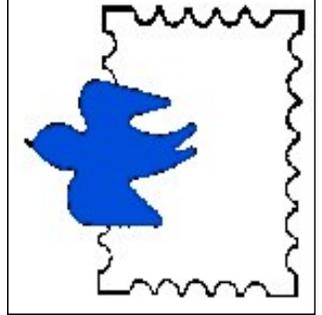


ROCKFORD STAMP NOTES

ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

ESTABLISHED AUGUST 21, 1930 - APS CHAPTER #735
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January 2025

Volume 29 - Number 1

Monthly meeting/auction at Ken-Rock Community Center, 625 Adams St., Rockford, IL

Wednesday, January 8 (2nd Wednesday)

5:30 pm - Buy, sell and trade
View auction lots
7:00 pm - Meeting & auction

Tuesday, January 21

9:00 am - Buy, Sell and trade
View auction lots
10:00 am - Auction

Wednesday, Dec 4th: there were 14 members at the meeting for our donation auction and Christmas Party.

We changed the **January meeting to January 8th** since Ken-Rock is closed on the 1st.

Nominations needed for the “**Rockford Stamp Achievement Award**” to be given at the show banquet. Must be in writing with proposed name and reason(s) for merit.

Show & Tell.....

1. **Ruth Young** - showed a postcard depicting the first Thanksgiving in 1621 that she got at Chicagopex.
2. **Stanley Campbell** - a) some Rockford business checks b) Discharge and Naturalization papers from soldier at Camp Grant. Very nicely preserved in a leather pouch. Purchased at “Scavenged Parts Antiques & Oddities in downtown. Very cool!
3. **Tim Wait** - a) CDV tintype from a Rockford photographer b) 1898 Battleship revenue used for postage and forwarded many times but never charged postage due for illegal use.

Annual Ken-Rock Kids Charity Auction

Thank you to those who showed up for the Charity auction. Along with a small number of lots and MANY cash donations we were able to **donate \$250 for the Ken-Rock Kids Christmas party.**

Thank you to everyone who brought lots, bid, donated and brought so many goodies!

Member Health and Welfare

Gerry Van Alstyne had back surgery November 14th. Went to rehab November 27th and hopes to go home Monday or Tuesday, the 7th or 8th. Keep him in your thoughts & prayers.

DUES NOTICE

Your 2025 dues need to be paid NOW. **\$15 for a printed newsletter and \$8 for the electronic version.**

If your dues are unpaid, use the attached dues notice to pay NOW. We also have three questions asking your opinion about how we can get more member participation at the meetings. Please fill this out and bring to a meeting with your payment or mail it in to the address on the form.

Anyone NOT paid by the Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo on March 8-9 will be dropped from membership and will not receive future Rockford Stamp Notes.

If you no longer wish to be a member, please let us know with the notice or email to t.wait@comcast.net.



Upcoming Stamp Shows

Fri-Sat Jan 10-11 MSDA WI-IL Stateline Show
Kenosha, WI. First Christian Church, 13022 Wilmot Road. Hours Fri 10-5 Sat 10-3. Bourse only. Free admission.

Sat Feb 8 Janesville Stamp Show
Janesville, WI. Holiday Inn Express, 3100 Wellington PL. Hours 9:30-4. Exhibits and bourse. Silent auction. Free admission.

Sat-Sun Mar 1-2 MSDA Appleton Show
Appleton, WI. Double Tree by Hilton, 150 Nicolet Rd. Hours Fri 10-5 Sat 10-3. Bourse only. Free admission.

Ask other members if you are interested in going to a show. Ride sharing can be a big savings and fun!

Love
First Class Forever (73¢)

Pane of 20

Jan 17 – Kutztown, PA



This new Love stamp celebrates the universal experience of love with a work by artist Keith Haring (1958–1990). With a deceptively simple and now-iconic style, Haring’s work is instantly recognizable. This stamp features Haring’s 1985 Untitled drawing. Antonio Alcalá, an art director for USPS, believes that this drawing makes for an ideal new stamp in this popular series. “The non-specificity of the figures allows a variety of people to see themselves in this stamp,” Alcalá says. “Partners getting married, celebrating an anniversary, siblings sending each other a heartfelt greeting, or even party planners setting a positive tone for their event.”

The artist, rather than the theme, is the reason for the stamp’s release site. Keith Haring was born in Reading, Pa., and grew up in Kutztown. Per Wikipedia, “Haring’s popularity grew from his spontaneous drawings in New York City subways—chalk outlines of figures, dogs, and other stylized images on blank black advertising spaces. After gaining public recognition, he created colorful larger scale murals, many commissioned, and produced more than 50 public artworks between 1982 and 1989. In 1986, he opened the Pop Shop as an extension of his work.”


Spiral Galaxy
Priority Mail (\$9.85)

Pane of 4

Jan 21 – Big Sky, MT


Star Cluster
Priority Express Mail (\$30.45)

Pane of 4

Jan 21 – Big Sky, MT

Features an extremely high-definition image of a spiral galaxy 32 million light-years from Earth. The image, captured by NASA’s James Webb Space Telescope, helps researchers update their models of star formation and allows them to better understand the origins of our universe.

Features a second image captured by NASA’s James Webb Space Telescope, this stamp shows a star cluster approximately 1,000 light-years from Earth. Hidden within the cloud of celestial dust are floating brown dwarfs—objects too small to be stars but larger than most planets. Studying these brown dwarfs will help scientists explore how star-formation processes operate for very small masses.



The Lunar New Year starts January 29 and ends February 16, 2026.

**Lunar New Year
Year of the Snake**
First Class Forever (73¢)

Pane of 20

Jan 24– Boston, MA

This is the sixth stamp in the current Lunar New Year series, where each entry features a mask, calling to mind the decorated masks used in the dragon or lion dances often performed during Lunar New Year parades. For Year of the Snake, designer Camille Chew constructed a three-dimensional snake mask out of hand-printed paper, then cut, scored and folded it into shape. After the front was embellished with acrylic paint and additional paper elements, the back was covered with a layer of papier-mâché.

Those born in the Year of the Snake are said to be quiet, wise and deep-thinking, making them proficient musicians, philosophers, writers and teachers. A snake year is sometimes referred to as a “little dragon year” because it follows the dragon on the zodiac.

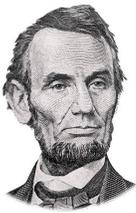
Useful for mailing a 1-ounce letter to any country in which First-Class Mail International service is available, this stamp carries with it a bit of history. The colorful compass rose was drawn in a school geography notebook by Lucia Wadsworth, the aunt of poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, when she was 10 years old. Greg Breeding, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp.

**1794 Compass Rose
Global One Ounce (\$1.65)**

Pane of 10

 Jan 24– Peach Tree Corners,
GA

Continued on page five.



President's Corner - Frank Schmitt

Greetings fellow Rockford Stamp Club members:



Happy New Year! Here we are in 2025 already! 25 years since Y2K and all the “unknowns” we were fearful of that could have affected our world of technology as it was. We survived! The stamp hobby was probably not threatened as much back then, as it would be today, due to the technological and digital advancements in those 25 years. While there are a lot of advantages with these advances, nothing can replace, or enhance, the hands-on experience of working with our collections.

In starting this new year, it is a good time for us to evaluate our collecting interests and are they still as fulfilling as when we started. Have we completed a collection to the best of our ability and budget, have we completed and displayed an exhibit, have we contributed to the hobby in a special way? It may be time to consider starting a different country or topical collection, update or start a new exhibit, become more active in your stamp club/s, share your knowledge and mentor a younger or new collector.

With the new year, we have the fast-approaching Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo, March 8-9, 2025. Please sign up to volunteer to help in one or more of the areas in which we will need help to make our show a success. It is not too early to start preparing your silent auction lots, exhibits, donations for the mystery boxes, or want lists. Our new venue worked well last year and with some minor tweaking will be even better this year. Mark the dates on your calendar and spend the weekend at the show. The banquet/dinner will be Saturday evening at the Hoffman House/Scoreboard private room. Sign up early so we can have a good count of attendees.

Also mark your calendars for February 8 and attend the Janesville Stamp Show and help make it a success. Very few stamp shows continue to be club sponsored and it is important to support them to be able to continue this tradition.

It appears that for our Wednesday evening meetings we may be moving back to the Banquet Room at Ken-Rock Community center at their request. If you don't find us in the Bingo Room, come down the hallway and join us in the Banquet Room. We are not sure if this is a temporary move or long-term.

Come joins us for our belated January meeting on the 8th, (didn't think many would show up on the 1st), and remember to bring your show and tell, a friend, auction lots and anything else you wish to share with the club.

Stay well, stay safe, and happy collecting!

Linn's 2024 U.S. Stamp Popularity Poll

As in year's past, we will vote together at the January and February meetings for our selections in the 2024 poll. I will have ballots at the meetings and pictures of all the stamp issues. I'll tabulate the votes before I send them in and we'll see how closely our selections match the total results.

Great Americans Issue of 1980-1999 - Getting to Know Them

This issue depicts some well-known persons as well as many who were lesser known. “The Great Americans stamps may be viewed as a kind of melting pot, although certain mini-topical collecting areas stand out, those mentioned (women, black Americans, native Americans) as well as others (scientists, politicians, doctors, writers, humanitarians)”. Michael Schreiber writing in *Linn's Stamp News* on November 24, 1994.

This series of articles will focus on the stamps, beginning with those issued from 1980 to 1985, listed in Scott Specialized Catalogue as #1844-1869. They are shown in denomination order. Wikipedia: Source for bio info.



Jan 16, 1982
#1855

Crazy Horse (c. 1840 – September 5, 1877) was a Lakota war leader of the Oglala band in the 19th century. He took up arms against the United States federal government to fight against encroachment by White American settlers on Native American territory and to preserve the traditional way of life of the Lakota people. His participation in several famous battles of the Black Hills War on the northern Great Plains, among them the Fetterman Fight in 1866, in which he acted as a decoy, and the Battle of the Little Bighorn in 1876, in which he led a war party to victory, earned him great respect from both his enemies and his own people.

In September 1877, four months after surrendering to U.S. troops under General George Crook, Crazy Horse was fatally wounded by a bayonet-wielding military guard while allegedly^[4] resisting imprisonment at Camp Robinson in northwestern Nebraska. He was honored by the U.S. Postal Service in 1982 with a 13¢ Great Americans series postage stamp.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Issue



Hyde Park, NY
Residence
Post Card Rate



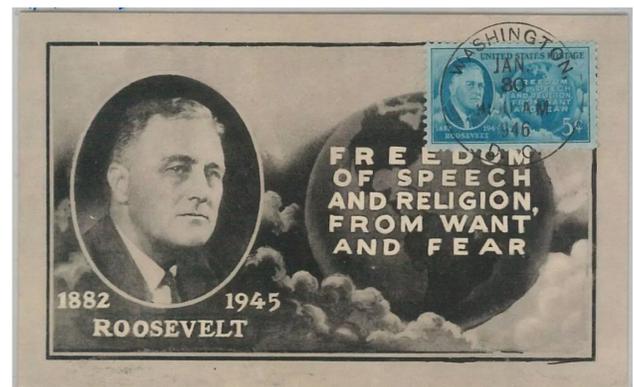
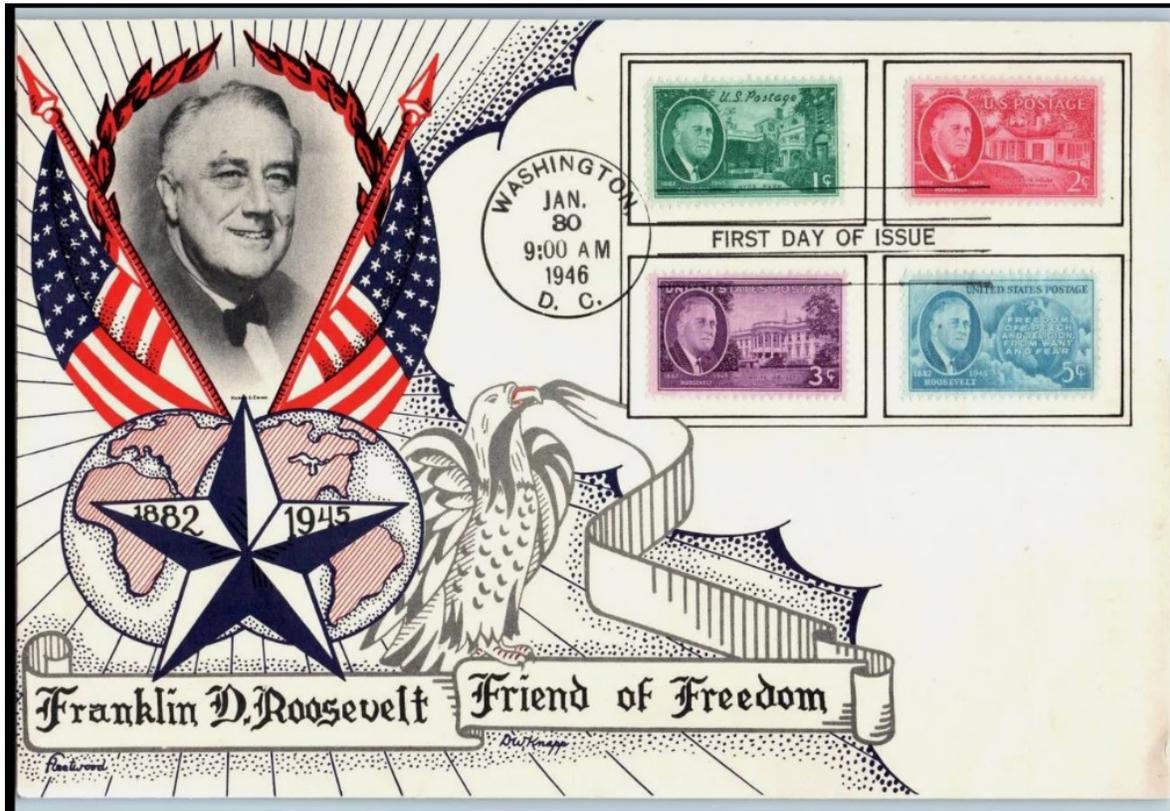
Little White House
Warm Springs, Ga.
Local Letter
Carrier Office



White House
Washington, D.C.
Letter Rate



Four Freedoms
Speech and Religion
Want and Fear
International Rate



Maximum Card of the 5c Four Freedoms stamp.

Greece was the first of many countries to honor FDR after his death. FDC to Rome, Italy with Italian censor marking.

In 1946 the US dime was changed to a bust of Roosevelt. This replaced the Mercury Head dime that had been produced since 1916.



Welcome to the Rockford Illinois Stamp Club Website

www.rockfordstampclub.com

WEB SITE UPDATE - Please take a moment to go to our webpage listed above. We need to do some updates but what else would you like to see? Please let us know your comments.
Tim (t.wait@comcast.net) & Frank (prevent1@comcast.net) - webmasters.

Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo - March 8-9

NOW is the time to start thinking about your contribution to making this show the best ever!

- Better **auction lots** \$5 minimum.
- **Four page exhibits** - contact Tim Wait. These can be a fun and easy way to start exhibiting and showing off your collection.
- **Want lists for the dealers.** Contact them ahead of time to make sure they bring what you are looking for. See below for contact info.
- **Time to help out at** - frame/exhibit set up, dealer setup, greeting our guests at the front desk, auction helpers, frame/exhibit take down.
- **Tell your friends and relatives.** The more we get the word out, the more attendance and activity we have at the show.

The Hoffman House Conference Center was a wonderful location last year. The room was spacious and nice. Plus the Scoreboard food was great! Our banquet will be held in a private room in 2025 for a better experience.

This is your show and we can all make it more successful and enjoyable every year **by participating in a variety of ways.**

2025 New Issues - January

Allen Toussaint
Black Heritage Series
First Class Forever (73¢)
Pane of 20
Jan 30 – New Orleans, LA



The 48th stamp in the series, will honor Allen Toussaint (1938–2015), the virtuoso pianist, singer, songwriter, composer, arranger and producer responsible for scores of hits across multiple genres. The stamp features a photograph taken by Bill Tompkins in New York City in 2007.

Per the USPS 2025 launch announcement, “In recent years, the Black Heritage series has celebrated a man one year and a woman the next,” which raises the question: Might we be getting a woman honoree later this year...and two honorees every year?

ROCKFORD 2-3-4 ~ 2024/2025 Dealers **2025 Paid in Red!**

These dealers participated at the 2024 show. We hope you were able to visit many of them and find something for your collection. Most should be returning. Dealers already committed for 2025 are in RED.

Get ready now to come find items you need for your collection. Contact them before the show to make sure they bring what you want! Please support our show dealers throughout the year for all your philatelic needs.

David Alex, Sat. Only

Glenview, IL
847-291-7826

Bardo Stamps

Jim Bardo

Buffalo Grove, IL
jfb7437@aol.com
847-634-2676

L & J Stamps

Larry Gautsche
Goshen, IN
lgautsche7@gmail.com
574-370-9631

Steve Capone

Rockford, IL
815-394-0537

Terry Kurzinski

Cherry Valley, IL
tkurzinski2002@yahoo.com
815-262-9117

Tiger Collectibles

Scott Couch
Stoutsville, MO
tigercollect@sbcglobal.net
816-405-3633

Cal's & Friends

Michael Duehr
Genesse Depot, WI
mduehr@wi.rr.com
262-392-9432

Fox River Stamps

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foxriverstamps@gmail.com
414-234-9867

Larry's Stamps

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lglenzer249@gmail.com
715-341-6767

J Freedom Stamps

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LaGrange, IL
jfreedom1@comcast.net
773-370-9659

Double J Stamps

Jeff
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Double_j_stamps@yahoo.com
847-843-8700

Riverbank Treasurers

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New Lisbon, WI
riverbanktreasurers@gmail.com
608-515-6150

WYstamps.com

Wayne Youngblood
Prairie Du Sac, WI
608-370-9098

ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

We invite all area collectors to join us at a future meeting of the Rockford Stamp Club. Meeting and an auction are held the first Wednesday beginning at 6:00pm, every month except July. An auction takes place the third Tuesday of every month beginning at 9:00am. Both are held at the Ken-Rock Community Center, 625 Adams St., Rockford, Illinois. We start with a buy/sell/trade session followed by a lively, unreserved stamp auction. Come discover the fun of stamp collecting. All ages and collecting levels from beginner to advanced are welcome.

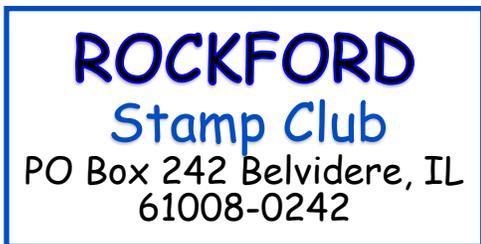
The 2025-2026 Club Officers

President.....Frank Schmitt
815-226-4391
Vice-President.....Matt Mace
Secretary.....Tammy Copus
Treasurer.....Tim Wait
Director(2).....Tim Copus
Director(4).....Steve Johnson
Director(6).....Terry Kurzinski
Show Chairman.....Tim Wait
815-670-5869 / t.wait@comcast.net

Perry Arnquist Award Recipients

1991 Perry Arnquist Emeritus	1999 Dwane Kaplenk*
1992 Evert Thelene *	2000 Thomas Johnston*
1993 Donald Arnquist *	2001 Mike Peters
1994 Otto Ehlers *	2002 Craig Edgington
1995 Dick Wibom *	2003 Earl Button
1996 Dan Hammell *	2004 Timothy Wait
1997 Robert Rosell *	2012 Tim Gallagher *
1998 Matt Mace	

* Closed album



See you for some Philatelic Phun!
Wednesday, January 8 at 5:30/7pm
Tuesday, January 21 at 9/10am
Remember we're at 625 Adams St.