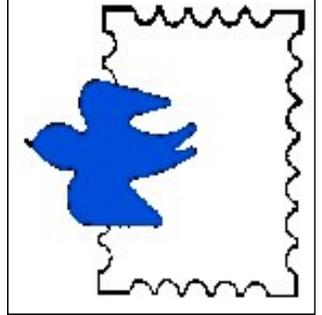


ROCKFORD STAMP NOTES

ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

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

Volume 28 - Number 1

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

Wednesday, January 3

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

Tuesday, January 16

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

Wednesday, December 6th: we had sixteen members in attendance and our Annual Donation Auction for Ken-rock Kids. We raised \$250 from lots and a matching donation from **Frank Schmitt!**

Tuesday, December 19: about 10 members came in for the auction. Always a fun time.

Show & Tell.....

1. **Stanley Campbell** - a) Four Swiss Postcards from WWI. b) May 1924 Swiss air meet cover.
2. **Ruth Young** - won the door prize at Monroe Stamp & Postcard Show. Lots of nice stuff.
3. **Bruce Marquardt** - 2003 Rockford newspaper showing our own Stanley Campbell sitting in the middle of the street. Now we really know what happened with that car accident a few years ago!
4. **Tim Wait** - W.F. & John Barnes 1870's advertising cover from Rockford along with all the advertising material they sent out.
5. **Jim Young** - 1941 Pearl Harbor cover just before the bombing.

Lots of treats and goodies were provided by members and we all enjoyed them while visiting and bidding in the auction. **Thank you** to all who donated lots, purchased some new stuff for their collections and brought goodies and treats to share.

Get Your Dues Paid!

It's 2024! 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!

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



Upcoming Stamp Shows

Fri-Sat Jan 5-6 MSDA WI-IL Stateline Show

Kenosha, WI. First Christian Church, 13022 Wilmot Road. Hours Fri 10-6 Sat 10-3. Bourse only. Free admission.

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.

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

Member Health and Welfare

Hank Fox had a fall at home and needed to be transported to Swedish American. Nothing seriously injured but he has relocated to Alpine Fireside, 3650 N Alpine Rd., Room 218. Give him a call or better yet stop by!

Gerry Van Alstyne continues his long odyssey thru the VA Health Care system. He has been seeing doctors recently to get a rare hernia surgery.

Keep them both in your thoughts and prayers.

USPS January 21 price increases. Letters go from 66¢ to 68¢. Second ounce stays the same at 24¢. Postcards go from 51¢ to 53¢.



Love Stamp
First Class Forever (66¢)
Pane of 20
Jan 20 – Romance, AR

The 2024 Love stamp features a stylized bird in flight bearing a message of love in its beak. Made of four geometric shapes shown against a rich red background, the white bird carries a pink envelope sealed with a red heart. Antonio Alcalá, an art director for USPS, designed this stamp with an original digital illustration by Katie Kirk.



Pillars of Creation
Priority Mail (\$9.85)
Pane of 4
Jan 22 – Greenbelt, MD

Captured by the James Webb Space Telescope, this extremely high-definition infrared image shows the magnificent Pillars of Creation formation within the Eagle Nebula. By assigning color to various wavelengths, the digitized image allows us to see a landscape otherwise invisible to the human eye. Red areas toward the end of the pillars show burgeoning stars ejecting raw materials as they form, while the relatively small red orbs scattered throughout the image show newly born stars. Greg Breeding, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp with an image provided by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the European Space Agency, the Canadian Space Agency and the Space Telescope Science Institute.

Cosmic Cliffs
Priority Mail Express (\$30.45)
Pane of 4
Jan 22 – Greenbelt, MD



This remarkable image from the James Webb Space Telescope is a digitally colored depiction of the invisible bands of mid-infrared light emitted by the Cosmic Cliffs of the Carina Nebula. Red and yellow flares scattered throughout the cliffs show developing and newly born stars. The orange-and-brown clouds in the lower third of the image are swirls of dust and gas. Additional stars, in our Milky Way and in distant galaxies, appear in the blue and black regions above and beyond the nebula. Greg Breeding, an art director for USPS, designed the Stamp using an image provided by NASA, the European Space Agency, the Canadian Space Agency and the Space Telescope Science Institute.



Lunar New Year
Year of the Dragon
First Class Forever (68¢)
Pane of 20
Jan 25 – Seattle, WA

The fifth of 12 stamps in the latest Lunar New Year stamp series celebrates the Year of the Dragon. Calling to mind the elaborately decorated masks used in dances often performed in Lunar New Year parades, this three-dimensional mask depicting a dragon is a contemporary take on the long tradition of paper-cut folk art crafts created during this auspicious time of year. The dragon mask design incorporates colors and patterns with symbolic meaning. Antonio Alcalá, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp and pane with original art by Camille Chew.



Constance Baker Motley
First Class Forever (68¢)
Pane of 20
Jan 31 – New York, NY

The 47th stamp in the Black Heritage series honors Constance Baker Motley (1921–2005), the first African American woman known to have argued a case before the United States Supreme Court and the first to serve as a federal judge. The stamp features a portrait of Motley created by Charly Palmer. The stenciled circular shapes create a subtle crowning effect, and the heavy brushstrokes and scratches add texture to the acrylic-on-canvas work. Stenciled curlicues embellish the lower background and continue onto Motley's black dress. Derry Noyes, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp.



President's Corner - Frank Schmitt



Greetings fellow Rockford Stamp Club members:

Another year has slipped past and into the annals of history. The last legitimate postmark for 2023 has been struck as we enter a new year of new issues, new discoveries, and new additions to our collections. Hopefully everyone survived the Holiday season and was able to save up a little stash to put towards our favorite hobby. January 5th & 6th will be the first area stamp show (MSDA) in Kenosha, WI, followed by the Janesville Stamp Club Show on February 10th and then Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo. Hopefully, there will be many familiar faces seen at all three shows.

Speaking of the Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo, are you ready? Ready for what? Your exhibit, your auction lots, your attendance, and very importantly your **time** to volunteer in one of the many areas where help is needed. Help is always needed with assembly and tear down of the exhibits, the silent auction, the front table to welcome guests, assist guests wanting collection evaluations (and/or directing to appropriate dealer), assist dealers as needed. Your time will be greatly appreciated. Due to the change of venue and the many unknowns your assistance is extremely important this year.

We will try and maintain the silent auction as we have in the past but due to the uncertainty of available space, we may have to limit the number of lots. Please be prepared to carry on as normal but be understanding if limits must be imposed. Remember, the minimum starting bid for each lot is \$5.00.

A big thanks to everyone that attended our December Wednesday night meeting which encompassed our club Christmas party and the charity auction for Ken-Rock Kids. Due to the generosity of our members the auction generated \$133.00. The matching donation for the first \$100.00 of auction proceeds and an additional monetary donation by another generous member, a check for \$250.00 was presented to Ken-Rock for their Christmas party for the kids. Again, a big THANKS for your generosity.

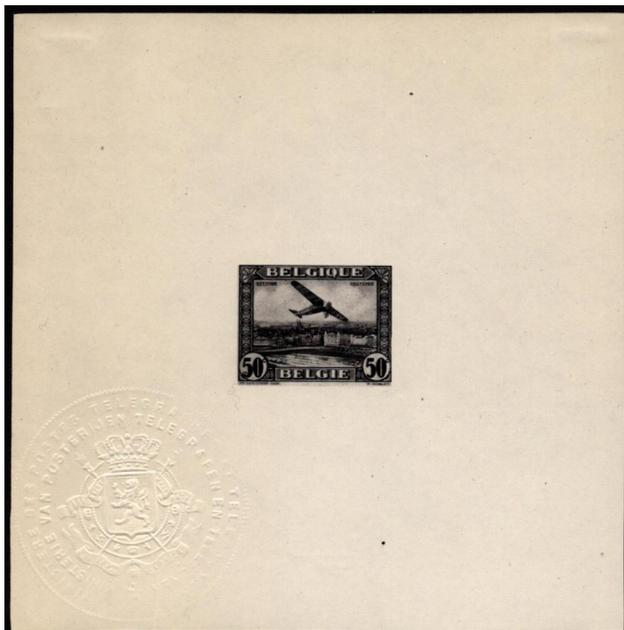
I hope that at least one of your New Year resolutions involves some aspect of your stamp collecting hobby (maybe even involves Rockford 2-3-4 Expo) and results in a positive outcome by the end of 2024.

Just a friendly reminder that 2024 dues are due if you haven't paid them yet. Thanks to all that have. \$8.00 for electronic newsletter, \$15.00 for the printed newsletter.

Stay safe, stay healthy, and happy collecting!

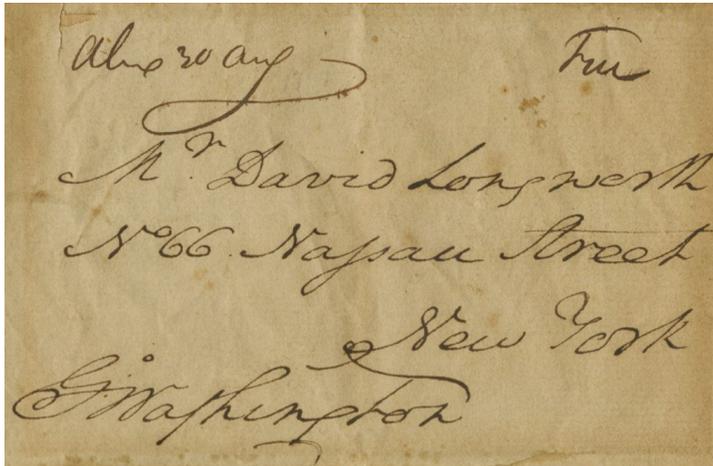
Belgian Air Mail Ministerial Die Proofs - by Tim Wait

Belgium distributes die proofs of each issue to their Cabinet Ministers. In 1930 when they issued their first airmail stamps they only distributed 23 of each issue. C1-4, 50c, 1.5Fr, 2Fr and 5Fr stamps were issued. Each was 5-³/₄ x 5-¹/₂ inches with an embossed "Ministry of Posts, Telegraph and Telephone" in French and Flemish surrounding the Great Seal of Belgium in the lower left corner...**except for when the embossing was inverted? Unique?, maybe!**



Presidential Free Frank Letters

G. Washington - 30 August 1797



David Longworth published a two-volume edition of *The Adventures of Telemachus Son of Ulysses*, an English translation of a work by François de Salignac de La Mothe-Fénelon, first published in 1700, which presented a classical tale in the context of a political novel. On August 21, 1797, Longworth wrote President George Washington sending him a copy of this work.

Autograph document signed as President, free frank panel, in his hand, addressed to "Mr. David Longworth, No 66 Nassau Street, New York." It is signed "G. Washington."

Washington did indeed keep this book. It was so listed on the handwritten inventory taken after his death and believed to have been done by Tobias or Benjamin Lear. The inventory, titled "Catalog of Books Received From George Washington", lists this book on the second page.

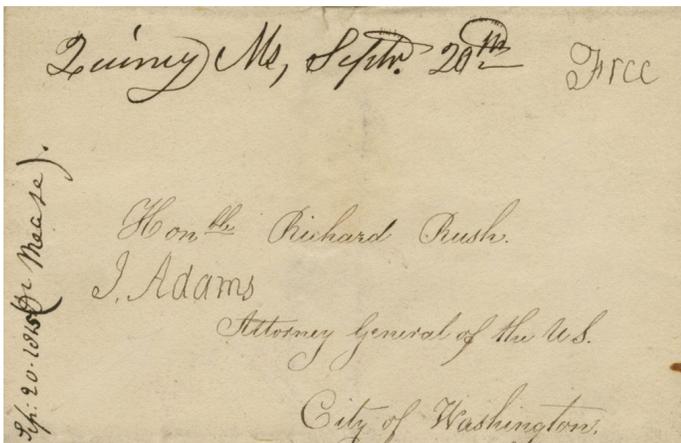
In December 1807 Congress passed and Jefferson signed the Embargo Act. It prevented all U.S. ships and vessels from obtaining clearance to undertake voyages to foreign ports or places. That meant that no needed Americans goods or supplies could reach the belligerents, and also represented an escalation of attempts to coerce Britain and France to stop harassment of American ships, respect American sovereignty and neutrality, as well as to pressure Britain to halt impressment of American sailors. But its main impact was to bring American international trade to a standstill. The embargo undermined American prosperity and provoked bitter protests, particularly in New England commercial centers which were very hard hit. **A number of towns there sent their formal protests to President Jefferson, who responded by having a circular letter prepared for his signature, and sending them in response to the towns.**

Th. Jefferson - 23 September 1808



Free frank signed as President, "Th. Jefferson, Pr. US", with the address panel addressing the letter to Thomas Burns of the town of Gilmanton, New Hampshire. The letter was dated September 23, 1808, as must this free frank be.

J. Adams - 20 September 1815



Richard Rush began his political career as attorney general for the state of Pennsylvania in 1811. He soon moved into the employ of President James Madison, becoming Comptroller of the Treasury in 1811, and, with the onset of the War of 1812, the administration's speaker on war policy. By 1814, he became Attorney General, serving in that capacity until 1817. In 1815, Rush and John Adams had been carrying on a conversation on the nature of the sovereignty of the United States and the details of the Treaty of Ghent that had just ended the War of 1812. While there seems no record of a letter to Rush from Adams dated September 1815, this free frank shows that there was; and we can conjecture that it relates to the same subject.

Free frank, Quincy, Massachusetts, September 20, 1815, with Adams' signature and the word "Free" in his hand. The docket on the left is in Rush's hand.

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.
- **Banquet suggestions.** We have lots of options on State St. Let us know what you think could work.
- **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. This is your show and we can all make it more successful and enjoyable every year by participating in a variety of ways.

Illinois Duck Stamps

Federal Duck Stamps were first issued in 1934. They were officially "Hunting Permit Stamps". Many states followed suit with Illinois issuing its first Duck Stamp in 1975.



1975 Illinois Migratory Waterfowl Stamp
\$5

The first Illinois stamp.



2000 Illinois Migratory Waterfowl Stamp
\$10



2010 Illinois Migratory Waterfowl Stamp
\$15

The last Illinois stamp.

Thank you! ROCKFORD 2-3-4 2023 Dealers

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

W. H. Burdick

Mtn. Home, AR
whbj@suddenlink.net
870-425-7799

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

Buy the Stamp

Rick Hyams
Arlington Heights, IL
Rhyams9736@aol.com
847-414-5408

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



We've been missing many of you!
Wednesday, December 6 at 5:30/7pm
Tuesday, December 19 at 9/10am
Our NEW location is 625 Adams St.