



# Thames Stamp Club Newsletter

May 2022

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The Thames Stamp Club meets the second and fourth Wednesday of each month, Sept. through June, at 7:30 P.M. at the Clark Lane Middle School, Waterford, CT. All area philatelists are invited. Annual dues are \$10.00. The club's email is [tbbee@aol.com](mailto:tbbee@aol.com). The club's address is PO Box 624, E. Lyme, CT 06333 and on the web at <http://www.ThamesStampClub.org>.

## April Recap

**Apr 13** – Zoom meeting was called to order at 1940 with three members in attendance. Only two club officers were present so no formal meeting was held. We did however have an interesting discussion on stamp collectors and stamp room clutter. The usual philatelic discussions completed the evening.

**Apr 27** – Zoom meeting was called to order at 1930 with six members attending. Members decided to schedule Thamespex'22 on 9 Oct 2022. This is the second Sunday in Oct and steers around 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday show on 22 Oct, NOJEX on 16 Oct and WALPEX on 29-30 Oct. Brian indicated that the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the USS Sea Wolf SSN 21 would be this year's Thamespex Theme. We showed the completion of the APS presentation on the life of a philatelic swindler. The usual philatelic discussions completed the evening.

## May Meetings

**May 11** – Zoom meeting. All are invited. Presentation, "Ways to Collect Zeppelin and Air Ship Mail"

**May 25** – Zoom meeting. All are invited. Presentation, TBD.

## May Stamp Shows

**15 May 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Show** @ Eagles Wing Function Center, 10 Spruce St, Nashua, NH

**21 May RIPEX'22** @ Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 1817 Warwick Ave., Warwick, RI

**22 May 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Show** @ The Annex Y.M.A. in East Haven

## Here and There

I will send those of you who have not yet paid their dues a gentle reminder. Dues are \$10/yr. and help us pay our mailing and Zoom costs. Please mail \$10 to TSC, PO Box 624, E. Lyme, CT 06333. You can still get your Thamespex'21 cover honoring the USS Cheyenne. This month's Cover-of-the-Month is a Zeppelin cover from Liechtenstein to US via Airship Hindenburg. If you have a candidate for Cover-of-the-Month, please send me a scan plus a short write-up. I am circulating the stamp-circuit boxes; if you want to check out the box in your home for a few days, let me know. Everyone please stay healthy and safe. The following link will take you to the APS Newsletter: <https://stamps.org/news/c/news/p/1>

Philatelically yours,

*Tony*

Tony Bruno



The Airship Hindenburg made its maiden voyage to United States on 6 May 1936. This cover was mailed from Triesenberg, Liechtenstein on 1 May 1936. It made the 477 Km trip to Frankfurt Main in time to be flown on the Airship Hindenburg to United States. It is franked with the two Liechtenstein 1 Fr and 2 Fr Zeppelin stamps Scott C15/C16 which were released on 1 May in honor of the Hindenburg's first flight to North America. The stamps paid the air rate plus registration fee. The cover is stamped with the *Deutsche Luftpost Europa NordAmerica* Cachet and has a tied Air Mail courtesy label *Mit Luftpost*, in addition to the Triesenberg Registry label. In the upper left corner, the letter is directed Via Airship Hindenburg to Lakehurst, NJ. The cover arrived in New York on 9 May 1936. The Hindenburg departed Frankfurt Main on 6 May and arrived at Lakehurst on 9 May 1936. On her maiden voyage Hindenburg carried up to 50 passengers, freight and large quantities of philatelic mail. Passengers included many journalists, industrialists and Nazi Party elite. The flight was a diplomatic success for Germany as the flight opened the door to transatlantic air passenger service. Hindenburg made the crossing in just 2.5 days while the fastest ships made the crossing in 5 days. Slower cheaper ship took as long as 10 days. By the end of 1936 Hindenburg crossed the Atlantic 36 times carrying over 3,500 passengers and 66,000 lbs. of freight and mail. A curious technical fact is that the Hindenburg was designed to use helium as its lift gas, but due to expense and availability, hydrogen was substituted. Hydrogen provides more lift and is cheap and easy to produce. However, hydrogen is extremely volatile as the 1937 disaster demonstrated.



Hindenburg at its mooring in Frankfort

The cover was originally addressed to Feeding Hill MA, and arrived there on 11 May. A previous owner changed the receiving address to Little Ferry NJ, probably because he wanted the souvenir cover to go to his house. The Hindenburg returned to Germany on 12 May, arriving in Frankfurt on 14 May. The stamps on cover are worth \$210, but the cover is philatelic not commercial.