

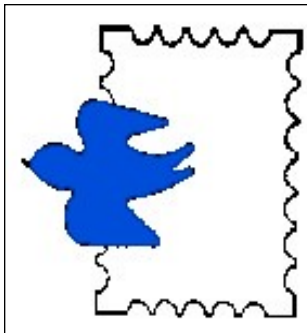
ROCKFORD STAMP NOTES

ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

ESTABLISHED AUGUST 21, 1930 - APS CHAPTER #735
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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 December 6th we had 26 members in attendance.

Elections were held, see below.

The December meeting was our annual KenRock Kids donation auction and treat night! We raised \$280 for the KenRock Kids Christmas Party! The state funding continues to be cut and late so they really appreciate the donation. Thank you to all the members who donated material and competed in the spirited bidding!

Show & Tell.....

1. **Ruth Young** showed items she recently picked up at Chicagopex including a Betsy Ross House Flag and a Janesville, WI penalty envelope.
2. **Stanley Campbell** picked up anew book at Chicagopex, *Detained, Interned, Incarcerated: U.S. Enemy Noncombatant Mail in World War II*, Louis Fiset (2010).

The November Mystery Box Raffle was won by **Martha Bauch** who gave a very complete report on the contents. No Mystery Raffle for December.

By-Laws Proposed Amendment

At the Board of Directors meeting the following amendment was proposed.

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.

We will be discussing and then voting on this amendment at the January 3rd meeting.

3rd Tuesday Update: Tuesday December 19th we had another BIG auction with 153 lots which gave the Club \$84.75 from club lots and \$70 from the sellers. Total take \$154.75. Enough to pay for the show insurance.

Tim Wait made his first ever appearance at a Tuesday meeting and was quite impressed by the wide variety of items in the auction and the bidding action. The Tuesday meeting has a number of members who are unable to attend the Wednesday night meetings. It was nice to connect with them.

Stanley Campbell Honored

Our very active member, **Stanley**, was recently honored as an **Excalibur Nominee**. The Excalibur Award is given to an individual for community service, excellence and making a difference in the Rock Rover Valley.

Stanley is the director of Rockford Urban Ministries, an outreach of 20+ United Methodist congregations, supported by the Northern IL Conference. Sometimes called "The only paid peace activist in Rockford Illinois," he is happy to have a career that lets him do what he loves: peace & justice work for the Lord.



Upcoming Area Stamp Shows

Sat-Sun Jan 20-1- MSDA Milwaukee Winter Show
Milwaukee, WI. Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport, 6401 S. 13th St. Hours: Sat 10-5, Sun 10-3. 15 dealers, free admission.

Saturday Feb 10 - Janesville Stamp Show
Janesville, WI. Holiday Inn Express, 3100 Wellington Pl. Hours: Sat 9:30-4 12+ dealers, exhibits, free admission.

President's Corner - Frank Schmitt

Greetings fellow Rockford Stamp Club members:

Happy New Year to all! Our stamp club gets an early start in this new year of stamp collecting with our meeting falling on the 3rd day of 2018. This will allow us to get started on our stamp collecting new year resolutions while they are still fresh on our minds. This also means our 2018 Rockford Stamp Show is less than 3 months away.

On that note, we will be having sign-up sheets for areas in which we need show help at the next couple of meetings. Please sign up for a shift or two to help make our show run as smoothly as possible and meet the needs of our dealers and guests. A well organized and well run show brings more of both. Your help last year was phenomenal and really eased the burden for everyone.

A huge thank you to everyone for making our fundraising auction for Ken-Rock Kids an amazing success. Our December, Wednesday night, meeting auction raised \$280.00 for them and our Treasurer has delivered a check to them in that amount. Your generosity as sellers and buyers shows the fabric the members of this club is made of. Kudos to all of you.

Unfortunately, due to a funeral, I was unable to attend the December, Tuesday auction and missed the maiden appearance of the Honorable Tim Wait at said auction. Welcome Tim! I also understand it was a huge auction with very spirited bidding and many happy lot winners.

If you have not paid your 2018 dues yet, please see Hank and keep your membership current.

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

After over 59 years of Special Delivery service for 10¢, the USPOD raised the rate to 13¢, effective November 1, 1944.

The Motorcycle Special Delivery stamp was reissued on October 31, 1944 with the only changes being the denomination at 13¢ and it was changed to bright blue.

The new parcel (Other than first class) rates of 1928 were also increased November 1, 1944. Service for packages up to two pounds increased from 15¢ to 17¢. The Motorcycle Special Delivery stamp was again reissued at 17¢ in orange yellow on October 31, 1944. The rates remained the same for packages over two pounds.

Both the 13¢ and 17¢ stamps were printed on the Rotary Presses.

July 1, 1945 was an important day in the history of U.S. Special Delivery. On that date the USPOD abruptly ended the "Fee Basis Special Delivery Messenger". Thereafter, messengers became hourly or annual rate employees and were no longer paid on the fee basis, a goal which they had sought for many long years. With this change the incentive to "hustle" was removed and the Special Delivery service suffered.

THE USPOD again increased the rate to 15¢ on January 1, 1949. Since there was already a 15¢ Motorcycle Special Delivery stamp in use for greater than two pound packages, no new stamp was issued.

On November 31, 1950, the supply of 20¢ Parcel Post Mail Wagon stamps printed by Flat Plate printing was running low. The 20¢ stamp was printed on the Rotary Press with a November 30, 1951 first day of issue.

These issues brought a close to the USPOD tradition of depicting the method of delivery on the special delivery stamps.

From the "Runner" to the "Bicyclist" to the "Motorcyclist" to the "Mail Wagon" for parcels, the stamps had indicated the changing means at the USPOD in delivering these Special Delivery letters and packages, and the growth of American transportation.

To be continued next issue.



E17. 13¢ Motorcycle in blue. Rotary Press printing.



E18. 17c Motorcycle in orange yellow. Rotary press printing.



E19. 20¢ Parcel Post Mail Wagon. Rotary press printing.

ARAGO. People, Postage and the Post. The Smithsonian National Postal Museum An Overview By Tim Wit



Smithsonian National Postal Museum

Since 2006, Arago has been a resource for the study of philately and postal operations as seen through the National Postal Museum's collection.

Named after Francois Arago (19th century French scientist and friend of James Smithson), the website upholds his philosophy that knowledge can be shared through the technology of the day.

The site contains a wealth of information divided into three sections.

Philately

Objects that chronicle the evolution and history of U.S. stamp design and production; and the postal administration that controlled their issuance and use.

Postal Operations

Objects that chronicle the U.S. postal system and the vital role mail plays in our daily lives.

Exhibits

Arago Research Participants and the National Postal Museum staff create unique exhibits that juxtapose personal selections of museum objects and exceptional private collections to present interesting interpretations and great history.



Clicking on **Exhibits** takes you to a menu of Exhibit Themes, each of which has many entries.

Topical Interests has 18 entries including *The Art of Christmas Stamps*, *Long May it Wave: The Story of the American Flag through Stamps*, *People and Places of the Pacific*, just to name a few.

The Flag story is a comprehensive look at the history of the U.S. Flag with much more than just flag stamps depicted. It contains 24 chapters and a fascinating history of America.

Exhibits also contains an **Around the World** theme with such exhibits as *Mexico via Airmail* and *The Sun Never Sets on the Stamps of The British Empire*.

You could spend hours enjoying the exhibits and really increase your philatelic and history knowledge.

Postal Operations

From small uniform buttons to a massive Highway Post Office bus, objects in the National Postal Museum's collections chart the history and development of the U.S. postal system. The museum's varied collection ranges from the mail delivery system's earliest beginnings to twenty-first century mail processing and delivery. Items both rare and mundane help tell a complex story while providing a physical context for the history of a critical communication system. Discover the complex history of the United States postal service as it testifies to the vital role of mail in our daily lives and reveals that America's history is in the mail. Until you visit this page you will never believe all that can be viewed!

Philately

This is the meat of the site for serious philatelists. Virtually every U.S. stamp has a page with stamp issuance details and a variety of images showing the stamp, uses on covers and other interesting images relating to the stamp such as photo essays, sheet layout and sometimes more.

If you collect a certain series or issue, clicking on the stamps can bring you a wealth of knowledge. I collect the Illinois Sesquicentennial stamp of 1968, Scott #1339. When I went to that stamp I found an image of a Certified Plate Proof with the following information.

“Certified plate proofs are the last printed proof of the plate before printing the stamps at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. These plate proofs are each unique, with the approval signatures and date. For postal scholars these plates provide important production information in the plate margin inscriptions, including guidelines, plate numbers, and initials of the siderographer, or person who created the plate from a transfer roll. Plate No.29560”.

Unfortunately, all the images are protected and permission is required to use them. It's still fun and interesting to view all the images.

The Arago website is: <https://arago.si.edu>





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

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

Planning has been underway for our 60th annual Rockford Stamp Show. This year's theme will be "Illinois 200th Statehood Anniversary".

We are closing in on our desired number of dealers and hope to have a couple new dealers!

We will again be hosting the 2-3-4 competition with up to 48 frames of exhibits. Our annual club one-frame competition is open to all members at no charge too!

The awards banquet will be held at Stockholm Inn, the same great time as the last few years.

All hands on deck! We need YOU to help make our show better than ever. We will be asking for a number of volunteers to give even just an hour to help out.

See Show Chairman Tim Wait for any questions.

Illinois Statehood

Illinois became the 21st state on Dec. 3, 1818. The stamp will be issued in Springfield on March 5th.

On December 3, 2018, the people of Illinois will celebrate our state's 200th birthday. Illinois bicentennial will be a 365-day celebration, 200 years in the making. At the center of the celebration will be a year-long multimedia campaign called Born, Built & Grown.



Very nice appropriate design as Illinois was founded at the southern most points along the Ohio & Mississippi rivers and the population "radiated" northward! 20 Stars for the existing states with Illinois being the 21st.

Table with 3 columns of Member Ads. Column 1: For Sale: World Wide off paper 4oz special \$6.95. Column 2: Wanted: Old letters from Boone & Winnebago County, IL. Column 3: Wanted: FDC-Doris Gold Cachet Unaddressed and signed by Doris Gold.

ROCKFORD 2017 STAMP SHOW DEALERS (2018 Dealers Next Issue)

Our 14 stamp dealers had a great crowd of customers on Saturday. We hope you were able to find something for your collection. Remember, the dealers are the backbone of our show and their support allows us to put on this event.

New for 2017

- Fox River Stamps Michael Mules Salem, WI 414-234-9867
University Ave. Stamps Dennis Lemke Middleton, WI 608-831-1277
Vest Pocket Philatelist Bill DiSalvatore Cherokee Village, AR 870-287-2809

- John's Stamp Den John Steele Washington, IL 309-444-8247
Alroy Stamps Al Lenz Schaumburg, IL 847-524-0147
Double J Stamps Jeff Arlington Heights, IL 847-843-8700

- Rockford Coin & Stamp Steve Jennings Rockford, IL 815-282-4444
Phil Edwards Normal, IL 309-452-2593
Steve Capone Rockford, IL 815-394-0537
Applebox Philatelic's Richard Duda Mt. Prospect, IL 847-439-7614

- DMS Collectibles John Butler Normal, IL 309-963-4248
W. H. Burdick Mtn. Home, AR 870-425-7799
Terry Kurzinski Cherry Valley, IL 815-262-9117
David Alex Glenview, IL 847-291-7826