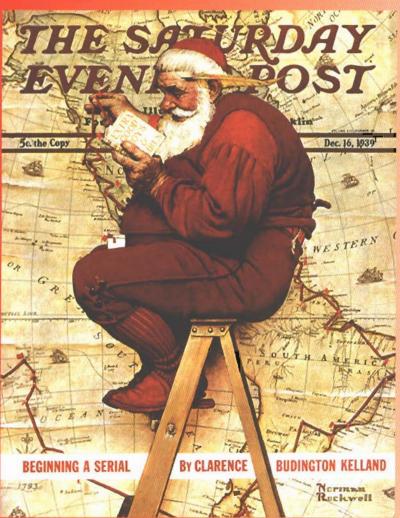
ROCKWELL AT

We are very pleased to welcome the art of Norman Rockwell this winter! Norman Rockwell's 323 Saturday Evening Post Covers opens to the public Friday, December 2, 2005, but as a member of



the Russell Museum, you are invited to a special evening preview, Thursday, December 1 at 5:00 p.m. Organized by the Norman Rockwell Museum, Stockbridge, Massachusetts, the exhibition includes all of the covers that Rockwell illustrated. Rockwell's first cover for the Saturday Evening Post appeared in 1916 when the artist was 22 years old, and began perhaps the most enduring love affair between an artist and the American public. For the next 50 years, Americans waited with anticipation each week to see if the new issue would feature a Rockwell cover. When it did, 50,000-75,000 additional copies of the Saturday Evening Post sold at newsstands. Rockwell created comfortable and traditional

images of everyday life, saying: "My fundamental purpose is to interpret the typical American. I am a storyteller. I unconsciously decided that, even if it wasn't an ideal world, it should be and so painted only the ideal aspects of it ... foxy grandpas who played baseball with the kids and boys who fished from logs and got up circuses in the backyard."

Of particular resonance today, while our sons and daughters protect us overseas, are Rockwell's covers during World War II, that

THE RUSSELL!

feature a good-hearted, goofy G.I. Willie. Also during that time Rockwell painted *The Four Freedoms* as his personal contribution to the war effort. Symbolizing the war aims President Roosevelt

set forth, The Four
Freedoms were reproduced
in four consecutive issues of
the Saturday Evening Post.
Freedom of Speech,
Freedom to Worship,
Freedom from Want and
Freedom from Fear were so
successful that the original
paintings toured in an
exhibition that raised \$139.9
million for the war effort
through the sales of war
bonds.

So well-loved was
Rockwell and his art that in
1977 President Gerald R.
Ford presented Rockwell
with the country's highest
civilian honor, the
Presidential Medal of
Freedom. Norman
Rockwell died in his
Stockbridge home on
November 8, 1978 at the
age of 84. His now nostalgic
paintings and illustrations



quist of C. S. FORESTER'S NEW NAVY STORIES

continue to live on in American history and hearts, and his ability to relate to the values and events of an evolving society made him a hero, a visionary and a friend.

The collection of original tear sheets for the magazine that Rockwell himself called the "greatest show window in America" is a compelling pictorial view of life during the first part of the 20th century. They will be on view at the Russell Museum through February 19, 2006.