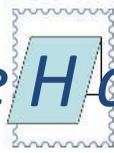




The Hamilton Hinge



APS Chapter #C-104282 – ATA Chapter #127

Hamilton Township Philatelic Society (HTPS)

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February – April 2019

FEBRUARY – MARCH – APRIL MEETINGS



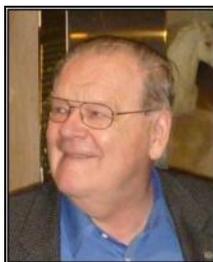
February's meeting features HTPS member and record holding speaker – **Tom DeLuca**, owner of **Trenton Stamp and Coin Co.** located right here in Hamilton Township. Tom has spoken at our meetings for 38 years! The subject

remains a mystery, but it is sure to be informative.

Our **March meeting** is highlighted by HTPS member mini-presentations. Sign up at the February meeting to give a 5-10 minute talk on a favorite topic or something of interest from your collection.

The **April meeting** is the start of the HTPS election process with nominations for the four Officer positions. The Executive committee meets in March to identify candidates. All members are invited to attend.

Ed Grabowski's talk on the French Pacific Colonies continues his analysis of the French Colonial Groups.



STAMP IDENTIFICATION

Ron Kane was the first to identify the last issue's mystery stamp as South Russia #28. A very close second was **Ed Siegelson** from the Brandywine Valley Stamp Club (BVSC). Ed receives our newsletter via an electronic newsletter exchange.



For this issue, we present a simple challenge. Thanks to **Jack Sack** for the stamp. \$1.00 in mint U.S. stamps for the first correct responder.

Editor's Note . . .

We are back in print after missing the Nov-Dec-Jan issues. Check out the following page for a summary of the Society's events during that time.

IN THIS ISSUE . . .

- *Prior Meeting Proceedings*
 - *Identifying the 3-cent Washington Issues*
 - *Campione d'Italia, a Geographic Anomaly*
- . . . and much more!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



A belated best wishes to all for a happy new year. And many thanks to those members and friends who supported our group whether through volunteering their time, giving a presentation or donating material to the Stamps for the

Wounded (SFTW) group.

The January auction was very well attended and a huge success albeit with some drama. Due to a large donation of U.S. MNH material and other donated items from HTPS members, we realized over \$600 from the auction proceeds.

The following four months showcase a group of speakers that offer a wide range of philatelic information and insight. I hope that you will be able to attend some or all of those talks . . . Dennis Kennedy.

2019 Membership Dues

Some members have not paid their 2019 dues. So a final request to pay the \$10.00 dues and help us to continue running the HTPS. It is a small price to pay. For those who decided not to continue their membership, please let us know the reason.

HTPS Meetings . . .

Meetings are held on the **3rd Tuesday** of each month 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.

PRIOR MEETING PROCEEDINGS . . . by **Joe Seliga**

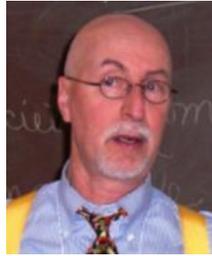
[**Editor's Note:** At all the meetings, the first order of business was a flag salute. Current financial reports were presented and approved. The minutes from the previous meeting were not read, but they were posted at the meeting and are available on our website.]

At the **September** meeting, the HTPS budget for 2019 was presented and passed unanimously.

President **Dennis Kennedy** noted the success of the two Stamp Evaluation Programs organized by the HTPS. He proposed that we hold the next one at the Hamilton library in the spring. **Ron Kane** has volunteered to take charge of this effort.

The evening's presentation was "**A History of American Coil Stamps**" by **Dennis Kennedy**. Details of the talk are on the following page.

The **October** meeting started with **Jeff Boyarsky** (at right) reporting that George Geiger's wife Beth donated her mother's lifetime collection to the HTPS for the January auction. **Harold Gattsek** was in the hospital for eight days and is now in rehabilitation. A card was signed by all present to be sent to him.



The night's presentation was "Identifying the Eight United States 3 Cent Washington Stamp or a Brief Introduction to Flyspeck Philately" by **Don Getzin** (at left) He also brought an Ott light and the actual stamps for examination. See the write-up on page 4.



The **November** meeting saw the first use of an updated collecting interest list thanks to **Dennis Kennedy**. President Kennedy announced that Harold Gattsek died on Saturday, November 17, 2018.

The presentation for November was "Campione d'Italia, A Geographic Anomaly" by **Bruce Marsden**. A summary of Bruce's talk is on page 4.



The **December** meeting closed out the calendar year with our annual holiday party. There was pizza, a three foot long hoagie, stollens, Jim Cope's cake, a fruit bowl, sodas, water, coffee, cookies and Halo Farms ice cream.

Ron Kane reported on the third Stamp Road Show to be held at the Hamilton Library on Saturday, April 27, 2019. Matt Visco will put notices in the newspapers and flyers will be posted at various Hamilton area establishments.

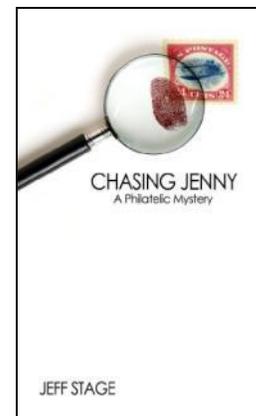


The **Show and Tell** presentations were kicked off by **Andrew Boyajian** who showed a postcard from the 1956 Melbourne Olympics. The card had an Olympic Village cancellation and a Happy Holidays message. Andrew has a large collection of Olympic material.

He also displayed covers from the Highway Post Office (HPO) bus routes including one from the first route between Washington D. C. and Harrisonburg, Virginia.



At its peak, there were 332 bus routes covering the entire country. During the trips, clerks would sort mail for delivery and pick up mail at stops. For more info, check out the Mobile Post Office Society website at <https://www.eskimo.com/~rkunz/mposhome.html>.

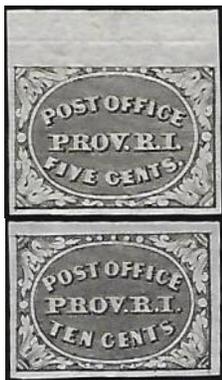


Ron Kane spoke about books he has read on his many trips (he is a member of the Travelers' Century Club and has visited over 100 countries). A favorite is "Chasing Jenny: A Philatelic Mystery" written by Jeff Stage. It describes the search for a stolen (and recovered) block of four inverted Jennys.

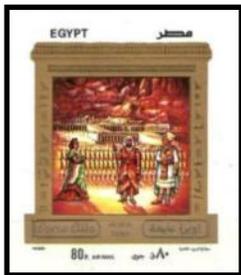
Another favorite of Ron's is "A Million Dollars an Ounce" by M. John Lubetkin. The novel is about ten million dollars in stolen rare stamps and ranges from WWII Nazi Generals to NYC, the Mafia, Meyer Lansky and more.

December Meeting (continued)

Don Getzin showed copies of the (1846) 5¢ and 10¢ Providence, R.I. Postmaster provisionals. Bogert & Durbin, a Philadelphia stamp firm, purchased the original plates around 1898 and reprinted the provisionals on onion skin paper with their name spread across the back of four stamps (as: BOG, ERT, DUR, BIN).



Sid Morginstin is collecting stamps with scenes from the opera AIDA (shown is Egypt #1570). He said that the Boehm Opera Company would be staging AIDA in April at the College of New Jersey and he would be part of the production as a member of the stage group.



Tom McFarland displayed several U.S. EFO and counterfeit items including – a 2014 Star Spangled Banner coil strip (#4853) with missing slits between stamps, a 2017 Christmas Cookies vending stamp sheet (#CVP101) with missing text and a counterfeit 2015 Vintage Rose pane (#4959) with the rose flower NOT engraved and “stamp news” spelled as “stamp new” on the back of the pane.



Roger Randall

gave a copy of the Hawaiian Philatelic Society’s newsletter to all attendees. He related that the entire Pearl Harbor Naval Fire Department was killed on Dec. 7th, 1941. They were replaced by the Honolulu Fire Department, and some of those firemen were also killed. **Jim Cope** said that Purple Hearts were awarded to those Honolulu firemen who were killed – the only civilians to receive that honor.

The **January 2019** meeting was attended by 24 members. The auction was one of our best to date as related in the President’s message.

Ron Gonzalez noted that the new Love stamp (Scott #5707) had its first day of issue ceremony in San Juan, Puerto Rico on January 10th. He is interested in obtaining any covers using the stamp.



American Coil Stamps [SOURCE: Dennis Kennedy]

The presentation at September’s meeting was “**A History of American Coil Stamps**” by **Dennis Kennedy**. A primary source for the talk was “United States Coil Issues from 1906-38” by Martin Anderson.

The Scott catalog recognizes the first U.S. coil stamp as #314A which was produced in 1906 by Joseph Schermack. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) issued their first coil stamps (Scott #316-18) in 1908. These coils were produced by cutting



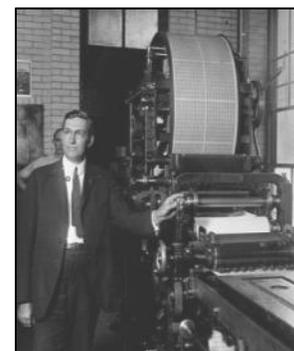
stamp sheets of 400 into strips of 20 which were hand pasted together producing a paste-up pair every 20 stamps. They were then wound into rolls.

Private companies pioneered the use of coil stamps in the U.S. In 1910, Schermack produced the first practical stamp vending machine – a model that sold two two-cent stamps or four one-cent stamps for a nickel. Other companies soon followed with their own stamp machines and coil perforations using BEP produced imperforated sheets (some are shown below).



(L-R) Schermack, U.S. Auto Vending, Brinkerhoff, Mail-O-Meter, Int’l Vending Machine

The rotary press was designed by Benjamin Stickney, a BEP employee. It printed coil stamps from a continuous roll of stamps thus eliminating the paste-up stage. The machine was operated by two workers compared to the 17 required for the paste-up process. After 1914 all coil stamps were produced on the rotary press.



The presentation included other slides showing stamp supply machines, glue making, printing machine perforators, guide / line pairs and an example of Coil Waste production. Check our website for more details on this presentation.

CAMPIONE D'ITALIA

[SOURCE: **Bruce Marsden**]

Campione is a town surrounded by Switzerland and Lake Lugano (see below). It is not a part of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) and its stamps were accepted for mail only to Switzerland and Liechtenstein up to 1959.



Campione was established in the late 1700's. Its stamps are listed in the Zumstein catalog (usually on the last page before the index). The stamps are not listed in Scott because they are not part of the UPU.

Three stamp sets were issued. The first, on May 20, 1944, had five values: 5, 10, 20, 30 centimes and 1 franc. Some imperf sets and SAGGIO (specimen in Italian) were created.



A second set was issued on June 28, 1944 with the same design and values but with perfs of 11 instead of 11½ used on the first set. The third set has views of Campione and of renaissance buildings in Italy.

Most of the postcards and letters are philatelic and many are registered.

Bruce's talk covered FDCs, stamp varieties, Feldpost covers and mixed frankings. The cover below to the Netherlands has the Campione third set of stamps uncancelled. Swiss stamps were added for valid postage.

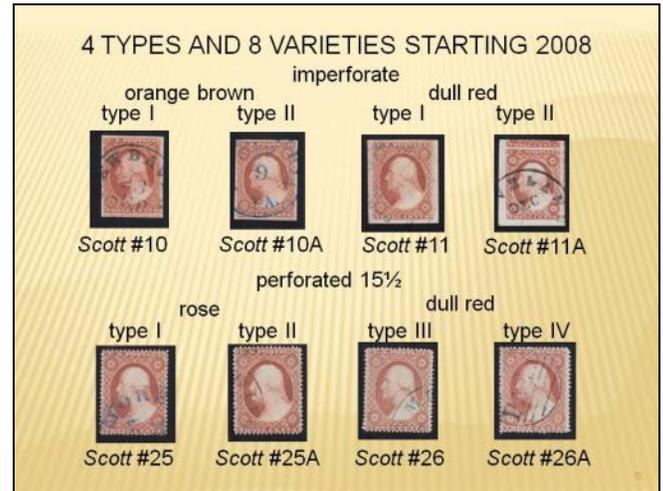


Our thanks to Bruce for an informative presentation. Checkout the HTTPS website for a copy of his talk.

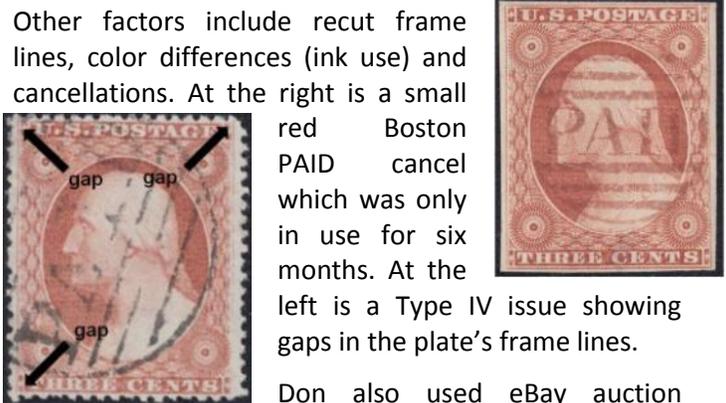
3-CENT WASHINGTON'S

[SOURCE: **Don Getzin**]

Most U.S. collectors own, or have seen, at least one stamp with this design which was in use from 1851 to 1861. Scott lists eight varieties for these stamps (half were not identified until the 2008 catalog year).



Don did an excellent job describing how to identify the varieties by using stamps with characteristics required for a particular type. A key component of the identification process is the faults on the Master Die.



Other factors include recut frame lines, color differences (ink use) and cancellations. At the right is a small red Boston PAID cancel which was only in use for six months. At the left is a Type IV issue showing gaps in the plate's frame lines. Don also used eBay auction listings to highlight other examples of these issues where the stamp being sold is either misidentified or a fake (altered to represent one of the more valuable varieties). This stamp is not Scott #26A – it is #26.



To better understand this topic, check out Don's presentation on our website

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 2019 . . .

- 2/2 → MSC Stamp Bourse – Martin Luther Chapel (School Gym) – 4100 Terrace Avenue – Pennsauken, NJ 08109 – 9 AM to 3 PM – merchantvillestampclub.org.
- 2/3 → Garden State Stamp, Coin & Currency Show – P.A.L. Building – 33 Baldwin Rd – Parsippany, NJ – 8 AM to 4 PM – (973) 644-0099.
- 2/7 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Temple Lutheran Church – 5600 Route 130 North (Merchantville Ave) – Pennsauken, NJ – Opens at 7 PM – merchantvillestampclub.org.
- 2/9 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – Bordentown Senior Center – 3 Municipal Drive – Bordentown, NJ – 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM – 215-287-9326 (Ryan) – hamiltonphilatelic.org/bordentown.

AmeriStamp Expo (ASE)

February 15-17, 2019

Mesa Convention Center

262 North Center Street, Mesa, AZ

Fri. & Sat. 10 AM to 6 PM – Sun. 10 AM to 4 PM

**Stamp Exhibition and Bourse – Postal Station –
Show Cachet – Refreshments**

stamps.org/AmeriStamp-Expo-ASE.

- 2/17 → Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show (3rd Sunday) – Sheraton Bucks County Hotel – 400 Oxford Valley Road – Langhorne, PA – 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM – (305) 393-6290.
- 2/17 → Wayne Stamp & Collectibles Bourse – Fire Company #1 – 93 Parrish Drive – Wayne, NJ – 9 AM - 4 PM – REW Stamps-Coins LLC – STAMPREW@aol.com – 973-875-3793.
- 2/19 → **HTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Library – Hamilton, NJ – Opens at 6:30 PM – Meeting starts at 7:15 PM – Tom DeLuca talk.**
- 2/20 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Pennsauken, NJ – see 2/7 meeting for details.

March 2019 . . .

- 3/2 → MSC Stamp Bourse – Pennsauken, NJ – see 2/2 bourse for details.
- 3/2 → Westfield Stamp Show – Westfield Municipal Center – 425 East Broad St. – Westfield, NJ – 9 AM to 4 PM – www.westfieldstampclub.org.

- 3/3 → Garden State Stamp, Coin & Currency Show – Parsippany, NJ – see 2/3 show for details.
- 3/7 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Pennsauken, NJ – see 2/7 meeting for details.
- 3/9 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – Bordentown Senior Center – see 2/9 bourse for details.
- 3/17 → Wayne Stamp & Collectibles Bourse – Wayne, NJ – see 2/17 bourse for details.
- 3/17 → Tri-State Coin & Stamp Show – Langhorne, PA – see 2/17 show for details.
- 3/19 → **HTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Library – Hamilton, NJ – Opens at 6:30 PM – Meeting starts at 7:15 PM – Member presentations.**
- 3/20 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Pennsauken, NJ – see 2/7 meeting for details.

April 2019 . . .

- 4/4 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Pennsauken, NJ – see 2/7 meeting for details.
- 4/6-7 → Spring 2019 Postcard Expo – The Watson – 440 West 57th Street – NYC – Fri. 11 AM to 6:00 PM – Sat. 10 AM to 4:30 PM – 410-939-0999.
- 4/6 → MSC Stamp Bourse – Pennsauken, NJ – see 2/2 bourse for details.
- 4/7 → Garden State Stamp, Coin & Currency Show – Parsippany, NJ – see 2/3 show for details.
- 4/13 → DELPEX 2019 – Nur Shrine Center – 198 South DuPont Highway (U.S. Routes 13 & 40N) – New Castle, DE – 10 AM to 5 PM – www.brandywinevalleystampclub.com.
- 4/13 → 2nd Saturday Bourse – Bordentown Senior Center – see 2/9 bourse for details.
- 4/16 → **HTPS MEETING – Hamilton Township Library – Hamilton, NJ – Opens at 6:30 PM – Meeting starts at 7:15 PM – ‘French Pacific Colonies’ presentation by Ed Grabowski.**
- 4/17 → Merchantville Stamp Club Meeting – Pennsauken, NJ – see 2/7 meeting for details.
- 4/21 → Wayne Stamp & Collectibles Bourse – Wayne, NJ – see 2/17 bourse for details.

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

DONATIONS



Ken Steel (pictured) continues to send donated philatelic material to the Stamps for the Wounded (SFTW) group usually consisting of 5-10 lb packages.

Many thanks to HTPS members **Don Bunker, Jack Sack, Angelo Sanelli and Tony Zingale** for their

recent stamp donations. And our thanks to **Irene, Debra and Sylvia** for their donations over the past months.

The cold winter is a good time to check your closet for excess material, including supplies and accessories that can be used by the SFTW group.

New Members . . .

We welcome **Lou Boltik** and **Tom McFarland** to our group. Lou inherited a collection from the 1940-50's and is looking to possibly expand the material.

Tom collects U.S. general including Booklets and Plate # Coils, Canada, Ireland and GB Machins. He is a member of the APS, USSS, Plate # Coil Collectors Club and the Eire Philatelic Association.

HAROLD GATTSEK

[SOURCE: **The Times, Trenton**]

Harold Jack Gattsek, 78, of Monroe, NJ, passed away on November 17, 2018. Born on February 19, 1940 in Washington, D.C., he lived the bulk of his life in the Northern Virginia and Washington Metropolitan area. He moved to New Jersey in 2011, where he enjoyed a close proximity to his grandchildren's high school soccer games and impromptu visits with family members.

Harold graduated from Calvin Coolidge High School in Washington, D.C. and then received a combined BA/JD degree from American University. He practiced law in private practice in Northern Virginia for many years before joining his brother's title insurance company where he worked until retirement.

A lifetime collector of antiquities, he kept busy throughout his retirement by driving to antique shows. He also collected stamps – primarily U.S. used to 1976 – and often attended our monthly meetings and the Bordentown stamp show. Harold also volunteered at the New Jersey Audubon Preserve in Plainsboro, NJ and the American Red Cross.

Those close to him remember his strong convictions, his desire for those around him to be simply happy, and his most oft-repeated mantra: "It'll be what it'll be."

The objective of our Newsletter is to promote philately, educate and inform our members and the public, and to encourage other like-minded individuals to join the Hamilton Township Philatelic Society.

HTPS Officers

- President Dennis Kennedy
- Vice President Robin Rowand
- Treasurer Ken Steel
- Secretary Joe Seliga

HTPS Support Team

- Advertising and PR Matt Visco
- APS Representative Ron Kane
- ATA Representative Len de Groot
- Facebook Coordinator Matt Visco
- Historian Joe Seliga
- Membership Chairman OPEN
- Newsletter Editor Tony Zingale
- NOJEX Contact Andrew Boyajian
- Philatelic Donations Ken Steel
- Program Coordinator Jeff Boyarsky
- Webmaster Ed Murtha
- 50 / 50 Handlers Jim Cope, Ken Steel

HTPS Meeting Program

- ⇒ Feb 19 – **Always a Surprise** . . . by Tom DeLuca
- ⇒ Mar 19 – **"Mini Presentations"**
 . . . by HTPS Members
- ⇒ Apr 16 – **"The Era of the French Colonial Group Type: French Pacific Colonies"**
 . . . by Ed Grabowski
- ⇒ May 21 – **"The U.S. Postal Inspection Service"**
 . . . by Nick Lombardi
- ⇒ June 18 – Society Auction

We are looking for speakers for the 2019-2020 stamp season (September to June). 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.