

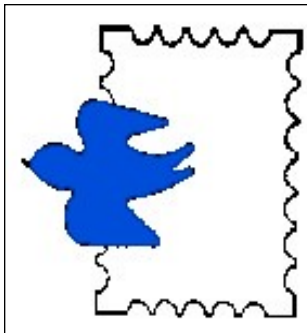
ROCKFORD STAMP NOTES

ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

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

February 2018

Volume 22 - Number 2



Monthly meetings at Ken-Rock Community Center, 3200 11th St., Rockford, IL

Wednesday, January 3, 2018

6:00 pm - Buy, sell and trade
View auction lots
7:00 pm - Meeting & auction

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

9:00 am - Buy, Sell and trade
View auction lots
9:30 am - Meeting & auction

1st Wednesday Update: At the Wednesday January 3rd meeting we had a smaller group with 21 members and one guest, **Pat Mattison's** son **John**.

It has been reported that Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, who we are renting the room from, is searching for a new location for their school. If they leave we are uncertain of the facilities continued operation. Your officers will keep up with the situation.

The Ken-Rock Kids were very grateful for our \$280 donation to their Christmas party and have already sent thank you cards which will be displayed at the show.

President, Frank Schmitt will be appointing three members in good standing for this year's Nominating Committee.

Hank Fox asked if anyone would be willing to sit at the front table Wednesday and/or Tuesday and complete the checklist for the auction as a double check. If interested, see Hank.

The By-Laws Amendment passed with 11 yea and 2 no. See page five for update.

The Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo is coming up soon! We had a **Sign Up Sheet for the Front Table**. If you didn't sign up yet and want to participate for one hour, or more, see Terry or Hank at the next meeting. **Frank** has **Auction Packets** available so you can get a head start on getting your auction lots ready for the show.

Show & Tell.....

1. **Hank Fox** in honor of Illinois 200th anniversary passed around some American River Gold from California's 100th anniversary in 1950, that he won as a metal detecting prize.
2. **Stanley Campbell** showed a collection of postcards with stamps and some very beautiful cut up stamp art on postcards. Very interesting collection!

The Mystery Box Raffle was won by **Tammy Copus**.

3rd Tuesday Update: Tuesday January 16th Smaller group of only 16 with a little over 100 lots. We still generated \$42.45 which included donations from **Winston** and **Gordon Carlson's** estate. Total donation from Gordie's stamps was \$198.50! Thank you to his family and **Matt Mace** for handling all the material!

Potential Meeting Cancellations

If the weather is potentially a factor on the Wednesday night or Tuesday morning meetings you can call Our Lady of the Sacred Hearts office at 815-399-1067 to check if the building will be open. Hank will also send an email to everyone he has an email for if there is a closing.



Upcoming Area Stamp Shows

Saturday Feb 10 - Janesville Stamp Show

Janesville, WI. Holiday Inn Express, 3100 Wellington Pl. Hours: Sat 9:30-4 12+ dealers, exhibits, free.

Sat-Sun Mar 3-4 - Stamp Fest

West Allis, WI. St. Aloysius Gonzaga Hall, 1435 S 92nd St. Milwaukee Philatelic Society. Sat 10-5, Sun 10-3, free admission.

Fri-Sun Mar 9-11 - ASDA Westside Stamp Show

Oakbrook Terrace, IL Holiday Inn, 17W350 22nd St. Hours: Fri-Sat 10-5, Sun 10-3, 15 dealers, free.

Sat-Sun Mar 10-11 - Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo

Loves Park, IL Forest Hills Lodge, 1604 West Lane Road. Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4, 15 dealers, exhibits, free.

Join the fun, free rides to stamp shows available!

USPS 2018 New Issues

Year of the Dog

1st Class Forever Rate
January 11—Honolulu, HI



The Lunar New Year begins February 16, 2018 and ends February 4, 2019. In the Lunar New Year cycle, the Dog symbolizes caring, loyalty and honesty.

The Year of the Dog stamp is the 11th of 12 stamps in the current Celebrating Lunar New Year cycle. The artwork focuses on some of the common ways the Lunar New Year holiday is celebrated. It depicts an arrangement of lucky bamboo. On the red paper to the right, the Chinese character *fu*—meaning good fortune, rendered in calligraphy—is a common decoration on doors and entryways during Lunar New Year festivities.

Love Flourishes

1st Class Forever Rate
January 18—Phoenix, AZ



Love Flourishes, the latest stamp in a series that goes back to 1973, features a fanciful garden of colorful flowers surrounding the word “Love” in cursive script. The First Day of Issue site is Creativation, the annual Craft & Hobby Association convention that brings together the global creative products community from designers to manufacturers, some of whom may want to incorporate postage stamps in their designs.

The flowers on the stamp include stylized roses, peonies, and dahlias in pink, coral, and yellow, with pale blue-green berries and gold fronds and leaves.

Meyer Lemons

2¢ Make Up Stamp
January 19—Kenner, LA



The 2¢ Meyer Lemons stamp is the latest in the current Fruits low value definitives series. The Meyer lemon is native to China, and is thought to be a cross between a true lemon and either a mandarin or common orange. It was introduced to the U.S. in 1908, but in the 1940s it was discovered that a majority of the Meyer lemon trees being cloned were symptomless carriers of a virus that had killed or rendered useless millions of citrus trees all over the world. Most of the Meyer lemon trees in the U.S. were then destroyed, after which a virus-free selection was developed in the 1950s and certified and released in 1975 by the University of California as the ‘Improved Meyer lemon’.”



Byodo-in-Temple

\$6.70 Priority Mail
January 21—Kansas City, MO

This Priority Mail stamp features a colorful illustration of the Byodo-In Temple, a popular tourist attraction in Hawai‘i.



Sleeping Bear Dunes

\$24.70 Priority Mail Express
January 21—Kansas City, MO

With this Priority Mail Express stamp, the Postal Service celebrates the Sleeping Bear Dunes, a national park in Michigan that takes its name from a Native American legend.

President's Corner - Frank Schmitt

Greetings fellow Rockford Stamp Club members:

The January weather conditions kept the attendance numbers at our Wednesday evening meeting and Tuesday morning auction at or near record lows. For the snowbirds that left the area for fairer weather conditions I hope you were successful because it appears very little of our country was left unscathed. We still had successful auctions on both dates and many bidders went home with real deals because of the lack of spirited bidding.

It appears that our club has somewhat lost focus of the purpose for our Wednesday evening meetings and it has essentially become just another auction. There is no plan to eliminate the Wednesday evening auction as it is an integral and enjoyable part of the meeting and contributes greatly to our club coffers. We have been concluding our meeting and auction in a timely manner and have plenty of time to add value to our meeting. Beginning with the March meeting we will have presentations and programs to enhance and advance our knowledge base in the world of stamp collecting, postal history, exhibiting and other relevant subject areas. We have many individuals in our club that are very knowledgeable and willing to share their valuable information with us. This will be in addition to the show and tell portion of our meeting so feel free to continue to share your treasures with the club members. Welcome the return of this portion of our meetings with an open mind allowing you to absorb new information or for a good review of existing knowledge. If you have a presentation you would like to share please let me know.

Our stamp show is fast approaching, so review your want lists and get them up to date and save your pennies to support our dealers. Spread the word and bring your friends, more people equals more sales. We will have sign-up lists available at the meetings and we would appreciate your signing up for an hour or two to help make the show a huge success. Packets for the show auction will be available at the meeting, please pick one up if you need one. The deadline for exhibit applications will have passed by the time you read this newsletter, but if you sweet talk Tim Wait he will probably welcome your interest and exhibit.

If you have not paid your 2018 dues, or received your new membership card, see Hank Fox.

In accordance with our by-laws the president is to appoint a nominating committee to present a slate of candidates at the November meeting. I asked for volunteers at the January meeting and the only response was from current officers which was contested from the floor. Therefore, the following members will comprise the 2018 nominating committee: **Stanley Campbell, Lee Barrie, Jeff Reiken**. If you cannot fulfill this duty please find your replacement and advise me of your replacement.

U.S. Special Delivery Stamps - Part Four By Tim Wait

In 1954 the USPOD replaced the 1938 Presidential Series with the new Liberty Series. Also on October 13, 1954 a distinctive new special delivery stamp was issued, with a First Day of Sale in Boston, Mass., to focus attention on the stamp itself and thereby result in better service to the public. It was again printed in blue to continue the first-class letter designation that was only interrupted by the 1908 10¢ Green Merry Widow issue and the use of the 15¢ Orange Motorcycle and 20¢ Black Truck stamps issued for Parcel Post use that were pressed into service from Jan. 1, 1949 until 1954 when this new stamp was issued.

The design illustrates a letter being delivered hand to hand by the messenger to the recipient. The letter has an image of the new stamp and the 3¢ Statue of Liberty stamp from the new Liberty Series. This was the first new design of a Special Delivery stamp since 1925. 194,043 First Day covers were processed.

The 20¢ rate had been effective since Jan. 1, 1952 and continued for 5-½ years when it was increased to 30¢ on Jul. 1, 1957. On Sept. 3, 1957 a 30¢ stamp in Lake, in the same design, with a First Day of Issue in Indianapolis, Ind., was issued. 111,451 First Day Covers were processed, a significant drop from the 20¢ stamp three years earlier. Could this have been due to the cost since regular postage was only 3¢?

This "letter being delivered hand to hand" design was in use until 1969 when the USPOD "moved forward" with a new design! To be continued next issue.



E20. 20¢ Special Delivery
Letter, Hand to Hand



E21. 30¢ Special Delivery
Letter, Hand to Hand

America's First National Postage Stamps in Illinois (Rockford & Belvidere)

By Tim Wait

Effective July 1, 1845 the United States Post Office Department (USPOD) reduced postage rates to 5¢ for up to 300 miles and 10¢ for over 300 miles, excluding the West coast. This was down significantly from 25¢ for over 400 miles.

The common practice at the time was to send letters collect with the recipient paying the postage. With the fluid nature of the pioneers, many times the letter could not be delivered and the Post Office performed the service without being compensated.

In 1847 the USPOD issued the first two postage stamps to be used nationally. The 5¢ Benjamin Franklin and 10¢ George Washington. However, prepayment of letters was not made compulsory until April 1, 1855 and using stamps was not mandatory until January 1, 1856.

The 5¢ and 10¢ rates were in effect from July 1, 1845 thru June 30, 1851, when the rates were changed to 3¢ for not over 3,000 miles, prepaid and 5¢, not prepaid. At that time the Franklin and Washington stamps were demonitized and unused stamps were returned to Washington by the postmasters.



Per Postal Laws and Regulations, Chapter 68 Section 501: Stamps affixed are to be immediately cancelled in the office in which the letter may be deposited, with an instrument to be furnished to certain postoffices for that purpose. In postoffices not so furnished, the stamps must be cancelled by making a cross X on each with a pen.

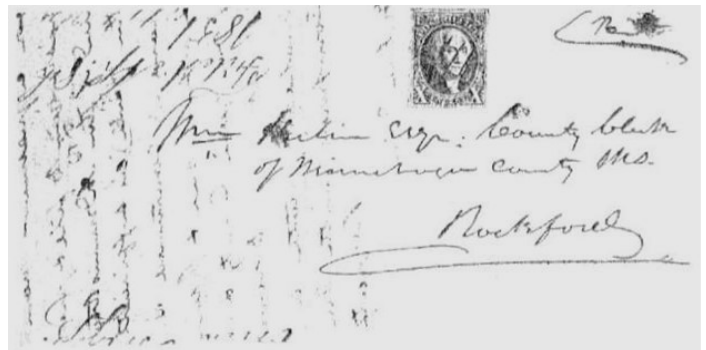
Post Office records reveal that only four Illinois postoffices received stamps in 1847:

Postoffice	First Supplied	Total 5c	Total 10c
Chicago	30 July 1847	1,200	400
Jacksonville	11 Nov. 1847	400	200
Quincy	4 Oct. 1847	1,000	500
Springfield	4 Oct. 1847	400	400

Our focus, **Rockford & Belvidere** received as follows:

Rockford	16 May 1850	400	100
Belvidere	18 Dec. 1850	400	100

Since the rate changed July 1, 1851, Rockford only had stamps for 13½ months and Belvidere for only 6½ months! That helps explain why in 170 years only one letter from Belvidere and NO letters from Rockford have been recorded.



Belvidere / ILL / Apr 5 (1851) in weak but mostly legible red strike at the left. The stamp bears three pen strokes and a weak strike of the red Belvidere 'X' in truncated box, a marking which ranks with the Chicago cogs as the fanciest Illinois obliterations used on the 1847 issue.



While not tied, the notation "Paid" in the upper right corner and no rate notation leads us to believe that the stamp originated on the cover. Now you know the story of the 1847s!

ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

By-Laws Amendment

January 3, 2018

Article V Section III Duties of officers and directors;

Add to President;

The President shall verify the funds in all accounts, including cash on hand, as reported by the Treasurer and reported on the most recent bank statement, by the February meeting each year and/or upon the transfer of the office of Treasurer. Any notable discrepancy between the Treasurer's reported balance and the bank statements shall result in an audit of all records, reports and funds by the Board of Directors or designee/s.

At the Board of Directors meeting the above amendment was proposed. At the Wednesday, January 3, 2018 regular club meeting the above Amendment was approved by more than two-thirds of the membership voting.



WEB SITE UPDATE - The website has crashed and we are currently working on replacing it! Stay tuned.

Lena Horne

1st Class Forever Rate
January 30—New York, NY



Lena Horne is included in the USPS Black Heritage series as a trailblazer in Hollywood for women of color when in fact, her fame and her contributions were much broader. As a performer her 70-year career was capped by a one-woman show, “Lena Horne: The Lady and Her Music,” which ran for more than three hundred performances on Broadway and then on tour across the United States. And as an activist, her defense of the civil rights of all Americans led to her being blacklisted during the infamous era of McCarthyism and the Red Scare.

The stamp features a photograph of Lena Horne taken by Christian Steiner in the 1980s, with an added background reminiscent of Horne’s “Stormy Weather” album.

U. S. Flag

1st Class Forever Rate
February 9—Fort
Lauderdale, FL



U.S. stamps picturing the American flag in full color have been available to the public almost continuously since 1957. The first U.S. Flag stamp of 2018 is this new definitive. It is one of two Flag stamps scheduled for 2018—the other being a commemorative stamp celebrating the bicentennial of the Flag Act of 1818.

Mailers like to use Flag stamps on their mail, as it is thought they have a better chance of being opened; however, most volume mailers use non-denominated stamps to pay a base fee, 5¢ for example, then pay the remaining postage by check or balance transfer. So this Forever First Class rate stamp scheduled to be issued at the ASDA Winter Show in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. will be used mostly by small businesses and individuals.

Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo * March 10-11, 2018 *

The count down is on! Have you **Signed Up for the Front Table**, do you have an **exhibit to enter**, are your **auction lots ready**, will you **set your alarm to be at show set up at 8am Saturday** and of course have you **updated your want lists and saved your allowance to spend with the dealers?**

We are looking forward to another successful Rockford Stamp Show in 2018. This is YOUR CLUB show! We greatly appreciate all the work and are always looking for more members to volunteer.

ROCKFORD 2018 STAMP SHOW DEALERS

Below is the list of dealers for 2018. Many returning and two new dealers. Contact them before the show to make sure they bring what you are looking for!. Remember, without dealers there is no show!

New for 2018

**Buy the Stamp
Rick Hyams**

Arlington Heights, IL
847-414-5408

Riverbank Treasurers

Jerry Wessler
New Lisbon, WI
608-515-6150

John’s Stamp Den

John Steele
Washington, IL
309-444-8247

Alroy Stamps

Al Lenz
Schaumburg, IL
847-524-0147

University Ave. Stamps

Dennis Lemke
Middleton, WI
608-831-1277

Rockford Coin & Stamp

Steve Jennings
Rockford, IL
815-282-4444

Steve Capone

Rockford, IL
815-394-0537

Applebox Philatelic’s

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

David Alex

Glenview, IL
847-291-7826

DMS Collectibles

Dave Stauffer
Bloomington, IL
309-963-4248

W. H. Burdick

Mtn. Home, AR
870-425-7799

Terry Kurzinski

Cherry Valley, IL
815-262-9117

Fox River Stamps

Michael Mules

Salem, WI
414-234-9867

ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

We invite all area collectors to join us at a future meeting of the Rockford Stamp Club. Meetings are held the first Wednesday at 6:00pm, every month except July, and the third Tuesday of every month at 9:00am, at the Ken-Rock Community Center, 3200 11th St., Rockford, Illinois. Each meeting begins with a buy/sell/trade session followed by a lively, unreserved stamp auction. Come discover the fun of stamp collecting. All ages welcome.

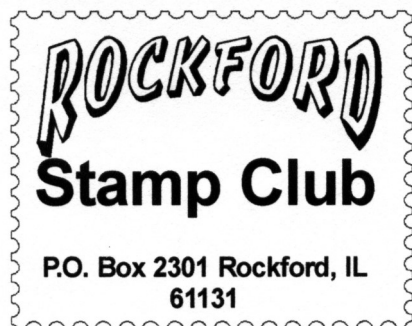
The 2018 Club Officers

President.....Frank Schmitt
815-226-4391
Vice-President.....Ward Miller
Secretary.....Tammy Copus
Treasurer.....Hank Fox
815-397-0573
Director.....Terry Kurzinski
Director.....Steve Capone
Director.....Tim Copus
Show Chairman.....Tim Wait
815-670-5869

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



Happy New Year!

February Meetings

Wednesday, Feb 7 and Tuesday Feb 20

It's the beginning of stamp show season.
Go enjoy a show with a friend!