



The Hamilton Hinge

APS Chapter #C-104282

Hamilton Township Philatelic Society Newsletter

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July-Aug 2014

July-August Meetings

Our summer meetings are informal gatherings with no society business being conducted. Still, we promise an interesting time for all. Both months offer a chance for socializing, trading and special events.

In **July**, members are encouraged to bring in items that need researching. Hopefully we can help identify that strange stamp or philatelic item. We will have catalogs, watermark fluid, perf gauges and other items to assist you in identifying stamps.

The **August** meeting is highlighted by HAMPEX'14 – an exhibit where members create a stock page (or pages) related to one of their collecting interests.

There will also be an informal bourse at both meetings. Members and visitors can trade or sell their philatelic items (actually anything they want).

Our regular meeting schedule starts back up in September with a presentation by **Ron Dobrowolski** on *Silhouette Covers*.

Stamp Identification

Congratulations to **Bill Andersen** for correctly identifying last issue's stamp as the Indian State's



Jhalawar #2 issued in 1887. This is an easy 'country' to collect – only two stamps were issued.

This time we have a more difficult challenge for you, but there is a lot of information in the design.

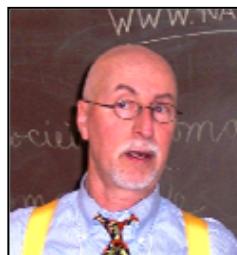
\$1.00 in mint stamps for the first correct responder.

In this Issue . . .

- *Meeting Proceedings*
- *NOJEX 2014*
- *Stamp Tidbits*

... and much more!

President's Message



Philately is a fascinating hobby. The longer you participate, the more there is to enjoy. There are so many facets to discover, so many places to "visit" and so much history to learn.

If you are at a point where you are not having as much fun, try to open your mind to something new. How about going to a show – there is almost always one scheduled close by. Perhaps start collecting a new country or a topic that piques your interest. Postal history is also an area open to many collecting possibilities.

How about taking the plunge and putting together a mini presentation for our club? Or develop a formal exhibit for an area show. Read a book about the hobby. The American Philatelic Reference Library (APRL) has over 21,000 books with most available for loan to members or scanning for non-members.

Join a philatelic society and go to some of their meetings to learn what is happening in our hobby. Take a chance and show your collection to family members, kids or grandkids. Don't have any? – then adopt a "Philatelic Grandchild."

Many good ideas – just think out of your comfort zone and see where it takes you.

Meeting Proceedings

... by **Jack Sack**

The main business at the **May meeting** was the election of new officers. The photo below shows our 2014-2015 officers (from the left):

- ⇒ Secretary: **Bob Stolarz**
- ⇒ President: **Jeff Boyarsky**
- ⇒ Vice-President: **Milton Keiles**
- ⇒ Treasurer: **Ron Gonzalez**



Ed Murtha informed the group that long-time HTPS member **Warren Scheible** is in a nursing home. We all wish him a speedy recovery. Ed also asked for volunteers to help setup and breakdown the NOJEX show the weekend of May 30-June 1.

Len DeGroot discussed the possibility of our club joining the American Topical Association. The ATA is the fastest growing stamp organization in the county. There are a number of benefits in joining the ATA, including receiving their excellent journal (*Topic Times*) and discounts on Association publications. To qualify as an affiliated club, the ATA requires that a group have three ATA members. Len and **Ed Muench** belong to the ATA, so we are looking for a third HTPS member to join.

The activity for the May meeting was Mini-Presentations from HTPS members. **Jeff Boyarsky** suggested starting an inexpensive US collection of the US Transportation Coil. There are a total of 35 stamps in the series, not including varieties and overprints. One can collect the series as singles, coil pairs or with coil plate numbers in strips of three or five.



Jim Cope showed a cover he sent to Japan that was returned to him. It had a very interesting card, printed in Japanese, attached to the cover along with an English note underneath indicating the recipient has passed away.

Neil Wood showed a 1949 Collier's Magazine article about investing in stamps. Investment guru Joe Granville believed he could advise collectors on the right stamps to buy. During the fifties the post office

sold millions of stamps to would-be investors hoping to secure their financial future. They wound up with stamps that even today sell for a discount from face value.

Andrew Boyajian showed several Olympic postcards from the 1984

Olympics, including one that was postmarked when the torch relay group passed through Trenton, NJ on May 13, 1984.

Bob Stolarz gave several presentations on "Exhibition Labels" and other philatelic items. Most of the Exhibition examples were from the late 1800's to the early 1900's. All were privately printed and used to promote industrial exhibitions and other types of trade shows. Many were beautifully designed and engraved. Two of the many examples that Bob displayed are shown below.

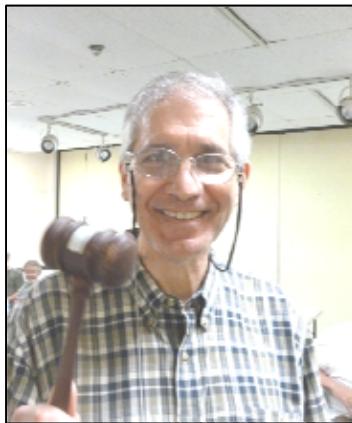


We thank all the presenters for showing us items from their collections. Think about what you can show at our next "mini" event or show and tell.

Proceedings (continued) . . .

The **June meeting** was highlighted by our semi-annual auction.

During the business meeting, **Ed Murtha** reported on our participation at the NOJEX show (see the article in the adjoining column). There was also a discussion about the possibility that we will have to find a new venue for our meetings in the future. It was agreed that we would investigate this potential change.



Our semi-annual auctions are always a lot of fun. Auctioneer **Tony Zingale** keeps things lively with his banter. Included in the auction lots this time were some items from the collection of the late **John Ranto** as well as other offerings.

The big sellers were stamp supplies (stock sheets and glue sticks) and Scott catalogs. One disappointment was a shortage of stamps, covers and postcard lots. Hopefully, each member will bring at least two or three items for the next auction.

Some of the items were sold subsequent to the meeting after members realized the missed bargains.

The meeting ended with good wishes for everyone over the summer. While we will have informal meetings in July and August, our official meetings start up again on September 16th.

British Guiana Contest

The British Guiana 1856 1¢ Magenta was auctioned off for 9.5 million dollars at Sotheby's on June 17 in New York City.



Our contest to guess the winning bid produced NO winners as all bids were over the actual price realized. So we put our copy of this rare stamp back into the vault until the next time it is up for auction.

NOJEX 2014

The NOJEX show was held in Secaucus, NJ at the Empire Meadowlands Hotel & Suites on May 30 – June 1. A group of six HTPS members helped setup the dealer tables and exhibits before the show.



Ed Murtha, Joe Seliga, Jeff Boyarsky, Ken Steel, Klaus Wagner and Bill Andersen

The show commemorated New Jersey's 350th Anniversary with a cover (shown below) honoring Molly Pitcher at the 1778 Battle of Monmouth, NJ.



Over 150 exhibit frames were setup covering a wide range of topics. Our friend **Bob Rufe** won the Grand Award for his exhibit on US Special Handling stamps. You might remember that Bob gave a talk on this subject at our March 2011 meeting.

There were 35 dealers at the show bourse including HTPS member **Sid Morginstin**. Most dealers reported good sales during the show.

A number of groups, including the New Jersey Postal History Society, held meetings during the show.

Stamp Tidbits

... by Bill Andersen

Here are some interesting stories about stamps that I found on the Mystic Stamp Company site at www.mysticstamp.com/learning_center.asp?id=10.

⇒ In the South American countries of **Bolivia and Paraguay**, stamps actually helped to **provoke a war** – the Chaco War in the early 1930's.



The conflict escalated when Bolivia issued a stamp claiming an undefined and long-disputed area of wilderness. The stamp design contained a map with the disputed territory clearly labeled at the southeastern corner of Bolivia.

Enraged by this bold territory claim, Paraguay countered by issuing a larger stamp, which even more clearly showed the territory as belonging to Paraguay. On the stamp were the words (translated), “Has been, is, and will be.” Soon afterwards a vicious war over the territory began. The war raged for years with Paraguay eventually proving to be the victor. Several stamps were then issued proudly proclaiming the territory as Paraguay's.

⇒ The world's longest-lived **mail delivery system** exists in India. Called the **Dak (or Dawk)** system, this organization can be traced back to Roman relay runners. Dak runners carried the mail over long distances by inserting it in a stick split down the middle. A torch bearer helped guide the runners at night, and another ran along beating a drum to scare off dangerous animals.

The East India Company ran the system while Britain controlled India. During that time postal inspectors were employed, and timekeepers kept the runners on schedule.

⇒ The first recorded stamp collector was **John Bourke**, who served as Receiver-General of Stamp Duties in Ireland.



⇒ Dr. John Edward Gray of the British Museum became the first collector of postage stamps when he purchased a block of Penny Blacks on May 1, 1840. He published one of the first stamp catalogs in 1862.

⇒ The January 1, 1869 issue of Stamp Collector Magazine showed collectors how to make their own **stamp hinges** cut from the margins of stamp sheets. This is the first known example of hinge use – previously collectors had pasted their stamps directly into their albums.

⇒ In 1918, the British government **counterfeited stamps** from the nations of Austria, Bavaria, and Germany. The stamps were then to be used to mail fake propaganda leaflets and postcards to neutral countries, such as Switzerland or Holland, who would believe they were genuine articles. It was hoped that these letters would win support for the Allies, but the program was abandoned before it could be employed.

However, during WW II the British did successfully circulate German “Hitler Head” stamps. These stamps were used to spread rumors of dissension among German troops.



[Editor's Note: The WW II “Hitler Head” stamps and covers would make a good exhibit collection.]

⇒ George Herpin of Paris was the first to use the term philately. Herpin didn't like the term “timbromanie” which means stamp madness that had been popular in the 1860s. He published one of the earliest stamp journals in 1864.

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).

Upcoming Events

July 2014 . . .

- 7/3 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (Merchantville Ave) – Pennsauken, NJ – Opens at 7 PM – www.merchantvillesstampclub.org.
- 7/5 → MSC Stamp Bourse – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (at Merchantville Avenue) – Pennsauken, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM – www.merchantvillesstampclub.org.
- 7/6 → Garden State Stamp, Coin & Currency Show – P.A.L. Building – 33 Baldwin Rd – Parsippany, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM – 973-335-0555.
- 7/11-13 → 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.metro expos.com.
- 7/12 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – American Legion Post – Rtes. 130 North & 33 East – Hightstown, NJ – 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM.
- 7/15 → HTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Public Library – Hamilton, NJ – 7 PM – Sell & Swap Meet.**
- 7/16 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – see 7/3 meeting for details.
- 7/20 → Wayne Stamp & Collectibles Bourse – Fire Company #1 – 93 Parrish Drive – Wayne, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM.
- 7/27 → Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show (4th Sunday) – Holiday Inn – PA Tpke (Exit 339) & Rt. 309 – Ft. Washington, PA – 10 AM to 4 PM.

August 2014 . . .

- 8/2 → MSC Stamp Bourse – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (at Merchantville Avenue) – Pennsauken, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM – www.merchantvillesstampclub.org.
- 8/3 → Garden State Stamp, Coin & Currency Show – P.A.L. Building – 33 Baldwin Rd – Parsippany, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM – 973-335-0555.
- 8/7 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (Merchantville Ave) – Pennsauken, NJ – Opens at 7 PM – www.merchantvillesstampclub.org.

8/9 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – American Legion Post – Rtes. 130 North & 33 East – Hightstown, NJ – 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

8/13 → Wayne Stamp & Collectibles Bourse – Fire Company #1 – 93 Parrish Drive – Wayne, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM.

8/15-17 → Americover 2014 – Somerset Hotel & Conference Center – 200 Atrium Drive – Somerset, NJ – Check the website for times: www.afdcs.org/americover/2014.html.

8/19 → HTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Public Library – Hamilton, NJ – 7:00 PM – HAMPEX'14 (member exhibits).

8/20 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – see 8/7 meeting for details.

8/21-24 → APS StampShow 2014 – Connecticut Convention Center – 100 Columbus Blvd – Hartford, CT – 140+ dealers – 14,000 exhibit pages – Thurs. to Sat. 10 AM to 6 PM – Sun. 10 AM to 4 PM – www.stamps.org/Stampshow-ss.

8/24 → Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show (4th Sunday) – Holiday Inn – PA Tpke (Exit 339) & Rt. 309 – Ft. Washington, PA – 10 AM to 4 PM.

8/29-30 → MERPEX XXXVIII – St. Cecilia School – 4851 Camden Avenue – Pennsauken, NJ – Fri: 10 AM to 6 PM, Sat: 9 AM to 5 PM.

September 2014 . . .

9/4 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (Merchantville Ave) – Pennsauken, NJ – Opens at 7 PM – www.merchantvillesstampclub.org.

9/7 → Garden State Stamp, Coin & Currency Show – P.A.L. Building – 33 Baldwin Rd – Parsippany, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM – 973-335-0555.

9/12-14 → 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.metro expos.com.

9/13 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – American Legion Post – Rtes. 130 North & 33 East – Hightstown, NJ – 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

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

Donations

Our thanks to **Terry McGuire** for his donation of philatelic items including postcards, US and WW stamps / sets, and topical material (insects, mushrooms, butterflies, etc.) mounted on pages and stock sheets in 3-ring binders.

We will donate some of Terry's items to the Merchantville Stamp Club's **Youth Outreach** group and to the '**Stamps for the Wounded**' program. Other material will be sold or auctioned off with all proceeds going to those two groups.

Both organizations serve different people and causes, but are worthy of your consideration when donating philatelic material.

New Members

The HTPS group welcomed three new members at our last two meetings. In May, **Harold G.** joined. Harold collects U.S. used up to 1976.

We added two members in June. **Ken S.** collects US, France, UN material and Ireland. Also joining was **David S.** who has a variety of interests covering all areas of philately.

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 Milt Keiles
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

MERPEX XXXVIII

As the end of summer nears, the MERPEX show beckons and this year is no different. The show is organized by the Merchantville Stamp Club and held over the Labor Day weekend – August 29-30 – in Pennsauken, NJ. See 'Upcoming Events' on the previous page



This year's theme is the 350th anniversary of the founding of New Jersey. Commemorative cachets will be available for purchase.

The show features a variety of dealers ranging from three to five table spreads to one table "boutique" offerings. The 60 frame exhibit in the middle of the floor also attracts many viewers.

For more details, check out the show website at: <http://www.merchantvillestampclub.org/merpex/>.

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

- ⇒ July 15 – Sell and Swap Meeting
- ⇒ Aug 19 – HAMPEX'14
- ⇒ Sept 16 – "*Silhouette Covers*" by Ron Dobrowolski
- ⇒ Oct 21 – TBA
- ⇒ Nov 18 – "*Irish Coils*" by Robert Benninghoff

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 609-586-7663; or email us at hinge@HamiltonPhilatelic.org.