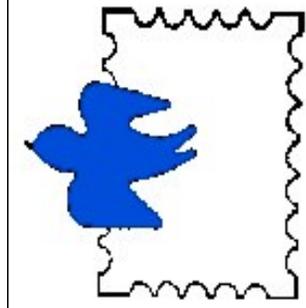


ROCKFORD STAMP NOTES

ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

ESTABLISHED AUGUST 21, 1930 - APS CHAPTER #735
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May 2025

Volume 29 - Number 5

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

Wednesday, May 7

5:30 pm - Buy, sell and trade

View auction lots

7:00 pm - Meeting & auction

Tuesday, May 20

9:00 am - Buy, Sell and trade

View auction lots

10:00 am - Auction

Wednesday, Apr 2nd:

We had a recent record high of 15 members and one guest at the meeting! More lots too. **Let's keep attendance increasing and bring more lots to sell.**

Treasurer's Report - now that everything has settled from the show we have a balance of \$4,084 in checking and cash. Last year at this time we had \$3,302. This is an increase of \$672. With a show profit of \$790 adding to our balance, we exceeded our expenses by about \$118 (\$790-\$672) over the year. This can be attributed to fewer auction lots and the lack of mystery boxes due to the low attendance and not enough ticket buyers.

We had a show report and all facets of the show went well. Great attendance with about 125 members and guests. Most of the dealers had good/great business. The banquet was more enjoyable with round banquet tables in a private room. Plenty of members stepped up to staff the welcome table. Thank you everyone who helped!

Gary Barrett, a new member in 2024, attended his first stamp show ever! He said it was a lot like model car shows he attends. He enjoyed meeting and talking with the dealers, and buying more material!

No Mystery box was offered.

Show & Tell.....

1. **Stanley Campbell** - brought his "Cuba" book from 15 travels there. Interesting collection of stamps, postcards and other items.
2. **Frank Schmitt** - a) new types of sprayed on postmarks from Peoria and Milwaukee b) USPS B&W and Color FDC's for the Fishing Lure stamps.
3. **Bruce Marquardt** - showed two stamp dealers mailings to him for the UK. One took 21 days, the other 10 days. Lots of stamps used!

Continued on next column.

Show & Tell.....continued

2. **Tim Wait** - showed two Belvidere covers showing an unlisted 6-pointed fancy star cancel.
3. **Jim Young** - a) eBay items with Brian Sipe autograph and ship cover from USS Rowan, a WWI destroyer sunk in Sicily with his Great Uncle's brother-in-law.
6. **Gary Barrett** - brought the entire mint sheet collection he acquired and showed the \$5 Lantern last month. He also had the \$2 and \$1 Candle Holder but NOT inverted!

Show and tell has been a fun activity and we're glad to see more and more members bringing something to show. Because of this we had some nice group discussions on various stamp topics before the auction.



Upcoming Stamp Shows

Sat-Sun May 3-4 Wiscopex 2025

Fond du Lac, WI. 93rd Convention & Exhibition. Radisson Hotel & Convention Center, 625 W Rolling Meadows Dr, Hours Sat 10-5 Sun 10-3. Exhibits, bourse, and seminars. Free admission.

Fri-Sat May 16-17 MSDA Chicagoland

Skokie, IL. Oakton College-Skokie Campus, 7701 Lincoln Ave. Hours Fri 10-5 Sat 10-3. 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!



Goodnight Moon

First Class Forever (73¢)

Pane of 16 (8 images)

May 2 - North Kansas City, MO

First published in 1947, “Goodnight Moon” remains a favorite bedtime story for families everywhere. By celebrating everyday rituals rather than fantasy, this iconic picture book revolutionized children’s publishing. The pane of 16 stamps features eight images from the book, which was illustrated by Clement Hurd and written by Margaret Wise Brown. Derry Noyes, an art director for USPS, designed the stamps.

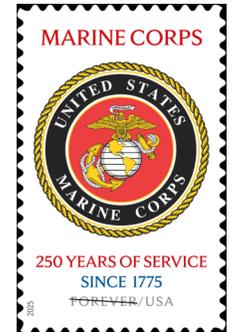
Army - Navy - Marine Corps

First Class Forever (73¢)

THREE Panes of 20

May 16 - Washington, DC

ARMY - This stamp celebrates the 250th anniversary of the U.S. Army. First established during the Revolutionary War as the American colonies fought for independence, the Army is now a global force with the world-class equipment and logistics necessary to fight and win America’s wars. Featuring the United States Army Symbol against a white background, the stamp was designed by art director Antonio Alcalá.



NAVY - First established during the Revolutionary War as the American colonies fought for independence, the U.S. Navy is now at the forefront of cutting-edge technology that safeguards the maritime interests of the United States, ensuring economic prosperity and the freedom of the seas. Featuring the emblem of the Navy against a white background, this stamp celebrates the U.S. Navy’s 250th anniversary. Antonio Alcalá, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp.

Marine Corps - The familiar symbolism of a Marine Corps emblem appears on this stamp to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the U.S. Marine Corps. First established during the Revolutionary War as the American colonies fought for independence, the Marine Corps is respected worldwide as an elite fighting force, prepared to face any challenge and prevail in the conflicts of the 21st century. Antonio Alcalá, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp.



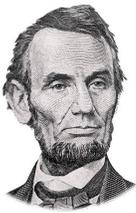
Baby Wild Animals

First Class Forever (73¢)

Booklet of 20 (10 Designs)

May 23 - Aurora, CO

Baby Wild Animals stamps feature a graphic illustration of each animal in its habitat, surrounded by flowers, leaves, water, or other natural elements. The animals, which include a fox, owl, deer, seal, rabbit, raccoon, bear, skunk, bobcat, and chipmunk, range widely across the United States.



President's Corner - Frank Schmitt



Greetings fellow Rockford Stamp Club members:

As spring continues to progress so do the distractions from our stamp collecting hobby in many ways. There is, however, no shortage of spring stamp shows within a 2-3 hour, or less, drive time from Rockford. Many of these shows feature dealers that we do not see at our local shows, giving us an opportunity to peruse a broader selection of stamps, covers, etc., that we normally don't see. Please support these shows and dealers to help promote continued and healthy resources for our hobby.

Our Wednesday meeting and Tuesday auction seem to be holding steady on attendance numbers with a slight uptick we would like to see continue. The number of auction lots seems to be growing a bit as well but generally consists of the same 3-5 individuals submitting lots. We certainly encourage more members to participate to expand the variety of materials available encouraging more members to bid.

We have once again had a discussion on meeting days and times in the interest of possibly enhancing our attendance numbers. **Any input that you have is welcomed.** At the last couple of meetings and auctions we have been having a lot of good discussions amongst the members on certain interests or aspects of collecting. Would there be an interest in reformatting the Tuesday auction to include a "roundtable" type feature where we could hold discussions or workshops to share our knowledge and interests? **Please share your thoughts.**

We have been having some very interesting show and tell items that are only available to those in attendance. Members that are unable to attend for various reasons miss out on this opportunity to not only see these items but also miss out on sharing their treasures. Consider submitting your show and tell for inclusion in the newsletter. It's easy, a photo, or photocopy, and a short description/story of the object/subject submitted to Tim Wait electronically or by mail. If you would like to write and share an article that would be greatly appreciated as well. This is your opportunity to participate in the club even if you can't attend.

Wiscopex 2025, is in Fond du Lac, WI, May 3-4. We are a member of the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs and should support this show. It is a little over 2 hours away, but an easy drive. There is shopping for the wives not far from the venue, great places to eat in Fon du Lac and many places in between. Make a day of it, or better yet a weekend.

Stay safe, stay healthy, happy collecting.

Great Americans Issue of 1980-1999 - Getting to Know Them

This issue depicts some well-known persons as well as many who were lesser known. "The Great Americans stamps may be viewed as a kind of melting pot, although certain mini-topical collecting areas stand out, those mentioned (women, black Americans, native Americans) as well as others (scientists, politicians, doctors, writers, humanitarians)". Michael Schreiber writing in *Linn's Stamp News* on November 24, 1994.

This series of articles will focus on the stamps, beginning with those issued from 1980 to 1985, listed in Scott Specialized Catalogue as #1844-1869. They are shown in denomination order. Wikipedia: Source for bio info.

Sequoyah (/sə'kwɔɪə/ sə-QUOY-yə; Cherokee: c. 1770 – August 1843), also known as **George Gist** or **George Guess**, was a Native American polymath and neographer of the Cherokee Nation.



Dec 27, 1980
#1859

In 1821, Sequoyah completed his Cherokee syllabary, enabling reading and writing in the Cherokee language. One of the first North American Indigenous groups to gain a written language, the Cherokee Nation officially adopted the syllabary in 1825, helping to unify a forcibly divided nation with new ways of communication and a sense of independence. Within a quarter-century, the Cherokee Nation had reached a literacy rate of almost 100%, surpassing that of surrounding European-American settlers.

Sequoyah's creation of the Cherokee syllabary is among the few times in recorded history that an individual member of a pre-literate group created an original, effective writing system. It is believed to have inspired the development of 21 scripts or writing systems used in 65 languages in North America, Africa, and Asia.

Swedish Stamps - Part 1 - 19th Century

Rockford is home to a large Swedish population. It all started in 1852 when a group of Swedish immigrants were coming to Chicago by train. When the immigrant's reached Chicago in August 1852, a cholera epidemic was sweeping the city. They asked where the train went from Chicago. They were told the Galena and Chicago Union Rail Road went to Rockford, Illinois. To avoid the epidemic, they decided to come to Rockford.

The Galena and Chicago Union Rail Road first arrived in Rockford on August 2, 1852. At that time, the train did not cross the Rock River because the bridge was not built yet. When the settlers arrived a few weeks later they settled on the east side of the river. As they became integrated into the city, they wrote their family and friends back home in Sweden about the wonderful location and as the Swedish exodus continued, many came to Rockford. In 1952, one third of the population in Rockford was Swedish!

Let's explore Swedish stamps to honor our fellow citizens.



Sweden issued its first stamps in 1855. The currency was the *skilling banco*. Five stamps in 3s, 4s, 8s and 24s were issued. The 3s and 24s are shown above. The design features the Swedish Coat of Arms.

If you start with the first issue you will need deep pockets! Mint examples of the five stamps catalogue \$35,100! Used they are only \$4,450!

The first issues were re-issued in 1868 (twice), 1871 and 1885. These saw little postal use. Still expensive, but more reasonable than the originals.



Starting in 1855, the same designs were issued however, their currency had changed to öre. Seven denominations from 5öre to 50öre were issued to 1862. These are more in line with early classics from other countries cataloging \$2,910 mint and \$444 used.

In 1885, and continuing until 1910, King Oscar II was featured on their stamps in denominations from 1öre to 1 krona (100 öre).



1900
1 krona
First
bi-color
stamp



Sweden was an early adopter of semi-postal stamps to raise money for various causes. Their first issue was in 1916. Overprints of the 1872-1891 issues for the militia (landstormen). Additional stamps were overprinted in 1916-1918 for other causes.



In 1928, for King Gustaf V's birthday, a set of five semi-postals were issued with 5öre added for anti-cancer.



Air Post stamps were issued Sept. 17, 1920 by overprinting the 1910 Official stamps.



1 krona value
Most unusual

Printed in two
colors but di-
agonally!

From 1874 to 1886 Sweden issued 22 Postage Due stamps in perf 14 and perf 13 versions.

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 let us know your comments.

Tim (t.wait@comcast.net) & Frank (prevent1@comcast.net) - webmasters.

Fun with Air Mail - Tim Wait



In February 1920, Charles Lindbergh flew mail on CAM 2 like he had done in 1926 before his famous solo flight across the Atlantic. So much mail was created that three planes, one piloted by Lindbergh, were used. The left cover is posted at Springfield on Feb 20 to St. Paul (via Chicago). Properly stamped with a Lindbergh stamp and a 10c Special Delivery. The right cover was posted on the return flight from Chicago on Feb 21, to Springfield and then to Wis. However, the **Via Air Mail** letter was only stamped with a **Special Delivery** stamp that was **NOT** valid for air mail! With so much mail, I guess this one slipped through but no indication of Special Delivery service is indicated.



First Class letter mailed Feb 17, 1962 with four cents paid. The letter was twice marked "**Returned for better address**" because there was "**NO SUCH Street Number**" in Portland, Ore. Did this letter actually go to Portland and being found not deliverable, was returned to Grand Rapids, Mich.? Or, was the address problem somehow found in Grand Rapids?

We can't be sure as there were no backstamps, but seven days later on Feb 24, Mrs. Melvin Anderson corrected the street from Glendale to Glenwood and reposted the letter adding a seven cent Air Mail stamp. Both Returned for Better address markings were crossed off. A postal employee crossed out the four cent Lincoln with a red X and wrote Air Mail and a nice red squiggle in red to speed the letter on it's way.

ROCKFORD 2-3-4 ~ 2025 Dealers

We held another successful Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo. The dealers are listed below so you can contact them for follow up or getting those items you were thinking about at the show! Please support our show dealers throughout the year for all your philatelic needs.

David Alex, Sat. Only

Glenview, IL
847-291-7826

Bardo Stamps

Jim Bardo
Buffalo Grove, IL
jfb7437@aol.com
847-634-2676

L & J Stamps

Larry Gautsche
Goshen, IN
lgautsche7@gmail.com
574-370-9631

Terry Kurzinski

Cherry Valley, IL
tkurzinski2002@yahoo.com
815-262-9117

Tiger Collectibles

Scott Couch
Stoutsville, MO
tigercollect@sbcglobal.net
816-405-3633

Cal's & Friends

Michael Duehr
Genesse Depot, WI
mduehr@wi.rr.com
262-392-9432

Fox River Stamps

Michael Mules
Salem, WI
foxriverstamps@gmail.com
414-234-9867

Larry's Stamps

Larry's Stamps
Plover, WI
lglenzer249@gmail.com
715-341-6767

Steve Capone

Rockford, IL

Double J Stamps

Jeff
Arlington Heights, IL
Double_j_stamps@yahoo.com
847-843-8700

Riverbank Treasurers

Jerry Wessler
New Lisbon, WI
riverbanktreasurers@gmail.com
608-515-6150

WYstamps.com

Wayne Youngblood
Prairie Du Sac, WI
608-370-9098

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.

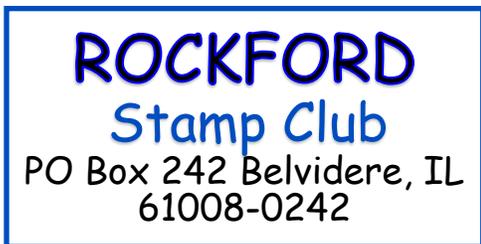
The 2025-2026 Club Officers

President.....Frank Schmitt
815-226-4391
Vice-President.....Matt Mace
Secretary.....Tammy Copus
Treasurer.....Tim Wait
Director(2).....Tim Copus
Director(4).....Steve Johnson
Director(6).....Terry Kurzinski
Show Chairman.....Tim Wait
815-670-5869 / t.wait@comcast.net

NEW - Rockford Stamp Club Achievement Award

In 2025 we inaugurated this new award for deserving members who have served the club by volunteering, provided outreach programs, served as an officer or made a difference in our club.

2025 Terry Kurzinski



See you for some Philatelic Phun!
Wednesday, May 7 at 5:30/7pm
Tuesday, May 20 at 9/10am
Remember we're at 625 Adams St.