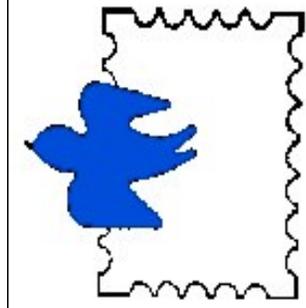


ROCKFORD STAMP NOTES

ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

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

Volume 29 - Number 6

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

Wednesday, June 4

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

Tuesday, June 17

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

Wednesday, May 7th:

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

Aimee Devine from the Janesville Stamp Club is trying to organize a bus trip to GASS in Schaumburg on Thursday, August 17th. The bus would start in Madison, stop in Janesville and then stop in Rockford. The anticipated cost is \$20. This is all predicated on getting enough collectors to sign up. If you are interested, let Frank know.

Show & Tell.....

1. **Stanley Campbell** - brought and air mail cover about the invention of air mail etiquettes.
2. **Jeff Hall** - a) Quad Cities Stamp Club newsletter b) Lindbergh Covers c) Cable News subscription covers to Mt. Morris, Il PO from all over the world.
3. **Frank Schmitt** - discussed Wayne Youngblood's talk about counterfeit stamps. These are sometimes referred to as "Album Weeds". Due to the high demand for stamps back in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. People made counterfeit and make believe stamps to sell in mixtures to collectors. Today, China is counterfeiting EVERY new US stamp and flooding our market with 50% discounted postage. Available on line.

Mystery Box Raffle brought in \$32 and the winner was **Tammy Copus**.

Member Health and Welfare

Gerry Van Alstyne has still been going to appointments, trying to get more surgeries set to get him fixed up! He still has a long road to go to get all his problems addressed. Keep him in your prayers.

JULY Meetings

Remember, we do NOT have the Wednesday night meeting in July!

We do have the Tuesday Meeting which will be on July 15th.

Welcome New Member

**Jack Gebhardt
Huntley**

Jack joined at the May meeting. Make sure to introduce yourself and make him feel welcome in the club.



Upcoming Stamp Shows

Fri-Sat Jun 20-21 MSDA Champaign Stamp Show
Champaign, IL. Faith United Methodist Church, 1719 Prospect Ave. Hours Fri 10-5 Sat 10-4. Bourse only. Free admission.

August 14-17 - Great American Stamp Show

Schaumburg, IL American Philatelic Society. Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center, 1551 North Thoreau Dr. Hours: Th-Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4.

This is the biggest annual stamp show in the US, held around the country.

There will be over 75 dealers, 800+ exhibit frames, and many seminars and society meetings. For all the details, go to www.stamps.org. **Don't miss it!**

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



U.S. Flag (2025)
First Class Forever (73¢)
Many Configurations
Jun 7 - Three Oaks, MI

A U.S. Flag stamp will be issued in one design, in a pressure-sensitive adhesive (PSA) pane of 20 stamps, a PSA double-sided booklet of 20 stamps, a PSA coil of 100 stamps, a PSA coil of 3,000 stamps, and a PSA coil of 10,000 stamps. This stamp will go on sale nationwide June 7, 2025.

The stamp will have a First Day of Issue (FDOI) ceremony in Three Oaks, MI, the home of the World's largest Flag Day parade held annually since 1951!

Barbara Bush
First Class Forever (78¢)
Pane of 20
Jun 10 - Kennebunkport, ME



The stamp design was unveiled by first lady Melania Trump; Dorothy “Doro” Bush Koch, daughter of Barbara Bush; Alice Yates, CEO of the George & Barbara Bush Foundation; and Judy de Torok, VP of Corporate Affairs at the Postal Service.

“Today we recognize Mrs. Bush not only as a beloved first lady, but as a remarkable American in her own right,” said Doug Tulino, acting postmaster general of the Postal Service. “She charted a legacy for herself, and did it with conviction, determination, and compassion.” “We are deeply honored that the United States Postal Service is paying tribute to our mother with a commemorative Forever stamp,” said Bush Koch. “This special stamp serves as a lasting reminder of Barbara Bush’s enduring love for family and friends, sharp wit and unwavering commitment to solve the problems of today by ensuring that every man, woman and child has the opportunity to read, write and comprehend.”

Barbara Pierce Bush (1925-2018), wife of George H. W. Bush, the 41st president, was first lady of the United States from 1989 to 1993, and mother of George W. Bush, the 43rd president. Born in New York City, the future first lady grew up in Rye, NY, and attended boarding school in South Carolina. At 16, she met her future husband, George H.W. Bush, at a Christmas dance in Connecticut, where he was on holiday break from a Massachusetts boarding school, and they began corresponding through letters. Eighteen months later, they were engaged.

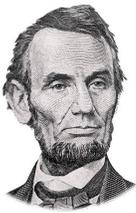
The start of her 54 years of campaigning for her family and allies came in 1962 when Mr. Bush ran for chairman of the Harris County, TX, Republican Party. After losing the Republican nomination for president in 1980, Mr. Bush was named as Ronald Reagan’s vice presidential running mate. With their victory, Mrs. Bush became second lady. With Barbara Bush at his side throughout the campaign, Mr. Bush ran for president in 1988, and won the election, becoming president on Jan. 20, 1989. The Barbara Bush stamp is based on detail from the official 2005 White House portrait.

Schooner
First Class Forever (62¢)
Stamped Card
Jul 18 - Crystal, MN



New stamped-card designs are issued every few years for customers who want to send postcards with postage already included. The latest features an illustration of a two-masted sea vessel based on a photo of a 2014 replica of the 1923 schooner Columbia. Libby VanderPloeg was the artist and Antonio Alcalá provided art direction.

More July issues on page four.



President's Corner - Frank Schmitt



Greetings fellow Rockford Stamp Club members:

Thank you to all members that attended our May meeting and made it such a success. We all enjoyed great conversation and information sharing, interesting show and tell items, an active auction, and a mystery box raffle. These activities and member participation are what makes this club work, thanks again. The Tuesday auction was a success, with spirited bidding as well, even though attendance was down due to weather conditions. Hopefully, we continue to keep our attendance numbers up as well as the interaction at the meetings.

Due to the fact we do not have a Wednesday evening meeting in July there are a couple of important items to cover here and at the June meeting.

The 2025 Great American Stamp Show (GASS) will be held at the Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center & Hotel in Schaumburg, IL, from Aug 14-17, 2025. The address is 1551 North Thoreau Dr., Schaumburg. Pre-registration is open now and closes July 31st. **I strongly advise preregistration (it's free) and it saves a lot of time at check-in.**

The show will have 100+ Dealer and Society Booths, Stamp Exhibits and Displays, First Day Ceremonies, Seminars, Youth Activities (bring the grandkids) and more. This show is co-hosted by the American Philatelic Society, American Topical Association, and the American First Day Cover Society. All your collecting wants and needs should be met by this show, and it also offers the opportunity to explore many new avenues of collecting.

Aimee Devine, Secretary of the Janesville Stamp Club, is researching the possibility of bus transportation to and from the show on Thursday, August 14th or Friday August 15th. The bus will originate in Madison with stops in Janesville and Rockford. Milwaukee has organized bus transportation at a cost of \$20.00 per person which includes a \$25.00 certificate good towards purchases from any MSDA member dealer. Aimee is attempting to duplicate or come very close to the same deal. **Please let me know if you are interested in the bus trip.** As soon as we know if the bus trip is a go, we will get the information out to the membership.

As a reminder, we **do not** have our regular Wednesday meeting in July, our Editor also takes a much-deserved break, so there is not a July newsletter. We do have the 3rd Tuesday morning auction in July.

For our June meeting we would like to see your smiling face, discussion, comments, questions, a show and tell item or more, auction lots, and anything else you may have to share.

Stay safe, stay healthy, and 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.



Jan 12, 1982
#1860

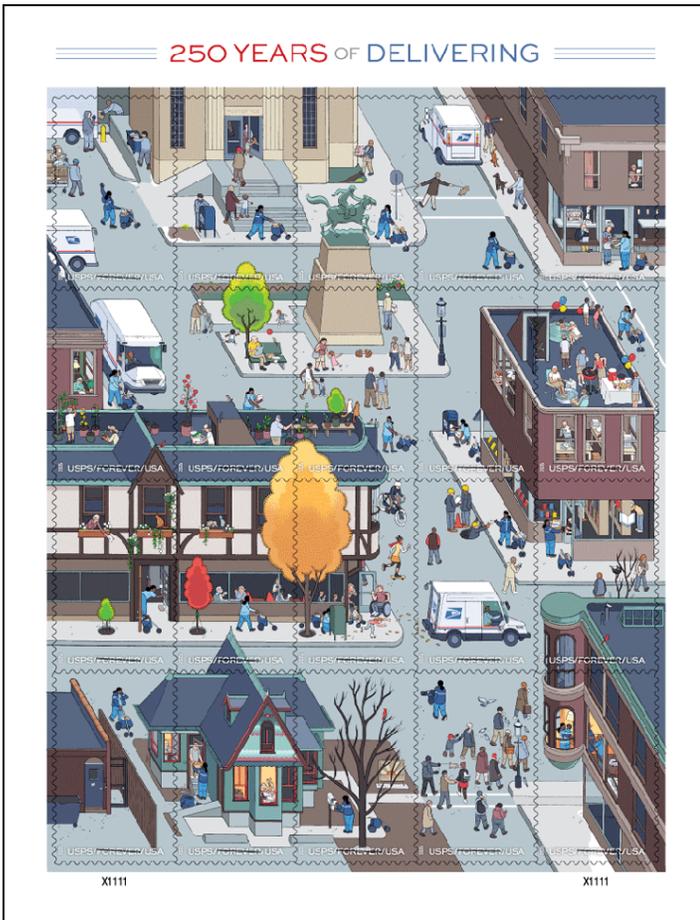
Ralph Johnson Bunche; (August 7, 1904 – December 9, 1971) was an American political scientist, diplomat, and leading actor in the mid-20th-century decolonization process and US civil rights movement, who received the 1950 Nobel Peace Prize for his late 1940s mediation in Palestine. He is the first black Nobel laureate and the first person of African descent to be awarded a Nobel Prize. He was involved in the formation and early administration of the United Nations (UN), and played a major role in both the decolonization process and numerous UN peace-keeping operations.

Bunche served on the US delegation to both the Dumbarton Oaks Conference in 1944 and United Nations Conference on International Organization in 1945 that drafted the UN charter. He then served on the American delegation to the first session of the United Nations General Assembly in 1946 and joined the UN as head of the Trusteeship Department, beginning a long series of troubleshooting roles and responsibilities related to decolonization. In 1948, Bunche became an acting mediator for the Middle East, negotiating an armistice between Egypt and Israel. For this success he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1950.

2025 New Issues - June-July

250 Years of Delivering First Class Forever (78¢) Pane of 20 July - Washington, DC

This 20-stamp issue is part of the USPS celebration of its semiquincentennial. Cartoonist Chris Ware invites the public to spot a fun array of familiar postal items and icons while following a mail carrier on her rounds through four seasons of the year.



250 YEARS OF DELIVERING

Postal delivery is such a ubiquitous part of our national life that it can sometimes go almost unnoticed. These unique stamps celebrate our connection by mail, a bond Americans have shared since 1775. The artwork tells the story of a U.S. Postal Service® carrier making her daily rounds – and a year in the life of the community she serves. Many USPS-related items are included, listed below in bold type. Have fun exploring and finding them all!

- The **Post Office** is often at the heart of the community, and the U.S. has more than 31,000 locations
 - A green **drop (or relay) box** securely stores mail for a carrier
 - **Curbside collection boxes** – now painted dark blue – multiplied as suburbs boomed in the 1950s (find two)
 - A **post rider on horseback** was the symbol of the Post Office Department, predecessor of the USPS
 - Boxy and durable, **Long-Life Vehicles (LLV)** rolled out in 1987 (find two)
 - **Next Generation Delivery Vehicles (NGDV)**, energy-efficient and spacious, debuted in 2024 (find two)
 - A **stamp collector** may be an experienced expert, or a rookie just beginning to enjoy these tiny designs that express big ideas
 - Signing a carrier's **Mobile Delivery Device** lets the sender know that delivery is complete (find two)
 - **USPS® packaging** is available in a variety of convenient sizes
 - Apartment dwellers often receive mail in a **cluster mailbox**
 - Before the **post-mounted residential mailbox** was standardized, people improvised, hanging up buckets, soap boxes, syrup cans, whatever!
 - A **toy mail truck** is among the fun merch found at usps.com/store
 - **Writing a letter** is a thoughtful mode of expression...
- ...and the joy of **reading a greeting** never grows old; opening the mailbox to find your note or card can make a friend's day.

Bar Code
placed here

PLATE
POSITION

Bar Code
placed here

Discover more stamps and collectibles | [USPS.com/stamps](https://usps.com/stamps) | © 2025 USPS

USPS
250



Benjamin Franklin First Class Forever (78¢) Two Sheets of ? July ? - TBA

To celebrate the US Post Office's Semiquincentennial — a 32-page prestige booklet titled "Putting a Stamp on the American Experience" — will celebrate the cultural importance of U.S. stamps.

The booklet is only the fourth ever issued by the Postal Service and it highlights the popular series and subjects that give the stamp program its range and depth.

The booklet also comes with two sheets of a new stamp featuring Benjamin Franklin, the nation's first postmaster general. The stamp is based on an 1875 reproduction of a 5-cent stamp from 1847 — one of the first official U.S. postage stamps.

A 250-year anniversary is called a semiquincentennial. This term combines "semi," meaning half, and "quincentennial," which refers to a 500-year celebration. Thus, a semiquincentennial marks a quarter of a millennium.

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



7th South American Flight 1933

Mailed August 23, 1932 from Brussels, Belgium to Friedrichshafen under separate cover. Postmarked in Friedrichshafen August 29 for the flight to Brazil. Received in Recife October 11.

The rate per Graf Zeppelin via Friedrichshafen to Recife (Pernambuco), Brazil was 12.50 fr. / 5 grams. This beautiful cover is properly paid with C1, C3 and C4 (2).

Mailed September 12, 1933 from Brussels. Postmarked September 16 for the flight to Brazil. This cover was sent Registered at 1.75 Fr. Total 14.25 fr. An international letter cost 1.75 fr. Sender unnecessarily added the 1.75 cost for this, overpaying the cover at 16 fr.

LZ-127 "Graf Zeppelin"

The Graf Zeppelin first started scheduled flights in 1928 in Europe and to North America. The famous flight from Germany to the US took place in 1930 for which the US issued the three Zeppelin stamps C13-15.

In 1932 regular scheduled flights to South America were started. Many countries in Europe prepared covers and sent them to Germany to be carried on these flights.

As a collector of anything related to Belgium air mail, here are two covers from 1932 and 1933.



7th South American Flight 1933

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

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, June 4 at 5:30/7pm
Tuesday, June 17 at 9/10am
Remember we're at 625 Adams St.