

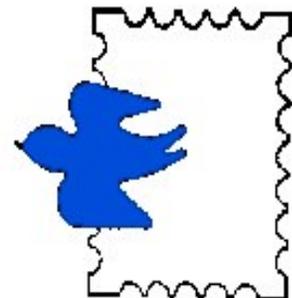
ROCKFORD STAMP NOTES

ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

ESTABLISHED AUGUST 21, 1930 - APS CHAPTER #735
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February 2024

Volume 28 - Number 2



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

Wednesday, February 7

5:30 pm - Buy, sell and trade

View auction lots

7:00 pm - Meeting & auction

Tuesday, February 20

9:00 am - Buy, Sell and trade

View auction lots

10:00 am - Auction

Wednesday, January 3rd: we had fourteen members in attendance and one guest. Sandy inherited her father's collection and was considering continuing to collect.

Show update - Dealers coming along, exhibits all set, judges Ken Trettin, Rockford, IA and Jerry Miller, Chicago. Get your silent auction packets from Frank at the next meetings. Banquet reserved at Thunder Bay Grill for now....

Show & Tell.....

1. **Stanley Campbell** - FDC album full of WWI patriotic covers—for sale!
2. **Jeff Hall** - a) 1929 Zeppelin Round-the-world cover
b) Free franked covers from the 1790's and 1812 c)
Navy cover from 1839.

Another fine auction then took place with great bargains!

Tammy Copus won the mystery box!

Get Your Dues Paid!

Did you pay your dues yet? **\$15 for a printed newsletter and \$8 for electronic version.**

This is a bargain for all the philatelic fun you have at the meetings (some of you are missing out), and great auction lots! **If you don't pay by the show in March you may be dropped from our mailing list!**

Please pay Tim at the Wednesday meeting or Frank at the Tuesday meeting.



Upcoming Stamp Shows

Fri-Sat Feb 2-3 MSDA Joliet Stamp Show

Joliet, IL. Messiah Lutheran Church, 40 Houbolt Rd. MSDA & Will Co. Stamp Club. Hours Fri 10-5 Sat 10-4. Bourse only. Free admission.

Sat Feb 10 Janesville Stamp Show

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

Sat-Sun Feb 24-5 STAMPFEST '24

St. Francis, WI. St. Francis Lions Community Center, 3476 E. Howard Ave. Hours Sat 10-5, Sun 10-3. Bourse only. Free admission.

Sat-Sun Mar 9-10 Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo

Rockford, IL. Hoffman House Conference Center, 7550 E. State St. Hours Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4. Exhibits and bourse. Silent auction. Free admission.

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



We lost two members in recent months.

Tom Johnston—Green Bay, WI
Ward Miller—Rockford

See page four for more details.

Member Health and Welfare

Hank Fox has permanently moved to Alpine Fireside, 3650 N Alpine Rd., Room 218. His health is rapidly deteriorating. No calls but stop by to see him if you can.

Gerry Van Alstyne continues his long Odessey thru the VA Health Care system. His rare hernia surgery was postponed at the last minute and he is continuing to try getting it scheduled,

Keep them both in your thoughts and prayers.

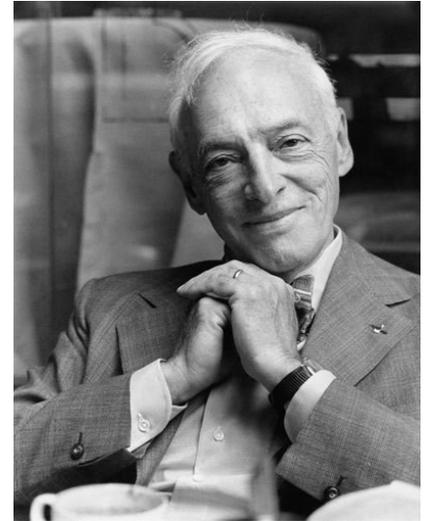
Saul Bellow
Three Ounce Rate (\$1.16)
 Pane of 20


The 34th issuance in the Literary Arts series honors novelist Saul Bellow (1915-2005). Winner of three National Book Awards, a Pulitzer Prize and the Nobel Prize, Bellow is widely regarded as one of the greatest authors of the 20th century. The stamp art is a portrait of Bellow in pen, ink and watercolor based on photographs from 1982. In the background is a street scene of Chicago, where he lived most of his life. Ethel Kessler, an art director for USPS, designed the 3-ounce stamp with original art by Joe Ciardiello.

Saul Bellow (born **Solomon Bellows**; June 10, 1915 – April 5, 2005) was a Canadian–American writer. For his literary work, Bellow was awarded the Pulitzer Prize, the 1976 Nobel Prize in Literature, and the National Medal of Arts. He is the only writer to win the National Book Award for Fiction three times, and he received the National Book Foundation's lifetime Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters in 1990.

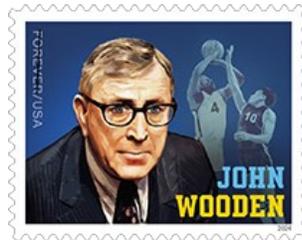
In the words of the Swedish Nobel Committee, his writing exhibited: the mixture of rich picaresque novel and subtle analysis of our culture, of entertaining adventure, drastic and tragic episodes in quick succession interspersed with philosophic conversation, all developed by a commentator with a witty tongue and penetrating insight into the outer and inner complications that drive us to act, or prevent us from acting, and that can be called the dilemma of our age.

His best-known works include *The Adventures of Augie March*, *Henderson the Rain King*, *Herzog*, *Mr. Sammler's Planet*, *Seize the Day*, *Humboldt's Gift*, and *Ravelstein*.



Radiant Star will be a new presorted standard stamp intended for bulk mailers and will be sold in self-adhesive coils of 3,000 and 10,000. In this vibrant graphic design, red and white stripes radiate from a blue star. The star is in two shades of blue to give it a three-dimensional look. Antonio Alcalá was the art director for USPS on the project. The stamp was designed by Carol Beehler.

Radiant-Star
Presort Standard
 Coil rolls of 3,000 & 10,000
 Feb 19 – Star, ID


John Wooden
First Class Forever (68¢)
 Pane of 20
 Feb 24 – Los Angeles, CA


Legendary coach John Wooden (1910-2010) led the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Bruins to a record-setting 10 Division I men's basketball national championships. Often considered the greatest coach in the history of American sports, Wooden coached the Bruins to 88 consecutive wins and four perfect (30-0) seasons. The stamp features a portrait of Wooden. In the "UCLA blue" background, a player defends a shot. The numbers on the two players' jerseys, 4 and 10, evoke the Bruins' four perfect seasons and the 10 national championships during Wooden's tenure. Antonio Alcalá, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp using original artwork by Alexis Franklin.



President's Corner - Frank Schmitt



Greetings fellow Rockford Stamp Club members:

Hopefully no one showed up for the Tuesday auction on January 16th. Because of the closure of the Ken-Rock Center due to extremely cold temperatures, we were forced to cancel our meeting. Our decision to cancel moments before being advised of the closure was thus validated. **An email was sent out and phone calls were made to inform members of the cancellation. If you did not receive notification, please update your phone number and/or email address with the Secretary.** Fortunately, the weather has since moderated and we won't have to deal with that issue for some time, if ever. On the upside, that cold snap did provide us with some good stamp collecting time!

There are several stamp shows occurring in the area in the very near future, including our own Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo. It is important that we as collectors attend these shows and support the dealers that participate in these shows. While it is extremely easy to shop for stamps from the comfort of our homes and retrieve them from our mailbox when they arrive it is detrimental to stamp shows. Arguments can be made from either side but there is no comparison for the face-to-face dealings and information exchange/learning opportunities realized at a stamp show. These dealers have invested time and money to participate in these shows when they could just as easily stay home and conduct all their business on-line with little or no cost. I believe part of the reason they still participate in the shows is because shows remain a viable source to obtain collections and other materials from other dealers and the walk-in non stamp collectors that have inherited a relative's collections. They are there to buy and sell. **The point I am trying to make is if we want shows to continue, we must support them.** Each show will have some dealers unique to that show and therefore something a little different. Attend the other shows, promote Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo, spend a little money there, but save most of it for our show. It is up to us to keep the shows going – many are teetering on the brink of collapse or have already disappeared.

Since it appears that the era of technology swiftly swallows up life as we know/knew it, it is time for us to take a good hard look at how we market our hobby and the Rockford Stamp Club. **I believe the time for us to have at least a minimal presence on Facebook and/or other social media opportunities has arrived. I also believe we should investigate the hardware needs and platform to do hybrid meetings (live and ZOOM), so more members can participate in our meetings.** There is a wealth of knowledge and information left untapped because a member has no means to attend a meeting in person. If there is a member or two amongst us that is knowledgeable and adept in this area and interested in sharing, please raise your hand.

I also believe we are remiss in not having regular programs or presentations at our meetings as we have had in the past. If anyone would be interested in coordinating an educational aspect of our club, please raise your hand.

Please bring your ideas on how to promote and grow our club including outreach programs or displays, or whatever other ideas you may have.

Please take a moment to remember two of our members that have closed their albums recently, Tom Johnston and Ward Miller. Both served as officers of the club and were strong contributors to the hobby. See page four, Ed.

A big Rockford Stamp Club welcome to our new member Sandy Belknap. Welcome to the hobby Sandy!

Stay well, stay safe, and happy collecting!

Postage Used as Revenue - by Tim Wait



June 17, 1869—5¢ Certificate Tax

When the Civil War Revenue tax went into effect on October 1, 1862, the tax on general certificates was 10¢. On March 3, 1863 a revised schedule was passed and the tax was reduced to 5¢.

The tax was supposed to be paid using revenue stamps. Here the Officiant used a 2¢ Black Jack and a 3¢ 1869 issue to pay the 5¢. This was illegal as the money went to the Post Office, not the Treasury Department!

Illinois Boxed Cancels on Registered Letters - by Tim Wait

I like US Postal History! I like Illinois Postal History even more! I was looking at Illinois covers back in 2010 at the Rockford Stamp Show and found a new collecting topic to pursue. Thirteen years of occasionally searching, I have found five examples.

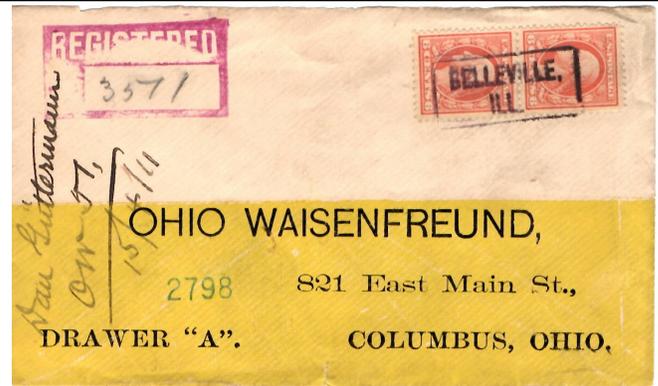
These were used on Registered Mail as a “Mute” cancel with no date and backstamped with a dated Registered postmark, sealing the envelope flaps for security.



Sep 13, 1904—Blue Island to Greenville N.H. Letter 2¢ (10/1/85-11/1/17) Registration 8¢ (1/1/1893-10/31/09).



Aug 28, 1909—PERU to Kansas City, Mo. Letter 2¢ (10/1/85-11/1/17) Registration 8¢ (1/1/1893-10/31/09).



Apr 6, 1911—Belleville, IL to Columbus. 2¢ Letter 10¢ Registration (11/1/09-04/14/25).



Apr 29, 1913—Spring Valley to Princeton, Ill.



Jun 13, 1914—Chicago Heights to Leipzig Germany!

Ward Miller - May 18, 1937 - January 21, 2024

Beloved husband of Virginia, who predeceased him in 2021. Graduated with a mechanical engineering degree from Perdue University. Served on active duty in the United States Naval Reserve. Worked for Hewitt-Robins, Inc. and its successors for 37 years retiring from Regal Beloit. Enjoyed fishing trips throughout the United States and Canada and travels with Virginia.

An avid philatelist and past Treasurer of the Rockford Stamp Club, he meticulously curated Mint Never Hinged stamps specializing in Monaco and Canada among other countries.

Ward was a good friend who enjoyed going out to lunches and dinners to spend time with his fellow stamp friends.....Rest in Peace Ward.



Tom (TJ) Johnston - Feb 11, 1934 - Nov 23, 2023

Tom’s wife, Karen sent a notice in early January that Tom had passed last Thanksgiving.

Tom loved stamps! He was a very active member in the Rockford Stamp Club during the 1980’s and 1990’s before moving to Green Bay after retirement. He served as President and other positions and was a driving force behind many shows.

Even though moving to Green Bay, he remained a member and enjoyed getting his *Rockford Stamp Notes*. He made it back for quite a few Rockford Stamp Shows over the years.

Tom collected a variety of stamps and covers and really enjoyed the comradery with fellow philatelists... Rest in Peace Tom.

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 tell us your comments.
Tim (t.wait@comcast.net) & Frank (prevent1@comcast.net) - webmasters.

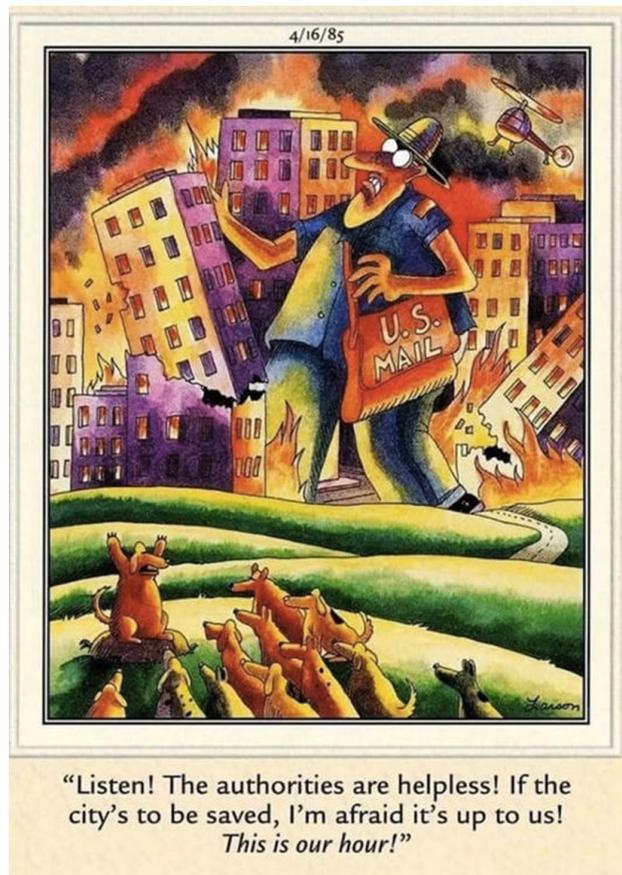
Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo - March 9-10

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** - see Tim W. These can be a fun and easy way to start 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 last page 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.

With the change to the Hoffman House Conference Center next year, we will have more challenges with the room layout and set up. More help is needed at 8am Saturday!

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



ROCKFORD 2-3-4 2024 Dealers—UPDATED

The below dealers all participated at the 2023 show. If you saw something but passed at the show it's not too late to contact them and still get it for your collection! **Remember to support our dealers throughout the year for all your philatelic needs.**

David Alex, Sat. Only

Glenview, IL
847-291-7826

WYstamps.com

Wayne Youngblood
Prairie Du Sac, WI
wystamps@gmail.com
608-370-9098

Bardo Stamps

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

Terry Kurzinski

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

Tiger Collectibles

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

Steve Capone

Rockford, IL
815-394-0537

Fox River Stamps

Michael Mules
Salem, WI
foxriverstamps@gmail.com
414-234-9867

Larry's Stamps

Plover, WI
lglenzer249@gmail.com
715-341-6767

J Freedom Stamps

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

Double J Stamps

Jeff
Arlington Heights, IL
Double_j_stamps@yahoo.com
847-843-8700

Riverbank Treasurers

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

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.

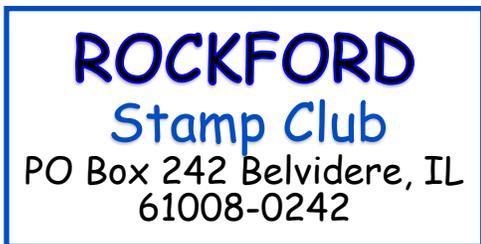
The 2022-2023 Club Officers

President.....Frank Schmitt
815-226-4391
Vice-President.....Matt Mace
Secretary.....Tammy Copus
Treasurer.....Tim Wait
Director.....Tim Copus
Director.....Steve Capone
Director.....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, February 7 at 5:30/7pm
Tuesday, February 20 at 9/10am
Remember we're at 625 Adams St.