Thames Stamp Club Newsletter

September 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. The club's address is PO Box 624, E. Lyme, CT 06333 and on the web at http://www.ThamesStampClub.org.

Summer Recap

Jul 13, 27 – Zoom meeting. Social philatelic discussions.
Aug 10, 24 – Zoom meeting. Thamespex Committee Review.

September Meetings
Sept 14 – Zoom meeting. Continue Thamespex planning. All are invited.
Sept 28 – Zoom meeting. All are invited. Last meeting before Thamespex. Please attend.

September Stamp Shows
4 Sept 1st Sunday Show @ Holiday Inn, Dedham, MA, Ex 15A off I95
18 Sept 3rd Sunday Show @ Eagles Wing Function Center, 10 Spruce St, Nashua, NH
24 Sept Chelmpex'22 @ Trinity Lutheran Church, 170 Old Westford Rd, Chelmsford, MA
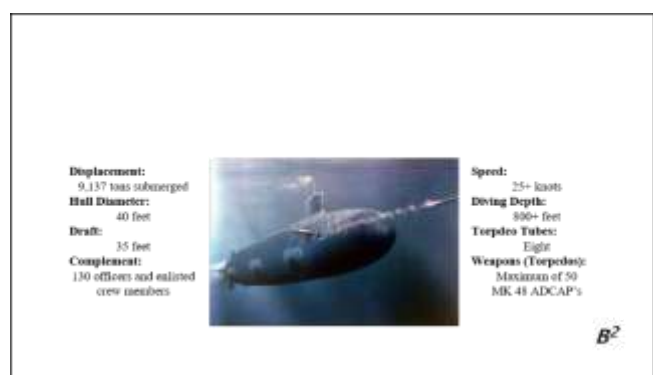**25 Sept 4th Sunday Show @** The Annex Y.M.A. in East Haven

Here and There
Thamespex will soon be here and we continue planning for the show. Brian has designed a spectacular cover honoring the USS Seawolf SSN21, illustrated below. If you have not paid your 22 dues please consider doing so today. 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 was provided by air-mail specialist and TSC member John Johnson. 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

In 1924 the US Congress passed the Kelley Act also known as the Air Mail Act of 1924, authorizing the USPS to contract with commercial air carriers to transport the mail. CAM-1 was established to transport mail from New York City (Newark Field) to Boston with an intermediate stop in Hartford, CT[1]. Covers associated with this route are known as CAM-1 covers. On 9 Feb1934 the postmaster general cancelled all domestic commercial air mail contracts within the US to be effective 19 Feb 1934. At the same time President Franklyn Roosevelt issued an executive order that the US Army Air Corps would carry all domestic air mail until new contracts could be established. The new contracts were awarded in May with service to start in late June 1934. So the experiment with the Army Air Corps Air Mail Service was short lived as it operated for less than 4 months. The cover pictured below was flown on the last flight out of Newark, NJ, bound for Boston. It is franked with the 1916 1 ¢ imperf, Sc # 481 (best guess) paying the 8 ¢ domestic air-mail rate in effect in Feb 1934. LBS (Leo B Schuyler) is the plate finishers initial and BIA records[2] indicate he was the plate finisher for the imperf stamps of 1916 confirming that it is Sc # 481. These stamps were used as postage for many years by collectors and dealers alike. Perham C. Nahl was a prominent air-mail cover collector and 1985 editor of American Air Mail Catalog.

USPB #16361, 19 Feb 1934 announced the US Army would perform air mail service on Route A.M. 1 eff 20 Feb 1934.

The last scheduled CAM 1 service was New York – Boston scheduled for departure from Newark, NJ at 1930 , 19 Feb 1934. Arrival time at Boston was scheduled for 2130, 19 Feb 1934.

If schedule was adhered to the cover illustrated would have been carried on last CAM 1 scheduled flight. The southbound flight was scheduled to depart Boston at 1845 and arrive at Newark at 2100, 19 Feb 1934.

1. http://www.aerodacious.com/ccCAM001.HTM
2. Curtesy of United States Stamp Society

USPB - United States Postal Bulletin
CAM – Contract Air Mail Route 1