



# The Hamilton Hinge



APS Chapter #C-104282 – ATA Chapter #127

Hamilton Township Philatelic Society (HTPS)

P.O. Box 3443, Mercerville, NJ 08619

email: [hinge@HamiltonPhilatelic.org](mailto:hinge@HamiltonPhilatelic.org) website: [HamiltonPhilatelic.org](http://HamiltonPhilatelic.org)



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## JANUARY – FEBRUARY MEETINGS

Happy New Year! Our **January meeting** features another semi-annual **society auction**. So start looking around for those unwanted or duplicate philatelic items we all have. Bring it to the auction and make both the buyer and your spouse happy – for different reasons.



**February's meeting** brings back our long time HTPS member and record holding speaker.

**Tom DeLuca**, owner of **Trenton Stamp and Coin Co.** right here in Hamilton Township, has provided at least one talk a year for 37

years and still running! The subject is always a mystery, but is guaranteed to be informative even to the advanced collector.

## STAMP IDENTIFICATION

Congratulations to **Bill McCarroll** (two in a row) for identifying the mystery stamp as Tanna Tuva #16 released in 1927. This is a legitimate philatelic issue unlike some of the Tanna Tuva 'labels' created over the last 25 years or so.



This month we have a more difficult issue from a different part of the world. No more clues here – so get out those catalogs and stamp ID books.

\$1.00 in mint U.S. postage stamps will be awarded to the first

correct responder.

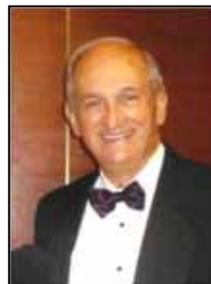
## 2017 Membership Drive . . .

We only have a few members who have not paid their dues so let's get it finished. The cost remains at **\$10.00**. Send a check to HTPS at the masthead address, or see **Jeff Boyarsky** at our next meeting.

## IN THIS ISSUE . . .

- *Meeting Proceedings*
  - *Early Postal Cancels*
  - *The Bicycle Man*
  - *On Exhibiting*
- . . . and much more!

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Happy New Year!

Many people use the start of a year to review, organize and plan for the coming months ahead. Much of this activity involves household tasks and financial planning.

For philatelists, it is a good time to look over their collection(s). Some find it enjoyable to see what they have assembled. Others may find that they have a lot of work ahead to get their holdings organized and stored correctly.

Often they find that a few items are missing from their collection or that there is damage from improper storage (or they were purchased that way). Perhaps they need to upgrade (or repair) albums, binders or stock books. So why not take some time and look over your collection. You will be glad you did.

Similarly, January provides the HTPS with an opportunity to check on the 'health' of the organization. We will find that membership holds steady (though always a concern). Financials are modest but so are our monetary needs. Member support for leadership and team positions is ongoing but again always a concern.

So let's spend some time to see where we are, individually and as a group, and to think about how we can improve in the coming year.

. . . Milt

## NOVEMBER MEETING PROCEEDINGS

**VP Dennis Kennedy** stated that 93 invitations were mailed to local area APS members. So far, none of the invitees has attended a meeting or contacted us.

Dennis also proposed setting up a committee that would evaluate (but not appraise!) stamp collections from the general public. There was some member interest and Dennis is organizing an exploratory study group.

**Jeff Boyarsky** emailed **Ed Grabowski** and asked him to search out some prospective speakers at the Collectors Club of New York and the Westfield Stamp Club.

Two HTPS by-law amendments – March / August Executive Board meetings and annual budget reviews – were outlined in the previous newsletter. They were unanimously accepted by the members in attendance.

Due to Library conflicts, it was decided to have a Show & Tell session in December instead of a Holiday Party.



**Mac Surreal**, President of the Merchantville Stamp Club, presented several HTPS members with a Certificate of Appreciation for services provided to their MERPEX show setup. Honorees included **Bill Andersen**, **Ken Steel**, **Bill Schnug**, **Jeff Boyarsky**, **Dennis Kennedy**, **Roger Randall** and **Ed Murtha**.

**Ken Steel** reported that John Hotchner (SFTW) sent a thank you note for receipt of 4.7 pounds of stamps from HTPS. Ken was asked if there was a specific type of acceptable material (e.g., stamps, covers, U.S., WW). The answer was “no” – all stamps are good.

HTPS member **Bill Schnug** provided us with a very informative presentation on early cancellations of both US and Canada stamps. See article on the next page.

## DECEMBER MEETING PROCEEDINGS

The main topic for the business meeting was centered on ways to attract new members. One idea was a stamp evaluation event – like the APS “Stamps in Your Attic” program. Several members reacted favorably, but it is unclear how effective this program would be.



**Don Getzin** showed several examples from his collection of the 3c Washington issue of 1851 and 1857 (example at left). The plates used to print this issue were recut several times. Distinct color and paper types created multiple varieties.

In memory of the passing of astronaut **John Glenn**, **Andrew Boyajian** displayed a First Day Cover for Scott #1193 – the Project Mercury stamp issued on the day of Glenn’s historic first orbital flight on February 20<sup>th</sup>, 1962.



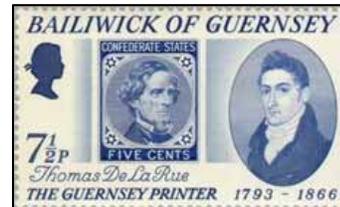
**Bill Schnug** showed examples of genuine and forged Scott #519 stamps issued in 1917 when the BEP added perforations to a stock of unperfected sheets of Scott #344. Genuine Scott #519 issues are rare so forgers add perfs



to a genuine Scott #344. These fakes can be identified by the differences in the shape and evenness of the perforations. In the example shown at the left, the perforations on the right side of the stamp are closer to the design at the top than at the bottom – an indication that this stamp is a fake.

**Ron Kane** showed some examples of stamps he located during his vacation trips. While he does not purposely seek out stamps or stamp shops while traveling, he often finds some. Ron showed examples from a collection of Feudatory States stamps he found in Cochin India. He also passed around an album of French Indo-china stamps that he purchased at a market in Vietnam.

**Jim Cope** ended the evening showing a stamp from Guernsey commemorating Thomas De La Rue (who was born on that island) and showing a Confederate States stamp (Scott #CSA6).



Maybe you recall that Trish Kaufmann, during her talk at our past April meeting, showed some examples of #CSA6 stamps that were printed by the Thomas De La Rue Company in England.

Jim also showed a hockey player stamp from Canada and several examples of current letters he received with spray cancellations which completely obliterated the stamps – making them uncollectable.

We thank all the members for sharing their philatelic interests with us.

### HTPS Meetings . . .

Meetings are held each month on the **3rd Tuesday** at the Hamilton Township Library, 1 Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr. Way, off Whitehorse Mercerville Road, Hamilton, NJ (Mercer County). Doors open at 6:30.

## EARLY POSTAL CANCELS

[This article summarizes **Bill Schnug's** talk at our November meeting. His presentation is on the HTPS website]

The introduction of postage stamps spawned the development of devices to apply cancels onto the stamp. Following is a brief overview of early postal cancels.



**Cork / Wood:** First handstamps carved by Postmasters to cancel the stamp so that it could not be reused as shown on this U.S. issue.

**Fancy Cancels:** Postmasters (mostly in the U.S.) cut the corks into geometric shapes or other designs.



**Town Cancels:** Usually found on 19<sup>th</sup> century stamps and covers. The city, month and day are always included, but not the year. Sometimes the state or province is present as here on this issue used in a Massachusetts mailing.

**Concentric Rings:** Cancelled the stamp and provided the mailing location (but not the date) via a number in the innermost circle indicating the town. Canada used 4-Ring cancels on some early stamps as shown here with a Canada #3 issue. Many catalogs contain charts with Rarity Scales for these type of cancels.



**CDS Handstamp:** Metal devices with removable slugs so that the month, day, year and time could be changed.



**Duplex Handstamp:** Served two purposes – cancel the stamp so it could not be reused and provide the location and date where the postal piece was mailed.

**Squared Circle Postmark:** Originated in GB in 1879 as a replacement for duplex handstamps. They were compact and easier to ink. Used throughout the BCOM and some other countries.



These are only a few of the many cancels types created during the first decades of postage stamp use.

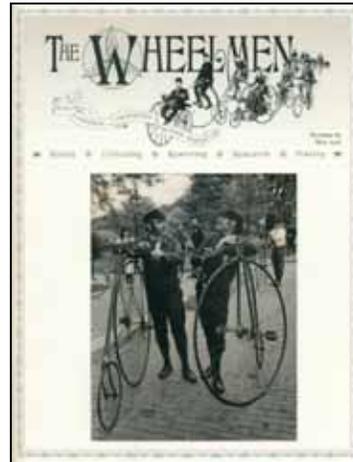
## THE BICYCLE MAN

The range of HTPS member philatelic collecting interests varies greatly – from stamps to covers to postcards to forgeries and fakes to registration labels and so on.



One of our members, **Ed Muench**, is interested in bicycles. Since he can only store a limited number of bikes in his home, Ed collects stamps with bicycles as part of the design. On the left is Ed getting some (needed?) outside exercise.

Recently Ed became a published author when his article, titled *Collecting Stamps Depicting Bicycles*, was included in the May 2016 issue of **The Wheelmen** – a publication “Dedicated to the Enjoyment and Preservation of our Bicycling Heritage” (from the periodical).



Ed's story noted that bicycle fans can use stamps to further their study of their hobby since each stamp has a story to tell.

He referred to prior articles in *The Wheelmen* for other details on bicycle stamps and suggested several Internet based books on the hobby.

Ed uses the Scott catalogs, available in most libraries, to identify and organize his collection of bicycle stamps.



The article also included several figures containing representative stamps and souvenir sheets from Ed's collection. Above is an example from the article.

## IT'S WHAT I (USUALLY ALONE) THINK

### ON EXHIBITING

... by Sid Morginstin



Before becoming a dealer, I often exhibited my collections. These included the Postal Stationery of Israel and Bordentown NJ (from a Colonial Village thru the 20th Century). Since starting to deal, I now rarely exhibit.

It is my belief that dealers should not exhibit the material in which they trade. One may think that the dealer has an inside track on the material or keeps the most exhibit-worthy items for the exhibit.

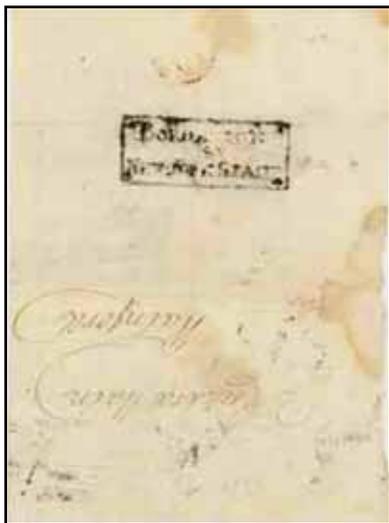
I admit to pushing the envelope a bit. I deal in the stamps of LUNDY ISLAND, and also collect and exhibit commercial covers to and from Lundy. The example



shown here was mailed from Fiji to Lundy and took over four months to reach its destination.

At one show I exhibited my Bordentown collection. It contained a BORDENTOWN AND NY STAGE cover. Only six are known to exist. Two others were also on display.

I won a Gold Award and a Best in Section award. I asked one judge how to improve the exhibit. In a very snotty tone of voice he told me to get a better stage cover. My response was – “I mortgaged my house to buy this one. I cannot do that again.” [By the way, I really did that! My wife reluctantly agreed. What a good wife!]



In that exhibit I had four non-philatelic items. They were about a scandal in the Bordentown Post Office. I had asked the person who wrote the then definitive book on exhibiting if it was OK to show these. He said that I could. A judge at the show stated that they did not belong. When I told the judge about my query, he said that he disagreed.

There are many books and a great amount of discussion devoted to exhibiting. It is a most wonderful and worthwhile endeavor. However, I am afraid that the quest for awards is taking some of the fun out of the hobby. It seems that exhibiting for awards is becoming like that four letter word: WORK.

My late father said that he was HARDLY WORKING. If he enjoyed what he was doing, it was not WORK. I feel that way most of the time when I am doing the various tasks in running my business. At times, like going after past due accounts or preparing material for my bookkeeper, it is WORK.

To me exhibiting should be fun and not work. I propose that shows have a new category – EXHIBITING FOR THE FUN OF IT. There would be limited judging based on one criterion – How well is the exhibitor telling the story he/she wants to tell. The judges would, in effect, be doing a book review. All of the other rules, criteria, and guidelines of exhibiting need not be followed. There would be no awards of any type.

I also recall the FAVORITE EXHIBIT award where the show attendees voted for their favorite exhibits. The winners received a small award. How about restoring this? And I will put my money where my mouth (err, keyboard) is. If I am a dealer at the show, I will donate one of the awards. The show committee will have to organize and administer the voting.

Your thoughts on the above are welcomed.

[**Editor's Note:** Sid is a long time HTPS member. He is recently retired and now works full time as a dealer for his company – **Negev Holyland / Button Stamp Co.**]

### USPS RATE CHANGES

An increase in USPS shipping rates is scheduled for **January 22, 2017**. Following are the costs for some of the more commonly mailed items:

- Letters, 1 oz (2¢ increase)..... .49
- Letters, 1 oz, large size (4¢ increase) ..... .98
- Letters, Additional ounces ..... .21
- Letters, International, 1 oz..... 1.15
- Postcards ..... .34
- Priority Mail, Flat Rate (20¢ increase)..... 5.95

Other mailing costs were also changed including Express Mail, other Priority Mail services, Standard Mail, Periodicals, Package Services and Extra Services. For additional information, see the following website:

[www.pitneybowes.com/us/postal-information/rate-change-info.html](http://www.pitneybowes.com/us/postal-information/rate-change-info.html)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### January 2017 . . .

- JAN → Garden State Stamp, Coin & Currency Show – Parsippany, NJ. **NO SHOW !!!**
- 1/5 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (Merchantville Ave) – Pennsauken, NJ – Opens at 7 PM – [merchantvillestampclub.org](http://merchantvillestampclub.org).
- 1/5-7 → Garden State Stamp & Cover Show – Bethwood Manor – 38 Lackawanna Avenue – Totowa, NJ – Thurs. 10 AM to 6 PM – Fri. 10 AM to 5 PM – Sat. 10 AM to 3 PM – [tjacks@verizon.net](mailto:tjacks@verizon.net).
- 1/7 → MSC Stamp Bourse – Marlton Elementary School – 190 Tomlinson Mill Road – Marlton, NJ – 9 AM to 3 PM – [merchantvillestampclub.org](http://merchantvillestampclub.org).
- 1/14 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – Bordentown Senior Center – **NO SHOW !!!**
- 1/15 → Wayne Stamp & Collectibles Bourse – Fire Company #1 – 93 Parrish Drive – Wayne, NJ – 9 AM - 4 PM – REW Enterprises – 973-875-3793.
- 1/22 → Old Bridge Coin & Stamp Show – First Aid and Rescue Squad Building – 200 Marlboro Road – Old Bridge, NJ – 8 AM to 1 PM – 732-740-4604.
- 1/17 → HTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Public Library – Hamilton, NJ – Opens at 6:30 PM – Meeting starts at 7:15 PM – Society Auction.**
- 1/18 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Pennsauken, NJ – see 1/5 meeting for details.
- 1/22 → Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show (4th Sunday) – Sheraton Bucks County Hotel – 400 Oxford Valley Road – Langhorne, PA – 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM – 305-393-6290. **NEW LOCATION !!!**

### February 2017 . . .

- 2/2 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Pennsauken, NJ – see 1/5 meeting for details.
- 2/4 → MSC Stamp Bourse – Marlton Elementary School – see 1/7 bourse for details.
- 2/4 → Stamp & Coin Day – The Stamp Center – 4115 Concord Pike – Wilmington, DE – 9:30 to 2 PM – [dutchcountryauctions.com](http://dutchcountryauctions.com).
- 2/5 → Garden State Stamp, Coin & Currency Show – P.A.L. Building – 33 Baldwin Rd – Parsippany, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM – [gscshow.com](http://gscshow.com).

2/11 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – Bordentown Senior Center – 3 Municipal Drive – Bordentown, NJ – 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM – Call Ryan at 215-287-9326 – [hamiltonphilatelic.org/bordentown](http://hamiltonphilatelic.org/bordentown).

2/15 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Pennsauken, NJ – see 1/5 meeting for details.

2/19 → Wayne Stamp & Collectibles Bourse – Wayne, NJ – see 1/15 bourse for details.

2/19 → Old Bridge Coin & Stamp Show – Old Bridge, NJ – see 1/22 show for details.

**2/21 → HTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Library – Hamilton, NJ – Opens at 6:30 PM – Meeting starts at 7:15 PM – Tom DeLuca presentation.**

2/26 → Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show – Langhorne, PA – see 1/22 show for details.

### March 2017 . . .

3/2 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Pennsauken, NJ – see 1/5 meeting for details.

3/4 → Westfield Stamp Show – Westfield Municipal Center – 425 East Broad St. – Westfield, NJ – 10 AM to 4 PM – [www.westfieldstampclub.org](http://www.westfieldstampclub.org).

3/4 → MSC Stamp Bourse – Marlton Elementary School – see 1/7 bourse for details.

**NOTE:** For additional and updated information, see [www.stampshows.com](http://www.stampshows.com), [www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org) and [www.postal-history.com/showpage.html](http://www.postal-history.com/showpage.html).

### EVENT CHANGES

**Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show:** Held in Horsham, PA for the past two years, the show is moving to the Sheraton Bucks County Hotel in Langhorne, PA (near the Sesame Place theme park).

As before, the show is held on the **fourth Sunday** of the month starting on January 22 (see listing details). There is no show scheduled for December.

**NOJEX Show:** After a one year absence due to the NY2016 event, the show will return on **Sept. 8-10, 2017** (weekend after Labor Day). It is moving from its long time Secaucus, NJ location to the Best Western Robert Treat Hotel in downtown Newark, NJ. The hotel has shuttles to the nearby Newark train station.

See the NOJEX website at [www.nojex.org](http://www.nojex.org) for more details as they are made available.

## DONATIONS

We ended a record year of contributions and donations to the **Stamps for the Wounded** (SFTW) program, which is sponsored by the Lions Club, and the **Youth Outreach** effort which is sponsored by the Merchantville Stamp Club (MSC).

Our thanks to the following individuals for their recent contributions: **Don Bunker, Harry Colquhoun, Jim Cope, Evan Lindner, Jack Sack** and **Angelo Sanelli**.

Also let's give our many, many thanks to **Ken Steel** for handling this effort. In most cases, Ken pays the mailing postage cost.

### New Member . . .

We welcome **Charles B. McGinley** to our group. Charlie collects US, Canada, France, GB, Ireland, Sweden, Pitcairn Island, Faroe Islands, Falkland Islands, British Antarctic Territory and French Southern Antarctic Territory.

He is also interested in topicals including Girl Scouts, Trains, Turtles and Whales. Charlie is currently Vice President of the Merchantville Stamp Club and a member of the ATA.

## SOCIETY AUCTION AT JANUARY MEETING

Check out the HTPS website for details on the auction process. Here are a few tips:

1. Fill out the Auction List Sheet with lot descriptions and starting bids. Create a Lot Description form for each item matching the Auction List contents.
2. Indicate if you wish to donate proceeds to the HTPS.
3. Be reasonable with the lot minimum bid. Most items sell for 10-20% of CV. Unique or high quality items sell for more.
4. Items are SOLD AS IS – so carefully check the auction lots for content and quality before the auction starts.

Auction forms are available on our website and will be available at the meeting. Contact us via email or the HTPS website if you have any questions.

Here are a few items up for bid. We will accept **online bids until Tuesday, Jan 17, 3:00 PM**.

- ⇒ Scott 2012 Vol 1-6 – Almost new (gently used) – \$30
- ⇒ Scott 2013 U.S. Pocket Catalog – few page marks – \$5
- ⇒ Scott 2013 U.S. Specialized – Library (no labels) – \$10
- ⇒ Scott 2014 U.S. Specialized – Library (no labels) – \$15
- ⇒ Scott 2014 Vol 1-6 – Library copy (no labels) – \$50
- ⇒ Scott National Album (to 1974) – 100+ stamps – \$25

### HTPS Officers

President ..... Milt Keiles  
Vice President ..... Dennis Kennedy  
Treasurer / Publicity ..... Ron Gonzalez  
Secretary ..... Ed Murtha

### HTPS Support Team

Advertising and PR ..... Bill Andersen  
APS Representative ..... Ron Kane  
ATA Representative ..... Len DeGroot  
Historian ..... Joe Seliga  
Membership Chairman ..... Jeff Boyarsky  
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

- ⇒ Jan. 17 – Society Auction
- ⇒ Feb. 21 – **Tom DeLuca** – Always a surprise!
- ⇒ Mar. 21 – **“The Old Fashioned Veterinarian”**  
by Barbara Harrison
- ⇒ Apr. 18 – TBD
- ⇒ May 16 – Member Mini-Presentations
- ⇒ June 20 – Society Auction

We are looking for speakers for April 2017 and for the 2017-2018 meeting year. Please contact us at the masthead email 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](mailto:hinge@HamiltonPhilatelic.org).