



# The Hamilton Hinge

APS Chapter #1095-104282

Hamilton Township Philatelic Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 3443, Mercerville, NJ 08619-0443

email: [hinge@HamiltonPhilatelic.org](mailto:hinge@HamiltonPhilatelic.org) website: [HamiltonPhilatelic.org](http://HamiltonPhilatelic.org)



Vol. 4, No. 3

November 2010

## November Meeting

This month's featured event is the member mini-presentations we introduced earlier this year. We have four speakers this time with some interesting topics:

- ⇒ Ed Muench – 1894 San Francisco Bicycle Post / The Bicycle Ride Across Iowa
- ⇒ Jeff Boyarsky – Patriotic Postcards
- ⇒ Bob Holmes – Stanley Gibbons Catalog
- ⇒ Jack Sack – Internet Videos

Last May, we also had four speakers and the scope and content of their talks was enjoyed by all. The topics on tap for this meeting look just as interesting.

Society dues are due by January 1st. You can pay at the November meeting or send your \$10 check to the address in our masthead.

Finally, keep an eye out for our 35th anniversary historic overview. Joe Seliga has worked for many months to create a history of our organization in text and images.

## Stamp Identification

Congratulations to **Bob Stolarz** for identifying last month's stamp as Alwar #1 (Indian States 1877 issue).

This month's stamp looked familiar and we thought it would be too easy, but it turned out to be a bit tricky.

Be the first to correctly identify this stamp's catalog number and receive \$1.00 from the US Mint box.



## 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 . . .

- *October Proceedings*
- *Bux-Mont Show*
- *In Memorium*
- . . . and much more!

## President's Message



Have you ever been accused of being unbalanced or crazy? My family sometimes thinks that I am – especially when it comes to my active interest in philately (and fishing too).

I have tried unsuccessfully to explain to all of them the anticipation, enjoyment and relaxation that I feel when working with my stamp and postal history collections. Unfortunately, none of my family members fully understand any of this.

One of the main reasons that I joined the Hamilton Township Philatelic Society was to be with others who share this common interest and bond. It has been (and continues to be) a wonderful feeling to be surrounded by fellow collectors who do exactly the same things that I do, and yet are never considered unbalanced or crazy by their philatelic peers.

What has really shocked me is that each year more and more of these "crazy" people show up at our monthly meetings. It has been amazing. What a wonderful time for the hobby!

Thanks to the fact that many of you have met my family, they have decided that I may not be that unbalanced or crazy – at least when it comes to philately. When they meet all these "crazy" friends, I look a lot more "normal" to them.

Look forward to seeing you on the 16<sup>th</sup>.



HTPS group photo from the October meeting. Herman Berenson is holding the 35th Anniversary commemorative cake.

The largest group in recent memory was on hand for the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the HTPS. The event was complete with a cake and a professional photographer from the **Hamilton Post** who took this photo. A story about HTPS will appear soon in the newspaper.



**Joe Seliga** spoke about the status of the HTPS history which he is writing. Joe thanked the many members who helped in the development of this historic document.

Joe is in the final editing stage and the HTPS history document will be distributed at the November meeting and made available on our website.

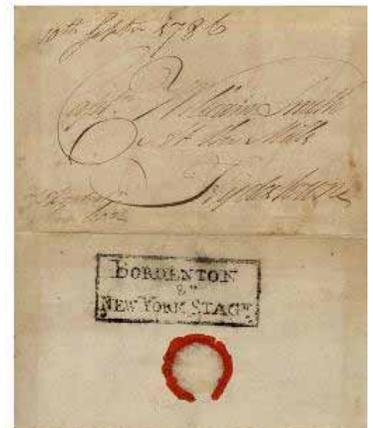
Our speaker for the evening was **Bob Rose**, a noted philatelist and president of the New Jersey Postal History Society.



Bob's presentation was on the **Bordentown & New York Stage**. The service was started by Joseph Borden, founder of Bordentown, NJ, in 1740 and was in operation for about 50 years although service was halted during the Revolutionary war.

Passengers were transported by boat from Philadelphia, up the Delaware River, to Bordentown. They were then transferred to a stage coach which traveled across New Jersey to Perth Amboy. Finally, the passengers were ferried across to Manhattan. The trip from Philadelphia to New York took three days.

Bob displayed some of the postal history associated with that trip. There are only about a dozen known covers with markings indicating that they were carried on the Bordentown & New York Stage.



As none of these covers have any postal markings, it is believed that this was a private service and not part of a government postal contract.

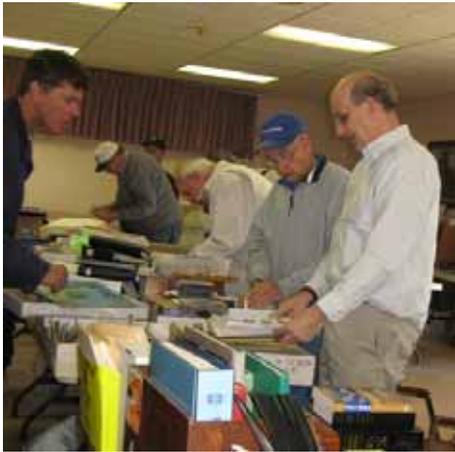
About half of the covers, all dated in 1786, include a hand stamp marked "Bordentown & New York Stage." The cover shown above is addressed to "Capt. William Smith" in "Hydestown" (known today as Hightstown).

We thank Bob for coming down to speak and giving such an interesting presentation about part of this area's postal history.

## Bux-Mont Show

by Les Timbres

The fall edition of the Bux-Mont stamp show was held at the Benjamin Wilson Senior Center in Warminster, PA on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. The show, run by the local Bux-Mont stamp club, had about 15 dealers and a silent auction. The USPS had a table with current issues for sale.



HTPS member Jack Sack searches for some bargains.

After reporting on large-scale international shows, it was a nice change of pace to attend a smaller venue. In fact, I skipped the big NYC show to attend this event.

I was able to obtain some nice covers for my worldwide postal history collection and even found some stamps at the 2 for 5¢ table.

## In Memoriam

Excerpted from *The Times of Trenton* (Oct. 3, 2010)

**Jane N. Bunker** (nee Neutze), 79, passed away Sept. 28, 2010, at the Presbyterian Medical Center in Philadelphia, PA.



Daughter of the late George L.J. Neutze and Jane B. Neutze, she is survived by her husband of 52 years, Donald T. Bunker and her children, Theodore A. Bunker, John H. Bunker, Scott and Cindy Bunker, George and Rosemarie Bunker, Julia Bunker and Ralph Rizziello.

Jane was a graduate of Philadelphia College of Art with dual degrees. She was a commercial design artist for Presbyterian Publishing Co., and a member of the Audubon All-Girls Drum and Bugle Corps (Trumpet and Color Guard). Jane was also a longtime member of Haddonfield Presbyterian Church choir and a life member of the Disabled Americans Veterans Auxiliary.

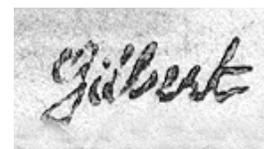
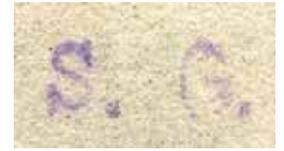
We extend our condolences to HTPS member **Don Bunker** and his family.

## Expert Markings

by Tony Zingale

Most of us have seen "pencil marks" on the backs of stamps. Usually they indicate a catalog number, value or such. However, check the markings carefully – they may be an indication that an expert or dealer / owner has verified that the stamp is genuine or a forgery.

Expert markings originated in the 1860's and had several uses. Dealers like Stanley Gibbons (SG) used a mark (pictured at right) to indicate that the stamp came from their stock. A buyer could return the item if it proved not genuine.



Some experts used marks in place of certificates to save time and money especially on less valuable stamps. Most experts concentrated on a few countries

like Dr. Rudolf Gilbert (mark at the left) who handled Eastern Europe stamps; others covered the world.

Some experts positioned their markings in specific locations on the back of the stamp to indicate its status (e.g., genuine, fake overprint, etc.). Forgeries exist so be careful before accepting a mark as genuine.

Sometimes collectors initialed their stamps to indicate ownership. These are NOT expert marks. Many markings have never been properly identified.

Most markings are plain – initials or the expert's name. Pictured at the right is the striking expert mark of Prof. Gustav Seefeldner found on a Ukrainian stamp.



For more detailed information, check out the Philatelic Experts site at [www.filatelia.fi/experts](http://www.filatelia.fi/experts). They list 1,840 stamp experts past and present by name and by country.

## Circuit Books

We are concerned about the lack of purchases from the APS circuit books. Several times over the last year, sales totaled only a few dollars. Attendance is up at the meetings so it is not for a lack of potential buyers.

Jon Madsen spends his valuable time handling these books and making sure that they are received in good shape and are returned in the same shape and with the funds to pay for purchased items.

Perhaps it is time to eliminate this club feature. We will discuss this at the November meeting so please come and voice your opinion.

## HTPS Notices

**Group Trip:** HTPS is looking into a trip to the APS Center in Bellefonte, PA sometime this spring. If anyone is interested, please contact Todd Tucker at [info@HamiltonPhilatelic.org](mailto:info@HamiltonPhilatelic.org).

**On-line Newsletters:** Copies of HTPS Newsletters are available at our web site (see masthead). One welcome advantage is that you can use the live links to Internet sites and email addresses.

### Membership Dues . . .

HTPS dues of \$10.00 are payable by January 1st. You can pay at the November meeting with cash or check (payable to HTPS), or send payment to Ron Gonzalez at P.O. Box 3443, Mercerville, NJ 08619.

## Upcoming Events

- 11/4 → MSC Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (at Merchantville Ave) – Pennsauken, NJ – Opens at 7 PM.
- 11/6 → MSC Saturday Stamp Bourse – 9 AM to 4 PM – [See 11/4 MSC Meeting for location].
- 11/7 → Garden State Stamp Coin & Currency Show – PAL Building, 33 Baldwin Ave. – Parsippany, NJ – 10 AM to 4 PM.

11/12-14 → Fall Postcard Show – New Yorker Hotel – 8th Ave. & 34th St. – NYC – Fri. 12 to 7 PM – Sat. 10 to 6 PM – Sun. 11 to 4:30 PM – \$7.00 Admission – [www.metropostcard.com](http://www.metropostcard.com).

11/13 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – American Legion Post – Rtes. 130 North & 33 East – Hightstown, NJ – 9:30 AM to 4 PM.

**11/16 → HTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Public Library – Hamilton, NJ – 7 PM.**

11/17 → MSC Meeting (See 11/4 MSC Meeting info).

11/21 → 3rd Sunday Stamp & Coin Bourse – Holiday Inn – 129 Pehle Ave (at Rte 80 & Garden State Pkwy) – Saddle Brook, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM.

11/21 → Money, Stamps & Postcard Show – Clifton Recreation Center – 1232 Main Avenue – Clifton, NJ – Sun. 9 to 5 PM.

11/28 → Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show (4th Sunday) – Holiday Inn – PA Tpke (Exit 339) & Rt. 309 – Ft. Washington, PA – 10 AM to 4 PM.

12/2 → MSC Meeting (See 11/4 MSC Meeting info).

**NOTE:** For updated or additional information, see: [www.stampshows.com](http://www.stampshows.com) – [www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org) – [www.cliftonnj.org/stamp/stampshow.htm](http://www.cliftonnj.org/stamp/stampshow.htm) – [www.postal-history.com/showpage.html](http://www.postal-history.com/showpage.html).

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  
Historian ..... Joe Seliga  
Membership Chairman ..... Jack Sack  
Newsletter Editor ..... Tony Zingale  
NOJEX Contact ..... Andrew Boyajian  
Philatelic Donations ..... Sherm Britton  
Webmaster ..... Jack Sack  
50 / 50 Handlers ..... Jim Cope, Ken Steel

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

- ⇒ Nov. 16 – HTPS Member Mini-Presentations
- ⇒ Dec. 21 – Holiday Party
- ⇒ Jan 18 – Society Auction
- ⇒ Feb. 15 – Tom DeLuca – Always a SURPRISE!
- ⇒ Mar. 15 – "U.S. Special Handling Stamps" (by Robert Rufe)
- ⇒ Apr. 19 – "The 1926 Philadelphia Sesquicentennial" (by Hank Applegate)

### Newsletter Articles . . .

We are always looking for philatelic articles, ideas or suggestions. Contact Tony Zingale at P.O. Box 3443, Mercerville, NJ 08619; or call 609-890-8211; or email us at [info@HamiltonPhilatelic.org](mailto:info@HamiltonPhilatelic.org).