



The Hamilton Hinge



APS Chapter #1095-104282

Hamilton Township Philatelic Society Newsletter

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President's Message



October is National Stamp Collecting Month (NSCM) which was started by the USPS in 1981 to encourage the joy of stamp collecting. Activities are planned at both the National Postal Museum in Washington

and at the American Stamp Dealer Association show in New York later this month. For example, every youngster attending the ASDS show will be given a free postage stamp album.

What do you plan to do for NSCM? Why not do something to strengthen the HTPS and to ensure its growth, productivity and continuity? Please take an active part in inviting friends and neighbors to one of our meetings. Post some flyers promoting stamp collecting at a local library, or senior center. There are flyers available on our website or you can create one yourself.

If you know of a youngster who might be interested in stamps, why not give them a beginners album and a batch of stamps? Maybe it will get them started on a "hobby of a lifetime." The APS website offers over 40 mini-albums representing a variety of US states, countries and topics (www.stamps.org). The albums are free and can be printed out for use by stamp collectors.

One of the best ways to promote our hobby is by sharing your knowledge. Why not prepare a "Show & Tell" for our December meeting or a mini-presentation for next May? You can also deliver a presentation on stamp collecting at a local community or senior center.

Whatever you do, I hope you will join me in celebrating "the hobby of kings and the king of hobbies" this month.

See you on the 16th . . . Jeff.

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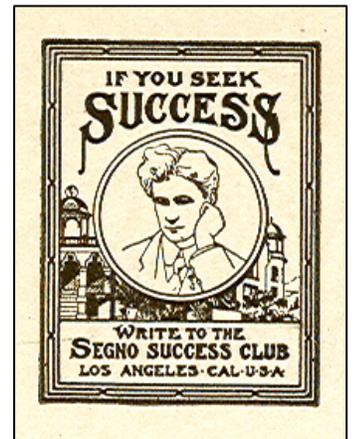
October Meeting

. . . by Jack Sack

We are pleased to welcome back **Ed Grabowski** to speak at our October meeting. Ed is the Vice-President of both the Westfield Stamp Club and the Collectors Club of New York.

You will recall that Ed spoke last February on the French colonial stamp series from Senegal. One of the covers from Senegal that he showed was addressed to a **Professor A. Victor Segno** in Los Angeles. This piqued his interest in finding out who Victor Segno was.

Victor Segno was a turn of the 20th century charlatan and promoter of "Mentalism" – the practice of putting one's brain waves on the right frequency. For a mere \$1.00 a month, Segno would send out vibrations to his followers to help them achieve great success in their lives.



Fortunately, Segno saved many of the covers mailed to him from around the world. Ed will present his studies of Victor Segno and his philatelic items. Perhaps he will also share the secret of successful vibrations!

We look forward to seeing you on October 16th.

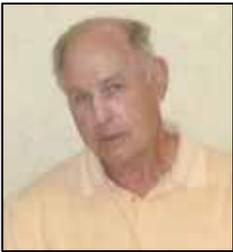
September Proceedings . . . by Jack Sack

A bunch of hardy philatelists braved the elements to attend our September meeting, and they were well rewarded for their efforts with an excellent presentation by our guest speaker.

President Boyarsky presided over the meeting. After the usual formalities, including the minutes and treasurer's report, **Jack Sack** (on the left), the HTPS webmaster, received the Vermeil award issued by the APS for our website.



The attendees were then treated to a delightful presentation by **Roger Brody** on the US definitive series of 1902, also known as the second Bureau issue. The issues are best known for the elaborate frames surrounding the different portraits. It is also the first time an American woman, Martha Washington, appeared on a U.S. postage stamp.



Roger told many stories surrounding the design and printing of the stamps. For example, the original 2c Washington stamp (#301) made our first President appear to be red faced, and was replaced by a different design less than a year later (see images below).



Roger also noted that the high value \$2 and \$5 stamps were mainly used to settle accounts between post offices, and were rarely used on regular mail.

Roger discussed many of the printing varieties including the privately perforated coil stamps. An interesting case involved the San Francisco post office. When they received sheets of the 2c with missing perforations, employees added perforations using a roulette tool.

We thank Roger for taking the time to visit our group and share his knowledge with us.

Stamp Identification

September's stamp was correctly identified by **Ron Kane** as Japan – Offices in Korea #10 issued in 1900.



This month we visit a different part of the world. My first guess on this one was way off base so be careful.

\$1.00 in mint US stamps, or a selection from the prize box, to the first correct responder.

U.S. Philatelic Classics Society

The inaugural meeting of the Greater Philadelphia chapter of the U.S. Philatelic Classics Society (USPCS) is scheduled for Saturday, October 13 from 12:30 – 2:45 PM at Hershey's Mill Community building in West Chester PA.

The USPCS' objective is to promote interest in pre-1894 stamps and postal history of the United States through meetings, philately research and associations with other philatelic organizations.



Mark Schwartz and Bill Schultz are coordinating details for the inaugural Philadelphia meeting. The speaker will be Patricia Stillwell Walker who will talk about the "Postal History of Baltimore."

From Rt. 202 --- Northbound: Exit at Boot Road and turn right. (**Southbound**, turn left). Proceed ¼ mile to stop light at fire house on left and turn left onto Green Hill Road. Proceed about 1.5 miles to the second entrance into Hershey's Mill. Stop at the security gate and tell the guard you are attending the meeting. The Community Building is about 80 yards up the hill on the right. Parking is in front of the building.

From Rt. 3 West --- Turn right on Rt. 352 and cross Paoli Pike. Turn left onto Green Hill Road at the stop light. See Rt. 202 directions above for further details.

Please contact Mark at mark.schwartz1@verizon.net to notify him of your interest in attending. Also check out the excellent USPCS web site at <http://www.uspcs.org/>. You will find lots of philatelic info including links to other sites.

Hinging Stamps

... by Jack Sack

Hinges have been used to mount stamps into albums from the beginning of our hobby. But they sometimes leave a mark on the back of the stamp and can even cause damage to the stamp especially when they are removed (e.g., a hinge thin). Why hasn't anyone come up with a better, inexpensive alternative?

Recently, some letters in the American Philatelist (the Journal of the APS) discussed the use of replacements to the common stamp hinge. Of particular note was a letter to the editor from Jim Sorenson in January regarding the use of removable self-adhesives.

One such device is the "Dotto" cartridge. This device lays down a thin adhesive layer of glue dots on the album page enabling the collector to attach a stamp or mount. Jim has not seen any damage to a stamp - no hinge remnants, stuck-down stamps, tears, or other forms of damage that are common with hinges. The cartridges come in two types: permanent and removable. Obviously, the removable type is best suited for stamp collectors as it will enable removal or repositioning of the stamp or mount.



One simply presses the applicator to the page to dispense a small amount of glue (left), and then places the stamp into position (right). The applicator can be run across the page to mount a souvenir sheet or larger item.

The Hamilton Hinge has requested our internationally known testing lab – Hamilton Stamp Labs – to experiment with the use of the "Dotto" self-adhesive. We will report back in the November issue.

The glue dispensers can be obtained from local craft stores and online vendors. We have ordered some for our lab testing and will make available extra dispensers for resale at the next meeting. We will also do a test to compare the time it takes to hinge vs. "dotto" a stamp to an album page.

Perhaps we will have to change the name of this publication to the "Hamilton Dotto".

Press Sheets

Source: Linn's Stamp News

The USPS recently announced that they will be selling press sheets for most (all?) of the US commemorative stamp issues. It was unclear when this process was first available.



On a typical press sheet, the six panes are uncut (see the Joe DiMaggio example at the left). The USPS expects these items to be saved by collectors and other non-philatelic customers interested in the subject or topic.

In some cases, press sheets for specific issues (e.g., Major League Baseball All-Stars and the War of 1812) were created without the die cuts between the stamps.

In a recent related article, *Linn's Stamp News* reports that the Scott catalog editors have decided NOT to assign separate catalog numbers for stamps that are cut from the press sheets. The editors felt that these non-die cut issues are intended for display or speculation and not for postal use.



If individual stamps are cut out of a press sheet (as above), they would be imperforate versions of the issue since the die cuts were never applied. In fact you could have imperforate singles, pairs and blocks further complicating a collector's decision process.

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.

Upcoming Events

- 10/4 → MSC Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (at Merchantville Avenue) – Pennsauken, NJ – Opens at 7 PM.
- 10/6 → MSC Saturday Stamp Bourse – 9 AM to 4 PM – [see 10/4 MSC meeting for location].
- 10/7 → Garden State Coin & Stamp Show – P.A.L. Building – 33 Baldwin Rd – Parsippany, NJ – 10 AM to 4 PM – 201-584-0424.
- 10/11-14 → Mega-Event (ASDA) – New Yorker Hotel – 481 Eighth Avenue – NYC – Thur. to Sat. 10 AM to 6 PM – Sun. 10 AM to 4 PM – <http://www.americanstampdealer.com/>.
- 10/13 → U.S. Philatelic Classics Society Meeting – West Chester, PA (see page 2 for details).
- 10/13 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – American Legion Post – Rtes. 130 North & 33 East – Hightstown, NJ – 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM.
- 10/16 → HTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Public Library – Hamilton, NJ – 7PM.**
- 10/17 → MSC Meeting (see 10/4 MSC meeting info).

- 10/21 → World Money, Stamps & Postcard Show – Community Recreation Center – 1232 Main Avenue – Clifton, NJ – 9 AM to 5 PM.
- 10/21 → Stamps and Collectibles Bourse – Fire Company #1 – 93 Parish Drive – Wayne, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM.
- 10/28 → Tri-State Coin & Stamps – Holiday Inn – 530 Pennsylvania Ave. (PA Tpke Exit 339 & Rt. 309) – Ft. Washington, PA – 9:30 AM to 4 PM.
- 10/28 → Stamp Show – Hilton Garden Inn – 530 West Pennsylvania Ave. (PA Tpke Exit 339 & Rt. 309) – Ft. Washington, PA – 9:30 AM to 4 PM.
- 11/1 → MSC Meeting [see 10/4 MSC meeting info].
- 11/3 → MSC Saturday Stamp Bourse – 9 AM to 4 PM – [see 10/4 MSC meeting for location].
- 11/10 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – American Legion Post – [see 10/13 show info].

NOTE: For updated or additional information, see www.stampshows.com, www.stamps.org and 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 Jeff Boyarsky
Vice President Andrew Boyajian
Treasurer / Publicity Ron Gonzalez
Secretary Bob Stolarz

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

APS Representative Jon Madsen
Advertising and PR Bill Andersen
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 -----

- ⇒ Oct. 16 – “Prof. Victor Segno Mentalist”
by Dr. Ed Grabowski
- ⇒ Nov. 20 – “Forgeries & Fakes” by Bob Rose
- ⇒ Dec. 18 – Holiday Party / Show & Tell
- ⇒ Jan. 15 – Society Auction
- ⇒ Feb. 19 – Tom Deluca --- always a surprise!
- ⇒ Mar. 19 – TBA

Newsletter Articles . . .

We always welcome 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.