

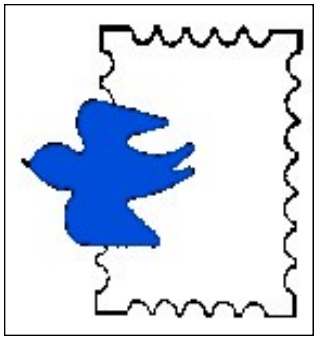
ROCKFORD STAMP NOTES

ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

ESTABLISHED AUGUST 21, 1930 - APS CHAPTER #735
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August 2021

Volume 25 - Number 7



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

Wednesday, August 4, 2021

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

Tuesday, August 17, 2021

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

Wednesday, June 2nd: Attendance was down with only 14 members. We discussed possibly moving the show to the third week of May due to a continuing conflict with a Chicago MSDA bourse. The Show Committee will meet in the future to discuss. The Wednesday meeting will be regularly scheduled to meet in the Banquet Room at the end of the hall and we can get in at 5:30. Meeting start time will remain 7:00. Tuesday should usually be here but may change do to other activities at the Center.

Show & Tell.....

1. **Stanley Campbell** - Memorial Patriotic Covers (Civil War plus). A nice showing of covers!
2. **Tim Wait** - airmail covers from the 50's & 60's.
3. **Jeff Hall** - Memorial Day Covers—Spanish American War, WWI and more.
4. **Steve Capone** - stampless folded letter July 20, 1865 Headquarters, Olathe, Kans.
5. **Frank Schmitt** - Lincoln "commemorative" cover.

A lively auction capped off an enjoyable evening! However, **where do we go after the meeting?** On 11th street we had the SLOWEST McDonald's in the world right across the street. Think about where we could go to continue our philatelic discussions now.

In-Person Meetings

Our NEW LOCATION at 625 Adams St., Rockford.

No ZOOM call. We will examine that option in the future. Let us know your thoughts.

Wednesday Meeting Presentations

We will continue with our popular Show & Tell sessions at the Wednesday meeting and are always looking for short 10-15 minute presentations about any stamp related topic. Contact Frank if you would like to make a presentation. **For show and tell why don't YOU bring a favorite philatelic item to share. We want to see some different members sharing their treasurers!**

Tuesday, June 17 & July 15: both Tuesday meetings were well attended with a lively auction. Our regulars always bring lots of lots and the bidding ranges from "No Bidders" to some good action. Bring something to sell so you can reinvest in some new goodies!

Global Pandemic Issue of the Month



San Marino 2021

MANY, MANY countries are now releasing stamps with a Pandemic theme.



Upcoming Area Stamp Shows

August 12-15 - **Great American Stamp Show**

American Philatelic Society. Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, 5555 N. River Rd. Rosemont.

This is the biggest annual U.S. show. It is held around the U.S. The last close show was Milwaukee in 2012.

There will be over 75 dealers, 800+ exhibit frames, and many seminars and society meetings. For all the details, go to www.Stamps.org. **Don't miss it!**

Sept. 18-19 - **Chicagoland North**

Wheeling, IL. Ramada Inn, 1090 S. Milwaukee Ave. Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-3. MSDAstamp.com for dealers.

Spread the word if you are interested in going to one of these shows. At the Great American Stamp Show parking is expensive (\$25 or so). Ride sharing with other members can be a big savings.

Tap Dance
First Class Forever (55c)

Pane of 20 (5 designs)

Jul 10 - New York, NY



These stamps celebrate tap dancing as a uniquely American contribution to world dance. Its roots were in minstrel shows, it gained prominence in vaudeville, then emerged into an art form and means of expression alongside the evolution of jazz. These five stamps feature photographs of different tap dancers performing against brightly colored backgrounds that highlight their form and movement. However, instead of generic images, the Postal Service could have depicted any number of famous tap dancers, such as Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, John W. Bubbles, Charles "Honi" Coles, Ann Miller, The Nicholas Brothers, Gene Kelly, Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire, Gregory Hines, and many more. While a few have already been honored on stamps, they would still be fitting on Tap Dance stamps.


Mystery Message
First Class Forever (55c)

Pane of 20

Jul 14 - Washington, DC

The new Mystery Message stamp will put your sleuthing skills to the test. Featuring bright colors and interesting shapes, the stamp design is a visual riddle spelling out a message. Each colorful square contains a letter in an interesting pattern. The patterns, though seemingly random, were carefully placed so that when put all together, the message reads, "MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE!" Art director Antonio Alcalá designed the stamp.



The U.S. Postal Service celebrates the enduring legacy of Western wear with four fun new Forever stamps in a booklet of 20. The stamp art features four graphic illustrations of Western wear staples — a cowboy hat, a cowboy boot with a spur, a Western shirt, and a belt buckle featuring a longhorn head. Each image is framed by elements common to the American West and iconography of the region, including cacti, snakes, roses and stars. Art director Greg Breeding designed the stamps with original art by Ryan Feerer.

Western Wear
First Class Forever (55c)

Pane of 20 (4 designs)

Jul 23 - Abilene, TX

Ursula K. Le Guin
Third Ounce Rate (\$1.30)

Pane of 20

Jul 27 - Portland, OR



The 33rd stamp in the Literary Arts series honors Ursula K. Le Guin, who expanded the scope of literature through novels and short stories that increased critical and popular appreciation of science fiction and fantasy. She was best known for her works of speculative fiction, including science fiction works set in her Hainish universe, and the Earthsea fantasy series. The background of the stamp shows a scene from her landmark 1969 novel "The Left Hand of Darkness," in which an envoy from Earth named Genly Ai escapes from a prison camp across the wintry planet of Gethen with Estraven, a disgraced Gethenian politician.

Continued on page 4.

President's Corner - Frank Schmitt

Greetings fellow Rockford Stamp Club members:

Barring any new viruses and/or substantial changes in current COVID-19 statistics for the State of Illinois, we should be back to business as usual. Historically our club does not have a Wednesday night meeting in the month of July and that is the reason we did not meet this past month. The 3rd Tuesday morning auction was however held on July 20th. There was an unusually low number of members in attendance and only 53 auction lots. While an unusual number of lots did not sell there was very spirited bidding for many of the lots that did sell. I believe the low number of attendees was over the confusion of status of July meetings.

I flew to Portland, ME on July 3rd to drive back to Rockford with my son and 3- and 5-year-old grandsons (my daughter-in-law and 9- year-old grandson flew to Chicago on July 3rd for a family function). I greatly anticipated the trip back because it included a stop at the 1836 Country Store in Wilmington, VT. I wrote an article for our February 2020 Rockford Stamp Notes about the owner of this store, Mr. Al Wurzberger, who also happened to be a stamp collector/dealer and had stamps for sale in his store. I was really looking forward to visiting with him again but was saddened to learn that he had passed away 10 days prior to our arrival. None of his family members were present at the store so I didn't get any details and noticed there were only a few stamp packets for sale in the store. Another album closed in our hobby of philately.

On a happier note, we had a large family gathering while my son and his family were visiting and in the interest of expanding and/or nurturing interest in our hobby was able to share and bestow upon them, stamps, covers, postcards, and ephemera which was of interest to them. I am happy to report there are a couple of very good prospects in the group. Persistence may pay off after all. It seems the key is to start with some topical materiel and grow the interest from there.

I still purchase many of the new issue U.S. stamps featured in this newsletter but have experienced some frustration in the ability to obtain them locally on the day of issue or even a week after. It is difficult for me to comprehend that a Post Office for a city our size has problems obtaining new issue stamps. The common excuse is they are "stuck in Chicago". What a change from when we had a "Philatelic Window" at the Rockford main post office on Harrison Ave. The good old days, I guess.

It's coming, it's closer, it's almost here, The Great American Stamp Show! Hosted by the APS, ATA, and AFDCS, it is the place to be August 12-15. It's FREE (however, the parking is not). Register online for quicker admission. Yes, Tim Wait will be exhibiting, so don't miss the exhibits. We will discuss ride share at our meeting.

Don't forget to bring a show and tell item/s to our meeting and keep those articles for the newsletter pouring in to Tim. We are still hoping for that presentation, of your choice, you promised to share at one of our meetings.

Happy collecting and stay safe.

Civil War Revenue Tax 1862-1872 - Tim Wait

This space will feature interesting Civil War documents from my collection. I can probably continue this space until2099!

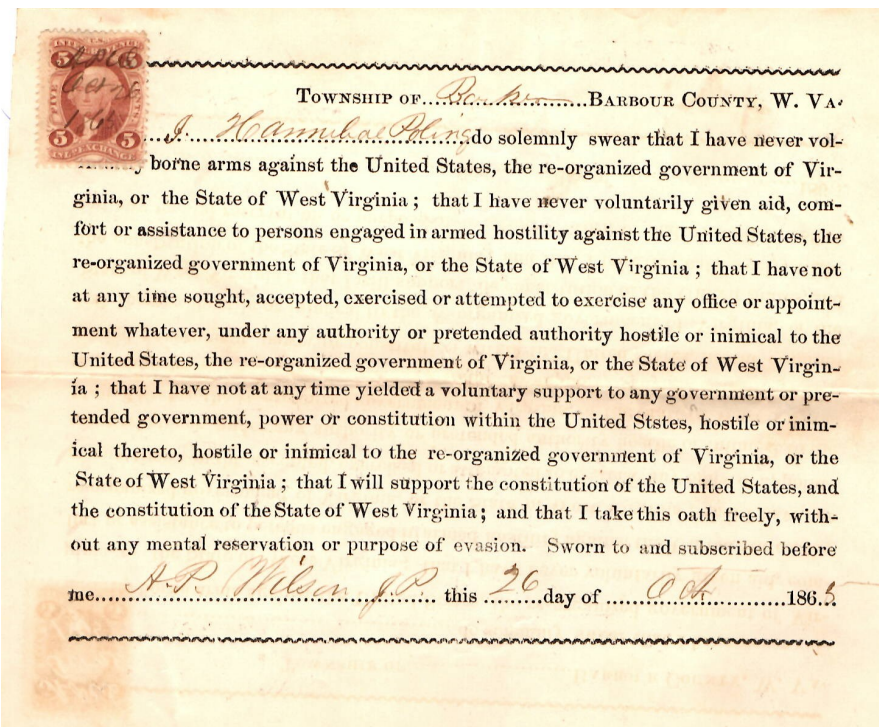
Oct. 26, 1865 - Certificate, tax 5¢
Barker, Barbour County, W. Va.

Oath of Allegiance by Hannibal Poling that he never participated under "**any authority or pretended authority**" hostile to the **United States, the re-organized government of Virginia or the State of West Virginia**. And, that he will support the constitution of the United States and the State of West Virginia. Signed by A.P. Wilson JP (Justice of the Peace).

After the Civil War, male citizens that were not in the Union Army would sign these Oaths to prove their loyalty.

Many types of Oaths were used by local, county, state and federal entities. **Interesting reading!**

Ghost impression of the stamp at bottom from years of being folded in a file.



2021 New Issues - July—August Continued

Mid-Atlantic Lighthouses

First Class Forever

(55c)

Pane of 20

Aug 6 - Highlands, NJ



The long-running series celebrating American lighthouses continues with five new stamps. The mid-Atlantic lighthouses featured in this issuance are: Thomas Point Shoal, MD; Montauk Point, NY; Harbor of Refuge, DE; Navesink, NJ; and Erie Harbor Pierhead, PA. The late Howard Koslow was the artist for these stamps as well as previous issuances in the Lighthouse series. Mid-Atlantic Lighthouses were the last stamps he illustrated for the Postal Service

Missouri Statehood

First Class Forever (55c)

Pane of 20

Aug 10 - Jefferson City, MO



This stamp celebrates the bicentennial of Missouri statehood. Missouri became the 24th state in the Union on Aug. 10, 1821. The stamp art is an existing photograph of Bollinger Mill State Historic Site by noted landscape photographer Charles Gurche. Art director Greg Breeding designed the stamp.



Back Yard Games

First Class Forever (55c)

Pane of 20 (8 designs)

Aug 12 - Rosemont, IL

Great American Stamp Show

These stamps capture many of the games Americans play for outdoor fun. A pane of 16 stamps features eight unique designs including: **badminton, bocce, cornhole, croquet, flying disc, horseshoes, tetherball and a variation on pick-up baseball.** Greg Breeding was the art director. Mike Ryan designed the stamps with original artwork by Mick Wiggins.

The Back Yard Games stamps will be issued at the Great American Stamp Show in Rosemont. The FDOI Ceremony will be at 11:00am on Thursday, the first day of the show. Go to www.stamps.org for a SHOW CALENDAR of events to plan your visit!

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.

Happy Birthday!

The USPS occasionally issues "Special Occasion" stamps for a variety of reasons. One topic that has seen a few stamps over the years is to celebrate a Happy Birthday!



The first Special Occasion series featured eight different stamps that covered all the bases from Congratulations, Get Well, Thank You, Best Wishes, Love Your Mom and Dad and Keep in Touch (a little self serving by the USPS!). The Happy Birthday stamp, Scott #2272, paid the 22¢ rate which was in effect from Feb. 17, 1985 to Apr. 2, 1988.



The rate changed to 25¢ Apr. 3, 1988. It took until Oct. 22 until the USPS issued a four stamp set with Best Wishes, Thinking of You, Love you and Happy Birthday. Not as ambitious as the eight stamps before. The 25¢ rate lasted until Feb. 2, 1991.

So what did you do for the 29¢, 32¢ and 33¢ rates? Continue with Make Up rate stamps? Quit sending greetings? The USPS once again came to the rescue on Feb. 8, 2002!

The USPS issued Happy Birthday stamps by themselves for each of these three rates. All of the same design. No need for stamp designers!



Feb. 8, 2002 #3558
34c Rate 01/07/01 to 06/29/02



Oct. 25, 2002 #3695
37c Rate 06/30/02 to 01/07/06



Jun. 23, 2006 #4079
39c Rate 01/08/06 to 05/13/07

Since 2007 we have suffered without having a first class stamp for Happy Birthday. At least stamp collectors can buy discount postage, although these are seldom offered, and make up the rate!

ROCKFORD 2-3-4 Stamp Expo Dealers

We will be approaching all our past show dealers to participate in the long awaited Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Exp - 2022. We had one new and two returning dealers scheduled for 2020, Tiger Collectibles from Stoutsville, MO and two dealers returning after multi-year absences, James Newland from Peoria and Pfol's Stamps from Dubuque. Hopefully, many of our dealers will be returning to our show next year. **Remember to support our dealers throughout the year and contact them let them know what you need.**

Rockford Coin & Stamp

Steve Jennings
Rockford, IL
815-282-4444

Terry Kurzinski
Cherry Valley, IL
815-262-9117

Tiger Collectibles

Scott Couch
Stoutsville, MO
816-405-3633

W. H. Burdick
Mtn. Home, AR
870-425-7799

Applebox Philatelic's

Richard Duda
Mt. Prospect, IL
847-439-7614

Fox River Stamps

Michael Mules
Salem, WI
414-234-9867

David Alex (Sat. Only)

Glenview, IL
847-291-7826

Wayne Youngblood

WYstamps.com
Prairie Du Sac, WI
608-370-9098

Buy the Stamp

Rick Hyams
Arlington Heights, IL
847-414-5408

Steve Capone

Rockford, IL
815-394-0537

Pfol's Stamps

John Phols
Dubuque, IA
563-582-6247

Riverbank Treasurers

Jerry Wessler
New Lisbon, WI
608-515-6150

Win Schaeffer

Flossmoor, IL
708-715-4321

James Newland

Peoria, IL

Double J Stamps

Jeff
Arlington Heights, IL
847-843-8700

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.

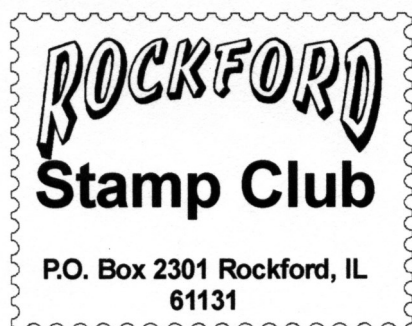
The 2020-2021 Club Officers

President.....Frank Schmitt
815-226-4391
Vice-President.....Ward Miller
Secretary.....Tammy Copus
Treasurer.....Hank Fox
Director.....Tim Copus
Director.....Ted Gifford
Director.....Steve Capone
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



IN-PERSON Meetings are BACK!

Wednesday, August 3th at 5:30/7pm

Tuesday, August 17th at 9/10am

Our NEW location is 625 Adams St.