



The *H*amilton Hinge



APS Chapter #C-104282 – ATA Chapter #127

Hamilton Township Philatelic Society (HTPS)

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Vol. 8, No. 6

July-August 2015

July – August Meetings

Summertime meetings are here again. No formal business is conducted for these two meetings – but it is a great opportunity to get together with fellow philatelists and friends.

The **July** meeting is a good time to socialize with your fellow members. Perhaps you have some philatelic items you cannot identify. Bring them in so we can pass them around and maybe someone will come up with an answer.

HAMPEX'15 highlights the **August** meeting giving our members a chance to create and display a stock page (or pages) related to one of their collecting interests. Prizes are awarded for all winning entries.

There will 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 mini-presentations by HTPS members. This can be a quick show ‘n tell up to a 5-10 minute talk on any topic you want. Use the summer meetings to plan and discuss your ideas with other members.

Stamp Identification

No one correctly identified the stamp in our last issue. Perhaps it was due to the stamp being part of a 16-issue sheet. We will hold it for another time.

This time we have an entry from the Far East. No more clues as this should be an easy one to identify.

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



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President’s Message



The 2014-2015 HTPS philatelic season is behind us and what a great time we had. Our meetings included talks from outside speakers and HTPS members, auctions and our annual holiday party.

The member mini-presentations are a big hit so we will have two on the 2015-2016 meeting schedule. Why not plan on giving a short talk on one of your collecting interests?

Our members like to hear from fellow collectors and sometimes we learn a bit about history and geography as well. A prime example was Gary Loew’s talk on Gambia’s influence on the development of transatlantic air mail service.

You do not need to be an expert in creating a Power Point show or laying out exhibit pages (though we can provide help). Just use the document camera to show your item. So why not give it a try for the coming year!

HTPS Meetings . . .

Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday each month starting at 7:15pm at the Hamilton Township Library, 1 Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr. Way, off Whitehorse Mercerville Road, Hamilton, NJ (Mercer County).

Meeting Proceedings

... by **Jack Sack**

The main order of business at the **May** meeting was the election of new officers. The current slate of HTPS officers were re-elected for the 2015-2016 term by acclamation. They include (shown in a 2014 photo below – from the left):

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



Volunteers for the other HTPS non-electable support positions remain as previously held. See the last page of this newsletter for a list of the HTPS officer and support staff.

We had one visitor, Tom from Exton, Pa., who saw our website and decided to attend our meeting. He collects the 1-cent Franklin issue (Scott #300) from the 1902 regular issue series.

Ron Gonzalez showed his new book on Puerto Rican philately. He collects Puerto Rico stamps, covers, postal history and US FDC's related to Puerto Rico. Ron has exhibited his collections at various venues winning quite a few medals. He also writes articles for philatelic journals, especially for the Puerto Rico Philatelic Society.

The formal meeting was followed with a presentation by HTPS member **Milton Keiles** on "All Things Milton" (photo at right). Milt did a great job of entertaining us with anecdotes about his quest to obtain postmarks from each location with the name "Milton" in it. We thank Milt for his interesting presentation on an unusual topic. See the next page for a summary of his talk.



At the **June** meeting, **Jeff Boyarsky** thanked all those who assisted with the NOJEX show set-up and take-down. The show was a great success even with the change of dates from the usual Memorial Day weekend, and the parking problems caused by the hotel parking garage collapse. Note that there will not be a NOJEX show next year due to the NY2016 show. See the last page for more info on NOJEX.

Jeff also thanked **Bill Andersen** who has agreed to be our new Program Chairman to coordinate our monthly programs and speakers. We need a speaker for this coming October so send your ideas to Bill via our website email.

Tony Zingale had a chance to meet **John Hotchner**, Vice President of the Stamps for the Wounded group, at the June 5-7 NAPEX show. John thanked HTPS for our continuing donations to his organization.

There was a discussion regarding the **World Stamp Show NY2016** set for next year (May 28-June 4) in NYC. There will

be many volunteer opportunities both before and during the show. See the show website at www.ny2016.org/ for more information.

The formal meeting was followed by our semi-annual auction. Tony Zingale did a great job of keeping the proceedings moving and bidding up the value of many of the lots. We plan to make an extra effort to solicit a wider range of material for the next auction in January. Start looking now for items to sell!

Note that we will have informal meetings on July 21 and August 18. Our next official meeting will be on September 15.

All Things Milton . . . by **Milton Keiles**

[NOTE: This article is based on a presentation – “All Things Milton” – given by Milton Keiles at our May 2015 meeting.]

Milt has identified 33 U.S. cities and 12 foreign cities with the word “Milton” in its name. He is attempting to collect covers, postcards and other philatelic items associated with these cities. In some cases, he has also visited the Post Office at those locations.

We start with a stampless cover from Milton, PA with a blue 5-cent rate stamped in the upper right corner.



Some of the Post Offices have closed – aka “Dead Post Office” (DPO). The cover below from Milton, CA, dated 1885 is one such example.



Here is a NJ example with a purple postmark and a circled killer cancel star.



This postcard has a 1911 “East Milton, Mass.” triplex cancel on the back with the same city name on the front.



Early covers may have some unusual cancels. Below is a 1909 Milton LA cover with a Type 2 Doane cancel, a 1902 Milton, PA machine cancelled (Barr-Fyke?) advertising cover, and a 1898 Milton, Wis. advertising cover with a killer cork cancel.



Finally, here is something more recent – a 2009 West Milton, Ohio event cover.



See the complete presentation on our website at the [Presentations panel](#).

Forever Stamps

... by Sid Morginstin

As all dealers and many collectors do, I use discount postage. The March NEGEV HOLYLAND catalogue costs over \$6 each to mail to non-USA and non-CANADIAN addresses. Aside from material, postage, printing and insurance are my largest costs each year.

Nearly all US issues since the Civil War are still good for postage. The only exceptions that I know are the Special Delivery, Certified Mail and Postage Due stamps. And their use rarely gets caught in mailings.

Discount postage is readily available. Commemoratives up to the 44-cent value can still be found. I do not recall seeing anything above 44 cents. All of those commemoratives are forever stamps.

I predict that, in the not too distant future, the supply of discount postage will diminish. After all, why would anyone sell forever stamps at below the current postage value? We will still have other issues – such as the \$2 Jenny – available. However, these are limited.



Here is something else that bothers me. I am reluctant to raise it publicly, lest some postal official gets the idea and initiates it.

Israel changed its currency four or five times (depending on how one counts) since 1948. The most recent was in 1988. When the change took effect all prior stamp issues were demonetized – thus no longer valid for postage. For the last change (when they divided by 1,000) the usage of old stamps would have been impractical. This killed off the value of nearly all stamps so affected. There was no dealer demand for them for usage as postage.

I read in a recent LINNS' that the USPS determined that there are millions of dollars of stamps being saved by collectors. They consider this pure profit. The USPS does not include the possible usage of these saved stamps in its figures.

My fear is that some faceless bureaucrat, in an attempt to get more stamps sold, will decide to demonetize all stamps that are more than a few years old. This will kill the value of all stamps and possibly dramatically reduce sales of new issues.

Your thoughts on the above comments are welcomed.

The Year in Review

The 2014-2015 HTPS philatelic year is over. Once again, we enjoyed a variety of activities at our meetings and events both onsite and offsite.

Our speakers for the year covered a range of topics as shown below (photos in order clockwise from top left):

- ⇒ *U.S. Embossed Revenues* ... by **Roger Brody**
- ⇒ *ATA Overview* ... by **Jack André Denys**
- ⇒ *Mickey Mouse Postcards* ... by **Tom DeLuca**
- ⇒ *The Bathurst Connection: The Centrality of Gambia to the Development of Transatlantic Air Mail* by **Gary Loew**
- ⇒ *All Things Milton* ... by **Milton Keiles**

Also – **Ron Gonzalez** gave a talk on *Puerto Rico Postal History* at the San Diego Philatelic Council in December.



HTPS member **Mini-Presentations** were provided by **Andrew Boyajian, Jeff Boyarsky, Don Bunker, Jim Cope, Ed Muench, Bob Stolarz** and **Klaus Wagner**.

Several members wrote articles for our newsletter including **Hank Applegate, Bill Andersen, Jeff Boyarksy** and **Roger Randall**. And of course, many thanks to **Jack Sack** – our primary contributor.

Andrew Boyajian had a busy year. In addition to his mini talks, Andrew won a bronze medal for his exhibit on Olympic covers at AFDCS last August. In November, he created an exhibit on stamp collecting for the Hamilton Public Library where we meet.



So a big “thank you” to all the HTPS members who helped us enjoy another successful year for our Society (with apologies to anyone we missed). We look forward to the 2015-2016 philatelic events.

Upcoming Events

July 2015 . . .

- 7/2 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (Merchantville Ave) – Pennsauken, NJ – Opens at 7 PM – merchantvillestampclub.org.
- 7/5 → 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 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – Bordentown Senior Center – 3 Municipal Drive – Bordentown, NJ – 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM – 215-287-9327 – hamiltonphilatelic.org/bordentown.
- 7/15 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – see 7/2 meeting for details.
- 7/19 → Wayne Stamp & Collectibles Bourse – Fire Company #1 – 93 Parrish Drive – Wayne, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM.
- 7/19 → Old Bridge Coin & Stamp Show – First Aid and Rescue Squad Building – 200 Marlboro Road – Old Bridge, NJ – 8 AM to 1 PM.
- 7/21 → **HTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Public Library – Hamilton, NJ – 7:00 PM – Sell / Swap Meeting.**
- 7/26 → Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show (4th Sunday) – Williamson's Restaurant – 500 Blair Mill Rd – Horsham, PA – 10 AM to 4 PM – 305-852-7678.

August 2015 . . .

- 8/1 → MSC Stamp Bourse – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (at Merchantville Avenue) – Pennsauken, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM – merchantvillestampclub.org.
- 8/6 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (Merchantville Ave) – Pennsauken, NJ – Opens at 7 PM – merchantvillestampclub.org.
- 8/8 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – Bordentown Senior Center – 3 Municipal Drive – Bordentown, NJ – 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM – 215-287-9327 – hamiltonphilatelic.org/bordentown.
- 8/16 → Wayne Stamp & Collectibles Bourse – Fire Company #1 – 93 Parrish Drive – Wayne, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM.

8/16 → Old Bridge Coin & Stamp Show – First Aid and Rescue Squad Building – 200 Marlboro Road – Old Bridge, NJ – 8 AM to 1 PM.

8/18 → **HTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Public Library – Hamilton, NJ – 7:00 PM – HAMPEX'15 and Sell / Swap Meeting.**

8/19 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – see 8/6 meeting for details.

8/20-23 → APS StampShow 2015 – DeVos Place Convention Center – 303 Monroe Ave., NW – Grand Rapids, MI – 110+ dealers – 14,000+ exhibit pages – Thurs. to Sat. 10 AM to 6 PM – Sun. 10 AM to 4 PM – [APS StampShow 2015](http://APSStampShow2015).

8/23 → Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show (4th Sunday) – Williamson's Restaurant – 500 Blair Mill Rd – Horsham, PA – 10 AM to 4 PM – 305-852-7678.

September 2015 . . .

- 9/3 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (Merchantville Ave) – Pennsauken, NJ – Opens at 7 PM – merchantvillestampclub.org.
- 9/5 → MSC Stamp Bourse – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (at Merchantville Avenue) – Pennsauken, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM – merchantvillestampclub.org.
- 9/6 → 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 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – Bordentown Senior Center – 3 Municipal Drive – Bordentown, NJ – 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM – 215-287-9327 – hamiltonphilatelic.org/bordentown.
- 9/16 → **HTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Public Library – Hamilton, NJ – 7:00 PM – Member Mini-Presentations.**
- 9/16 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – see 9/3 meeting for details.

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

NOJEX 2015

The NOJEX show was held in Secaucus, NJ at the Empire Meadowlands Hotel & Suites on May 30 thru



June 1. A group of six HTPS members (**Bill Andersen, Jeff Boyarsky, Dennis Kennedy, Ed Murtha, Joe Seliga** and **Ken Steel**) helped setup the dealer tables and exhibits before the show.

Jack Sack and **Tony Zingale** helped take down the exhibits on Sunday after the show closed.

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.

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

Postal Rate Changes

The U.S. Postal Service has announced rate changes effective May 31, 2015. Some prices remain the same like the First Class Mail one ounce rate of 49¢. The following rates are affected:

- Postcard rate ⇒ from 34¢ to 35¢
- 2nd oz. rate (make-up stamp) ⇒ from 21¢ to 22¢
- 2 oz. rate ⇒ from 70¢ to 71¢
- 3 oz. rate ⇒ from 91¢ to 93¢
- Global rate Forever® ⇒ from \$1.15 to \$1.20

Some Priority Mail rates were also increased specifically P/Mail Express and P/Mail International mailings. Several service charges also increased including Certified Mail and Electronic Return Receipts.

Check out this useful 4-page [Postal Rate Chart](#) for current rates or see the complete list of postal prices at [current USPS rates](#).

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 -----

Advertising and PR Bill Andersen
APS Representative Dennis Kennedy
ATA Representative Len deGroot
Historian Joe Seliga
Membership Chairman Jack Sack
Newsletter Editor Tony Zingale
NOJEX Contact Andrew Boyajian
Philatelic Donations Ken Steel
Program Coordinator Bill Andersen
Webmaster Jack Sack
50 / 50 Handlers Jim Cope, Ken Steel

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

- ⇒ July 21 – Sell / Swap Meeting (informal)
- ⇒ Aug. 18 – HAMPEX'15 (informal)
- ⇒ Sept. 15 – Member Mini-Presentations
- ⇒ Oct. 20 – WIP
- ⇒ Nov. 17 – “Lundy Island” by Sid Morginstin
- ⇒ Dec. 15 – Holiday Party & Show ‘n Tell
- ⇒ Jan. 19 – Auction

We are looking for speakers for the 2015-2016 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.