

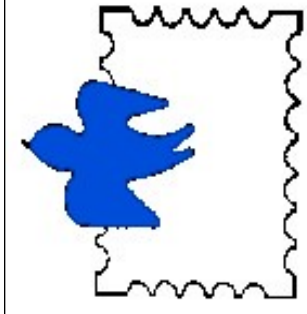
ROCKFORD STAMP NOTES

ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

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

March 2018

Volume 22 - Number 3



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

Wednesday, March 7, 2018

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

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

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

1st Wednesday Update: At the Wednesday February 7th meeting we had 24 members and welcomed back past member **Jonathan Gaenzle**.

Show & Tell.....

1. **Hank Fox** Aberdeen Angus Cattle ranch in SW Arizona where Hank lived. John Wayne eventually bought the ranch.
2. **Steve Capone** showed a post card from Waldo, WI. 1884 advertisement for a "Whiffle Tree". A type of harness/hitch for a team.
3. **Tim Wait** showed a philatelic birthday card and an interesting 1940's Transport cover.

No Mystery Box Raffle. Sorry Tammy & Tim!!

3rd Tuesday Update: Tuesday February 20th we only had 16 members again with a little over 100 lots. We generated \$43.65 with lower than usual bidding activity.

When HANK left Tuesday he talked with Ron the Ken-Rock Sports Director and the Sacred Heart Administrator regarding the Church's move. They are still negotiating the lease. As long as Ken-Rock has an afterschool program we will have a meeting place.

March Program

Ted Gifford will be explaining how to tell the difference between flat plate printing and rotary printing on US stamps using plate blocks for demonstration. Last fall Ted gave a very informative presentation on Plate Block collecting. We look forward to this follow up.

Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo

It's Show Time! All hands on deck for the 2nd 2-3-4 Stamp Expo. We will be setting up at 8am Saturday. We need help with the frames and assisting dealers with their stock. Your help is appreciated.

Make sure to have your **AUCTION** paperwork that **Frank** handed out all prepared so the process runs smoother. Remember members and dealers can have 10 lots per day. Dealer members can have 20 per day.

Club table sign up sheet still has open times. Please help out and have fun greeting our guests.

Banquet cost is \$19, everything included. Stockholm Inn, Saturday at 5:30 for cocktails and 6:00 for the start of the meal. Awards presentation to follow.

We are still trying to get USPS representation. We are following a number of leads.

Every member should make an effort to attend **YOUR** show! We want to make the show bigger and better each year and we need your help, attendance and support. See **YOU** there!



Upcoming Area Stamp Shows

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!

Bioluminescent Life

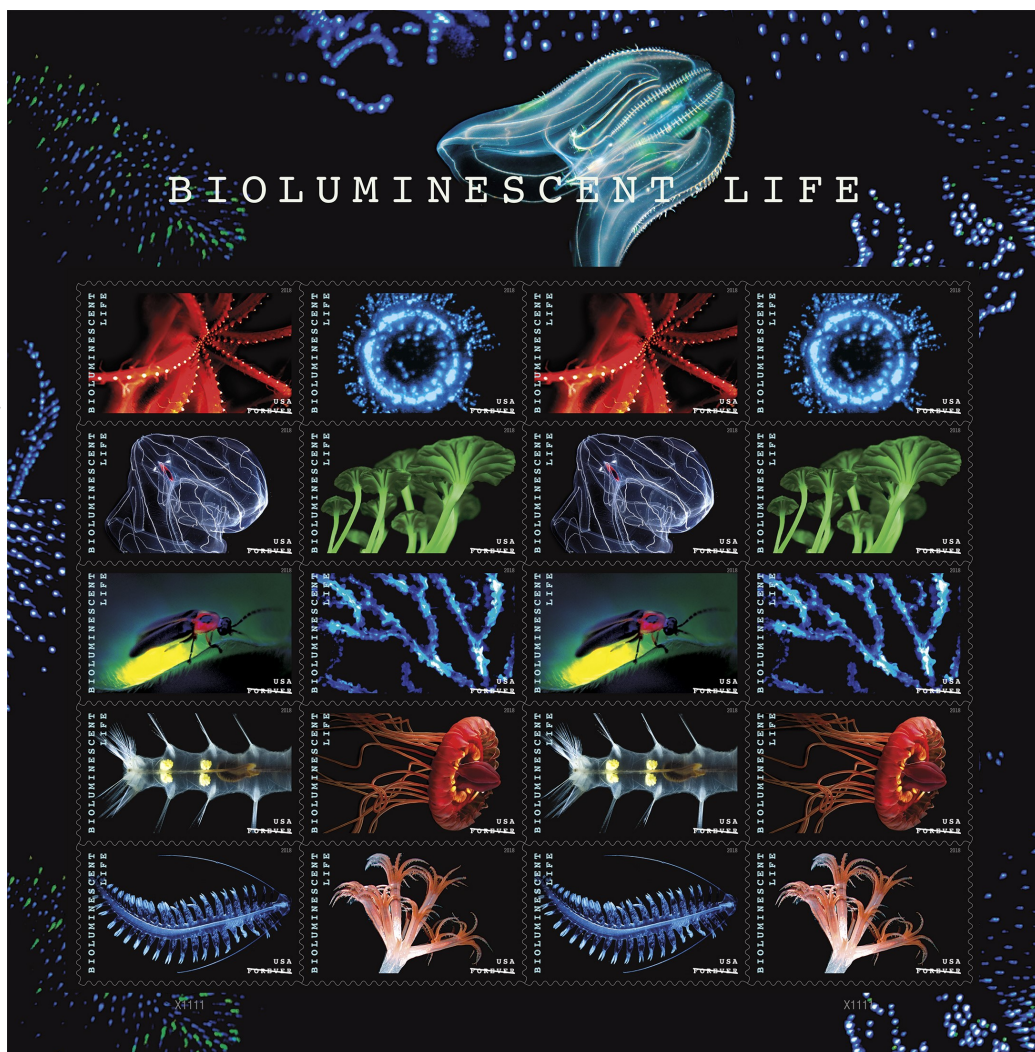
1st Class Forever Rate
February 22—Fort Pierce, FL

The Bioluminescent Life stamps were issued in Fort Pierce, Fla., home to ORCA, the Ocean Research & Conservation Association. ORCA's CEO and Senior Scientist is Dr. Edith Widder, who took the photographs that appear on seven of the stamp images.

Bioluminescence is the ability of some species to glow, the one with which we are most familiar being the firefly. In lay terms, the principal chemical reaction in bioluminescence involves some light-emitting molecule and an enzyme that sets off the oxidation that creates the light.

Referring to the first two columns from the left, the stamp images picture the following life-forms: Row 1: *deep-ocean octopus* and *midwater jellyfish*. Row 2: *deep-sea comb jelly* and *mushroom*. Row 3: *firefly*, and *bamboo coral*. Row 4: *marine worm* and *crown jellyfish*. Row 5: *marine worm* and *sea pen*.

The selvage features a transparent deep-sea comb jelly surrounded by images of the firefly squid.



Illinois Statehood

1st Class Forever Rate
March 5—Springfield, IL



This stamp celebrates the 200th anniversary of Illinois statehood. The first Europeans to visit Illinois were the French explorers Louis Jolliet and Jacques Marquette in 1673, but the region was ceded to Britain after the French and Indian War. After the American Revolution, Illinois became a territory of the United States, and achieved statehood on December 3, 1818.

The stamp art features an outline of the state map with a series of yellow beams that are meant to look like rays of a rising sun. In similar fashion, the Postal People tell us “the yellows and blues symbolize the dawning of a new day as the state joins the Union. Stars, representing the first 20 states, grace the top of the stamp. The rising sun symbolizes the 21st star.” Illinois artist Michael Konetzka designed the stamp and created the artwork.

The stamp is available from the Postal Service online sales and phone outlets.

Although other Post Offices may order them, they are being distributed automatically only to Post Offices in Illinois.

We will be using this stamp on our show cachet this year. Tim and Frank are going to the ceremony in Springfield and will bring back some FDC show covers!

President's Corner - Frank Schmitt

Greetings fellow Rockford Stamp Club members:

It's SHOW TIME!!! What better way to spend a spring-like day than attending the Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo. Thanks to all members that have helped in the planning and preparation for our great stamp show. Thanks to all members that have signed up to help in the numerous areas of set-up, greeting, silent auction and tear-down. This show would not be a success without your help and support.

That said, it is also important that you attend the show as an active stamp collector and support the dealers through purchases. Shop the dealers and fill a couple of those empty spaces in your albums, pick up those supplies you are running low on, or update your catalogues with the purchase of a new one. We also have two new dealers for the show this year and will have another new dealer for Sunday only. That means, to see it all, you will have to attend both days. Even if you are not making purchases, please stop by each dealers table and thank them for participating in our show.

Remember, that after a great day at the stamp show on Saturday, we have our banquet and awards ceremony at the Stockholm Inn at 6:00 P.M. This is a buffet style banquet including a soup and salad bar, numerous entrees, desert, and non-alcoholic beverage, including tax and tip for \$19.00. Spouses, significant others (or both), friends and relatives are all welcome. We have a room that will seat up to 50+ people so be sure and join us for a great evening of socializing, networking, and getting to know each other. Advance payment is required and you must sign-up by noon on Saturday, see Tammy Copus.

Our program for the Wednesday, March 7th meeting will be a presentation on flat press printing and variations, specifically concerning plate blocks. Ted Gifford has so graciously offered to present this program. Thank you, Ted! This program is in addition to any show and tell presentations from the floor and will be prior to the auction. We will need a program for the April meeting, if you have a presentation please let me know.

Attendance at our February meeting and auction was still at record lows. Hopefully this is due to the weather conditions and snowbirds away for the winter. Many bargains flew out the door because of the lack of spirited bidding due to the low attendance. Hopefully, this will improve in the coming months to keep the auction lots coming and the sellers being able to realize a bit more than minimum bid for their efforts. This is also the major funding source for the club and is important for our existence.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Wednesday, March 7th meeting and at the Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo.

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

The last Special Delivery stamp design was issued as a result of the rate increase to 45¢, effective July 14, 1969. However, the stamp was not issued until November 21, 1969. During this four month period, the 30¢ stamp continued to be used along with an additional 15¢ in regular postage. Regular postage stamps had been acceptable for many years to pay for Special Delivery service as long as the envelope had "Special Delivery" prominently written or stamped on the face. This new design featured red, white and blue colors with left facing and right facing arrows promoting speed of delivery.

The 45¢ rate was in effect for less than two years when rising costs again resulted in a 15¢ increase to 60¢, effective May 16, 1971. This time the USPOD issued the newly denominated stamp on May 10, before the rate increase.

Since October 1, 1885, there had been Special Delivery stamps available expressly to pay for the service and aid postal handlers in identifying the mail. With the next rate increase to 80¢ on April 18, 1976, the USPS did not issue any more stamps. Regular postage stamps or quite often meter stamps were now used.

The last rate for Special Delivery service was \$9.95 effective January 1, 1995 until the end of the service June 7, 1997, when it was replaced by Express Mail, which became a separate class of mail after years of experimentation.

Much of the information in this series came from the following two sources. *The Speedy*, Henry M. Gobie, 1976. *U.S. Domestic Postal Rates, 1872-1999*, Beecher and Wawrukiewicz, 2nd Ed. 1999. I hope you have enjoyed learning about the United States Special Delivery service!



E22. 45¢ Special Delivery
Left and right arrows.



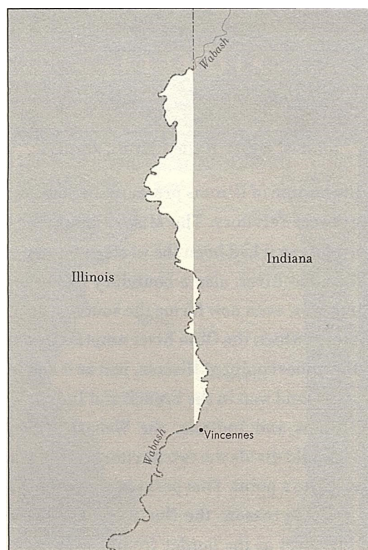
E23. 60¢ Special Delivery
Left and right arrows.

How Illinois Got Its Shape

Since 2018 is the 200th anniversary of Illinois statehood and the USPS is honoring our state, I thought it would be interesting to write about how Illinois got its shape. Information from this article is taken from the book, *How the States Got Their Shapes* by Mark Stein, Smithsonian Books in association with HarperCollins Publishers, 2008.

Illinois was acquired by England after defeating the French in the French and Indian War (1754-1763) as part of the Northwest Territory, and was established in the Northwest Ordinance of 1787.

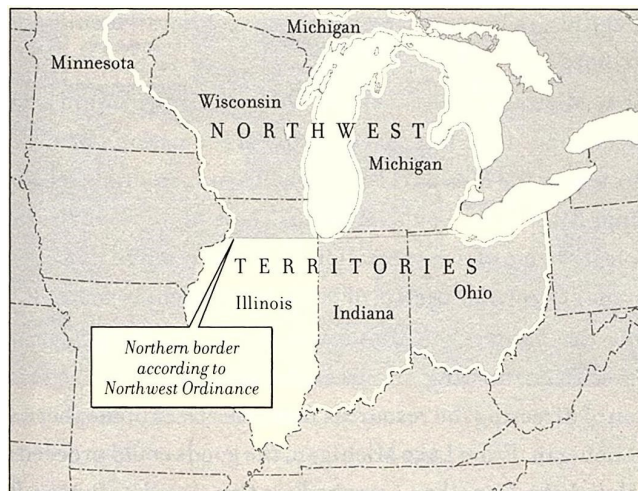
The Northwest Territory was all the land between the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. The Mississippi River forms the western border of the state. The Ohio River is the southern border. The Wabash River looked to be an ideal boundary since it would divide the two territories almost equally along a north-south line. Up to a point. That point is where the Wabash wanders off to the east. For this reason, the Northwest Ordinance called for a straight line to take over the border from Vincennes to Lake Michigan. But Illinois' eastern border continues up the Wabash for more than 40 miles beyond Vincennes before the straight line takes over. See below.



Potential "islands" of jurisdiction in the Illinois/Indiana border.

Had the straight line been located at Vincennes, the meandering Wabash would have crossed it several times, creating "islands" of jurisdiction across the river from their respective states.

Illinois Northern border also departs from that specified in the Northwest Ordinance, only this time not as an act of mutually consenting states. Among the territorial borders described in the Northwest Ordinance was "an east and west line drawn through the southerly bend or extreme of Lake Michigan. The problem with this border was that any state below the line would not have a window on Lake Michigan and the important transportation network provided by the Great lakes.

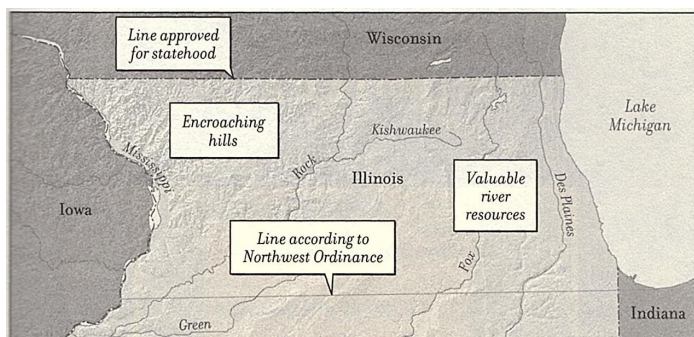


In fairness to Thomas Jefferson, the primary architect of the Northwest Ordinance, in 1787 the Great Lakes would not be considered a major transportation network for another twenty years or so, when the idea of a canal connecting the lakes to the Hudson River (and thus to the Atlantic Ocean) began to take shape.

Consequently, when residents of Illinois decided to seek statehood in 1817, they now knew how critical access to Lake Michigan would be to the economy of the state. Congress proposed locating the northern border at the same latitude as Indiana which had previously been adjusted. The Illinois delegation persisted in requesting its border nearly 60 miles north, and succeeded!

When Illinois was making its bid, Missouri was also becoming a state, but as a slave state. The drift to Civil War was already a concern in 1817. Delegate Nathaniel Pope observed that a state connected to New York, via the Great Lakes and the canal to the Hudson River would afford "additional security to the perpetuity of the Union".

Why did Illinois want to raise the northern border almost 60 miles? Because the canal (the eventual Illinois Canal) needed the land and rivers, Des Plaines, Fox, Kishwaukee and Rock to feed the canal and provide valuable real estate for the venture.



Now you know the full story about how Illinois got its shape!



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

Mister Rogers

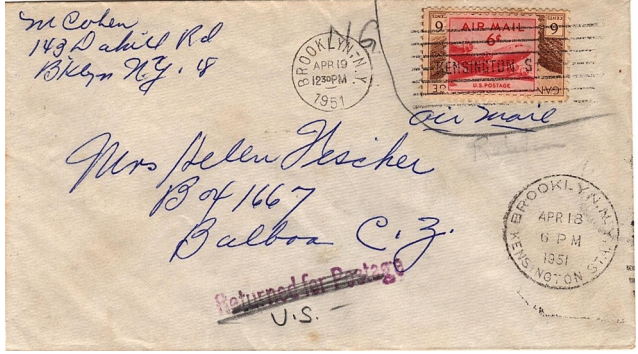
1st Class Forever Rate
March 23—Pittsburg, PA



Fred Rogers (1928–2003) was known as a beloved television neighbor to generations of children. His groundbreaking public television series “Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood” inspired and educated young viewers with warmth, sensitivity and honesty. Filmed in Pittsburgh and first distributed nationally in 1968 by a predecessor of the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), the program was innovative and unlike anything on television for children at that time.

Each episode of “Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood” began with its host welcoming the audience into his television house. While singing “Won’t You Be My Neighbor?” Rogers always put on his trademark cardigan, changed into sneakers and then introduced the day’s topic. He discussed many of the experiences of growing up, delicately covering everything from sharing and friendship to difficult subjects like anger, fear, divorce and death. The stamp also pictures King Friday XIII, a Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood puppet character hailing from “The Neighborhood of Make-Believe.”

Fun Covers with Dual Country Stamp Usages



Mailed June 7, 1950 from Italy to Roswell, NM. Forwarded to Paris France June 15 with additional 15¢ US Postage, 2-6¢ DC-4 Skymaster and 3¢ Jefferson,

Mailed from Brooklyn, NY April 18, 1951 with Canal Zone 6¢ airmail stamp. Penciled N.G. (No Good) and line around stamp. Marked “Returned for Postage” U.S. added! 6¢ DC-4 Skymaster added over C.Z. stamp and then sent to Balboa, C.Z. Possessions stamps not valid in US mail since 1904.

ROCKFORD 2018 STAMP SHOW DEALERS

Below is the list of dealers for 2018. Many returning and three new dealers, one only Sunday. 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
- Croaker’s Collectibles**
- Marty Croak (Sun. Only)**
McFarland, WI
608-838-1553

- 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 (Sat. Only)**
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.

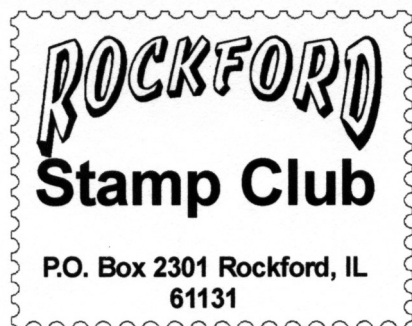
The 2018 Club Officers

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



March Meetings

Wednesday, Mar 7 and Tuesday Mar 20

Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo

March 10-11

Volunteer to help out and have even more fun at the show!