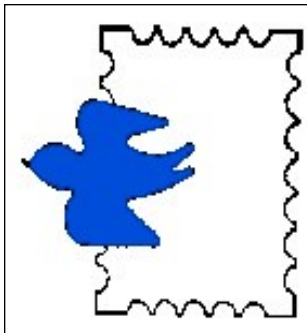


ROCKFORD STAMP NOTES

ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

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



January 2021

Volume 25 - Number 2

Next VIRTUAL Meeting:
Wednesday, February 3rd
7:00 pm - ZOOM Meeting

Wednesday, January 6th: Due to the Civil unrest at the Capitol, the meeting was cancelled.

Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo will NOT be held in March 2021 due to continued Covid-19 exposure. Even though we now have effective vaccines, they will not be widely available until summer or later.

Those who call in are continuing to enjoy the Zoom calls. We have a short discussion of any business, not much, and then check in to see how everyone is doing. After that we hope to have a presentation or show and tell by different members.

This is your club. We hope you can participate by calling in. You don't have to have a camera, you can just listen.

Virtual Meeting Wednesday, February 3rd

Due to the Covid-19 situation we are not having in person meetings yet. We have scheduled a Virtual meeting for Wednesday, February 3rd at 7:00PM.

To participate you will need to send an email to Frank Schmitt at prevent1@comcast.net no later than Tuesday, February 2nd

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

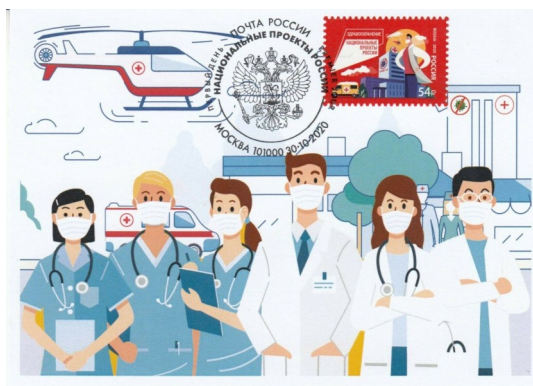
Wednesday ZOOM Presentation

During a ZOOM meeting anyone can "Share their Screen" and show stamps, covers or make presentations from files or images on their computers. Everyone 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

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

Global Pandemic Issue of the Month



Russia
10-13-20

Doctors
fight against
Covid-19

Postcard



Upcoming Area Stamp Shows

Most stamp clubs are canceling shows for the beginning of 2021. Some of them are still holding on to the hope of putting on a show in late spring or early summer.

August 12-15, 2021 - 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. It will bring philatelists from all over the country and even other countries to Chicago for four days of philatelic enjoyment.

**Lunar New Year
Year of the OX
First Class Forever
Pane of 20
Feb 2—Chicago, IL**



**Chien-Shiung Wu
First Class Forever
Pane of 20
Feb 11—New York, NY**

In 2021, the Postal Service will issue the second of 12 stamps in a new series of Lunar New Year stamps. Calling to mind the elaborately decorated masks used in the dragon or lion dances often performed during Lunar New Year parades, these three-dimensional masks are a contemporary take on the long tradition of paper-cut folk art crafts created during this auspicious time of year. Art director Antonio Alcalá designed the stamp with original art by Camille Chew.

Chien-Shiung Wu (1912-1997) was one of the most influential nuclear physicists of the 20th century. During a career that spanned more than 40 years in a field dominated by men, she established herself as the authority on conducting precise and accurate research to test fundamental theories of physics. Art Director Ethel Kessler designed the stamp with original art by Kam Mak.

**Prior USPS Series
Year of the Ox**



2009



1997

**Garden Beauty
First Class Forever
Booklet of 20
Feb 23—Bloomfield, IN**

Garden Beauty celebrates America's love of flowers and gardens with 10 new stamp designs in a booklet of 20. The stamps include a pink flowering dogwood; a rose-pink and white tulip; an allium, or ornamental onion; a pink and white Asiatic lily; a magenta dahlia; a yellow and pink American lotus; a pink moth orchid with mottled petals; a pink and white sacred lotus; an orange and yellow tulip; and a yellow moth orchid with a pink center.

Art director Ethel Kessler designed the stamps with existing photographs by Allen Rokach.



USPS New Issues

In the old days, before Forever stamps, the new year would bring a new First Class letter rate and a slew of new issues. With the advent of Forever stamps in 2010 there is no need to rush out new issues to meet the new rates. This year, the First Class letter rate did not even change since inflation is so low and the rate went up from 50c to 55c in 2019.

The USPS announced several issues in November, reported here just days later, and continues to announce other issues for later in the year.

Many collectors are wondering where stamps commemorating significant historical events are this year. Hopefully the USPS will issue some more meaningful stamps in 2021.

President's Corner - Frank Schmitt

Greetings fellow Rockford Stamp Club members:

I apologize for the last-minute cancellation of the January ZOOM meeting. Due to the instability in our nations' Capitol it was felt that most members were more interested in keeping themselves aware of what was happening on that front. In trying to keep with the Wednesday night meeting the following weeks seemed to overshadow a ZOOM meeting. That being said, our next ZOOM meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 3rd at 7:00 PM. Please join us for a fun and interesting evening. Remember show and tells are always welcome.

For those that aren't aware, Stanley Campbell was badly injured when he and a friend were struck by a car while crossing the street on N. Main St. at the infamous round-a-bout. I have no particulars other than what I saw on the news. He is recovering from a fractured pelvis. There is also a GoFundMe page to assist with his medical expenses.

Now that a vaccine is available, I hope some of our members have already been vaccinated and that everyone else has registered for the vaccine and will receive it soon. Hopefully, vaccines will become more readily available and the inoculation process stream-lined and we can start meeting in person sooner than later. Until then let's continue our quest to keep from becoming unhinged or perforating a friend or loved one.

Talking stamps, finally, Linn's Stamp News is once again conducting their U. S. Stamp Popularity Poll. We have for the past few years participated in this stamp poll as a club with paper ballots at our meeting. Obviously, we can't do that this year, so I ask that you consider participating individually. If you are a Linn's Stamp News subscriber you will find the ballot in the weekly issue or you can participate electronically at linns.com, ballots must be received by March 1st.

Remember to submit an article for our newsletter to Tim and give him a little break from providing all of the content. Your article can be about topicals, favorite stamps, thematic collecting, exhibiting, or any other topic of interest. Tim can always find images of stamps to include in your article if you provide the Scott number.

Don't forget to ZOOM with us on February 3rd.

Happy collecting and stay safe!

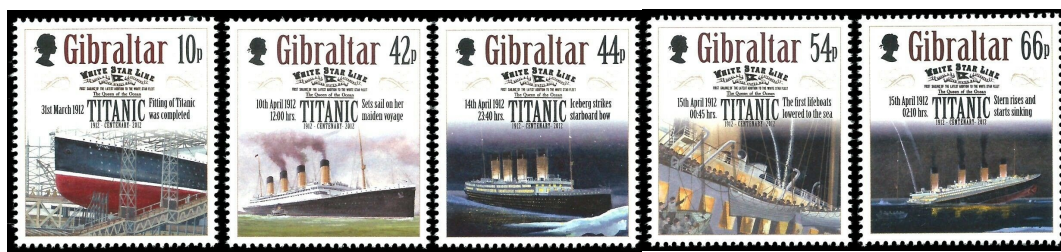
Ship Disasters on Stamps by Tim Wait



COSTA CONCORDIA Disaster (2016 The Gambia)

On 13 January 2012, the Italian cruise ship *Costa Concordia* ran aground, capsized, and later sank in shallow waters after striking an underwater rock off Isola del Giglio, Tuscany, resulting in 32 deaths. The eight-year-old Costa Cruises vessel was on the first leg of a cruise around the Mediterranean Sea when she deviated from her planned route at the Isola del Giglio, sailed closer to the island, and struck a rock formation on the sea floor. Although a six-hour rescue effort brought most of the passengers ashore, 33 people died - 27 passengers, five crew, and later, one member of the salvage team.

TITANIC Disaster (2012 Gibraltar) 100th Anniversary

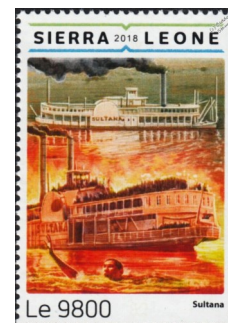


RMS Titanic sank in the early morning hours of 15 April 1912 in the North Atlantic Ocean, four days into her maiden voyage from Southampton to New York City. The largest ocean liner in service at the time, *Titanic* had an estimated 2,224 people on board when she struck an iceberg at around 23:40 (ship's time) on Sunday. Her sinking two hours and forty minutes later at 02:20 (ship's time; 05:18 GMT) on Monday, 15 April, resulted in the deaths of more than 1,500 people, making it one of the deadliest peacetime maritime disasters in history.

SULTANA Disaster (2018 Sierra Leone)

Sultana was a Mississippi River side-wheel steamboat, which exploded on April 27, 1865, in the worst maritime disaster in United States history.

Although designed with a capacity of only 376 passengers, she was carrying 2,137 when three of the boat's four boilers exploded and she burned to the waterline and sank near Memphis, Tennessee.



Historical information from Wikipedia.

The Winter Olympics of US Stamps - Part 1 by Tim Wait

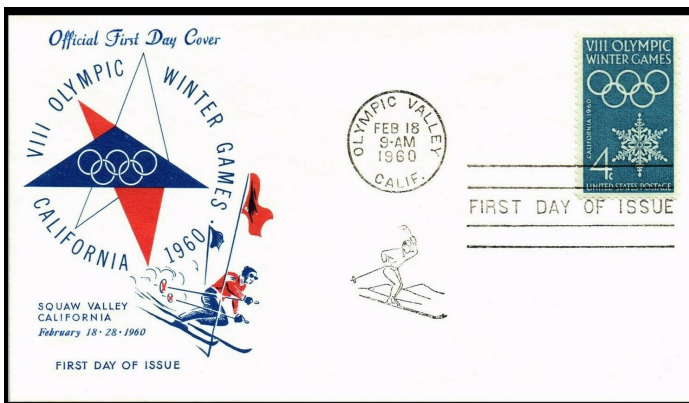
In the early years of the Olympics some traditionally winter sports competitions took place along side summer events. The first separate Winter Olympics took place in Chamonix, France in 1924. The second was held in Saint Moritz, Switzerland in 1928. No stamps were issued by France or Switzerland for these events.

The first Winter Olympics to be held in the United States was held at Lake Placid, NY in 1932, and the very first Winter Olympic stamp, Scott #716, was issued January 25th, about a week before the games began on February 4th.



Olympic games were held every four years, except 1940 and 1944 due to WWII. They resumed again in 1948 and next came to Squaw Valley, CA in 1960.

The US issued a stamp, Scott #1146 on February 18, the opening day of the games.



In 1972 the games were held in Sapporo, Japan. For the first time the US issued stamps for the event in another country. Scott #1461 was an 8c First Class letter stamp showing bobsledding and Scott #C85 was an 11c Airmail stamp showing downhill skiing.



1976 saw the games in Innsbruck, Austria. Again, two stamps were issued for the summer games and two for the winter games. Scott #1696, Cross Country Skiing and #1698 Figure Skating.



The 1980 games were back to the USA. in Lake Placid, NY. Since the games were in the US, the USPS issued four stamps on February 1st in time to be used at the games which started February 13. Scott #1795-8. A second perforation resulted in Scott #1795A-8A.



The 1984 the games were in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia. The USPS sold a lot of Winter Olympic stamps in 1980 so they issued four separate stamps just for the Winter games again. Scott #2067-70 were issued January 6th. Stamps showed Figure Skating, pairs, Downhill Skiing, Cross Country Skiing and Hockey.



1988 came around with the games in our neighbor to the north, Calgary, Canada. This time the USPS went small with just one stamp, Scott #2369. Again, it showed a downhill skier, one of the most popular and exciting events at the games.

To be continued in March.

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

A Famous Person on a Stamp by Hank Fox

I am certain that Topical Collecting will be the future for stamp collecting. Topical stamps are like teachers. They teach us about plants, animals, cars, trains and so much more. They also picture famous people. A famous person that was on a stamp is Roy Rogers, Scott #4446, who I met and shook hands with in Burbank, CA in 1968!

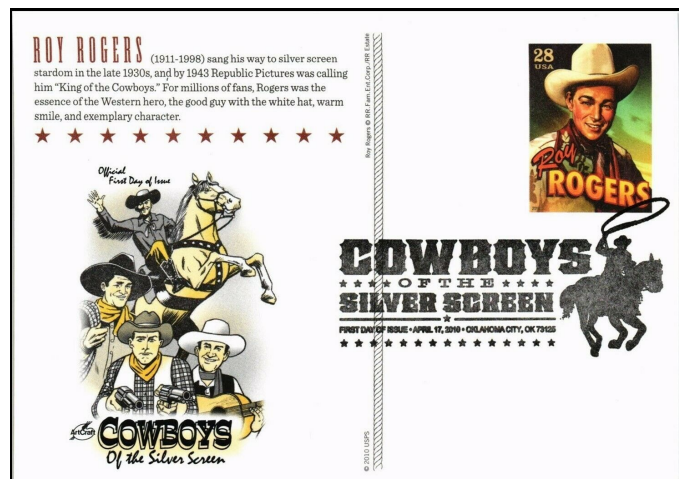
I was gassing up my CA State car at a Mobil Gas station on my way to another of my offices that I visited twice a year on San Bernardino. In the other lane of pumps I saw a guy dressed in a western suit, silver gray with black stripes. His car was a silver gray Cadillac with a black vinyl top. He looked familiar so I stopped pumping my gas and walked over to him. I asked if he was who I thought he was.



He smiled and said, "Who do you think I am partner?" I said "I think you are Roy Rogers". He answered that I was right!

Roy told me that he was at the NBC studio to do some work on a special he and Dale Evans were doing and was on his way back to his ranch in Victorville. I said I had watched his movies at the Paramount Theater in Casa Grande, AZ when I was 10 and 11 years old and that I was born on a ranch south of Casa Grande. This was a meeting I shall never forget.

If any RSC members have a spare FDC of Scott #446-449, I will gladly buy it!



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 Pfhols' 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

Pfhols' 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.

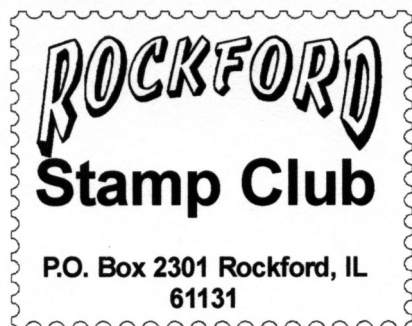
The 2020-2021 Club Officers

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 meeting planed for:

Wednesday, February 3rd at 7pm

See inside on page one for details