

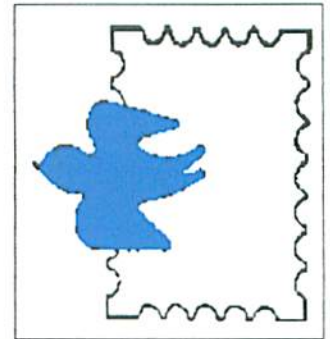
# ROCKFORD STAMP NOTES

## ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

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

May 2017

Volume 21 - Number 5



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

### Wednesday, May 3, 2017

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

### Tuesday, May 16, 2017

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

**1st Wednesday Update:** At the Wednesday April 5th meeting we had a lite showing with only 20 members. It was a cold rainy night so maybe some of you decided not to go out? Due to the smaller attendance and the absence of some of our big auction lot contributors, we only had 39 lots! The lowest total in some time. We still had some spirited bidding and we finished early and had more time to continue discussing philately at McDonalds.

**Hank Fox** was not in attendance so we didn't have a raffle box. **Jan** is still hanging on but rapidly declining. Please give you thoughts and prayers to Hank & Jan.

Some talk about a possible meeting place. See the President's Corner on page three for an update.

**Tim Wait**, Show Chairman, gave a report on the VERY successful Inaugural Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo. The show is considered one of our best in years! **All the volunteers** received a Rockford Stamp Club key chain as a gift. Let me know if you volunteered and didn't get one last Wednesday.

### Show and Tell -

1. Stanley Campbell - 100th anniversary of the US entry into WWI post card items sold to GI's to mail.
2. Ruth Young - Postcards of Rockford and Illinois.
3. Steve Capone - McKeels article, Exhibiting Topicals by John Lesak.
4. Hank Fox (By Tim W.) - 1937 US POD book.

### Member Profiles

It's been a while since I asked for members to write a brief profile to share in the newsletter. How did you get started collecting? What do you collect? How do you acquire stamps or covers for your collection?

We had a few stories but it would be nice if some of you shared your story with the club. It doesn't have to be very long, just share what you would like. Let me know if you want help writing something. Tim

**3rd Tuesday Update:** The Tuesday April 18th meeting had a good crowd with 20 in attendance, the same as Wednesday! 124 auction lots raising \$43.40. **Lorne Laidlaw** donated some more postage for the newsletter. Thank you Lorne.

### Rockford Show Cover 2017



Commemorating JFK's 100th Birth Anniversary.



### Upcoming Area Stamp Shows

#### Sat-Sun May 6-7 - WISCOPEX '17

Stevens Point, WI. Holiday Inn Stevens Point, 1001 Amber Ave. Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4. Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs. 15 dealers, exhibits, free admission.

#### Fri-Sun May 19-21 - COMPEX 2017

Arlington Heights, IL. Forest View Educational Center, 2121 S. Goebbert Rd. Hours Fri-Sat 10-6, Sun 10-3. 30 dealers, over 150 exhibits, seminars, free admission.

Join the fun, free rides to stamp shows available!



# USPS 2017 New Issues

## Global International

\$1.15 One Ounce International Rate  
April 28—San Francisco, CA



This issue snuck out in late April with little notice.

This new Green Succulent Forever international rate stamp offers a single price for any First-Class Mail International 1-ounce letter or postcard to any country in the world where First Class service is available. The stamp features a photograph of an Echeveria, a large flowering plant that is native to the Americas. The art director was William J. Gicker. Greg Breeding designed the stamp using an existing photograph by Erika Kirkpatrick.

## Celebration Boutonniere

1st Class Forever Rate  
May 2—St. Louis, MO



This First Class Forever Boutonniere stamp and the Corsage two ounce stamp can be used individually or as companions for celebration announcements. As with the USPS Wedding stamps, the Boutonniere stamp can be affixed to response mailers that would be enclosed in invitations within envelopes using the Corsage stamp. They can also be used individually, the Boutonniere stamp on greeting cards and the Corsage stamp on mailings such as overweight cards or bearing small enclosures.

## Celebration Corsage

Two Ounce Rate (70c)  
May 2—St. Louis, MO



The stamp features an arrangement of ranunculus, with floral accents of succulents, Astrantia, Berzelia, and clubmoss greenery.

Similar to Wedding two ounce stamps, but intended for any occasion, this new two ounce stamp can accommodate RSVP replies, heavy enclosures, oversize greeting cards and mailings such as small gifts that require extra postage. The Celebration Corsage is similar in design theme to the Celebration Boutonniere Forever stamp, and the two form a natural pair. The stamp art features a photograph of an arrangement of Ranunculus with accents of Hypericum Berry, Astrantia, and Seed Eucalyptus.

A set of stamps similar to these has been issued frequently in recent years. The biggest complaint couples have is that they come out too late to use on their invitations!

The USPS should consider issuing these earlier in March or April for the blissfully unaware couples!

The corsage was arranged by floral designer Carol Caggiano and photographed by Renée Comet.

## Strawberries

3c Make Up Stamp  
May 5—Acton, MA



The latest addition to the Postal Services Fruits definitive series is a Strawberries 3-cent stamp. The design features an illustration of three ripe, red strawberries surrounded by leaves and hulls adjacent to three smaller, green strawberries in various stages of growth. A small white flower from the strawberry plant completes the picture. Art director Dery Noyes designed this stamp using an existing illustration by John Burgoyne

The USPS has been slowly putting together this "Fruits" definitive series over the last few months including coil rolls of 3,000 and 10,000 and also die cut panes.

In 2013 the USPS issued a set of four apple coil post card stamps. Looks like "Fruits" are a popular topic. I like the clean colorful design.

What do you think about this new definitive series?





## President's Corner

Greetings fellow Rockford Stamp Club members:

Our Wednesday meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup> had a relatively low attendance number, hopefully due to Ash Wednesday and a questionable weather forecast (we did have heat), but our Tuesday auction was business as usual. Thank you to all that make the effort to attend our Wednesday meetings and Tuesday auctions. Again, we had some great show and tell items at our meeting (broadening our knowledge base) and on Tuesday we even had a surprise visit by Santa Claus in the form of a topical collection being assembled by Jim Stadermann. What a fun collection (and work in progress) Jim, thanks for sharing.

For some time, the issue of finding a new location for our meetings has been a matter of discussion. Many members have been involved in searching for a space that would fit our needs and not be cost prohibitive, a huge task to say the least. These efforts have resulted in a potential new meeting location, if desired by the members, which will be discussed at our Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

We could meet at the **Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 2715 S. Mulford Rd.**, (corner of Harrison Ave. & S. Mulford Rd.) **Rockford**. Four officers and/or board members of the club have visited the church and found the areas offered for our meetings to be quite suitable. The space has been offered without a set fee, but a donation is invited. Too good to be true? Possibly! Feel free to drive by and look at the location or look on Google maps. There is plenty of parking, a safe location, and a great facility.

Initial discussions with the church indicated that Wednesday evenings would not be a problem with exception of the Lenten season. Further discussions indicate Wednesday evenings will be more problematic than initially thought. All other nights of the week are available and not currently viewed as a problem. An informal discussion resulted in Tuesday evening looking to be the best alternative if we should, as a club, decide to change our meeting night.

In all fairness, Hank spoke to our contact at KenRock Community Center and the roof is supposed to be repaired in June. The heating system appears to have been repaired.

Please attend the May 3<sup>rd</sup> (Wednesday) meeting prepared to discuss our meeting place and any potential changes to location, day/s, and/or times. We will dedicate an appropriate amount of our meeting time to this subject and hopefully determine a course of action. We are still open to any other options anyone may have to offer, no binding agreements have been made.

Happy collecting!

## USPS 2017 New Issues



### Henry David Thoreau

1st Class Forever Rate  
May 23—Concord, MA

**Henry David Thoreau;** (July 12, 1817 – May 6, 1862) American essayist, poet, philosopher, abolitionist, naturalist, tax resister, development critic, surveyor, and historian. A leading transcendentalist, Thoreau is best known for his book *Walden*, a reflection upon simple living in natural surroundings, and his essay "Civil Disobedience" (originally published as "Resistance to Civil Government"), an argument for disobedience to an unjust state. Thoreau's books, articles, essays, journals, and poetry amount to more than 20 volumes. Among his lasting contributions are his writings on natural history and philosophy, in which he anticipated the methods and findings of ecology and environmental history, two sources of modern-day environmentalism. His literary style interweaves close observation of nature, personal experience, pointed rhetoric, symbolic meanings, and historical lore, while displaying a poetic sensibility, philosophical austerity, and Yankee attention to practical detail.

He was a lifelong abolitionist, delivering lectures that attacked the Fugitive Slave Law while praising the writings of Wendell Phillips and defending the abolitionist John Brown. Thoreau's philosophy of civil disobedience later influenced the political thoughts and actions of such notable figures as Leo Tolstoy, Mahatma Gandhi, and Martin Luther King Jr. Thoreau is sometimes referred to as an anarchist. Though "Civil Disobedience" seems to call for improving rather than abolishing government - "I ask for, not at once no government, but *at once* a better government" - the direction of this improvement points toward anarchism: "That government is best which governs not at all; and when men are prepared for it, that will be the kind of government which they will have." Source: Wikipedia.



## RECENT ACQUISITIONS (or Neat Stuff I Really Like) By Tim Wait



I collect covers sent Airmail and Special Delivery. They must have the appropriate Airmail and Special Delivery stamps to get into my collection. This letter from November 1962 is covered in interesting markings and stamps!

The airmail rate was increased from 6c to 7c August 1, 1958. The Special Delivery rate was increased from 20c to 30c July 1, 1957. Charles Hebb of Medina, Ohio was really behind the times in knowing his airmail postage and special delivery rates. Maybe he didn't send this type of mail very often and just found airmail and special delivery stamps and thought he was good to go!

This story gets more interesting after the letter was mailed. The Cleveland PO noticed that the letter was short paid 1c for airmail and 10c for special delivery. They also assessed 7c for an additional ounce of mail and marked the letter 18c due. Upon arrival at Cleveland, the address of Intrusion—Prepakt, Incorporated had changed to a PO box which was now in Cleveland Zone 1 instead of the street address in Zone 14. These "Zones" were the precursor of the USPOD Five digit Zip Code, which was introduced July 1, 1963.

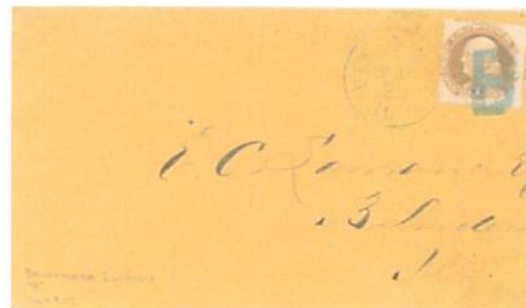
Here's where this letter gets really fun. One 10c and two 4c stamps were applied to indicate payment of the 18c postage due. At some point, maybe when the letter was picked up at the PO Box, it was determined that the letter was not over one ounce and should only be 11c due and marked "Postage Due 11 Cents". The 18c in postage due stamps were marked "VOIDED" and two 5c and one 1c postage due stamp were applied to show the correct payment of 11c due.

A last observation was that this letter was to be handled Special Delivery that meant upon arrival it was to be rushed out to the address. The letter was marked "Fee Claimed at Office of First Address". Since the address had changed to a PO Box, the mail sorters just had to put in into the PO Box to satisfy the Special Delivery request that they even charged an extra 10c postage due for. What a fun cover!

### The Belvidere B



Close up of the Belvidere B cancel and the full cover.



This cover is under the Hopefully to be a Recent Acquisition. It is still active on eBay!

Rockford had the famous Blue Bird cancel used in 1869 and 1870. Belvidere had its own Blue Bird cancel but that is an extremely elusive cancel with only one cover in existence that I am aware of. Belvidere's second most famous, and much more available fancy cancel, is the thick letter B cancel used in late 1869 and early 1870. I have a few examples of this cancel on the 3c 1869 Locomotive issue for the 1st class letter rate but this is the first 1c drop letter rate letter I have seen. The one cent 1869 stamp catalogs \$270 on cover. With a fancy cancel it raises the value.

We'll have to see how dearly I have to pay for this cover!



# The Rockford Stamp Club



American Philatelic Society Chapter # 735

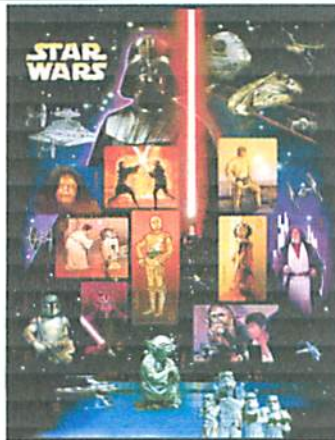
**WEB SITE UPDATE** - We are looking to get more information on the Website. Please log on and take a look. Contact Webmaster, Ted Gifford with any comments or bring it up at a meeting.



### Cover Sleuthing!

Thomas Bell  
Winnebago County Clerk  
1877 to 1886

This Rockford postmark was in use for many years. It did not have the year date so it is hard to determine the year. In "Past and Present of Winnebago County" Thomas was listed as county clerk from 1877 to 1886. The 1st class letter rate was decreased to two cents on October 1, 1883. Therefore this cover would date from 1877 to 1883!



Star Wars Stamps  
41c  
Issued May 2007  
30th Anniversary

Who can forget the excitement of the 30th anniversary of Star Wars and the extraordinary souvenir sheet of 15 Star Wars characters issued by the USPS?

And, we the public got to vote for our favorite character and Yoda, Jedi Master won and had a sheet of his own stamps issued later that year.

2017 is the 40th anniversary, but alas no new Star Wars stamps are being issued by the USPS. However, other opportunistic countries might try to satisfy the demand!

#### MEMBER AD

**For Sale:** World Wide off paper 4oz special \$6.95. Contact DR Arnquist 815-226-9020.

#### MEMBER AD

**Wanted:** Old letters from Boone & Winnebago County, IL. Contact Tim Wait at 815-670-5869 or email t.wait@comcast.net.

#### NEW MEMBER AD

**Wanted:** FDC-Doris Gold Cachet Unaddressed and signed by Doris Gold. Cash or trade. Contact Hank Fox at one of the meetings.

## ROCKFORD 2017 STAMP SHOW DEALERS

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



# 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.

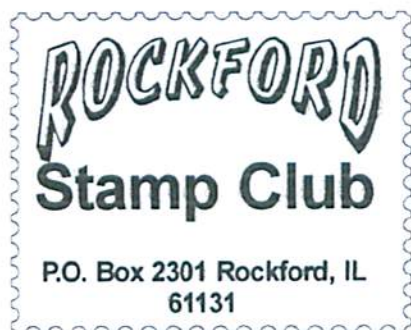
## The 2017 Club Officers

President.....Frank Schmitt  
815-226-4391  
Vice-President.....Ward Miller  
Secretary.....Tammy Copus  
Treasurer.....Hank Fox  
815-397-0573  
Director.....Matt Mace  
Director.....Terry Kurzinski  
Director.....Steve Capone  
Webmaster.....Ted Gifford  
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



## May Meetings

Wednesday, May 3 and Tuesday May 16

At the Wednesday meeting, be the first to tell me "Revenues are Great" and win a prize!