

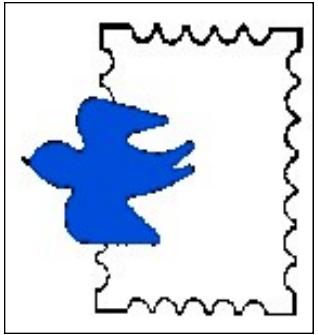
ROCKFORD STAMP NOTES

ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

ESTABLISHED AUGUST 21, 1930 - APS CHAPTER #735
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September 2020

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Monthly meetings/auction at **To Be Determined**

Wednesday, September 16th

7:00 pm - ZOOM Meeting

Tuesday, CANCELED

9:30 am - Buy, Sell and trade

Virtual Meeting Wednesday, September 16th

Due to the Covid-19 situation we are not ready to have in person meetings yet. We have scheduled a Virtual meeting for Wednesday, September 16th at 7:00PM. You do not need to have a camera on your computer to participate but you must have a microphone. Most all laptops have microphones built-in, but make sure the sound is turned up.

To participate in the meeting you will need to send an email to Frank Schmitt at pre-vent1@comcast.net no later than Tuesday, September 15th.

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 don't know, click on the link a few minutes early and it will instruct you on how to load ZOOM and then take you to the meeting.

We will give this a try and see how many members attend. If you have any questions about ZOOM, please contact Frank at 815-226-4391.

Our agenda will include a discussion of members concerns and how we can proceed having meetings, and auctions!, safely in the future. After this discussion, time permitting as we will only have 40 minutes for the call, we can all catchup a little bit too.

St. Louis Stamp Expo - Held Aug 14-16 Was Held!

St. Louis held it's rescheduled show with about 1/2 the dealers, 1/2 the exhibits and a smaller attendance. Before entering EVERYONE had their temperatures taken, had to wear a mask, and signed a waiver confirming they did not have a list of Covid-19 symptoms and that they would not hold the show liable if they contacted Covid-19 during the show. Security confirmed that everyone had a temperature sticker for the day before entry.

Can the US Postal Service be Saved?

Nancy Pelosi, D-CA., Speaker of the House of Representatives summoned House members to return to Washington, D.C. on Aug. 16 in response to the recent actions taken by Postmaster General Louis DeJoy who was appointed by President Trump and confirmed by the USPS board of Governors on May 6th, assuming office June 16th. The USPS has been in the national news ever since!

Democratic lawmakers are accusing Postmaster DeJoy's actions to cut the Postal Service's ever-growing deficit a White House inspired scheme to prevent the Postal Service from delivering the expected millions of vote-by-mail ballots in the November 3 presidential election.

Trump has been outspoken in his belief that massive numbers of mail-in ballots will be fraudulently cast this fall. DeJoy, as Pelosi put it, is "one of the top Trump megadonors", and "a complicit crony" who has ordered changes that have already begun to delay mail.

In an effort to reduce the concerns, DeJoy announced he is halting some of the actions that Congressional critics fear could cause issues with mail-in votes.

DeJoy has since promised that the Postal Service will easily handle the expected crush of mail-in ballots.

Now we have protests, right here in Rockford on Labor Day, trying to "Save the Postal Service".

How much more "fun" can we expect?



Upcoming Area Stamp Shows

Looks like almost all shows are canceled through the end of 2020! Check APS website for future shows at www.stamps.org.

The USPS has been reacting to the Covid-19 crisis and most First Day ceremonies have been canceled. Go to www.usps.gov to get the latest information about stamp releases.



**Mayflower in
Plymouth Harbor**
First Class Forever
Pane of 20
Sep 17—Plymouth, MA

With this commemorative stamp, the Postal Service marks the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the Mayflower in Plymouth Harbor. The stamp's image is based on artwork of watercolor, acrylic and gouache, a method of painting that uses opaque pigments ground in water and thickened to a glue-like consistency. The painting was digitally refined to convey a scene of desolate beauty at the end of the Pilgrims' long journey to an unfamiliar world. Art director Greg Breeding designed the stamp with original art by Greg Harlin. The floral element is a stylized Hawthorne, a member of the rose family that is sometimes called Mayflower.

Although it was neither the first arrival in the Americas by Europeans nor the first European settlement in America, the 1620 pilgrim landing at Plymouth holds an iconic status in U.S. history. For many it represents the establishment of religious freedom in the New World, as the Pilgrims sought to escape the persecution they suffered in England because of their choice to separate from the Church of England.

It is also symbolic of the popular American Thanksgiving holiday, which recalls the 1621 harvest shared by the colonists and the Wampanoag people native to the region.



Holiday Delights
Forever Rate
Double Sided Pane of 20
Sep 24— Frankenmuth, MI

Celebrate the holidays with Holiday Delights. Inspired by folk art but with a modern graphic vibe, these charming stamps will add a touch of whimsy to your holiday mailings.

With a traditional palette of red, green and white, illustrator Kirsten Ulve channeled her love of Christmas, vintage ornaments and Scandinavian folk art to create unique digital illustrations of four holiday icons: a prancing reindeer with antlers; an ornament tied with a bow and ready to hang; a tree topped with a star; and a stocking holding a teddy bear and a sprig of holly.

Art director Antonio Alcalá designed the stamps.

In recent years the USPS has not issued all types of Holiday stamps. Next month the USPS will issue stamps for **Kwanzaa**, **Hanukkah** and **Christmas**: Our Lady of Guapulo.

Kwanzaa is an annual celebration of African-American culture held from December 26 to January 1, culminating in gift-giving and a feast of faith, called Karamu Ya Imani. It was created by Maulana Karenga and first celebrated in 1966.

Hanukkah is a Jewish festival commemorating the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem at the time of the Maccabean Revolt against the Seleucid Empire. It is also known as the **Festival of Lights**. Hanukkah is observed for eight nights and day.

Christmas is an annual festival commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ, observed primarily on December 25 as a religious and cultural celebration among billions of people around the world.



Above is the USPS Digital Color Postmark for the Holiday Delight stamp issue.

Welcome to the Rockford Illinois Stamp Club Website

www.rockfordstampclub.com

WEB SITE UPDATE - See our website for up-to-date information about meetings and auctions. **Please let us hear your comments. Tim & Frank - webmasters.**

President's Corner - Frank Schmitt

Greetings fellow Rockford Stamp Club members:

Unfortunately, it has been a longtime since I have last used that salutation, far too long. I truly hope that this finds all our members well during this time of crisis with the COVID-19 virus.

I was hoping to be able to share the good news that we would be able to return to our normal meeting schedule at this time, but it appears to be a little premature for that yet. Just when things begin to look positive there seems to always be an uptick in cases and words of caution from the healthcare officials.

A few of us have visited the Ken-Rock facility and they are starting to return to somewhat normal operations and are eager for us to return. We just need to ensure the safety of our club members is at the forefront of everyone's interest. It appears that the new location will fit our needs and we will pretty much be separated from most other activities. If the facility is busy, parking could be somewhat of an issue. We have spent some time looking for alternate locations, but most are not even slightly interested in discussing any such meetings at this time due to the current restrictions and conditions. It is still all kind of a wait and see situation.

On the other side of this, in speaking with several members there seems to be a lot of activity going on in a one-on-one format, buying/selling, trading, and research. Some is face-to-face, (facemasks and social distancing, of course) and some via social media. It is good to know that there is still activity among the club members. It sounds as if a HUGE amount of auction material has been developed and we should experience some super-sized, and hopefully, active auctions. There is also a lot of cataloging of stamps going on, if you don't believe try and check out a 2020 Scott's catalog at North Suburban Library. A great number of stamps are also finding their way into their appropriate places in albums and many "wants" being identified.

We are truly fortunate in this hobby because we all can still stay busy with the many aspects of collecting. We just can't meet in groups and at shows and share our passion and our treasures as easily. We shall again, someday.

We hope to meet again before the end of the year if all goes well. We are constantly assessing the situation and looking for that level of comfort that will allow us to resume a somewhat normal meeting and auction. We must remember that some restrictions will most likely remain, and we will have to follow them judiciously to meet in safety.

Until then, happy collecting. Stay safe, stay well.

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 Pfol's 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

Pfol's 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.

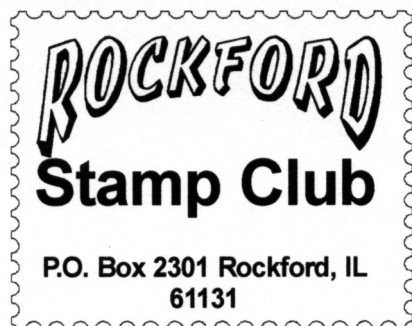
The 2020-2021 Club Officers

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!

We are however resuming monthly newsletters to keep in contact with our members and pass on philatelic news.

ZOOM online meeting planed for Wednesday, September 16th! See inside on page one for details.