

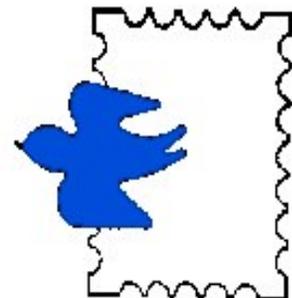
# ROCKFORD STAMP NOTES

## ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

ESTABLISHED AUGUST 21, 1930 - APS CHAPTER #735  
EDITOR: TIMOTHY G. WAIT EMAIL: T.WAIT@COMCAST.NET

March 2024

Volume 28 - Number 3



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

### Wednesday, March 6

5:30 pm - Buy, sell and trade

View auction lots

7:00 pm - Meeting & auction

### Tuesday, March 19

9:00 am - Buy, Sell and trade

View auction lots

10:00 am - Auction

Wednesday, February 7th: we had fifteen members in attendance and one guest. Frank inherited his father's collection and was trying to sell some of it.

We discussed getting on Facebook and being able to ZOOM our meetings. Being investigated. Can you help?

**Show update** - 12 dealers-see back page, banquet should be at Thunder Bay Grill, more at Wednesday meeting. See President's column and page four for more!!

#### **Show & Tell.....**

1. **Jeff Rieken** - found postcard of Jack Dempsey with his autograph in lot Great find!
2. **Tim Wait** - Illinois boxed cancels on registered letters. Five examples from the early 1900's.
3. **Alan Skoog** - TELL - Mt Carroll hosted a display and video for youth but No One showed up!

Another fine auction then took place with great bargains!

**Bruce Marquardt** won the mystery box!

## Welcome New Member

### Sandy Belknap Rockford

Sandy has come to a couple meetings now and is already making new stamp friends. Please join us in welcoming her to the club.

#### Member Health and Welfare

**Hank Fox** has permanently moved to Alpine Fireside, 3650 N Alpine Rd., Room 218. His health is rapidly deteriorating. Stop by to see him some time.

**Gerry Van Alstyne** continues his long Odessey thru the VA Health Care system.

Keep them both in your thoughts and prayers.

### 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

#### 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.

#### Sat-Sun May 4-5 WISCOPEX 2024

Fond du Lac, WI Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs 92nd Convention, Raddison Hotel & Convention Center, 625 W. Rolling Meadow Dr. Hours Sat 10-5, Sun 10-3. Exhibits and bourse. Free admission.

#### Fri-Sat Jun 14-15 Milcopex

Brookfield, WI. Brookfield Conference Center, 325 S. Moorland Rd. Hours Fri 10-6, Sat 10-5. World Series of Philately national show. Exhibits, seminars and bourse. One of the "big" shows near Rockford. Free admission.

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

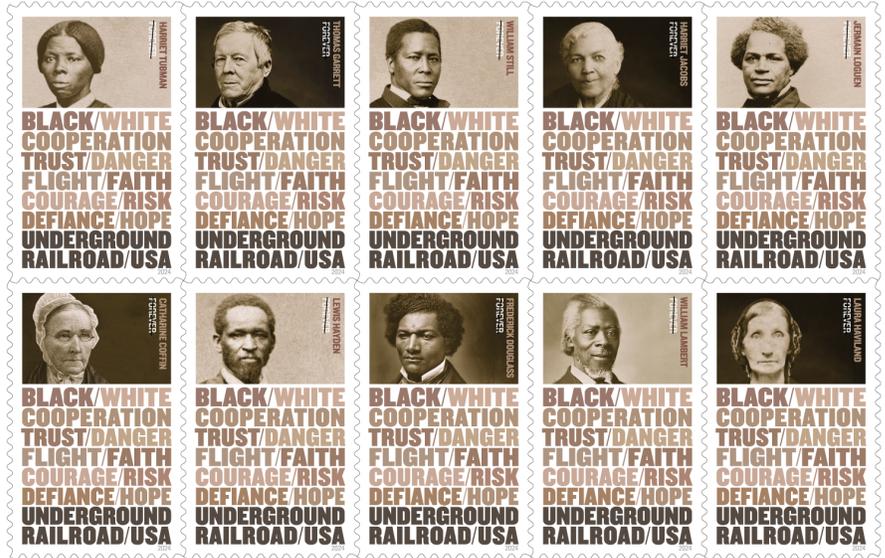
## Underground Railroad

First Class Forever (68¢)

Pane of 20

Mar 9 – Church Creed, MD

From the time slavery was introduced to the Colonies until it was abolished in 1865, enslaved people tried to escape. This stamp issuance commemorates the Underground Railroad, as their resistance efforts became known. The pane of 20 stamps features 10 sepia-toned portraits of men and women who escaped slavery and/or helped others escape: Catharine Coffin, Frederick Douglass, Thomas Garrett, Laura Haviland, Lewis Hayden, Harriet Jacobs, William Lambert, Jermain Loguen, William Still and Harriet Tubman.



Below each portrait are eight lines of text: BLACK/WHITE; COOPERATION; TRUST/DANGER; FLIGHT/FAITH; COURAGE/RISK; DEFIANCE/HOPE; UNDERGROUND; RAILROAD/USA. On the pane's verso is a map showing the general routes freedom seekers followed and a list of individuals pictured on the stamps with a few words of biographical information about each. Antonio Alcalá, an art director for USPS, designed the stamps using existing images.

## Bluegrass

First Class Forever (68¢)

Pane of 20

Mar 15 – Owensboro, KY



Bluegrass music combines elements of country music, sacred songs, string band music, the blues and traditions of Scotland and Ireland into a style that is uniquely American. Inspired by vintage bluegrass concert posters, the stamp art features four acoustic string instruments typical of bluegrass bands: guitar, five-string banjo, fiddle, and mandolin. Antonio Alcalá, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp with original art by Heather Moulder.

These stamps will be available for mailers who enjoy adorning their cards and letters with beautiful stamps depicting nature scenes. Celebrating the flora and fauna of America's spring and summer gardens, in each of four photographs, a different female ruby-throated hummingbird hovers next to either a zinnia, cigar flower, spotted touch-me-not or sunflower. Garden Delights will be issued in booklets of 20. Greg Breeding, an art director for USPS, designed the stamps using existing photographs by wildlife photographer Ben King.

## Garden Delights

First Class Forever (68¢)

Double-sided booklet of 20

Mar 14 – Strongsville, OH



The Save Manatees stamp will be issued to create awareness about the threats posed to this beloved marine mammal. Human vigilance is crucial for its protection — both to minimize motorboat strikes and to maintain the aquatic plants on which the manatee feeds in the warm coastal waters in and around Florida. The stamp art is a digital rendering of a manatee placidly lolling near the surface of the water. Derry Noyes, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp and booklet cover using illustrator Nancy Stahl's original graphic design.

## Save Manatees

First Class Forever (68¢)

Double-sided Pane of 20

Mar 27 – Silver Springs, FL

Continued on page five.



## President's Corner - Frank Schmitt



Greetings fellow Rockford Stamp Club members:

March is upon us, and it presents us with some serious responsibilities, especially the second weekend. First, we must remember to turn our clocks ahead in the wee hours of Sunday morning (I cheat and do it before I go to bed Saturday night, which is usually the wee hours of Sunday morning). Second, we must remember to change the batteries in our smoke alarms (unless we have the lithium 10-year battery smoke alarms) and then test them regardless of battery type. Third, we must remember to attend the **Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp EXPO** on both Saturday, March 9th and Sunday, March 10th and if you forget number one, you will be an hour late on Sunday.

Having mentioned the **Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp EXPO**, I will push a gentle reminder here that we are always in need of volunteers to help with set-up, greeters at the front table, silent auction, assisting guests to appropriate dealers and/or answering questions and a myriad of other odds and ends. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Wednesday meeting, so feel free to sign up for an hour or multiple hours. We will assure you that you will have adequate time to visit the dealers. If you forget to sign up, you are still welcome to help at any time. Although we don't have a huge number of exhibits, help is always appreciated at the tear down and loading of the frames on Sunday afternoon. If you are unable to volunteer any of your time towards the show, please attend and support the dealers. Stamp shows hosted by stamp clubs are becoming few and far between every year, let's not become one of them. This is **your** show, and **you** make it a success.

Please have your silent auction lots prepared in accordance with the guidelines provided in the auction packet. Remember the \$5.00 minimum starting bid is just that, a minimum. Generally speaking, auction lots with higher starting bids (appropriate for the material) do quite well. If you have some "better" material, this is your opportunity to present it at auction with a much broader buyer exposure. While not anticipating any major issues regarding space for the silent auction there is a potential for that to happen. In that event, we may have to limit the number of auction lots per day to a lesser number than currently allowed or on a first come-first served basis. We will do our absolute best and ask for your understanding whatever the circumstances may be. A full pre-show report will be given at the Wednesday meeting.

In last month's Presidents Corner, I mentioned the importance and value of attending in-person stamp shows. I have attended three smaller shows recently and what fun. I dealt with two dealers I had never seen before and made some exciting purchases for myself and grandchildren. You can negotiate prices, if appropriate, and the dealer just may pull something out of his stash that is hidden away and offer it to you, once he understands your personal interests. You also have the collector sitting next to you that often can shed some light on a specific stamp or topic which presents the never-ending opportunity to learn. Not quite so easy to do that online, although it has its benefits as well.

Remember to bring a show and tell and a friend to the Wednesday meeting. Stay safe, stay healthy, and happy collecting!

## Return Receipt Form - Special Delivery! - by Tim Wait

Form 3811  
Rev. 1-4-40

**RETURN RECEIPT**

Received from the Postmaster the Registered or Insured Article, the original number of which appears on the face of this Card.

1 Gelbert Zimmerman  
(Signature or name of addressee)

2 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of addressee's agent—Agent should enter addressee's name on line ONE above)

Date of delivery 12-21, 1943

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 10-12421

Post Office Department  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

MILWAUKEE, WIS. 10 PM 1943

REGISTERED ARTICLE  
NO. 4910  
INSURED PARCEL

Return to Model Railroad Club  
Street and Number, or Post Office Box. 2614B N. 2nd St.

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

RETURN RECEIPT - When a mailer requested a return receipt for his Registered or Insured mail, the above Form 3811, Rev. 1-4-40, was filled out and signed by the addressee.

December 21, 1943—Gelbert Zimmerman

Registered item #4910 was mailed by the "Model Railroad Club" 2614B N. 2nd St, Milwaukee. Postmarked Dec 21 at 10am and forwarded to Special Delivery section where it was received at 10:30pm. Delivered the next day as it was too late for the last evening delivery.

**This is the first one sent Special Delivery that I have ever found, out of HUNDREDS! A rare find. Why was it so important to get delivery confirmed?**

## It's Show Time! Here is your To-Do List!

1. **Get your auction lots ready, \$5 minimum.** See Frank at the Wednesday night meeting if you need more forms.
2. **Finish up a four page exhibit.** Bring something from your collection. It doesn't have to be a complete exhibit, just share something from your collection. There are eight rows for exhibits available.
3. **Get ready to shop.** Get your want lists up-to-date to make browsing at the dealers easier. Know what you are looking for so you can get some great deals at the auction.
4. The USPS will have a large variety of stamps for sale on **Saturday only!**
5. **Come at 8am Saturday to help set up.** We will be able to get into the room Friday to double check the table arrangement. On Saturday morning we will still need help setting up auction tables, helping dealers bring in their stock and assembling exhibit frames. Please come if you are able.
6. **Sign up for an hour or two at the welcome table.** It's fun to greet our guests!
7. **Tell your friends and relatives about the show and bring someone with you to introduce them to the wonderful world of stamp collecting!**
8. Lastly, we remove the exhibits at 3pm and can always use some **help taking down the frames and loading them into the vehicle** for their ride home!

Remember this is our SHOW and people come from far and wide (what does wide have to do with it?). Let's make sure we welcome everyone and they all have a great time!

## BANQUET UPDATE

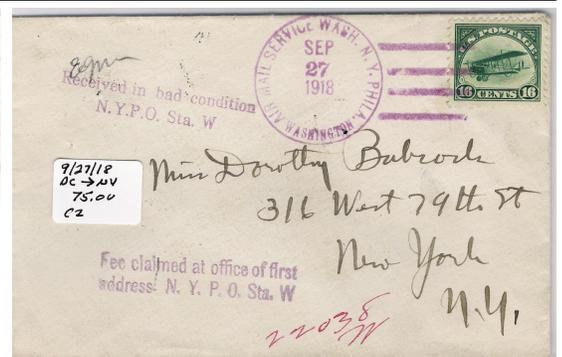
We will have the banquet in their dining facility room behind the Score Board Sports Bar. It's a private room and we can order off the menu. Since we don't have to leave the building, we can start at 5:30.

The Back Room and the Score Board share the same menu. A few nice dinner entres, and a wide variety of pub fare, all very good and reasonable priced! If someone is staying at the hotel (dealers!) they wouldn't even have to leave the hotel. **PLEASE consider joining us for a pleasurable evening.**

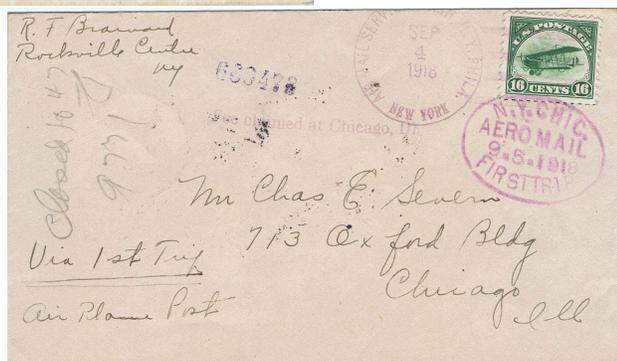
## C2 - Air + Special Delivery July 15 to Dec 14, 1918 - Tim Wait



Sep 27 - Washington to New York. "Received in bad condition NYPO Sta. W" auxiliary marking.



Sep 3 - New York to Philadelphia



Sep 4 - New York to Chicago. "AERO MAIL First Trip".

# Welcome to the Rockford Illinois Stamp Club Website

[www.rockfordstampclub.com](http://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.



## 2024 New Issues - March



### Celebration Blooms

First Class Forever (68¢)

Pane of 20

Mar 22 - St. Louis, MO



### Wedding Blooms

Two Ounce Forever (92¢)

Pane of 20

Mar 22 - St. Louis, MO

Similar in design to the 2-ounce Wedding Blooms stamp, this floral Forever stamp can be used on the RSVP envelopes often enclosed with wedding invitations. A beautiful addition to regular correspondence, it is also ideal for party invitations, thank-you notes and important announcements. The stamp features a horizontal graphic illustration of brilliantly colored flowers rendered in ink and gouache paint. Derry Noyes, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp using an existing illustration by artist Kim Parker.

This 2-ounce floral stamp can be used to accommodate the weight of heavy invitations for birthdays, weddings, anniversaries and other celebrations; oversized greeting cards; and small gifts that require extra postage. This stamp is similar in design to the Celebration Blooms Forever stamp, also to be issued in 2024. The two will form a natural pair. This stamp features a vertical graphic illustration of brilliantly colored flowers rendered in ink and gouache paint. Derry Noyes, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp using an existing illustration by artist Kim Parker.

## ROCKFORD 2-3-4 2024 Dealers - FINAL

The below dealers will all be participating at the 2024 show. We have two new dealers for 2024. Cal's & Friends and L&J Stamps. Be sure to check out their offerings along with your favorite dealers.

Let the dealers know NOW if you are looking for something in particular or send a want list! Help ensure they bring what YOU want! **Remember to support our 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

### 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

#### **Michael Mules**

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

### Larry's Stamps

Plover, WI  
lglenser249@gmail.com  
715-341-6767

### J Freedom Stamps

**Jack Freedom**  
LaGrange, IL  
jffreedom1@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

### Steve Capone

Rockford, IL  
815-394-0537

# 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, March 6 at 5:30/7pm**  
**Tuesday, March 19 at 9/10am**  
**Remember we're at 625 Adams St.**