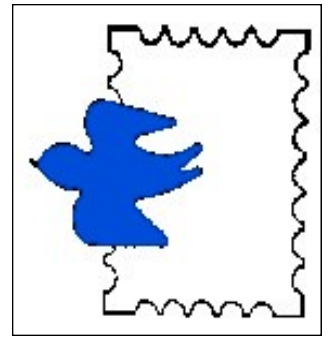


# ROCKFORD STAMP NOTES

## ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

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



December 2020

Volume 24 - Number 8

Monthly in person meetings & auction: **To Be Determined**

**Wednesday, December 2nd**

**7:00 pm - ZOOM Meeting**

**Tuesday, Morning**

**CANCELED**

**Wednesday, November 18th:** This was our third ZOOM meeting. We had seven members join us. Each time we have had five-seven members but not always the same people. So far there have been about eleven different members join. A few had shown & tell items and Tim did a Civil War presentation in October.

The calls are informal with a quick club update and then general discussions about a variety of topics. We then have show & tell or a presentation. Sorry, no auctions!

December is normally our charity auction but sadly, not this year! You'll have to eat all your own treats on the call!

### **Virtual Meeting Wednesday, December 2nd**

Due to the Covid-19 situation we are not having in person meetings yet. We have scheduled a Virtual meeting for Wednesday, December 2nd at 7:00PM. You do not need to have a camera on your computer to participate but you must have a microphone. Most all laptops have microphones built-in, but make sure the sound is on.

**To participate you will need to send an email to Frank Schmitt at [prevent1@comcast.net](mailto:prevent1@comcast.net) no later than Tuesday, December 1st.**

Frank will reply with the link to the meeting. On the day and time of the meeting, re-open his email and click on the link. If you have ZOOM loaded on your computer it should take you to the meeting. If you don't know, click on the link a few minutes early and it will instruct you on how to load ZOOM and then take you to the meeting.

If you have any questions about ZOOM, contact Frank at 815-226-4391 or Tim at 815-670-5869 (after 7pm).

### **Wednesday ZOOM Presentation**

During a ZOOM meeting anyone can "Share their Screen" and show stamps, covers or make presentations from files or images on their computers. Anyone is welcome to have a show and tell, whether in a file to share or just hold it up to the screen for all to see. We look forward to seeing more members too!

### **2021 Dues Waived**

Due to the unique world we are now living in and the inability to have physical meetings, WITH AUCTIONS, we will be **waiving the 2021 membership dues.**

Everyone will continue to receive *Rockford Stamps Notes* via USPS mail or Email.

We are getting back on track for the newsletter to be published monthly (except July) on time to announce our regular first Wednesday meetings. At this time we will not have any activity Tuesday mornings.

We encourage everyone to keep active and in contact with your fellow members as we approach the harsher winter months. I sure some of our less mobile members would appreciate a call or email.

Please stay safe & healthy and make wise decisions in these perilous times.

### **Christmas—Christmas Island Style—2019**



### **Upcoming Area Stamp Shows**

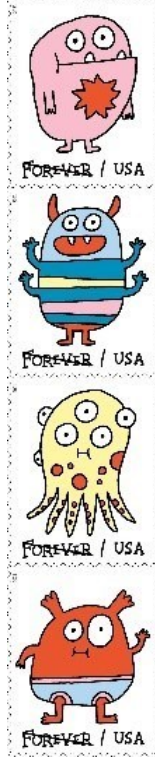
Almost all shows are canceled through the end of 2020 and into 2021! Check the APS website for future shows at: [www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org).

On November 17th the USPS released a listing of currently planned issues for 2021. Take a look and let's discuss at our December meeting. Some good, some bad, some unnecessary. Where's the history??



Backyard Games

Heritage Breeds



Day of the Dead



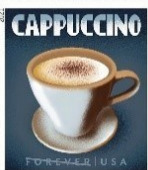
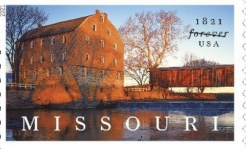
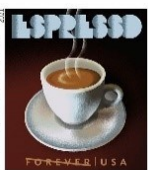
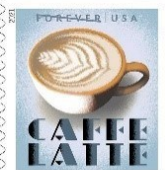
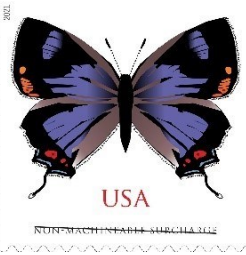
Western Wear



Mystery Message



Message Monsters



Raven Story

## President's Corner - Frank Schmitt

Greetings fellow Rockford Stamp Club members:

It seems it was only a couple of weeks ago that I corresponded with you through this newsletter. Probably because it was, but now we are getting back on track and getting things aligned with the first Wednesday of the month. Our intent is to host the temporary ZOOM meeting format on the first Wednesday as well.

Speaking of the ZOOM meeting, I apologize to all for the abrupt ending to our meeting on November 18<sup>th</sup>. We had 8 members join the meeting for an all-time high for this format. We have been holding the meetings using the free 40 minute format. The first two meetings they lifted the time restriction and we were able to meet for a much longer period of time. That was evidently a pretext to convince us to join for a monthly fee. Member Eric Welch has graciously offered to host our meetings through his subscription (no time limits) if he is available. Meeting information is listed on the front page of this newsletter. Please join us, it's fun, it's educational, it's entertaining, it's a learning experience. Join us and experience it first-hand.

For me, the ZOOM meetings have been very enjoyable, being able to see the faces and interact with at least some of our members even if it is virtually. I have also been enjoying a number of calls, texts and emails from other members whether just to visit, share information, field questions, or question my interest in items they have and know I collect. I know others are enjoying these interactions as well and it just proves to me that we are still a functioning club even if we can't have in-person meetings yet.

That being said, there is hope in the air. Vaccine/s has been finally developed to **STAMP** out the COVID-19 virus. The bad news is that rumor has it that stamp collectors will be one of the last groups to receive the vaccine. However, we will be before coin collectors. That should cause a huge influx of coin collectors joining our stamp club. You can believe we will be back to physical meetings in a brick and mortar building as soon as feasibly possible.

Due to the fact that we have been unable to meet for nearly the full year of 2020, dues for 2021 will be waived. Also we have traditionally held the December stamp auctions as a fundraiser for a donation to the Ken-Rock Kids. Obviously, without the meetings we will not have that source of revenue to fund the donation. I would like to suggest that each member send an amount equal to your annual dues, or more, to Hank Fox so we may carry on our annual tradition, especially in this time of need. This is strictly a suggestion and completely voluntary.

As always, Tim is open to accept submissions for Rockford Stamp Notes. It can be as simple as your favorite stamp, a topic or theme you collect, a show and tell, identify this, rants, raves, or ramblings (op-ed). Try it, you'll like it.

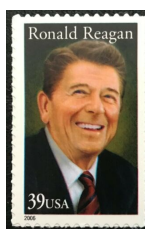
Remember your favorite dealer, on-line or mail order, and your favorite local stamp shop. They need us to stay in business and we need them to provide us with our wants and needs.

Happy collecting, stay safe, stay healthy!

## President Ronald Reagan - Philatelically Favored by Tim Wait

As was the custom, since President Roosevelt in 1945, Presidents have been honored with a stamp after their death. FDR had four stamps, Scott #930-933. Since then each President had one stamp issued after his death.

Fast forward to 2005. Reagan died June 5, 2004. On February 9, 2005, near his February 6th birthday, a 37¢ stamp was issued in his honor with nationwide release.



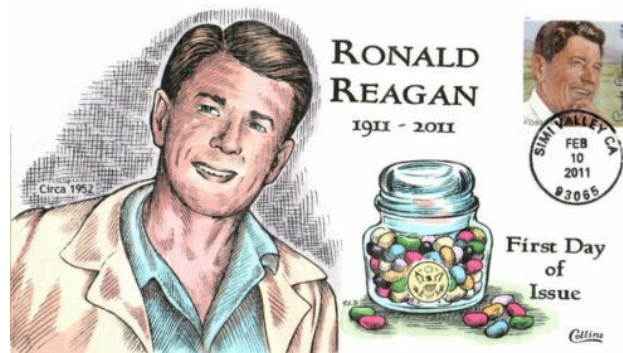
The USPS decided that was not long enough for a President's stamp to be used so it reissued the stamp with a 39¢ denomination June 14, 2006. The 39¢ rate continued until May 6, 2007, giving Reagan another year of postal use.

Continuing on to 2011, the 100th anniversary of Regan's birth. We liked Reagan so let's issue another stamp for his 100th birthday! The new stamp was issued February 10, 2011, in Simi Valley, CA. Is this a new USPS trend?

Ronald Wilson Reagan  
1911 - 2004  
40th President  
The United States Of America



Ronald Reagan  
FIRST DAY OF SALE



First-class postage increased to 39¢ on January 8, 2006, only giving Reagan's 37¢ stamp 11 months of service.

# Merry Christmas ! - From Rockford & Belvidere



**1912 - East Rockford Station - to Portland, Oregon**  
1911 Christmas Seal used in 1912. "P.S. I had this card written & stamped last year & forgot to send it."

**Dec 24 1913 - Rockford - to Rockford**  
1913 Christmas Seal



**Dec 23 1916 - Rockford - to Winnebago, Ill.**  
1916 Christmas Seal - folded over by machine cancel

**Dec 22 1922 - Belvidere - to Chicago, Ill.**  
1922 Christmas Seal



1996  
Snow Globe



2001  
Baltic Mill (1845) & Bridge



2007  
Dari Ripple (1952)

Belvidere has held their **Hometown Christmas** celebration since the mid-1990's. Held downtown on State Street where windows are decorated with art and live performances. Treats, hot apple cider and hot chocolate are shared with all who venture out to see the sights. The cities Christmas decorations are all in place! Each year a pictorial cancel was ordered from the USPS to use on outgoing Christmas cards.

# 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 let us hear your comments. Tim (t.wait@comcast.net) & Frank (prevent1@comcast.net) - webmasters.**

## Topical Corner by Tim Wait

Topical collecting is a great way to get new collectors interested or to give you a new collecting interest to pursue. If you have reached a standstill in adding to your collection, perhaps because of the cost, a new "Topic" can be just what you need to get excited again.

**There are two approaches to this type of collecting. You can form a purely "topical" collection or you can expand to a "thematic" collection.**

A topic can be anything you want from all dogs down to just Dalmatians. In topical collecting you usually want the topic to be featured on the stamp. Another example, the Winter Olympics could be a topic.

Thematic collecting takes this to a whole different level. In a thematic collection you want to develop the theme, say classical music, from its beginnings through today, using a variety of stamps to show musicians, instruments, musical notes, etc. In an exhibit you would want to include as many "thematic elements" as possible. This would include essays, proofs, souvenir sheets, pictorial cancels and much more. There is no end to what you can collect, and it's all up to you!

The stamps used also do not necessarily show your specific topic but are collected to develop the total story.

You get to decide what to include. Many "philatelic" issues come out from countries with nearly non-existent postal operations. You could exclude them if you want.

**How do you pick a topic?** Obvious possibilities can be related to your profession, dentist, or a favorite activity, motorcycle riding. You can even start a stamp collecting topic!

Animals, birds and flowers are very popular and a multitude of issues have been issued and continue today. See page two to see how many US examples are coming out in 2021!

A popular local topic is Illinois or Lincoln. The U.S. has issued many Lincoln stamps. The rest of the world has honored him many more times. The APS issued a 16 page album of US Lincoln issues that is available at:

<https://stamps.org/Portals/0/albums/Lincoln.pdf>

And an Illinois album is available at:

<https://stamps.org/Portals/0/albums/Illinois.pdf>

Take a look. They have many topical albums to get you started and to give you an idea about how to pursue a theme.

The best resource is the American Topical Association (ATA). Their website is [www.americantopical.org](http://www.americantopical.org). You can find a significant amount of information about getting started and resources. Membership costs \$35 per year and you receive a beautiful bimonthly magazine full of ideas and interesting articles. They also publish hundreds of checklists for topics that are invaluable.

**Do you already have a topical collection? Do you just accumulate "stuff" in a topic. Why not let your editor know what you collect so we can feature it in a future newsletter as we did a while ago?**

## ROCKFORD 2-3-4 Stamp Expo Dealers

See below for the intended 2020 dealer lineup and some of our regular dealers who had other commitments planned. We had one new dealer this year, Tiger Collectibles from Stoutsville, MO and two dealers returning after multi-year absences, James Newland from Peoria and Pfol's Stamps from Dubuque.

**As almost all shows have been canceled, our dealer friends have not been able to go to shows to buy and sell. Please contact your favorite dealer or two and 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, 3200 11th 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.

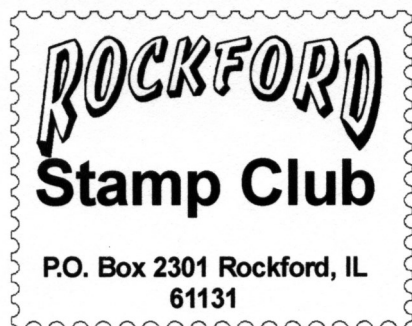
## The 2020-2021 Club Officers

President.....Frank Schmitt  
815-226-4391  
Vice-President.....Ward Miller  
Secretary.....Tammy Copus  
Treasurer.....Hank Fox  
815-397-0573  
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



**Still NO Physical Meetings Planned!**

**ZOOM online meetings planed for:**

**Wednesday, December 2nd at 7pm**

**See inside on page one for details**