

BULLETIN OF THE POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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POLONUS' 40th A GALA CELEBRATION

Polonus celebrated its 40th Anniversary March 16-18 during the annual POLPEX at the Palmer House in Chicago. This was by far the largest exhibition in the history of the society. A total of sixty-two exhibits filled 472 frames with an additional seven literature exhibits and two in the Court of Honor. Entries were received from not only the United States, but from Canada, Australia, Poland, France, England, West Germany, and Greece.

Commissioners for the Exhibition were Dr. Miet Kamiński for

Canada; W.Z.J. Nowicki for England; R.K. Jablonski for Australia; and the Polish Philatelic Federation for Poland.

The Jury for the exhibition was also international. The Honorary Chairman was Miroslaw Bojano of the Jury was Bernard Hennigwicz, R.D.P. (England), Chairman (USA), who was assisted by Dr. James Matejka (USA), Dr. Miet Kamiński (Canada), Tom Fuerst (USA), and Jan Witkowski (Poland). Apprentice judges were E. Kus (Poland), Harold Peter (USA) and W. Gruenbaum (USA).



Group of Polpex award winners. First row, sitting (left to right): W. Poniecki, J. Zilke, J. Mazepa, L. Kawecki, A. Bunge, A. Szebel. Second row: F. Blau, R. Ritter, T. Gobby, W. Pawlowski, J. Kucharski, M. Komorowski, J. Niebrzydowski, M. Lubinski, C. Kulpinski, and L. Draeger.



U.S. Senator Charles Percy and wife were among guests at the Palmer House reception. Left to right: Fred Blau, Chet Schafer, Mrs. and Senator Percy, Dr. James Matejka, Roman Strzelecki, and Alfred Szebel.

The Grand Award for Best in the Exhibition was received by James Mazepa for his Exhibition of the Russian Administration of Poland from 1858-1880. In addition to the Polonus Gold Medal, he received a Statue of General Pulaski.

For the first time at a POLPEX medals were awarded in five levels due to the high quality of the exhibition. Medals awarded were:

Gold Medals

J. M. Clary, Poland Postal History
R. Poddubiuk, Congress Kingdom of Poland
C. Schafer, Poland Under Russia 1815-1875
L. Sawicki, Poland to 1860
J. Mazepa, Russian Administration of Poland 1858-80
J. Bartczak, Galicia Prestamp Letters
J. Niebrzydowski, Polish Field Post 1914-1922

W. Poniecki, Polish Army in Russia World War II

R. Ritter, Upper Silesia

F. Stulberg, Half Cent Rates of Canada

F. Blau, Graf Zeppelin Mail to and From Palestine

Vermeil Medals

T. Gobby, Poznan and Gniezno Issues 1919

A. Szebel, Poland Occupation World War II

L. Draeger, Polish Uncrowned Eagle

H. Bialek, Cancellations on the Lublin Leaders Issue 1945

J. Kudewicz, I Polish Corps WWI

S. Ozimek, Warsaw Uprising

F. Wolosewick, Poland 1860-1918

W. Gruszczyk, Polish Postage Dues on Cover

R. Rzepko, Airmail Cancellations in Poland 1919-1975

L. Draeger, P.O.W. Camps Woldenberg and Gross Bor



Official opening was Saturday at noon. Cutting the ribbon was Aloysius Mazewski, President of the Polish American Congress and Polish National Alliance.

W. Pawlowski, POW Camp Gross Born

M. Lubinski, POW Camp Woldenberg

C. Kulpinski, POW Camp Murnau

Silver Medals

A. Cronin, Poland and Russia

R. Lapas, Vilnius Postal History

S. Rosinski, Polish Legions WWI

M. Lubinski, W.W. I Polish Legions

J. Kucharski, Polish Forces in Palestine and Egypt 1940-1947

J. Diak, Poland Balloon Posts

E. Tymkow, Field Post of the 2nd Polish Corps

F. Blau, Airlink Poland-Palestine

G. Borucki, Port Gdansk

F. Herzog, POW Post Woldenberg

M. Komorowski, P.O.W. Post Woldenberg

J. Burkowski, Only Woman Nobel Prize Winner

J. Janecka, Music Sheets of Czechoslovakia

Silver-Bronze

C. Straub, German Occupation of Poland 1915-18



Some of the 488 frames viewers saw at POLPEX 79 at the Palmer House, Chicago.



Three major award winners: Fred Blau, Best Foreign; James Mazepa: Grand Award, and R. Ritter of Western Germany: Dr. Kozakiewicz Research Award.



Apprentice Judge W. Gruenbaum holds dish while the Palmer House chef carves him a piece of beef. Guests at reception had to wait their turn at buffet table for their dinner.



U.S. Ambassador to Poland, William E. Schauffle, was the Guest of Honor.



A hand painted ceramic dish was presented to Polonus by Joseph Mistarz, Jr. on its 40th Anniversary.



Main speaker was Aloysius A. Mazewski who summarized the accomplishments of Polonus over the past 40 yrs.



Typical banquet table scene. Seated left to right: Mr. and Mrs. Lou Koncza, Frank Wolosewick, Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Polish TV) Lewandowski, President Art Marquart of the Polish American Numismatic Association, and R. Poddubiuk of Canada.



Jan Witkowski of Poznań spoke in Polish on behalf of the PZF. Artist Leon Kaweckki translated the talk.



President Szebel congratulates the founder of Polonus, Chester J. Mikucki, after presenting him with a Polish hand carved wooden eagle on behalf of the society.



Stefan Kochanski, Richard Estka, President Szebel, and Treasurer Strzelecki enjoying a group discussion.



Dr. Edw. C. Rózański, Pres. of the National Committee For a Pulaski Stamp gave an historical account of Pulaski.



W. Ponieck displays his Postal History Award, while J. Clary of California holds his PZF Award from Poland.



J. Niebrzydowski of Conn. receiving Gold Medal for his Polish Field Post.



President Szebel presents Vermeil Medal to C. Kulpinski of Penna. Chairman of the Jury, Bernard Hennig, presided over the award presentations.



Chet Schafer congratulates M. Lubinski of Canada on his Vermeil Medal winning WWI Polish Legions exhibit.

- R. Mroczkowski, General Government 1939-44
 P. Madej, Katowice Postal History
 J. Grabowski, Oflag Camps 1939-45
 L. Kawecki, U.S. Bicentennial with felicitations of the jury
 J. Podejko, Canada 1927-36
 J. Shelton, Canadian Federal Revenues
 R. Winiarski, Australian First Flights
 D. Welsh, Fiji Cancellations
 W. Alexiewicz, Polonica Culture
- Bronze Medals**
 M. Dabrowski, Polish Legions 1914-18
 R. Strzelecki, Postal Cards of Poland
 J. Landau, Danzig Postal History
 M. Madesker, Canadian Miniature Sheets
 B. Zasiedka, Australia Specialized
 W. Rapp, El Salvador Postal Stationery
 A. Katsanopolous, Byzantine Art on Stamps
 J. Zilke, Bicentennial
 A. Bunge, Copernicus and Kennedy
 W. Nowicki, Tribute to Copernicus
 H. Trusiewicz, Freedom from Hunger

In addition there were the following special awards. Medal Donated by the CLUB POLONICA of Poland: to Alfred Szebel; Medals donated by Z. Hampel of Poland: 1st to R. Poddubiuk, 2nd to L. Sawicki, and 3rd to J. Bartczak. Medals of the American Topical Society: Gold to J. Burkowski, Silver to J. Janecka, and Bronze to W. Alexiewicz. Special Award given by Richard Estka: 1st for best POW, to C. Kulpinski, 2nd to C. Schafer and 3rd to S. Ozimek. The S.P.A. Research Award was received by L. Draeger. The Award donated by Jan Witkowski for Polish Postal History went to



Ex-Congressman Thad. Dulski of Buffalo, Ted Resner of Glenwood, Ill., and Dr. Matt Gajewski of Buffalo were in attendance.

W. Poniecki. The Polonus Novice Award went to Mr. J. Niebrzydowski. The President's Award was received by H. Bialek and the PZF (Poland) Award to J. Clary. The Dr. Kozakiewicz Research Award went to R. Ritter and the Best Exhibit other than Poland went to F. Blau.

The Court of Honor Exhibits by C. Witkowska of Poland and Dr. Miet Kamienski of Canada received Honorary Gold Medals. In the Literature Class Golds were awarded to R. Ritter and to the "Handbook of Polish Commemorative Cancellations," Vermeil to W. Goszczynski; Silver to B. Orlinski, and the PZF (Warsaw), Silver-Bronze to the PZF (Poznan) and Bronze to B. A. Remington.

The Awards were given at the Traditional "BEEBA" Banquet held Saturday evening. The event was attended by many visitors from abroad, as well as by Senator and Mrs. Charles Percy of Illinois and the United States Ambassador to Poland, William E. Schauffle. During the Banquet, Chester Mikucki, the founder of the Polonus Philatelic Society was named Honorary Chairman of the Exhibition. The President, Alfred Szebel, who was also the Chairman of POLPEX 79, was made an Honorary Life Member of Polonus for his activity in promoting Polish philately.

The weekend was a time for several other philatelic societies to meet and included the Hellenic Society and the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society. A meeting of Polish Philatelic organizations was held to promote the coordination of Polish Philatelic groups in this country and Canada. Both the United States Postal Service and the United Nations Postal Administration were present as was a bourse of 35 dealers.

Medals for this occasion were designed by Leon Kawecki as also were the Souvenir Sheets and commemorative cachets for the envelopes. The Gold Medal is available for \$50.00 from Mr. Roman Strzelecki, 1620 North Latrobe, Chicago, IL 60639. Mail sales for the other mementos are available from Mr. Al Rybarski, Box 82, River Grove, IL 60171. The pair of Souvenir Sheets is 75¢; Souvenir Cards mint, \$1.25 and with special POLPEX Cancel \$2.00. Three different Cachet envelopes, one for each day of the exhibit, \$1.50. A special Rocket Flight for the show with souvenir sheet, \$2.50. For all mail orders please include return

postage.

The Polish Philatelic Federation of Poland issued two commemorative postal cards to honor the Forty Years of Polonus's activity in promoting Polish philately. These two cards are also available from the same address for \$1.00.

CONGRESS MEETING OF POLISH PHILATELIC CLUBS

Twenty-six representatives attended this meeting held at the Polpex. The most important matters discussed was that a central organization was needed so that we could have more "clout". A publication (possibly the Polonus Bulletin) would be necessary to keep everyone informed.

It was decided that representatives by region be nominated and selected were—East: L. Draeger, Dr. M. Gajewski, C. Kulpinski. Midwest: E. Maslon, C. Skupski. West: M. Komorowski, W. Pawlowski. Canada: J. Podejko, M. Lubinski. Polonus: A. Szebel, T. Gobby.

This project will be further pursued.

NEW MEMBERS:

Andrew Wacinski
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NEXT MEETING DATES

Friday, May 25, 1979:

Annual Meeting at COMPEX, Expocenter, 350 N. Orleans St., across from Merchandise Mart. Starting at 8:00 p.m. Election of officers. Meeting room number to be posted.

Friday, June 22, 1979:

Installation of Officers at Veterans Hall, 6005 W. Irving Park Rd. Program meeting to follow.

Action starts at 8:00 p.m.

JOHN BOR PASSES ON

Polonus lost a hard worker. Chicago member, John A. Bor died May 5th after a six month bout with cancer. He was 72 years old.



John joined Polonus 25 yrs. ago. He would organize the kitchen crews for our beeba parties held at the Polpex. later he took on the job as Sales Chairman for the shows. Then he took on ad soliciting for Polpex program catalogs.

His greatest contribution in the philatelic field was that as Midwest Regional Director of Stamps For the Wounded. He made endless trips to Hines Hospital and called

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on wounded veterans and getting them interested in stamps. He made the rounds to the many philatelic clubs soliciting donations of stamps, albums, supplies, catalogs, etc., which he distributed among the veterans. He worked at this job for over 20 years.

Polonus will miss John Bor!

VATICAN POLISH POPE ISSUE

The Vatican Post issued a set of three stamps on the inauguration of the Pontificate of Pope John Paul II, the former Cardinal Karol Wojtyla. The two lower values were engraved by A. Queti; the high value by F. Tulli. Printed in sheets of 40 stamps in recess and offset by Italian State Polygraphic and Mint Works, Roma Piazza Verdi 10. Total quantity printed 1,300,000 sets.

—Dr. M. A. Lipinski



The 170 lire value shows the coat of arms of His Holiness John Paul II. The 250 lire value carries the image of the Pope in the act of his inauguration's blessing. The 400 lire value depicts Christ handing the keys to St. Peter.