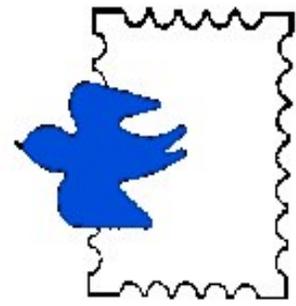


ROCKFORD STAMP NOTES

ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

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

Volume 28 - Number 5

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

Wednesday, May 1

5:30 pm - Buy, sell and trade

View auction lots

7:00 pm - Meeting & auction

Tuesday, May 21

9:00 am - Buy, Sell and trade

View auction lots

10:00 am - Auction

Wednesday, April 3rd: we only had 14 members. Where were YOU!

Treasurer's Report: about \$2,300 in checking after paying deposits of \$1,550 for 2025-2026-2027 shows! We are getting the "Friends of Frank" discount too! We are now booked for these years and will have the Hoffman Room for our banquet.

Show Report: We showed a profit of \$524 of the show!

Tammy & MaKenna and Steve Johnson, Jr. met a young girl and her father looking through the 5c stamps and started a conversation with them. Turns out she is autistic and really likes stamps. Dad bought some auction lots and they found additional stamps for her too!

We moved to send \$50 total to the two charities for the fallen Mail Carrier Jay Larson.

Terry Kurzinski's "Rockford Stamp Club Achievement Award" proposal was discussed at length with member's for and against. No motion was made and it will be carried over.

Show & Tell.....

1. **NONE.** Too much discussion.

Steve Johnson won the mystery box!

Introduce a friend or relative to stamp collecting. You know how much enjoyment you have had. Take that enthusiasm and "sell" the benefits of our great hobby with everyone!

Member Health and Welfare

Gerry Van Alstyne continues his long Odessey thru the VA Health Care system. He has been in the hospital twice for a week the last month. Still more tests May 7 & May 10 and anticipated very serious abdominal surgery. Keep him in your prayers.

NEWSLETTER CONTENT NEEDED

How about this? Just take a nice, straight picture of something from your collection and send it to me with a little write up for the newsletter. How much easier can that be?

If you can scan on your computer, you can scan stamps, covers, album pages, anything! I'll clean up the scan. Just include some information to use.

Or, do you have a question item to send in? Up to you!



Upcoming Stamp Shows

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.

Sat-Sun May 18-19 MSDA Spring Show

Elk Grove Village, IL. Holiday Inn Chicago-Elk Grove,
1000 Busse Rd. Hours Sat 10-6, Sun 10-3. Bourse only.
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!

ANSEL ADAMS

photographer, 1902-1984



Ansel Adams

First Class Forever (68¢)

Pane of 16 (16 designs)

May 15 – Yosemite, CA

One of the most renowned and influential artists of the 20th century, Ansel Adams (1902-1984) made thousands of awe-inspiring photographs that collectively create a rich visual portrait of the American landscape. A masterful photographer and dedicated environmentalist, Adams sought to imbue each of his black-and-white prints with the power and wonder he felt in the presence of nature. These 16 stamps feature some of Adams' most famous images in his signature "straight photography" style, an approach defined by its precision and directness. Derry Noyes, an art director for USPS, designed the stamps. The USPS' 2002 pane of 20 Masters of American Photography included Adams' "Sand Dunes, Sunrise", which is not part of this new set of 20 Adams photographs.

Carnival Nights

First Class Forever (68¢)

Pane of 20 (Ten designs)

Jun 6 – Biloxi, MS



Carnival Nights celebrates one of America's favorite pastimes. The stomach-twisting thrill rides, the indulgent snacks and sweets and the general spirit of lighthearted fun make the nation's carnivals and fairs a place for visitors of any age to enjoy. Ten new stamps in a pane of 20 feature photographs that convey the energy and color of a summer carnival at night. Greg Breeding, an art director for USPS, designed the stamps with existing photographs.



Flags

First Class Forever (68¢)

Booklet of 20, Coils, 100, 3,000 10,000 (Four designs)

Jun 14 – Keystone, SD

The Postal Service continues its tradition of celebrating the U.S. flag with these stamps. Four stamps feature the flag majestically waving at different times of the day. While the shapes and colors of the clouds change, the sun is always shining on Old Glory. Shown from a low-angle perspective, the flags draw attention upward, toward the magic of the sky. Illustrator Laura Stutzman painted the designs using gouache on illustration board. Ethel Kessler, an art director for USPS, designed the stamps.



President's Corner - Frank Schmitt



Greetings fellow Rockford Stamp Club members:

Greetings from Door County, WI. Time to take a little break and celebrate our 52nd wedding anniversary away from the rat race of home. What does that have to do with stamp collecting? Nothing really, but you need a little filler for this column every now and then.

I did however bring a good-sized box of stamps along that needed to be sorted, some for my collections and some that will be in future auctions. Being here for a week with variable weather conditions I thought the opportunity may present itself to do just that. I have had the opportunity a couple of times to do just that. That's the beauty of this hobby, it is portable, it is relaxing, and offers a great break from all the technology we suffer from these days. Not to worry, we are busy doing Door County things as well.

At our April meeting there was discussion of a propose annual Rockford Stamp Club Achievement Award. The discussion became quite lively, and controversial, if not even a bit adversarial. We must remember to be respectful of everyone's thoughts and views on any given subject and allow everyone to express their views. Do not interrupt whoever is speaking until the floor has been yielded by that individual, everyone will get there turn. While it is generally a given that not everyone will ultimately agree on something we should civilly agree to disagree. In other words, be nice.

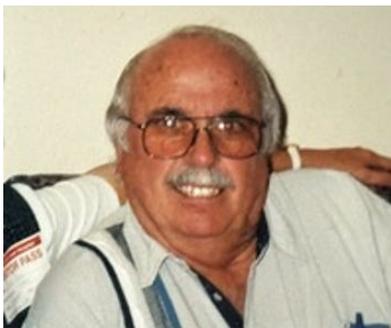
If you are looking for something fun to do the weekend of May 4-5th, take a drive up to Fond du Lac, WI for the Wisconsin 2024 Postage Stamp Show at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center. While a bit of a drive, it is a nice show and there is a lot of shopping opportunities for wives, if they come along, a lot of nice restaurants, and reasonable hotel accommodations if you would like to stay over. The show offers 15-16 dealers, exhibits, educational seminars, door prizes, three silent auctions, post office, and more. This show is sponsored by the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs of which Rockford Stamp Club is a member. Support our own! Hope to see you there.

We need auction lots for both our Wednesday meeting and Tuesday auction. This is a great opportunity for you to dispose of some of your extra or duplicate stamps. The club commission of these sales pays the rent for our meeting room. We also need competitive bidders to bid at the auctions to encourage sellers to submit more lots. Some bidders have been reporting some very good "finds" in the lots they have been successful on winning. Please participate.

Remember to bring a smiling face to our Wednesday meeting along with a friend, show and tell, auction lots, ideas on how to improve our club/meetings, a show and tell, a presentation or anything else of interest to you or the club.

Stay well, stay safe, happy collecting!

Hank Fox - April 4, 2024 Age 87



Rockford: Henry "Hank" Fox passed away April 4, 2024. He was an avid philatelist and member of the Rockford Stamp club. Preceded in death by his wife Jan and daughter Tracy. Survived by daughter Susan and step-daughter Jana Brynn, their families, grandchildren Cary, Kelley, Tyler and Kamryn. Gratitude to Bob and many friends who he considered family.

Hank was a member of the Rockford Stamp Club and The American Philatelic Society. He joined Rockford sometime after he came to Rockford in the early 2000's with his wife Jan, a Rockford native. Hank served as the club treasurer for over 10 years.

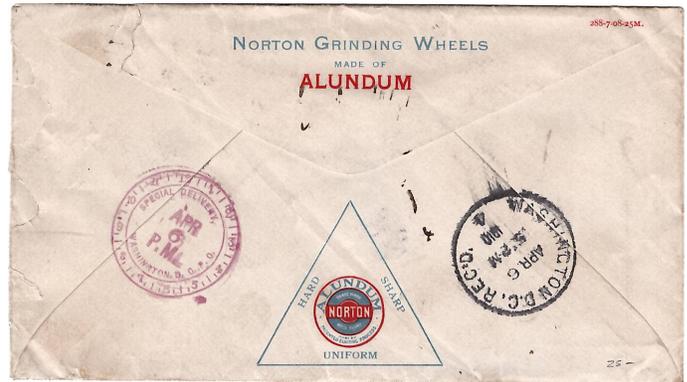
He collected a variety of stamp topics and was very partial to Australia. He always had a story to tell, sometime more than once, that related to his time in California and Arizona. He always said he should write his life story but sadly, he never accomplished that goal.

He was a regular at the Tuesday morning and Wednesday evening meetings and made friends with many of the members. Hank, you lived a long life and now you can relax and entertain the angels with your stories!

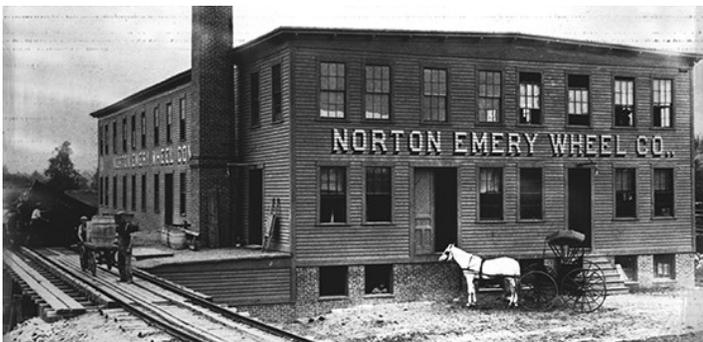
Norton Company, Worchester, Mass. by Tim Wait



Apr 5, 1910 7PM - Worchester, Mass Special Delivery to Washington, D.C. Fee Claimed at Washington, D.C. double circle date stamp indicates special delivery service was given and the letter was rushed to Mrs. Higgins.



Rec'd Washington, D.C. Apr 6 at 5pm. Received in the Special Delivery section at 6pm and immediately sent out by Special Delivery messenger, probably on a bicycle as shown on the stamp!



Early picture of the Norton Emery Wheel Co. in Worcester.

In 1885, seven Worcester entrepreneurs bought the patent for a grinding wheel from Frank Norton, owner of the Water Street Pottery Shop, where the formula for the grinding wheel had been invented. They also bought his company name. And, Norton Company was born.

The founders purchased land in the city's Greendale section, which was then farmland, and built their first grinding wheel plant. Norton has occupied that land ever since where two of the founders, John Jeppson and Milton Higgins, their sons, and grandsons, then managed the company until the 1970s.

What began as a tiny start-up, Norton began to grow rapidly. By 1920, we were one of the 400 largest industrial companies in the United States. As we grew, we diversified into industrial products other than abrasives, and became a major multinational corporation. Norton became a publicly held company in 1962.

When we celebrated our 100th anniversary in 1985, we built our research center in Northboro, MA and **employed 18,700 people across 130 plants in 27 countries.**



A Norton grinding wheel available on Amazon.



In 1990, Norton was acquired by Saint-Gobain, one of the world's largest industrial companies. Saint-Gobain began an ambitious program of acquisitions and joint ventures to strengthen its North American business, and undertook extensive modernization in Worcester. In 2001, Norton Company changed our legal entity name to Saint-Gobain Abrasives.

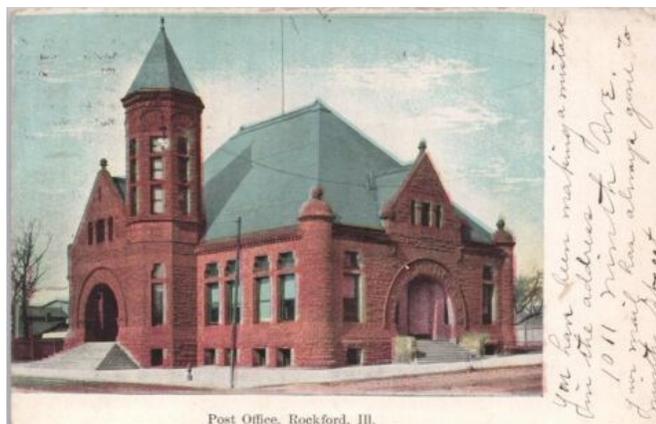
Over the next decade, we would build our North American center of R&D excellence in Northboro, MA and revitalize the Norton name with endorsement of the Saint-Gobain name in our logo to allow both well-known names to become more recognizable in the marketplace.

It's always fun when you can research such an attractive cover and find so much history. This is another side of collecting postal history besides stamps. Rates and routes.

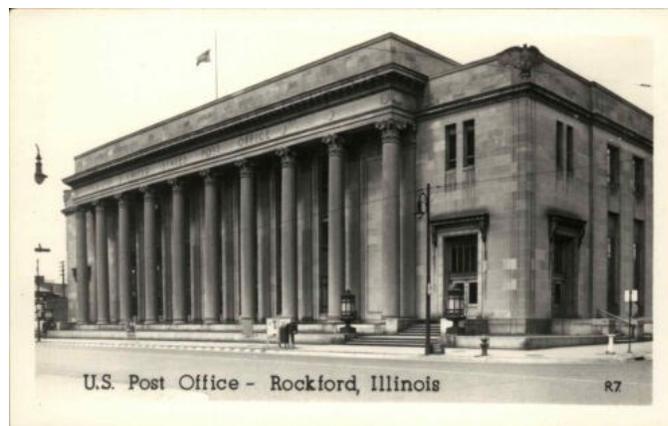
Welcome to the Rockford Illinois Stamp Club Website

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.



Mailed in 1909. This was the Main Rockford PO until 1930.



Real Picture Post Card (RPPC) from about 1950. The PO was dedicated in 1930 and served as the Main Rockford PO until 1985.



The current Main Rockford PO on Harrison Ave.

These represent the last three Main post Offices in Rockford. Along with a postal history collection showing the postmarks of Rockford, a study of the post offices and locations is important.

One of my retirement projects will be going to Midway Village and researching more information about these historic sites.

ROCKFORD 2-3-4 ~ 2024 Dealers **Thank You!**

These dealers participated at the 2024 show. We hope you were able to visit many of them and find something for your collection. All the dealers reported strong sales and were pleased with the show and especially the new location!

Did you see something you didn't buy? Maybe it's not too late to call or email! 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

Terry Kurzinski

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Riverbank Treasurers

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608-515-6150

Steve Capone

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.

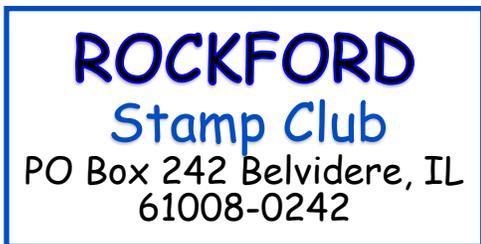
The 2022-2023 Club Officers

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, May 1 at 5:30/7pm
Tuesday, May 21 at 9/10am
Remember we're at 625 Adams St.