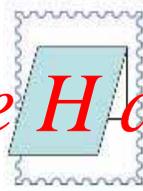




The *H*amilton Hinge



APS Chapter #1095-104282

Hamilton Township Philatelic Society Newsletter

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December 2010

December Meeting

Well 2010 is coming to a close. That means winter arrives, end of the year celebrations and the HTPS annual **holiday party**.

Over the past few years, we have seen a welcome addition and variety to the usual dessert treats including fruit bowls, cheese platters and such. Why not add your homemade specialty?

This meeting is also a good time to bring in some items for Show and Tell. That way, we can enjoy some good food while looking at our member's philatelic interests.

Stamp Identification

Once again, **Bob Stolarz** was the first to identify last month's mystery stamp. It was Bosnia and Herzegovina #J5 issued in 1904.



This month we have another classic typography issue. There should be enough clues in the text to help you come up with the correct answer.

The first reader to supply the stamp's country and catalog number can choose \$1.00 from the US Mint box.

USPS Rate Changes

Effective, January 2, 2011, selected USPS postage rates will change including:

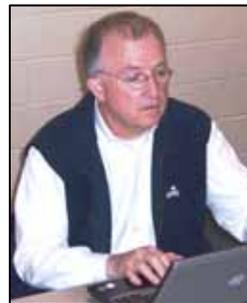
- Flat-rate Priority Mail envelope – \$4.95 (up 5¢)
- Small Priority Mail box – \$5.20 (up 25¢)
- Medium Priority Mail box – \$10.95 (up 25¢)
- Large Priority Mail box – \$14.95 (up 45¢)

Some commercial class customer rates also changed. For additional information, see the USPS website at www.usps.com/prices.

In this Issue . . .

- *November Proceedings*
- *Whole New Map*
- *Upcoming Events*
- . . . and much more!

President's Message



The Hamilton Township Philatelic Society has much to be thankful for this year and the thanks go to each and every one of you.

Our membership is at its largest in our 35 year history and attendance at the monthly meetings continues to grow. The variety of philatelic topics provided by our guest speakers is amazing. And, most importantly, more of us are participating in the Society's functions. The member mini presentations are a perfect example.

The write-up on the 35 year history of the HTPS was very informative and extremely well done. There are other points that I could make, but the best feature of our group is the kindness and friendship that you continually share with your fellow members and with our visitors and guests. That is the real secret to our growth.

So again – thank you – and on behalf of everyone at HTPS, have a Happy Holidays and Healthy New Year.

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.

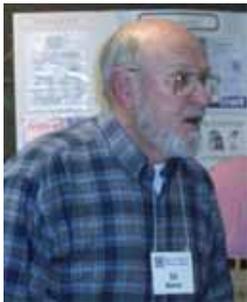
Our November Meeting

by **Jack Sack**

Another record crowd was on hand for the November meeting. The highlight was the release of the first edition of HTPS' history titled "*Can You Believe It: The 35th Anniversary of the Hamilton Township Philatelic Society!*" by **Joe Seliga**. Thanks to Joe for his research and creation of a unique document.

The document is available on our website on the History page. For those without computer access and a color printer, we can provide a copy.

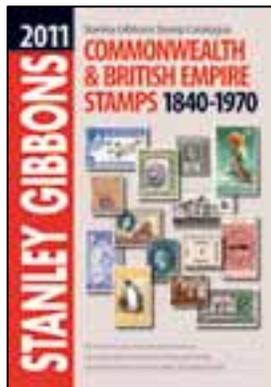
After a discussion on low sales volume from the APS circuit books, it was voted to discontinue receiving them starting in January.



The program for the evening was a series of mini-presentations from our members. **Ed Muench** showed several covers related to bicycles, including several that commemorated the "*Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride across Iowa*" (**RAGBRI**) – an annual 500 mile, seven-day bicycle ride across the state. Many of the towns on the route have commemorative postmarks.

Ed also showed covers from other bicycle races. He has picked up many of the covers at local stamp shows for a few dollars.

Bob Holmes showed several issues of the Stanley Gibbons catalog series and discussed some of the features that differ from the Scott volumes. The Gibbons catalogs are issued in several formats – catalogs for individual countries or regions, for reigns of English monarchs, and for specific topics.



Each catalog lists multiple philatelic varieties, including color and watermarks, not included in Scott. For example, Gibbons has twice as many listings for Queen Victoria Indian stamps than does Scott. The Gibbons catalog is also a price list and they will sell you stamps from their stock as available.

Jeff Boyarsky showed off some patriotic postcards from the early 20th century. Postcards from this era include "Private Mailing Card" types (1898-1901), undivided backs (1901-1907) and divided backs (1907-1915).

Favorite topics for these cards include patriotic symbols, such as the American Flag, the American Eagle, Lady Liberty and the Liberty Bell. Jeff also showed cards picturing George Washington and other Presidents.



1906 Patriotic Postcard

Jack Sack ran a YouTube video on FDR's involvement in creating postal issues and another on a Zeppelin mail drop. **Ron Dobrowolski** displayed a cover with a set of Greek zeppelin stamps. **Ron Gonzalez** demonstrated how "Pure Citrus" air freshener (available at CVS and other stores) removes self-adhesive stamps off paper. It not only worked, but the room smelled a lot better!

A great deal of philatelic knowledge was presented and a good time was had by all. We look forward to the next Mini-Presentation session scheduled for May 2011.

Thanks to **Dan Friedman** from Classic Postcards for providing the Lipman postcard image that Jeff Boyarsky used in his presentation.



Dan's site at www.classiccards.com contains some historic and collecting information on postcards, and includes a number of early postcards for sale.

Also thanks to **Wei** from Antosch & Lin for giving permission to use the image of the U.S. UX1 postcard in the mini-presentation program.



Check out this pioneer card and the other

35,000 postcards at www.stamps-auction.com.

New Member . . . Welcome to Mike Lucisano as the newest member of our group. Mike collects U.S. stamps and plate blocks.

HTPS Notices

Newspaper Article: Did you see the article on the HTPS in the November issue of the *Hamilton Post* and the *Lawrence Gazette*? It was written by **Stacey Pastorella** and included a group photo of members taken at the October meeting by **Suzette J. Lucas**.

We certainly appreciate the advertisement both for our society and the hobby. Our thanks to both Stacey and Suzette for capturing the spirit of our organization in the article. Check out the full text on our website's Link page or at www.mercerspace.com.

Membership Dues . . .

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

Upcoming Events

- 12/2 → MSC Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (at Merchantville Ave) – Pennsauken, NJ – Opens at 7 PM.
- 12/4 → MSC Saturday Stamp Bourse – 9 AM to 4 PM – [See 12/2 MSC meeting for location].
- 12/5 → Garden State Stamp Coin & Currency Show – PAL Building, 33 Baldwin Ave. – Parsippany, NJ – 10 AM to 4 PM.

- 12/10-12 → 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.
- 12/11 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – American Legion Post – Rtes. 130 North & 33 East – Hightstown, NJ – 9:30 AM to 4 PM.
- 12/15 → MSC Meeting (See 12/2 MSC meeting info).
- 12/19 → 3rd Sunday Stamp & Coin Bourse – Holiday Inn – 129 Pehle Ave (at Rte 80 & Garden State Pkwy) – Saddle Brook, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM.
- 12/21 → HTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Public Library – Hamilton, NJ – 7 PM.**
- 12/26 → Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show (4th Sunday) – Holiday Inn – PA Tpke (Exit 339) & Rt. 309 – Ft. Washington, PA – 10 AM to 4 PM.
- 1/2 → Garden State Stamp Coin & Currency Show – PAL Building, 33 Baldwin Ave. – Parsippany, NJ – 10 AM to 4 PM.
- 1/6 → MSC Meeting (See 12/2 MSC meeting info).
- 1/7-9 → 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.

NOTE: For updated or additional information, see: www.stampshows.com – www.stamps.org – www.cliftonnj.org/stamp/stampshow.htm – 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 -----

- ⇒ 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 hinge@HamiltonPhilatelic.org.