

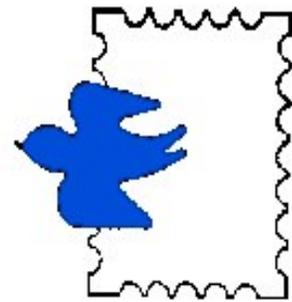
ROCKFORD STAMP NOTES

ROCKFORD STAMP CLUB

ESTABLISHED AUGUST 21, 1930 - APS CHAPTER #735
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October 2024

Volume 28 - Number 9



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

Wednesday, October 2

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

Tuesday, October 15

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

Wednesday, Sep 4th: we had 16 members, a few more than usual. Let's keep building attendance!

Under new business, **Alan Skoog** talked about the upcoming Quad Cities Stamp Show. He lives much closer to the Quad Cities than Rockford. Stanley reported that **Marth Bauch** will be turning 98 soon. **Happy Birth Day Martha!** Frank talked about the great time he had at GASS in Hartford, CT. Next year it will be right here in Schaumburg!

Steve Johnson started a conversation about getting new members and suggested something with Cub scouts.

Show & Tell.....

1. **Jeff Hall** - a) US 1862-1872 Revenue "Playing Card" stamps. b) Dag Hammarskjold autographed cover.
2. **Terry Kurzinski** - showed his article in the US Specialist on "The Forgotten Post Offices of the St. Louis Exposition".

Steve Johnson won the mystery box, which raised \$24 for the club!

American Topical Association 75th Anniversary

The ATA celebrates its 75th anniversary this November. The national club for anyone who collects a stamp topic or theme was started by Jerry Husak in 1949 in Milwaukee.

If you collect topics you can go online to join at www.americantopical.org.



Upcoming Stamp Shows

Sat Oct 5 Monroe Stamp & Postcard Show

Monroe, WI. Monroe Stamp and Postcard Club. Monroe Moose Lodge, 639 3rd Ave. Hours 9-3. Bourse only. Free admission.

Sat-Sun Oct 11-2 MSDA WI-IL Stateline Show

Kenosha, WI. First Christian Church, 13022 Wilmot Rd (Hwy C). Hours Sat 10-5, Sun 10-3. Bourse only.

Sat Oct 19 CENWISPEX 2024

Stevens Point, WI. Central Wisconsin Stamp Club. The Elk's Club, 1132 Clark St. Hours Sat 10-4. Bourse only.

Fri-Sun Nov 20-22 CHICAGOPEX

Itasca, IL. Westin Chicago Northwest, 400 Park Blvd. Chicago Philatelic Society. Hours Fri-Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4. 75+ dealers, 275+ exhibit frames, seminars **National World Series of Philately show**. Free admission & parking.

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



Happy Halloween

Take good care of any monsters, goblins, superheros, Video game characters and anyone else who knocks!

Member Health and Welfare

Gerry Van Alstyne has two surgery consultation visits coming up in the beginning of October. He still needs 6-7 more surgeries to fix his ailments. Keep him in your thoughts & prayers.

Health Care
First Class Forever (73¢)
 Pane of 20
 Oct 1 – Washington, DC



With this stamp the Postal Service pays tribute to the healthcare community, whose members, sometimes at great personal risk, dedicate their lives to our health, safety, and well-being. The artwork consists of health-related icons spelling out the stacked words “Thank you” against a pristine white background. Running across the lower right edge of the stamp are the words “Healthcare” in gray and “Community” in surgical green. Bryan Duefrene was the art director and stamp designer.



The USPS Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee (CSAC) tell us that they do not select negative subjects for commemoration, so during the covid pandemic they somehow never did figure out how to salute health care workers who made sacrifices, including those who died helping others, even though scores of nations around the world somehow were able to accomplish what seemed to be a simple feat.

Now, four years later, they have figured it out and will issue a generic "Thank You" Forever stamp.

Winter Whimsy
First Class Forever (73¢)
 Booklet of 20
 Oct 10 – Park City, UT

Four new stamps in a booklet of 20 celebrate the winter season with lacy, symmetrical graphic forms inspired by snowflakes. Each stamp in the block of four includes a unique design in white against a background of a single color: navy blue, teal, tan or dark blue-green. Greg Breeding was the art director for the project. Bailey Sullivan designed and illustrated the stamps.

These are the last two issues planned for 2024 by the US Postal service. When the dust settles we will have total counts on everything issued in the Linn’s Annual Stamp Poll in January/February.

What Do You Want from The Rockford Stamp Club?

The Rockford Stamp Club currently has two meeting times a month, except for July when we skip the first Wednesday’s meeting due to the 4th of July Holiday. In addition, we host the *Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo* on the second weekend of March.

Our business meeting takes place on the first Wednesday along with Show & Tell and an auction. We will be looking to have 10-15 minute presentation by our members at future meetings. Hint, hint.....

The third Tuesday morning meeting is not a business meeting. We have a Show & Tell and then an auction.

Our annual show is the big event sponsored by the club. After over 30 years at Forest Hills Lodge, we moved to the Hoffman House Conference Center. EVERY member should be sure to come to the show. And we can always use more volunteers.

Lately, attendance has been around 10-12 people at each of the meetings. Where we sometimes had almost 100 lots, we are down to 20-30. Without lots there is nothing to bid on! Without members, there is no one to bid! You can see how this is resulting in less activity.

We need YOU to come to more meetings and bring those duplicate or unneeded stamps, covers, supplies, etc. to sell at the auction. More lots brings more people and results in better sales prices!

Now, what more would you like to see at the meetings?

Would anyone be interested in meeting for dinner Wednesday night before the meeting or Tuesday after the meeting for breakfast/lunch? This can be a fun time talking stamps too.

What kind of presentations would you be interested in?



President's Corner - Frank Schmitt



Greetings fellow Rockford Stamp Club members:

Fall is upon us, and sunsets are earlier, which means fewer outdoor activities and more time to spend on our stamp collections. Win-Win! Another plus is there's a few more stamp shows in the area and travel conditions are still great so take advantage of the opportunities before winter rules. You will find a list of the area shows on page one.

Thank you to Steve Johnson for raising the question, and leading a brainstorming session, on how to better promote our club, and have a more visible presence in the community, at our September meeting. Many ideas were proposed and merit further study and investigation to determine which are feasible and doable today with all the restrictions within the schools and other venues. If you have any ideas, please share them.

While numbers seem to be steady for our meetings and auctions it would be nice to see more members in attendance. This raises the question as to what improvements we could make to attract more members to the meetings. We are reintroducing short presentations at our Wednesday meetings and are always open for suggestions on what the club would like to see or hear. You are always welcome to be a presenter as well.

The auctions have always been a huge attraction to our members. Unfortunately, in the past few months the number of auction lots has decreased significantly. Please consider bringing in lots to place in the auction/s. The 3rd Tuesday gathering is to host an auction only and recently we have had very few lots. I would hate to see the regular attendees that travel some great distances to make their trip for nothing.

This raises the question, in my mind anyway, do we continue to have the 3rd Tuesday auction or do we reformat into something else. If so, what? Would a buy, sell, trade work? Would an informal gathering to work on and share our collections be of interest? Thoughts and/or suggestions are welcome.

Just a quick reminder, December is fast approaching and at that meeting we have the Charity Auction with all proceeds going to Ken-Rock Kids. It is not too early to start putting some lots together for that auction to enhance our contribution. Also, Rockford 2-3-4 Stamp Expo is fast approaching, so it is time to get started on your exhibit in one of the many options, including non-competitive. Tim Wait has all the details.

See you, your auction lots, your show and tell, and your friend, at the Wednesday meeting.

Stay Safe, Stay well, 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 one or more of 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.



Sep 23, 1983
#1844

Dorothea Lynde Dix (April 4, 1802 – July 17, 1887) was an American advocate on behalf of the indigent mentally ill who, through a vigorous and sustained program of lobbying state legislatures and the United States Congress, created the first generation of American mental asylums. During the Civil War, she served as a Superintendent of Army Nurses.



Nov 18, 1983
#1845

Igor Fyodorovich Stravinsky (17 June 1882 – 6 April 1971) was a Russian composer and conductor with French citizenship (from 1934) and American citizenship (from 1945). He is widely considered one of the most important and influential composers of the 20th century and a pivotal figure in modernist music. Born in Saint Petersburg, Russia, Stravinsky grew up taking piano and music theory lessons. While studying law at the University of Saint Petersburg, he met Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov and studied music under him until the latter's death in 1908. Stravinsky met the impresario Sergei Diaghilev soon after, who commissioned the composer to write three ballets for the Ballets Russes's Paris seasons: *The Firebird* (1910), *Petrushka* (1911), and *The Rite of Spring* (1913), the last of which caused a near-riot at the premiere due to its avant-garde nature and later changed the way composers understood rhythmic structure.

Air Mail/Special Delivery Problems in the 1960's - Tim Wait

On November 23, 1962 the US Post Office Department issued a 5¢ stamp featuring George Washington. This was a part of a short lived Regular Issue that included a 1¢ Andrew Jackson and an 8¢ Gen. John J. Pershing. It fizzled out and was replaced starting in 1966 with the Prominent Americans Issue.

A sheet version, horizontal coil and booklet pane were all issued on that day.

Our first cover was mailed July 27, 1965 with 5¢ postage but in a specially designated Air Mail envelope. At this time, these envelopes could only be used for Air Mail. The Air Mail rate was 8¢. This letter could have been returned for 3¢ Postage Due, but since it was mailed in Los Angeles and to Los Angeles, it was just marked **NOT IN AIR MAIL INSUFFICIENT POSTAGE**, and delivered to the Dept of Water & Power, hopefully in time!



Cover two was mailed in Coco Beach, FL, home of *I Dream of Jeannie!* Air Mail postage was 8¢ on Dec 8, 1965, in the USA. Since this was going to Malaysia, Air Mail postage was 25¢.

The cover was marked **Returned for Additional Postage 15¢**. Mr. Means added three more 5¢ Washington stamps and returned it to the PO. There, the notice and 15¢ were crossed off and the letter went on its journey to Kuala Lumpur.



Cover three was Mailed Air Mail / Special Delivery. Mailed in Cincinnati Nov 8, 1963. Based on the folds at the top, this letter was over one ounce so it should have been paid double the 8¢ rate at 16¢. Special Delivery was 30¢. Letter marked **Postage due 6 cents**, and two 3¢ 1959 Postage Due stamps were added and canceled in Minneapolis.

Interesting that Cincinnati had a 6 cents due marking.



Our fourth cover was also mailed Air Mail / Special Delivery on Jan 1, 1968. The sender decided to give 20¢ a try, but of course that didn't work!

Air Mail was still 8¢ and Special Delivery was still 30¢ for a total of 38¢. Cover marked **POSTAGE due 18 CENTS** with 18 written in the blank. The letter arrived in the Detroit Special Delivery Section at 10am the next day (backstamp)! 18¢ in 1959 Postage Due stamps were added in Detroit.



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.

Collecting for the Present - Gary Barrett

I was having a good time... poring over all the stamps in a collection I'd acquired. But when I looked beyond the stamps and examined the album and its pages, a sadness came over me. The stamps petered out around 1975 and so did, I assume, its original owner. The binder was in tatters and the whole thing smelled of mildew. It had been in storage for a long time. The home-made pages were well laid out: each stamp within a meticulously pencil-drawn rectangle with dates and Scott catalog numbers annotated. A lot of love went into their creation. I had purchased the collection for a song. That all the work that had gone into it ended up being valued so low made me wonder about how that owner would have felt about his creation. And that made me reflect on my own creations where I've spent so much energy... and how they'd be viewed and valued many years from now.

On another occasion, a US collection was brought to me for appraisal. Its current owner is not a collector and wished to turn it into cash. He had acquired the stamps from his grandfather who had begun it in 1976 on the birth of his grandchild with the objective of presenting it to the child-become-adult in later years. The grandfather was not a stamp collector but had heard that mint stamps could be a good investment. His method: buy every commemorative stamp that came out of the US post office: singles, blocks, souvenir cards, and even full sheets in many cases. A lot of money was spent. I'm no expert in US stamps. But my experience from trying to sell my father-in-law's similar trove of stamps from an earlier era, the 30s and 40s, showed that there is little demand for them... so, little value. My in-law's game was not investment. He simply bought a sheet of stamps at issue time, used what he needed for postage, and put the rest in a box kept under his bed. Two sad cases of collecting for the wrong reasons.

So I have to keep perspective! I enjoy stamp collecting because I enjoy all the creative work involved. I enjoy admiring the fruits of my labor. That enjoyment lives in the present. It has a cost, of course. But what entertainment doesn't? What will happen to my collection in the future? I can't dwell too much on that. It's not an investment. Perhaps it will end up in storage for decades before anyone has a look through its mildewed pages. Perhaps it will be sold for a tiny fraction of its cost. But as for the present, *carpe diem!*

ROCKFORD 2-3-4 ~ 2024 Dealers **Thank You!**

These dealers participated at the 2024 show. We hope you were able to visit many of them and find something for your collection. All the dealers reported strong sales and were pleased with the show and especially the new location!

Did you see something you didn't buy? Maybe it's not too late to call or email! 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

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816-405-3633

Cal's & Friends

Michael Duehr

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262-392-9432

Fox River Stamps

Michael Mules

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414-234-9867

Larry's Stamps

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715-341-6767

J Freedom Stamps

Jack Freedom

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773-370-9659

Double J Stamps

Jeff

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847-843-8700

Riverbank Treasurers

Jerry Wessler

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riverbanktreasurers@gmail.com
608-515-6150

Steve Capone

Rockford, IL
815-394-0537

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.

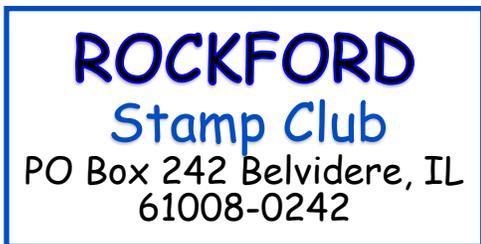
The 2025-2026 Club Officers

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

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



See you for some Philatelic Phun!
Wednesday, October 2 at 5:30/7pm
Tuesday, October 15 at 9/10am
Remember we're at 625 Adams St.