



The *H*amilton Hinge

APS Chapter #C-104282

Hamilton Township Philatelic Society Newsletter

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January-February 2014

January-February Meetings

We always start the New Year with one of our semi-annual auctions. So come to our **January** meeting and bring something to sell, or better yet, bring some money to buy some of the bargain items up for sale.



Tom DeLuca, long-time HTPS member and owner of **Trenton Stamp and Coin**, located on Route 33 right here in Hamilton Square, NJ, will speak at our **February** meeting. This will mark the 34th year that Tom has

provided a presentation.

The topic is always a surprise ranging from Mickey Mouse postcards to last year's talk on questions he is often asked at his shop. Don't miss this one!

The business meeting starts at 7:30 PM, but come early to check out the displays and items for trade / sale, or to chat with your fellow philatelists.

Stamp Identification



Congratulations to **Ron Kane** for correctly identifying last issue's stamp as Pakistan-Bahawalpur Scott #09. A bit later, **Bob Holmes** sent in his identification as Bahawalpur SG #013 which is also correct.

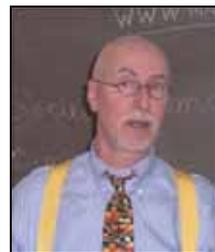
This month we highlight an old monastery. No clues should be needed for this one so pull out your ID books.

There is a prize of \$1.00 in mint stamps for the first correct responder.

In this Issue . . .

- *November-December Proceedings*
- *Library Exhibits*
- *Silhouette FDC Cachets*
- *USPS Rate Changes*
- . . . and much more!

President's Message



Recently, HTPS member **Ron González** gave a presentation on the importance of organizing and documenting your philatelic items for both yourself and your heirs.

With the New Year arriving, perhaps one of your resolutions could be to work on this process. For some of us with a large accumulation of stamps, covers and other material, it may seem like an impossible task.

But if you start out with a small selection, perhaps items of value or those that you want to pass on, you should find the task manageable. It does not have to be fancy and it does not require a computer though that would make updates a lot easier.

So let's take Ron's advice and get started on documenting our philatelic items. See you at the January meeting . . . Jeff.

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, Hamilton, NJ (Mercer County).

November Proceedings . . . by Jack Sack

A large group was on hand for our November meeting. **Roger Randall** gave a report on the bus trip run by the Merchantville Stamp Club to the National Postal Museum (NPM) in Washington. Roger was very impressed by the Museum and its staff, and urged everyone to visit it.

(Editor's note: We asked our correspondent, Les Timbres, to make a trip to the NPM and report back.)



For Show & Tell, **Jim Cope** showed off a new \$100 bill (above) which has a number of added security features. **Neil Wood** discussed the problems he has keeping letters he mails from being damaged in the sorting machines, even when he pays the non-machinable surcharge.



The presentation for the evening was by **Ron González** titled – “And Now What . . .” – a primer on Estate Planning for your philatelic holdings. Ron covered a number of topics, including inventory, organization and how to value your collection. He also

discussed preparing a “Philatelic Will” to provide directions for donating or selling your collection or – if all else fails – taking it with you!

Ron provided a list of sources and web site locations to help with your estate planning. This included the APS site at <http://stamps.org/Estate-Planning>.

We thank Ron for taking the time to prepare and present this informative review, and urge all our members to consider Ron's suggestions. A copy of the presentation is available on our website.

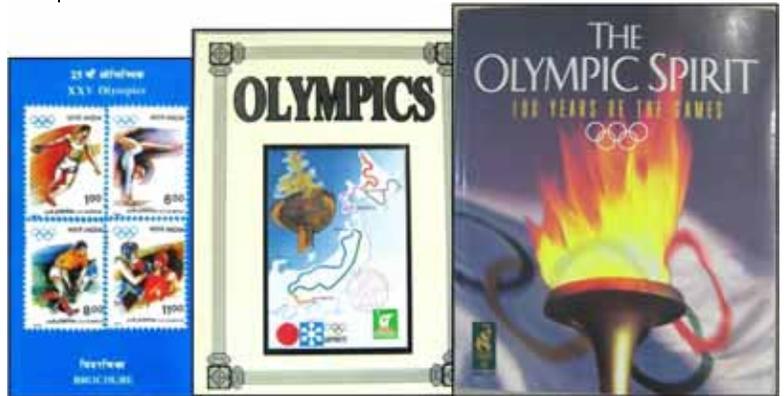


Library Exhibits . . . by Andrew Boyajian



Over the past two months, I have setup two exhibits at the West Windsor Library located at 333 North Post Road in Princeton Jct., NJ.

The November exhibit commemorated stamp collecting and the Olympics. Items on display included books, posters and covers with dates ranging from 1932 up to the 1990's. Below are some of the items in the exhibition.



For December, we exhibited Christmas issues and artifacts including those shown below.



2014 marks **New Jersey's 350th anniversary** (as a gift from Charles II of England to his brother James). We are developing a philatelic tribute exhibit for the Hamilton library. If you have any items of interest, please contact me or Tony Zingale.

December Proceedings

... by Jack Sack

Our December Holiday Party is always a cheerful event with good food and lots of great conversation. This year provided a nice variety to enjoy while chatting with our fellow philatelists. The unofficial winner of the best food item was **Jim Cope's** Panda Cookies (above).



Tony Zingale started off the presentations for the **stamp design** contest. He gave a brief description of printing techniques and then showed the seven contest entries. A three-way tie was declared among **Jack Sack** (entry shown at left), **Jeff Boyarsky** and **Ken Steel**.

There were several interesting member show and tell presentations. **Roger Randall** spoke about the volunteer work he did at the Post Office (shown at right) in Batsto Village, a historic site in Atlantic County. Originally opened in 1852, it is one of the oldest post offices currently in operation. It has never been assigned a zip code.



Milt Keiles described his computer inventory system, and offered to give it to anyone interested. Milt also showed a cover sent airmail / special delivery between two towns in Maine, although the postal marking ("RPO") indicated it was actually sent by train.

Jim Cope spoke about a 1901 stock certificate signed by the famous Trentonian, Rudolph V. Kuser (1866-1931) for the Trenton Inter-State Fairgrounds. **Bob Stolarz** showed a number of interesting stamps and other philatelic items.

Thanks to all for their party donations and show and tell presentations.

Society Auction

Its auction time again! That means an opportunity to acquire some material for your collection or to sell some of your excess items.



Here are some **hints** for creating lots:

- ⇒ Put up items that fellow members collect. Unique items do well.
- ⇒ Reference publications, especially specialized or color catalogs, are always popular.
- ⇒ Postcards, postal history and ephemera also sell.

Preparing Auction Forms

Enter your name and date (1-21-14) at the top of the **Auction List Sheet**. Enter a description with Scott # (for stamps), condition and catalog / retail values.

Auction List - Seller's Name: <u>JOHN DOE</u>		Date: <u>1-15-08</u>			
Item No.	Item Name or Scott Number	Item Description and/or Condition (e.g. Blue Collection, MNH, F-VF, Date Crossed)	Minimum Bid	Sales Price	Price Number
1	Scott 2004	US SPECIALIZED CATALOG - good cond.	1.00		
2	Scott PB Album	1961-1964 Commemoratives, No stamps, some mounts - ex. cond.	2.00		
3	DESHARE	#9/126 (5) Used - CV \$75+	5.00		
4	NETHERLANDS	200 DIFF USED - CV \$45	5.00		
5	FDC ALBUM	with 25 two-up Clear Pages	3.00		
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					

Total Sales _____
Club Commission (-10%) _____
Net to Seller _____

For the Minimum Bid – be realistic – common items usually sell for 10-20% of catalog value. You can use 2-3 lines to describe an item - just renumber the sheet.

HTPS Auction --- Lot Description	
Seller Name: _____	Item #: _____
Description: _____	
Item Value: _____	Min. Bid: _____

Put a number / price on the items to match the Auction form or use a **Lot Description form** (at left) as needed.

Obtain a **bidder number** before the auction starts. Bidding starts with the seller's minimum bid as shown on the Lot Description form. Bid increments vary at the discretion of the Auctioneer. All items are SOLD AS IS – so carefully check the auction lots for content and quality before the auction starts.

If you wish to **donate** the sales proceeds to the HTPS, please indicate so on the Auction List Sheet.

Payments are made by the winning bidders after all auction items are sold. The sellers are paid the sales price realized MINUS a 10% commission for HTPS. Amounts are rounded to 10¢ increments.

Silhouette FDC Cachets . . . by **Ron Dobrowolski**

Frank Raciti, an avid Civil War collector, created a silhouette of Lincoln's head to use for his covers and album pages. He added Lincoln's birth year (1809) and the year of his death (1865) at the silhouette sides.

Below is a FDC for the 4-cent Lincoln stamp issued in 1965 – the first issue in the Prominent American series. Included are the original art work for the silhouette cachet and a receipt for the press proof.



Raciti sent a FDC of the Lincoln issue to **Robert Graebner** who liked the design and decided to issue covers for the remainder of the Prominent American series which he produced under the "Albers" name.

Robert Graebner's first covers were for the 6-cent Roosevelt stamp issued in 1966. He designed two cachets. Type I was for single stamp covers with the silhouette and birth/death years contained within a circle. Type II was for combo covers and contained just the silhouette and dates for each stamp issued to date in the series. Below are the two Roosevelt covers.



As more stamps were issued in the series, the combo covers required more stamps and silhouettes. The cost of each cover also increased especially with the release of the \$1 and \$5 issues. Below are Type II combo FDC covers for the 1¼ cent Gallatin (1967) and 40 cent Paine (1968) issues.



Over the years Graebner created silhouette formatted covers for other first days and events including the 40th anniversary of Lindbergh's transatlantic flight (1967) and the 5-cent migratory bird issue from 1966. Below are covers for those events.



Work continues on my exhibit containing over 150 different Graebner-created silhouette covers.

Editor's Note: At MERPEX 2013, Ron's silhouette cachet exhibit was awarded a MERPEX Gold, the President's Award and the FDC Society Award.

Upcoming Events

January 2014 . . .

1/2 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (Merchantville Ave) – Pennsauken, NJ – Opens at 7 PM – <http://www.merchantvillestampclub.org>.

1/3-5 → Garden State Stamp & Coin 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.

1/4 → MSC Stamp Bourse – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (at Merchantville Avenue) – Pennsauken, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM – <http://www.merchantvillestampclub.org>.

1/11 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – American Legion Post – Rtes. 130 North & 33 East – Hightstown, NJ – 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM.

1/18 → Jockey Hollow Bourse – 1st Presbyterian Church Parrish Hall – 494 Route 10 West – Whippany, NJ – 9 AM to 3 PM – 973-263-9012.

1/15 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (Merchantville Ave) – Pennsauken, NJ – Opens at 7 PM – <http://www.merchantvillestampclub.org>.

1/19 → Wayne Stamp & Collectibles Bourse – Fire Company #1 – 93 Parrish Drive – Wayne, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM.

1/21 → HTTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Public Library – Hamilton, NJ – 7 PM.

1/26 → Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show (4th Sunday) – Holiday Inn – PA Tpke (Exit 339) & Rt. 309 – Ft. Washington, PA – 10 AM to 4 PM.

February 2014 . . .

2/1 → MSC Stamp Bourse – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (at Merchantville Avenue) – Pennsauken, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM – <http://www.merchantvillestampclub.org>.

2/1 → Stamp Day – The Stamp Center – 4115 Concord Pike – Wilmington, DE – 10 AM to 5 PM – <http://www.thestampcenter.com/>.

2/2 → Garden State Stamp, Coin & Currency Show – P.A.L. Building – 33 Baldwin Rd – Parsippany, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM – 973-335-0555.

2/6 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (Merchantville Ave) – Pennsauken, NJ – Opens at 7 PM – <http://mysite.verizon.net/vzexkfun/>.

2/8 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – American Legion Post – Rtes. 130 North & 33 East – Hightstown, NJ – 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM.

2/16 → Wayne Stamp & Collectibles Bourse – Fire Company #1 – 93 Parrish Drive – Wayne, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM.

2/14-16 → APS StampShow – Statehouse Convention Center – 1 Statehouse Plaza – Little Rock, AK – Fri.- Sat. 10 AM to 6 PM – Sun. 10 AM to 3 PM – <http://stamps.org/AmeriStamp-Expo-ASE>.

2/18 → HTTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Public Library – Hamilton, NJ – 7 PM.

2/19 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (Merchantville Ave) – Pennsauken, NJ – Opens at 7 PM – <http://mysite.verizon.net/vzexkfun/>.

2/23 → Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show (4th Sunday) – Holiday Inn – PA Tpke (Exit 339) & Rt. 309 – Ft. Washington, PA – 10 AM to 4 PM.

March 2014 . . .

3/1 → MSC Stamp Bourse – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (at Merchantville Avenue) – Pennsauken, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM – <http://www.merchantvillestampclub.org>.

3/1 → Westfield Stamp Show – Westfield Municipal Center – 425 East Broad St. – Westfield, NJ – Sat: 10 AM to 4 PM.

3/2 → Garden State Stamp, Coin & Currency Show – P.A.L. Building – 33 Baldwin Rd – Parsippany, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM – 973-335-0555.

3/8 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – American Legion Post – Rtes. 130 North & 33 East – Hightstown, NJ – 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM.

NOTE: For additional and updated information, see www.stampshows.com, www.stamps.org and www.postal-history.com/showpage.html.

USPS Rate Changes

The New Year brings another round of postal rate changes. Effective, **January 26, 2014**, some USPS postage rates will change for single-piece First-Class Mail including:

- Letters (1 oz.) – 49¢ (up 3¢)
- Letters additional ounces – 21¢ (up 1¢)
- Postcards – 34¢ (up 1¢)
- International Letters (1 oz.) – \$1.15 (up 5¢)

There were also price changes for priority mail services, media mail and shipping packages. No summary charts are available at this point, but check out the USPS site on the internet in a few weeks for that info.

Philatelic Donations

Thanks to all those who donated stamps, covers, supplies and other items during the year. **Sherm Britton** estimates that we have sent more than 250 pounds of philatelic material to the Stamps for the Wounded group and other organizations over the last ten years.

Membership Dues . . .

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

Stamp Collecting Presentation

HTPS member **Dr. Ronald H. González** will present a slide program on how to start collecting stamps and other philatelic items as a hobby. The lecture is set for Thursday, January 16th at 7:00 pm at the **Hickory Corner Library** located at 138 Hickory Corner Road, East Windsor, NJ.

This is a perfect event to take a young person interested in stamp collecting. For more information, contact the library at [609 448-1330](tel:6094481330) or by email at hcprogs@mcl.org

New Member . . . HTPS welcomes **Matt Visco** as the newest member of our group. Matt collects U.S. stamps, booklets and postal stationary.

The objective of our 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 -----

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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 -----

- ⇒ Jan. 21 – Society Auction
- ⇒ Feb. 18 – Tom DeLuca – Always a Surprise!
- ⇒ Mar. 18 – “*Small Is the Way to Go*”
by Ed Muench
- ⇒ Apr. 15 – “*Philately & International Mail
Order Fraud*” by Ed Grabowski
- ⇒ May 20 – Member Mini-Presentations

We are looking for speakers for the 2014-2015 season. Please contact us if interested.

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.