Exit 7) – Bordentown, NJ – 9 AM to 3 PM.

4/25 → Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show (4th Sunday) – Holiday Inn – PA Tpke (Exit 339) & Rt. 309 – Ft. Washington, PA – 10 AM to 4 PM.

5/6 → MSC Meeting (See 4/8 MSC Meeting info).

5/7 → Philly Phriday Philately Phest – Radisson Hotel – Roosevelt Blvd (Rt. 1) & Old Lincoln Highway – Philadelphia, PA – 10 AM to 8 PM.

5/8 → 2nd Saturday Bourse (See 4/10 show info).

NOTE: For current information, see the following sites: www.stampshows.com and www.asdaonline.com.

----- **H A P P Y A P R I L F O O L S D A Y** -----

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

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

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

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

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

- ⇒ April 20 – *"The American Revolution: A Glorious Undertaking"* (APS Slide Show)
- ⇒ May 18 – YouTube Videos / Show & Tell
- ⇒ June 15 – Society Auction
- ⇒ July 20 – Informal Meeting: Swap & Trade
- ⇒ Aug. 17 – Informal Meeting: HAMPEX '10
- ⇒ Sept. 21 – *"The ABC's of Philatelic Exhibiting"* (by Dr. Edwin Andrews)
- ⇒ Oct 19 – *"The Bordentown to NY Stage"* (by Robert Rose)
- ⇒ Nov. 16 – TBA

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