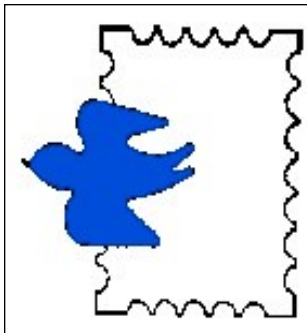


ROCKFORD STAMP NOTES

ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

ESTABLISHED AUGUST 21, 1930 - APS CHAPTER #735
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March 2023

Volume 27 - Number 3

Monthly meeting/auction at Ken-Rock Community Center, 625 Adams St., Rockford, IL

Wednesday, March 1

5:30 pm - Buy, sell and trade
View auction lots
7:00 pm - Meeting & auction

Tuesday, March 21

9:00 am - Buy, Sell and trade
View auction lots
10:00 am - Auction

Wednesday, February 1st: 14 members and one guest driver.

Show report. We are planning to have a Pizza & Pasta party at Forest Hills for the banquet this year. Please check at the Wednesday night meeting to put your name on the list to attend.

President Schmitt mentioned that he now has stamp collecting clerks at the Harrison Ave PO. One even gave him a want list! A discussion about having presentations at the meeting in addition to the auction was also raised. A presentation of 15-20 minutes would be ideal. Let Frank know if you are interested.

Show & Tell.....

1. **Steve Johnson** - showed some very interesting material from the Kenosha & Rockford Bond Company from 1857 including a stock certificate.
2. **Steve Capone** - shared a December 1966 APO (Army Post Office) cover from Viet Nam.
3. **Frank Schmitt** - had a post card with REAL women's hair! Kind of creepy!
4. **Hank Fox** - thought outside the box and showed a DIME. I don't remember why!!

Tuesday mornings continue to be a fun time and great auction! They are always MANY lots to bid on to add to your collection. YOU should bring some lots to sell off your duplicate or unneeded material (nothing is unwanted!) and acquire some great new items.

Member Health and Welfare

Gerry Van Alstyne should have had more surgery. We hope you are doing better Gerry. Get well soon!



Upcoming Stamp Shows

Fri-Sat Mar 3-4 MSDA Joliet/Will County
Joliet, IL Messiah Lutheran Church, 40 S Houbolt Ave.
Midwest Stamp Dealers Assn. Hours: **FRIDAY** 10-5,
Sat 10-4. Bourse only. Free admission.

Sat-Sun Mar 11-12 Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo
Loves Park, IL Forest Hills Lodge, 1601 West Lane Rd.
(Hyw 173). Hours Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4. See page 5.

Sat Mar 18 Baypex '23
Green Bay, WI. Green Bay Philatelic Society, St. Matthew Catholic Church, 2575 S. Webster Ave. (parking in rear). Hours 9-4. Bourse only. Free admission.

Fri-Sat Mar 31 Apr 1 MSDA Madison
Madison, WI Double Tree Madison East, 4402 Washington Ave. Midwest Stamp Dealers Assn. Hours: **FRI-DAY** 10-5, Sat 10-4. Bourse only. Free admission.

Ask other members if you are interested in going to a show. Ride sharing can be a big savings and fun!

Show Time - Show Time- Show Time Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo

See page 5 for all the details!

Welcome New Member

**Steve Johnson
Rockford**

Please welcome Steve back to the club after a couple years of health issues and then the Covid-19 lockdown. Make sure to introduce, or re-introduce, yourself and make a new or friend or regain an old one!



Toni Morrison
First Class Forever (63c)
 Pane of 20
 Mar 7 – Princeton, NJ

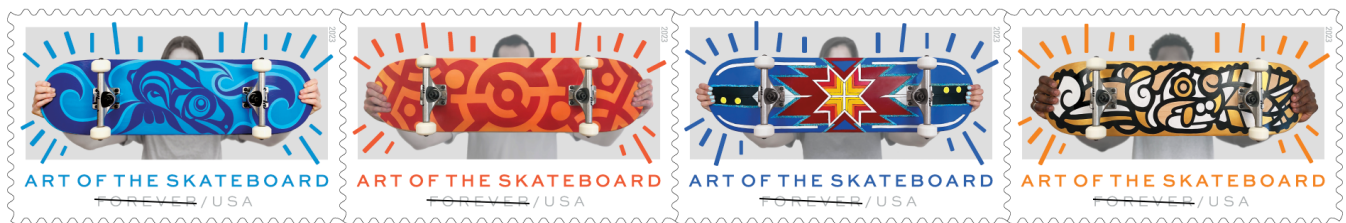
Author Toni Morrison (1931-2019) is honored in this stamp issuance. Her artfully crafted novels explored the diverse voices and multifaceted experiences of African Americans. Known for such books as "The Bluest Eye," "Song of Solomon" and "Beloved," Morrison was the rare author who achieved both bestseller status and critical success. In 1993, she made history as the first African American woman to win the Nobel Prize for Literature. The stamp features a photograph of Morrison taken in 2000. Art director Ethel Kessler designed the stamp with photography by Deborah Feingold.

From 1989 until her retirement in 2006, Morrison held the Robert F. Goheen Chair in the Humanities at Princeton University. She conceived and developed the Princeton Atelier, a program that brings together students with writers and performing artists. Together the students and the artists produce works of art that are presented to the public after a semester of collaboration.



Railroad Stations
First Class Forever (63c)
 Pane of 20 (Five designs)
 Mar 9 – Cincinnati, OH

Noteworthy railroad stations began brightening the American landscape by the 1870s and, although many were torn down once they had outlived their original purpose, hundreds survived. This issuance of 20 stamps features five architectural gems that continue to play important roles in their communities: **Point of Rocks Station in Maryland**; **Main Street Station in Richmond, VA**; **Santa Fe Station in San Bernardino, CA**; **Tamaqua Station in Pennsylvania**; and **Union Terminal in Cincinnati, OH**. Passenger trains stop at all of them except Tamaqua. Derry Noyes served as art director. Down the Street Designs created the digital illustrations and typography.



Art of the Skateboard
First Class Forever (63c)
 Pane of 20 (Four designs)
 Mar 24 – Phoenix, AZ

These four stamps celebrate the Art of the Skateboard with vibrant designs that capture skateboarding's excitement. Art director Antonio Alcalá designed the stamp issuance using photographs of skateboards created by Crystal Worl, an Alaskan whose blue and indigo salmon formline design expresses her Tlingit/Athabaskan heritage; William James Taylor Jr. of Virginia, who created an energetic red and orange graphic abstraction; Colombian-born, Washington, D.C. muralist MazPaz (Federico Frum), who painted a stylized jaguar; and Di'Orr Greenwood of Arizona who represents her Navajo culture with a turquoise-inlaid skateboard that features eagle feathers and colors of the rising or setting sun. Di'Orr Greenwood's design is shown to the left (presumably being held by Di'Orr.)



President's Corner - Frank Schmitt



Greetings fellow Rockford Stamp Club members:

The excitement is in the air, Rockford Expo 2-3-4 is right around the corner and hopefully we will all be there. This show will be a bit bittersweet. As many of you know, our long-time venue Forest Hills Lodge, since 1992, has been sold and will be permanently closing in June of this year. This is your last chance to attend a great Rockford Stamp Club Show at this location, so don't miss out, come and say hi to our group of loyal dealers and welcome our new dealers. **Also, if you haven't signed up to help at the show, please do so at the March meeting.**

Obviously, with the loss of our venue we face several new challenges. We must, of course, find a new venue for our 2024 show and beyond. It must meet our space needs, be available on a weekend, and fall within our budget parameters. We also hope to find a place easily accessible from the I-90 corridor as we have many collectors from the Chicago area and of course Wisconsin. If you have any ideas, please share them at the meeting and we can take it into consideration.

How are those exhibits coming along? With all of the options available hopefully you can participate in at least the non-competitive option. Put the finishing touches on your exhibit and bring it to the meeting and let Tim look at it and make any last-minute recommendations. Try it, you may like it.

This is also a good time to sell off your duplicates or accumulations that no longer fit into your collection needs by placing them in our silent auction at the show. If you need a silent auction packet you may pick one up at the March meeting or give me a call. Keep in mind there is a minimum \$5.00 starting bid and 10% fee of all sales to the club. Be sure and check out the auction even if you aren't selling. Many of our dealer's place lots in the auction and there are some very nice offerings.

Join us for our meeting March 1st, bring a friend, bring a show and tell item or two, bring auction lots, and enjoy an evening sharing the hobby. As always, articles for this newsletter are always welcomed. Share a favorite stamp or collecting experience.

Stay well, stay safe, and happy collecting.

Huguenot-Walloon Tercentenary Issue - May 1, 1924 by Tim Wait

Issued to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the settling of the Walloons (1624) and in honor of the Huguenots, The stamps paid the post card/third class advertising rate of 1¢, the letter rate of 2¢, and the International letter rate of 5¢.

The Huguenots were French Protestants, followers of the Protestant reformer John Calvin. They founded the Presbyterian church in France in 1559. In 1715 Louis the XIV ended all exercise of the Protestant religion in France. They fled to England, Prussia and Holland, and eventually America.

Walloons was a term given to an ethnic group in northern France and southern Belgium who spoke French. Many Calvinists Walloons fled France and Belgium to Holland and then America.



Beautiful hand painted "add-on" scene depicting the 1562 arrival of the French Huguenots near what is now Port Royal, SC. The 5¢ stamp depicts a monument erected to commemorate their unsuccessful colony. By Rosa C. Balenzano 1983.

The Walloons landed in the Hudson River Valley and eventually settled near what is now Albany, NY. This was the beginning of the reformed church in America.



A set of photo models of the stamps with more squared off frames. The 5¢ stamp shows the De Bry print of the column erected in 1564 in FL. The finished stamp showed a less cluttered depiction.

Tim will have his cover collection at the Wednesday meeting

Promoting the Hobby - by Frank Schmitt

Within the hobby of stamp collecting or philately, as some prefer, there is much discussion about the future of the hobby, how to promote the hobby, and how to “recruit” new collectors.

As many of you know I use a lot of discount postage on not only my everyday mail but on larger envelopes and packages. In doing so, many must be presented to a window clerk for acceptance. I frequent the Rockford Main Post Office and while processing my packages and verifying the amount of postage the window clerks started to spend time looking at the stamps and asking questions. Some of them mentioned what their favorite stamp/stamps were on the package, and I would make a mental note of it. I would then check to see if I had more of that stamp and if so present one to the clerk the next trip.

Over time this led to a dialogue about stamps. On one such visit they told me about a lady turning in a pane of counterfeit stamps and they went and retrieved the pane to let me look at it. This resulted in a discussion of how to determine if a stamp is counterfeit and I mentioned tagging. This was unknown to them, so on another visit I took my UV light and various stamps to show them different types of tagging and explaining why the stamps were tagged. They had no knowledge of this and were very interested.

Over the past year this situation has evolved a bit. Whenever I take any mail to a window clerk the other clerks’ shout, “don’t put that back until we get a chance to look at the stamps”. A couple of weeks ago when I went in, there was a long line, but immediately one of the clerks called out to me saying she had a note for me and needed to talk to me before I left. I was surprised to be presented with a want list of stamps from the last parcels I shipped. A statement was made, “since you got me started collecting, I was wondering if you had any more of these?”. She also stated she goes home and researches the stamps and shares the stamps with her family.

There are now five window clerks involved in this interaction. Are they collectors or will they become collectors? Who knows? But with very little value of stamps involved and the investment of a little bit of time the appetites have been whet. Albeit, that currently I would consider the interest is mostly topical, it’s a start.

Oftentimes while standing in line, I get many questions from other customers about “all those stamps” on the package and they ask to look at them. It at least sparks an interest, however fleeting it may be, it sparks an interest and sometimes “oh, I remember those stamps from when I was a kid” accompanied by a big smile. It may even cause someone to pull out a childhood collection and take another look.

As a bonus, I always get greeted with a big smile from the window clerks and get the absolute best service. How do you beat that? What’s your story? How do you promote the hobby? Won’t you share?

Sharing Your Collecting - by Tim Wait

What do YOU collect?

I’ve asked this question before to our members and I usually get a few responses. Sometimes we get to hear from a member about his or her interests in the newsletter, but for many of you, your collecting is a mystery. I see what many of you buy in the auction and have some ideas but many buy a wide variety of stamps and you never can tell!

As you all know, I collect a WIDE variety of philatelic items. MANY of these topics have been depicted in *Rockford Stamp Notes* over the 14 or so years that I have been editor. I’ve collected some things, like Belgium Air Mail, for over 55 years! Some like the Huguenot-Walloon featured on page three for just 4-5 years.

I find collecting a wide variety means that I usually find something new at a stamp show or on eBay or Del Campe (a European site like eBay).

Some of my collections are for fun, Illinois First Flight covers, and many I collect to form exhibits, like my US Civil War Fiscal History. Some can be collected fairly inexpensively and others can “break the bank”, with items way out of reach financially.

I don’t let this stop me. I know there will always be holes in the album pages and examples of covers or revenue documents I will never acquire. You make the rules of how and what you collect so enjoy it any way you can. But.....

Now, is the time for you to speak up and share what you collect and how you got interested in that country, issue or topic!

I know that I have repeated some of the things I explore in the newsletter but I try to make them interesting and accessible to all.

Why not let me help YOU tell your story? See me at a Wednesday meeting, send me an email or just call me to discuss what you collect and how we can tell your story of how and why you collect it.

Perhaps we could turn it into a 10-15 minute presentation to share with the members.

Ours is a Great hobby, filled with an endless variety of stamps and other philatelic objects to collect and enjoy.

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

Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo *** March 11-12, 2023

Show details and important information.

Where: Forest Hills Lodge, 1601 West Lane Rd (Hwy 173), Loves Park.

Hours: Saturday 10-5 (Set up starting at 8am)
Sunday 10-4 (Take down exhibits 3pm)

Volunteer: We can always use volunteers to set up exhibit frames and put in the exhibits. Last show we really needed more help with takedown so please consider staying to help. **We also need help welcoming guests at the front desk. Sign up sheets at meetings before show.**

Banquet: The Banquet this year will be a Pizza and Pasta Party at Forest Hills Lodge, See Tammy at the Wednesday meeting or at the show to reserve a spot. Cost will be minimal, just enough to acquire the food.

Exhibiting: We will be having THREE opportunities to exhibit at the 2023 show!

A) 2-3-4 frame exhibits—**CLOSED.**

B) single frame (16 pages) club frames that will be awarded first, second and third awards. **LAST CHANCE WEDNESDAY NIGHT. See Tim.**

C) **NEW - 4 PAGE member showcase. This is meant to be a fun way to show a mini-exhibit. No judging, no pressure, just show off something special.** See Tim with any questions. 815-670-5869 or t.wait@comcast.net

Post Office: Amy from the Elkhorn Post Office will be at the show again this year with a good selection of stamps. Be sure to stock up!



The ants go marching
one by one,
hurrah, hurrah
.....
Yikes, look out!



Dues Notice

Due to continued increases in ink, paper and postage over the last year, it was approved by the membership to raise dues to \$15 for a mailed newsletter and \$8 for an emailed newsletter. This is the first increase we have had in a long time and it was necessary to cover just the cost of the newsletter.

We hope you can come to a meeting and pay in person, but since attendance has been so much lower we are giving you notice here and you can send your checks to:

Rockford Stamp Club ** PO Box 242 ** Belvidere, IL 61008-0242

ROCKFORD 2-3-4 2023 Dealers

The below dealers should all be attending the 2023 show. We continue to look for new dealers. Make sure to let them know if you are looking for something specific so they can be sure to bring it to the show! **Remember to support our dealers throughout the year for all your philatelic needs.**

Terry Kurzinski
Cherry Valley, IL
815-262-9117

David Alex, Sat. Only
Glenview, IL
847-291-7826

WYstamps.com
Wayne Youngblood
Prairie Du Sac, WI
608-370-9098

Steve Capone
Rockford, IL
815-394-0537

Bardo Stamps
Jim Bardo
Buffalo Grove, IL
847-634-2676

W. H. Burdick
Mtn. Home, AR
870-425-7799

Fox River Stamps
Michael Mules
Salem, WI
414-234-9867

Larry's Stamps
Plover, WI
715-341-6767

J Freedom Stamps
Jack Freedom
LaGrange, IL
773-370-9659

Double J Stamps
Jeff
Arlington Heights, IL
847-843-8700

Riverbank Treasurers
Jerry Wessler
New Lisbon, WI
608-515-6150

Buy the Stamp
Rick Hyams
Arlington Heights, IL
847-414-5408

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, 625 Adams 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.

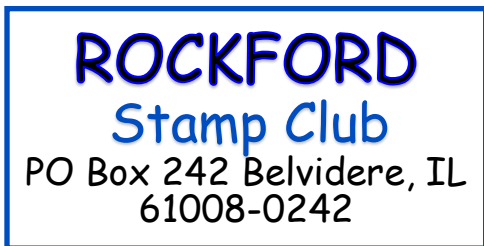
The 2022-2023 Club Officers

President.....Frank Schmitt
815-226-4391
Vice-President.....Ward Miller
Secretary.....Tammy Copus
Treasurer.....Hank Fox
Director.....Tim Copus
Director.....Steve Capone
Director.....Ted Gifford
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



We've been missing many of you!
Wednesday, February 1 at 5:30/7pm
Tuesday, February 21 at 9/10am
Our NEW location is 625 Adams St.