



BULLETIN OF THE POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

How to Join POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Complete a Membership Application and submit along with the appropriate dues payment to the address on the application and/or the back of this brochure.

Applications are available:
- on our website www.polonus.org
- by sending an e-mail request to info@polonus.org
- via mail request.

All memberships are based on the calendar year. Regardless of when you join, you will receive all bulletins issued during that year.

POLONUS
PHILATELIC SOCIETY
PO Box 4882 • Memphis, TN 38122 • USA
info@polonus.org | www.polonus.org

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The world's leading Philatelic Organization
dedicated to the study and promotion of
Polish Philately in the English language.



BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

QUARTERLY BULLETIN

The Bulletin features original articles and translations from Polish publications. It provides useful articles for beginning, intermediate, and advanced collectors.

WEBSITE: www.polonus.org

This expanding website includes such features as:

- POLONUS Forum where members may communicate by posting questions and answers.
- Opportunity to view award winning exhibits and collections.
- Access Polish English philatelic dictionary.
- Download PDF forms for Polonus Expertizing Services.
- Access searchable database of Bulletins 1-500+ to locate articles of interest.

EXPERTIZING SERVICES

The POLONUS Expertizing Committee provides the only expertizing service for issues of Poland in North America and includes among its members a leading Expert of the Polish Philatelic Union from Warsaw, Poland. Members receive discounted prices.

LEADING PHILATELIC RESEARCH LIBRARY

Polonus maintains a research library for Polish philately, including books, bulletins, journals and catalogs. Material may be checked out by members or they may purchase photocopies of specific articles.

STUDY GROUPS

Polonus sponsors member's participation in specialized categories of collecting/exhibiting.

such as POW Camps, Diffrent Camps, Aero-Philately, WWI, and more.

POLONUS ANNUAL MEETING & EXHIBITION

This event is always held in conjunction with a APS National Exhibition and Dealer Bourse where members have the opportunity to:

- Meet other members
- View a wide variety of Poland collections on exhibit
- Attend meetings and special presentations on Polish philately.

EXHIBITOR MENTORING

All members, from a firm time aspiring exhibitor to a seasoned veteran, may obtain advice and assistance from experienced POLONUS exhibitors.

BULLETIN BACK ISSUES

The 500+ Bulletins published by POLONUS represent the largest existing English language resource for collectors of Poland. Members are able to purchase individual bulletins and/or complete sets at discounted prices.

POLPAX SHOW MEMORABILIA

Souvenir sheets, covers and show cards may be purchased by members at discounted prices.

DEALER DISCOUNTS

Participating Dealer Members of POLONUS offer special discounts on Polish philatelic material to members.

For more information,
visit us on the Web at:
www.polonus.org

HISTORY

The POLONUS Philatelic Society was founded in February 1958 in Chicago by Chester Musick as a local club that held monthly meetings plus their annual POLPAX philatelic exhibition and bourse. They also initiated publication of the Bulletin of the Polonus Philatelic Society in English. The name of "POLONUS", as Dr. Leon P. Kozłowski reported, comes from Kopernik (Copernicus), the famous astronomer. While attending the University of Padua, Italy, he registered his nationality as "Polonus", which in Latin was the equivalent translation of "Polish".

Over time, collectors from outside Chicago joined POLONUS to receive the monthly Bulletin and to attend POLPAX. Today, POLONUS has grown into the largest Polish philatelic organization outside of Poland with an international membership and leadership located throughout the USA.

As the world's leading English language organization dedicated to the promotion and study of Polish philately, POLONUS became the choice of collectors with a preference for communication in the English language. Polish philately represents a unique opportunity for philatelists as a result of its unfortunate geographical location and subsequent turbulent history over the past three centuries. Poland was at the epicenter of two world wars as well as various other conflicts. As a result, its borders were frequently redrawn. These historical events provide the basis for a multitude of diverse collecting interests and specializations.

If you collect the stamps of Poland, specialize in any facet of Polish philately or Polonia, are of Polish descent and interested in the history and culture of Poland, the POLONUS Philatelic Society will be a valuable resource.

BULLETIN

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EXPERTIZING SERVICES

POLONUS Expertizing Committee
Expertizing service for

The New Polonus Membership Brochure

Message from the President.....	3
Society News.....	4
New Membership Promotional Brochure.....	5
Website Tutorials & Updates	6-7
Polonus PURLS.....	8-9

Ignacy Jan Paderewski (1860-1941).....	10-12
1919 Kraków Overprints	13-15
Gross Born Foxes.....	16-17
Book Review.....	18
New Issues.....	19-20



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The Polonus Philatelic Society is a non-profit, tax-exempt, 501(c)(3) organization incorporated in 1939 in the State of Illinois. The Society is organized exclusively for educational purposes with the objective of promoting Polish philately through the dissemination of information in the English language. The opinions expressed by authors of articles appearing in the Polonus Bulletin do not necessarily reflect the views of the Polonus Philatelic Society.

Membership: Members receive a quarterly Polonus Bulletin, have complete access to the Society website (www.polonus.org), and participate in the services and activities offered by the Society. The two membership categories are: **Regular Member – North America - \$25.00 / Outside N.A. \$30.00 and Junior Member (under the age of 16) - \$10.00**. Dues are payable in US funds no later than the end of March of each calendar year. New members will receive all the Bulletins for the year in which they join. Memberships are based upon a calendar year.

Dues and Changes of Address to be sent to: Polonus Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 489, Maryville, IL 62062.

Articles for publication to be sent to: Chairman of Publication Committee.

Membership queries to be sent to: Membership Chairman.

General Society matters and complaints to be sent to: President.

Bulletin Advertising:

Member to Member Ads – Members have the opportunity to post ads to fellow members **free of charge**. Limit of 500 characters, defined as a letter, space, number or punctuation mark. Member's names and addresses are not included in this limitation.

Dealer Ads – Dealers wishing to advertise to members have the following options:

Business Card Ad: \$50.00 annual fee for insertion in four issues.

Send ad copy to: Chairman of Publication Committee and make check payable to: Polonus Philatelic Society

Other Ads: Full page or insert ads for single copy available. Send e-mail with ad copy to: info@polonus.org for pricing.

Message From The President

By: Bob Ogrodnik

We have received many comments and compliments on bulletin #539 and the “new look”. Thank you for taking the time to read our bulletin and to give us your feedback. After all, our goal is to provide a service with value to our membership. Keep sending us your comments as this helps shape the content for future bulletins, as well as, other Polonus benefits.

Included with this issue is our new tri-fold brochure together with membership application and website registration forms. Take the time to look this over, read Richard Jaraczewski’s article, and then decide your best course of action to recruit at least one new member. As a global organization we are dependent upon satisfied members spreading the word among their friends and colleagues with similar collecting interests.

Congratulations to Jim Mazepa upon his selection for the 2010 John N. Luff Award for Exceptional Contributions to Philately. This award was presented to Jim at the recent APS StampShow in Richmond, Virginia, where several of our members participated with distinction in the exhibition. Be sure to read the Society News for an insight to Mazepa’s accomplishments and for a list of the Polonus members exhibiting at this show.

The LITHPEX-POLPEX 2010 event in Chicago is coming soon....October 15-17th. This was covered with a flyer in our previous bulletin and is also posted on our website. We still need exhibitors and if you are planning to be in the Chicago area in October, we look forward to seeing you at the Balzakas Museum.

We are heading for the “City of Brotherly Love” in 2011. Polonus will be featured as one of the participating societies at the Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition (PNSE 2010) to be held at the Greater Philadelphia Expo Center in Oaks, PA on April 1-2-3, 2011. As a participating society, we have an obligation to exhibit and we have committed to a minimum of 70 frames. This will also be the event at which we hold our annual membership meeting and sponsor a society table. Make plans for this event,

especially if you intend to exhibit. You will be hearing more about this event from me in the next bulletins and via mailings, however, do not hesitate to visit the website – www.pnse.org – for more information and an Exhibitor’s Prospectus.

If you have not yet experienced our Polish / English Dictionary on the Polonus website, read Hank Bieniecki’s article and test drive the dictionary. This has the potential to become one of Polonus’ finest benefits but it needs your participation and help. Whether you are contributing terms or phrases or volunteering for the project, I am sure that all members can have a hand in building this valuable resource.

POLONUS PURLS is becoming a regular column in our bulletin, thanks to Sam Ginsburg, who is diligently researching the web for helpful sites. In this bulletin, you will find some interesting websites to help define the names of places found on covers and related philatelic material. In time, our intention is to add meaningful links to our website in order to facilitate access for quick reference. You can help us build this resource by forwarding your “finds” to Sam Ginsburg. Be sure to read his column.

On page 9, you will find a look into the past with Polonus “50 Years Ago.....” and a special offering of the US “Champion of Liberty” issue of the Paderewski stamp on first day cover. This may be the last opportunity to acquire this 50-year old FDC and orders will be filled on a first come – first serve basis.

You may have noticed that pages 9 and 10 of the Membership Directory mailed with #539 were incorrectly collated giving the appearance that a page was missing and some members had been excluded. Please check your directory and see if you have a page 9, the reverse side of which will be page 10. We apologize for any inconvenience this has caused and thank the member who brought this to our attention.

Finally, on behalf of the Publication Committee, I want to express our appreciation for the excellent response from members contributing articles for our bulletin. Keep them coming!

Mazepa Selected as 2010 Luff Award Recipient



Dr. James P. Mazepa has been selected as the recipient of the 2010 John N. Luff Award for Exceptional Contributions to Philately. Dr. Mazepa was honored at the 2010 StampShow Awards Banquet on Saturday, August 14th, in Richmond, Virginia.

Jim Mazepa is widely recognized in the USA and

abroad for his devotion to furthering Polish and Latin American philately. In addition to writing articles and exhibiting, he has distinguished himself in leadership positions of specialty societies, currently Chairman of the Polonus Philatelic Society and President of the Federacion Interamericana de Filatelia (FIAF), the continental federation for countries in the western hemisphere.

Jim has received more than thirty gold medals and eight grand awards at WSP competitions and won the APS Champion of Champions in 2000. Internationally, he is the recipient of eleven gold and large gold medals and three special prizes in FIP competition. He won the Grand Prix Americas at Espamer 98. He is an accredited APS chief judge and FIP judge, having served on twelve international juries, and has been the US Commissioner to ten international shows. His dedicated service has been recognized with the Saul Newbury Award of the Chicago Philatelic Society; with his honorary memberships in the Polonus Philatelic Society and the Asociacion Filatelica de Guatemala; with his election to the Real Academia Hispanica de Filatelia (only the third American to be so honored); and his selection as Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of London.

In addition to his position as Chairman of the Board for Polonus, Jim is a Senior Contributing Editor of the Polonus bulletin, a mentor for members interested in exhibiting, and a member of the Expertizing Committee. Congratulations to Jim Mazepa for receiving the 2010 John N. Luff Award.

Polonus Exhibitors at APS StampShow in Richmond

Congratulations to Polonus members who exhibited in the recent APS StampShow in Virginia, and to Alfred F. Kugel, Dr. Jerzy Kupiec-Weglinski, and Frank M. Wiatr for exhibiting in the World Series of Philately Prix d'Honneur. In the open competition categories, Alfred F. Kugel was awarded a Gold for his single-frame on "Guam Island Mail 1898-1902"; Chris Kulpinski was awarded a Silver-Bronze for the "L.O.P.P. Label Catalog" in the Literature category; and John LaPorta was awarded a Bronze for "Tee Time" in the Periodical category.

LITHPEX-POLPEX 2010 Scheduled for October 15-17th in Chicago

A joint effort by the Lithuanian Philatelic Society and the Chicago Chapter of the Polonus Philatelic Society will commemorate the 600th Anniversary of the Battle of Grunwald with a philatelic and numismatic exhibition on October 15, 16 and 17 at the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, 6500 South Pulaski Road, Chicago. It is not too late to register an exhibit - call member Chet Schafer at (773) 545-7007 or John Variakojis at (773) 585-8649 (or by e-mail to: variakojis@sbcglobal.net)

New Members

We welcome the following new members who recently joined our Society:

David Shaw - #1699	Bohdan O. Pauk - #1700
1145 Georgetown Road	2329 W. Thomas Street
Boulder, CO 80305	Chicago, IL 60622

Jeff Zucker - #1701
1663 San Luis Rey Avenue
Vista, CA 92804

Errata: The name of new member, Lord Richard MacAulay-Mannyn - #1685 was misspelled in bulletin #539. We apologize for this error.

New Membership Promotional Brochure & Forms

By: Richard Jaraczewski

In April at WESTPEX 2010, Polonus introduced a new professional tri-fold brochure that provides a description of our Society and summarizes the value of membership. The purpose for this attractive promotional brochure is to provide our society with an effective method of conveying who we are, what we do, and the benefits of membership. Its primary objective is to give the Society an effective and efficient tool for attracting new members via various methods of distribution.

A copy of this new promotional brochure is enclosed, along with copies of our redesigned and branded Membership Application and Website Registration form. [My appeal to you, as a member of Polonus, is to try to think of a way to use these promotional tools to recruit at least one new member.](#)

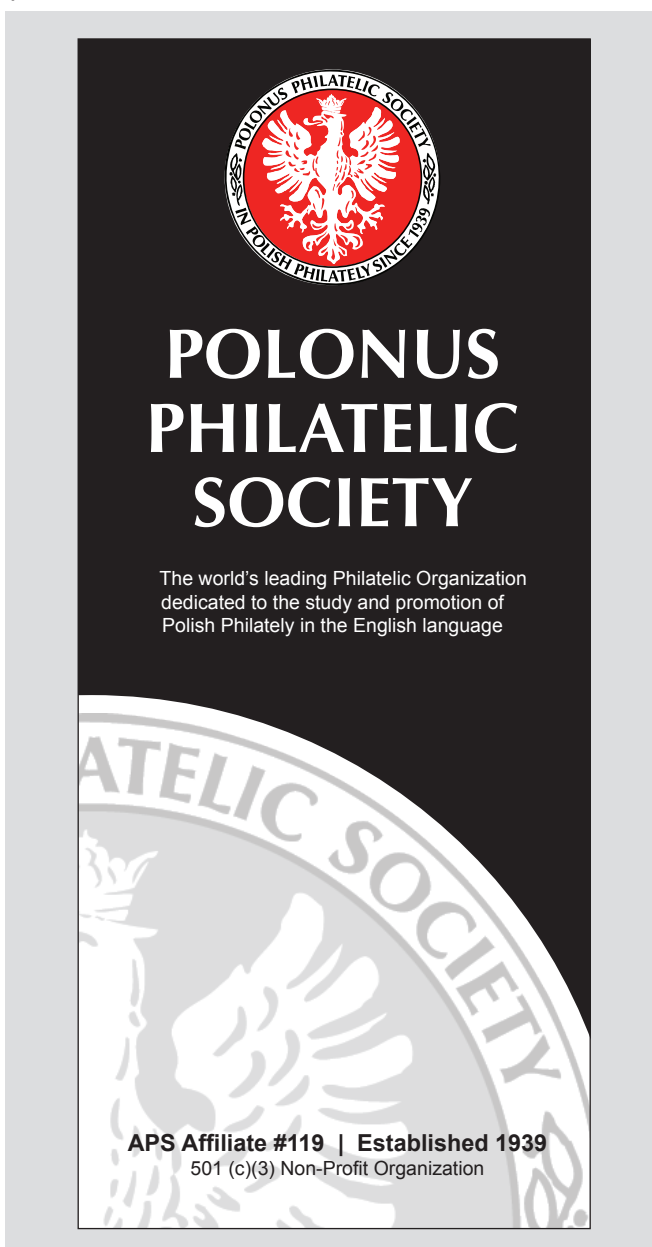
Here are some ideas on how you can spread the word and attract new members:

- Many of you are members of a local stamp club. At one of your next local stamp club meetings, ask for the floor and introduce the club meeting attendees to Polonus.
- Many of you attend local stamp shows and exhibitions. Consider introducing attendees who appear to have a collecting interest in Poland and/or related European stamps and postal history, to Polonus. For example, exhibitors and dealers of Poland or Poland-related materials who may not know of Polonus or have not considered membership.
- Many of you have friends and colleagues who share your interest in Poland stamps and postal history. Have you ever discussed Polonus with them or encouraged them to become members?

These three approaches represent opportunities for “grass-root” solicitation. Use the enclosed pamphlet with forms and do not hesitate to request additional copies. Perhaps some of you have other good ideas for increasing our membership or interest in volunteering on the Membership Committee. If so, send your ideas, comments and requests to my attention via e-mail to: rjara@sonic.net

As of April 24, 2010 there were 206 Polonus members, of whom 43 are located in 9 countries

outside the USA and 163 are located in 29 states within the USA. Over the past five years we have averaged 19 new members per year. While this is slightly more than average annual losses and has given the Society a small but favorable upward trend, we need to increase the number of new members we attract each year. The Society has created the tools to make it easy for members to spread the word about Polonus and help us attract a larger number of members. Please assist the Society by taking the time to get these promotional materials into the hands of potential members.



Website Updates & Tutorials

Polish / English Dictionary

By: Hank Bieniecki

In April 2010, with programming assistance donated by Przemek Konopka, Polonus Website Developer, and with the extensive Polish philatelic terminology research conducted by Richard Jaraczewski, Polonus was able to roll out the first phase of its Polish/English Philatelic Dictionary (P/E Dictionary) on our Polonus Website. We started with 500 Polish philatelic terms, their English translations, and, where required, definitions. As with most projects of this nature, the users have no concept of the amount of time and effort required to develop an infinitely expandable application that will be of huge benefit to the current and future members of Polonus. The objective of this article is to make the membership aware of the existence of this useful tool and to request that all members forward Polish philatelic terms and phrases that are not currently in the P/E Dictionary.

Note: Currently the P/E Dictionary is available to both members and visitors to the Polonus Website. By the end of the year only members will have full access to the P/E Dictionary. Visitors will ultimately only have access to information regarding this asset and a few example terms.

Usage of P/E Dictionary

Figure 1 is a copy of what the website user will currently see when they click on Dictionary in the Polonus Website Menu. The current text will be modified later this year when only members are allowed to go to the P/E Dictionary by clicking on the [\[--To Dictionary--\]](#) link at the bottom of the page.

After clicking on this link, users will be taken to the Dictionary Search page illustrated in **Figure 2**. This page offers the user two methods of searching for either Polish or English terms.

Method 1 - Search Box: In the Search Box (see black arrow) the user has the option to type the word for which they wish a translation. This works exactly like the search boxes you have used in other applications on the internet. You may wish to type just the first part of the word rather than the full word given that the Polish terms have numerous tenses and other variations. It is not necessary to type in the diacritic marks for Polish terms. When you click on Search the program will give you a list

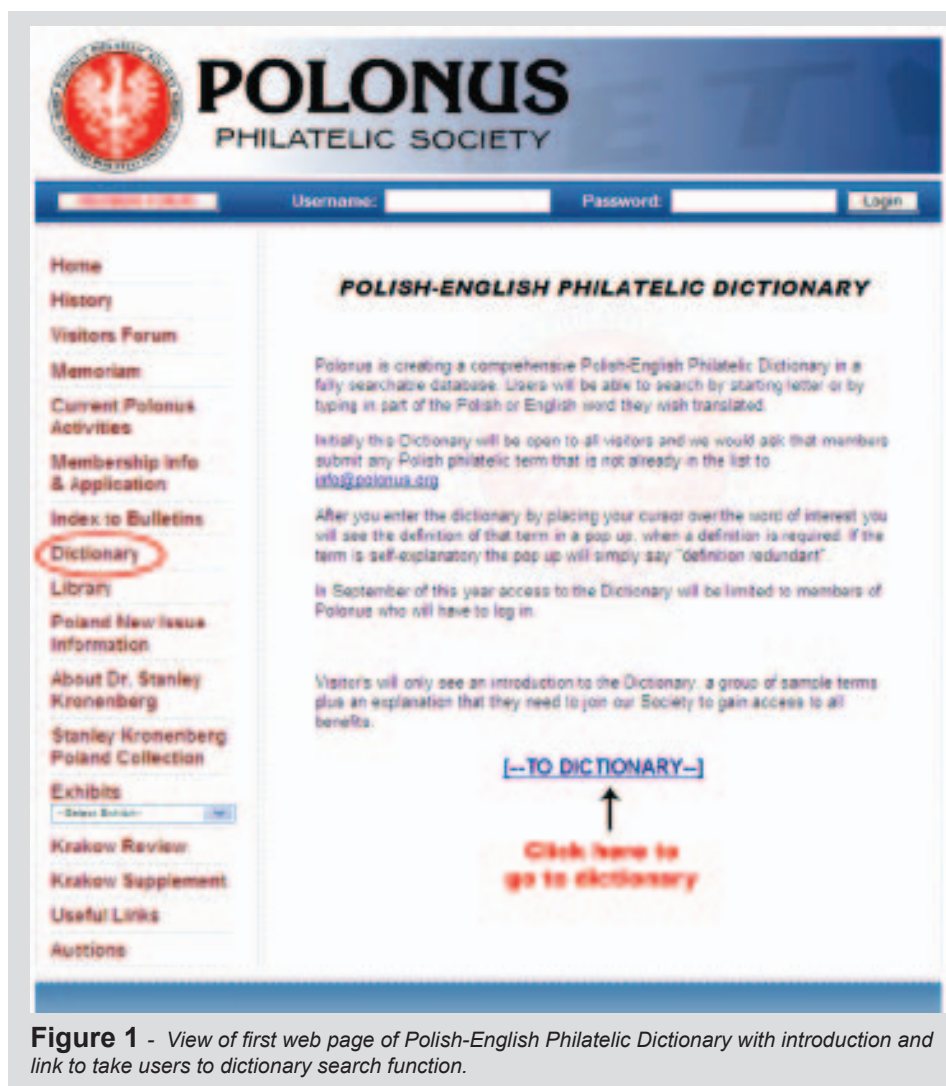


Figure 1 - View of first web page of Polish-English Philatelic Dictionary with introduction and link to take users to dictionary search function.

of Polish terms containing that letter sequence, their English counterparts and their abbreviations where appropriate. When you place your cursor over the Polish or English word, a small window will pop up containing the definition for that term. If you do not find the word or phrase you are seeking, it has probably not been input into the database yet. See the last paragraph of this article to solve that problem.

Method 2 – Alpha Search: Under the Search Box in Figure 2 there is a list of all of the letters of the alphabet, including Polish letters with diacritics. If you click on the letter “Z” you will get a window with all the Polish and English terms in the current database that start with “Z”. Given that few English

words start with a “Z” most of the terms which appear will be Polish. If you select the letter “P” you will get a long list of both Polish and English terms. You will need to scroll through them to see if the term you are seeking is listed. This may seem a bit confusing at first. Just remember that the Alpha Search does not differentiate between Polish and English terms. The key point to remember is the Polish terms will always be in the first column. If they don’t start with a “P” you will find that the English term does start with a “P”. As a user, just scroll down and look for the Polish term of interest to you.

Expansion of P/E Dictionary: If you are looking for a Polish philatelic term or phrase and it is not in the P/E Dictionary take a minute and send it to [info@](mailto:info@polonus.org)

[polonus.org](mailto:info@polonus.org). We will have it translated and added to the existing database. If you are interested in working on this project, write to info@polonus.org. We will send you an Excel spreadsheet that lists all the current terms and phrases in the P/E Dictionary and you may submit additional terms and phrases (including abbreviations used in catalogs) which should be added to the P/E Dictionary. This is a project to which every member has the opportunity to contribute. We hope to hear from many of our members willing to help us expand the P/E Dictionary.

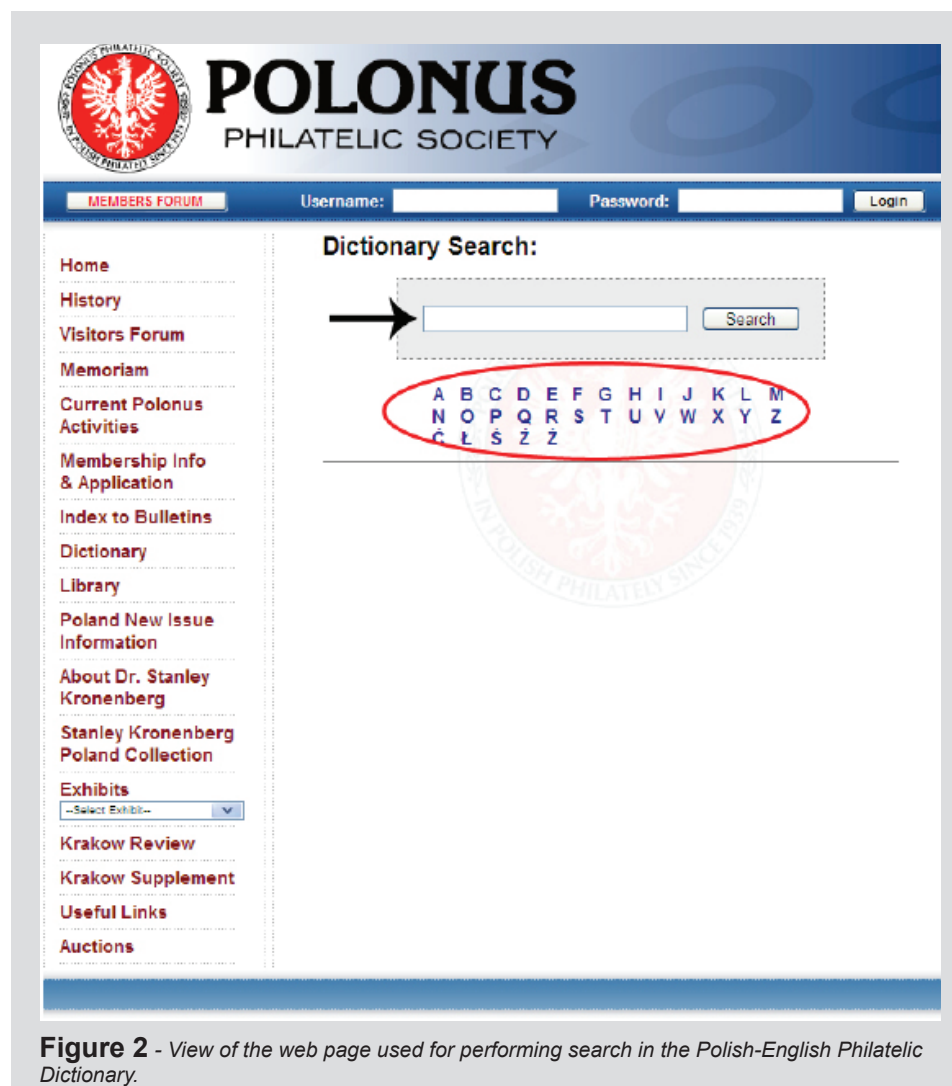


Figure 2 - View of the web page used for performing search in the Polish-English Philatelic Dictionary.

POLONUS PURLS (Polonus Philatelic URLs)

Polish Place Names

By: Sam Ginsburg

Perhaps you have a cover or postmark and want to know more about the place it's from. Or maybe you (or a relative) are from a particular place and you want to know more about it. Your quest might be full of problems because towns often have a variety of names: Polish, Russian, German, Austrian, Hungarian, Lithuanian, Ukrainian and/or Yiddish^[1,2]. Towns are absorbed into larger ones (think Los Angeles) or merge (think Buda and Pest). They are shuffled among powiats, vovoidships and who-knows-what-else. And countries have multiple towns with the same name: the US has more Centervilles and Fairviews than I can count. Much of the English-language military and World War literature uses German names for places in Eastern Europe, so if you're interested in those topics, a place-name converter is essential. The quest becomes to identify the variety of names your place has had over the years, and to pick the right one. This column scratches the surface of starting places, but it could be helpful in your quest.

Assuming you have the name of a place in some language or other, then you might start by simply typing the name into an internet search engine. You might find its other names by browsing a little. If not, then this column is for you.

Many resources are in print rather than on-line, but clues are often on-line. An example is website www.Stampdomain.com, whose Polish Philatelic Bibliography page lists George Kay's book, *Postal Place Names in Poland: A Philatelic Gazetteer*. I haven't seen the book, but it's available from the American Philatelic Research Library (APRL), according to the latter's on-line catalog. Stampdomain.com has many useful links, and will reappear in future columns.

Słownik Geograficzny -- Królestwa Polskiego i innych krajów słowiańskich (A Geographical Dictionary of the Polish Kingdom and Other Slavonic Countries), is a Polish-language historical atlas of place names, 17 volumes produced from 1880-1902. This is available on CD from the Polish Genealogical Society of America, www.pgsa.org. The site has

links to a variety of resources including English translations of a growing number of Słownik entries, as well as to some of the sites listed below.

Before WWII, Jews were almost 10% of Polish population, so it's not surprising that Jews have put a lot of effort into websites helping sort out their roots and geography. JewishGen (www.jewishgen.org) is one of the best-known of such websites. It has links to many town histories, often in English. Clicking on Databases is a good way to start. The Communities Database even allows you to put in the geographic coordinates of your town, if you know them. Yiskor books, written by WWII survivors to preserve the memories of the town and its Jews, tell the town stories, sometimes in English, often in Yiddish. (RootsWeb, <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com>, is somehow related, but it seems to be good only for searching for someone's name.) Bob Ogradnik managed to find www.jewishgen.org/forgottencamps, a website on WWII camp history. It may be useful to the many members who specialize in WWII camp mail. You don't have to be Jewish to find JewishGen useful.

In general, genealogy sites often have useful tips for sorting out town names. For example, a Bing search on Polish Place Names uncovered a Family Tree Magazine on-line article on Polish place names at <http://www.familytreemagazine.com/article/polish-town-name-changes>, with a variety of "how to" tips and leads to an on-line 1912 German Gazetteer, etc. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Names_of_European_cities_in_different_languages is exactly what it says. I learned that Wrocław is called Boroszló in Hungarian. There's a link to http://worsten.org/v_pomeranio/indexsoj_vpm/pl_vpm.htm, which purports to list German and Esperanto names for places in Poland. I think the site itself is in Esperanto, so I had some trouble understanding it. World-IQ (http://www.wordiq.com/definition/List_of_European_cities_with_alternative_names) also has a listing of place names with names in other languages. Did you know that Warsaw is Varsjá in Icelandic, Varşova in Turkish, and Varsovio in Esperanto? Atsnotes.com is a diverse site, primarily dedicated to paper money from around the world, but with a variety of subsites, one of which, <http://www>.

atsnotes.com/other/gerpol.html, has a cross-reference list of Polish and German place names. Site gerpol.html is sorted by the German place name and site gerpol2.html is sorted by the Polish place name. Once you find one of these two pages, it's very easy to use. Atsnotes also has an article on the paper money of Gross Born. Thanks to Bob Ogrodnik for this lead.

Kartenmeister (www.kartenmeister.com) claims to list more than 70,000 places located in German Eastern Provinces before WWI, in Prussia, Pomerania, Silesia, Brandenburg and other places (mostly in Lubuskie Voivoidship, I believe). I haven't poked around much, but it looks promising.

Nearby countries struggle with problems no different than the Poles do. http://www.iabsi.com/gen/public/place_name_terminology.htm is a Slovak site which includes some Polish prefixes, suffixes and roots. Martin Markovic maintains a list of similar websites at <http://martin.markovic.sweb.cz/links.htm>

You might also try the following website, which I was unable to try myself: the Getty Thesaurus of

Geographic Names (http://www.getty.edu/research/conducting_research/vocabularies/tgn/)

This column has listed some of the resources available for sorting out Polish place names. While these sites may provide just the answers some of you need, many of you will have to search more. In the latter case, if you let me know about the other resources that worked for you, perhaps I can include them in a future column.

Note: Please send your favorite websites to me at samgins1730@yahoo.com for possible inclusion in a future column and/or on the Polonus website. I'd also appreciate your feedback on any of the sites listed here or names of websites that should be included in this topic. Thanks.

Endnotes:

[1] In Medieval times, Polish place names were even in Latin, if you believe <http://nicolaa5.tripod.com/articles/latin.html>.

[2] <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/geoinfo/N0240560.pdf> has a fascinating introduction in how the German naming process happened in Poland. Genealogy-oriented <http://www.donhoward.net/genpoland/where.htm> also has some suggestions for finding place names.

50 Years Ago

Polonus members plan to visit Washington DC and participate in the first day ceremony for the Paderewski "Champion of Liberty" four and eight cent stamps, on the 100th anniversary of his birth. In celebration of the event, Polonus prepared an Official Polonus Paderewski First Day Cover. This cover was a beautiful three-color, embossed unique design on rag bond envelopes. As reported in Polonus Bulletin #184, the number of such covers was limited to 3000.

The good news today is, a small supply of these covers is still available and for sale at the member's price of **\$5.00 per cover**. Send your order with check made payable to: Polonus Philatelic Society, to: Polonus Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 489, Maryville, IL 62062. This may be your last chance to acquire this limited edition cover.



First Day Cover honoring Ignacy Jan Paderewski with "Champion of Liberty" issues Sc1159 & 1160

Please note: Some covers have a single stamp and others have both. Orders will be filled on a random basis without selection of one- or two- stamp covers.

Ignacy Jan Paderewski (1860-1941)

By: Jan Niebrzydowski

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the birth of Ignacy Jan Paderewski, a great Polish statesman who served as Prime Minister of the Republic of Poland in 1919. It was partly due to his tireless campaigning and diplomatic efforts that Poland regained independent statehood in 1918, after the Great War.

Paderewski was a patriot and a philanthropist, but above all, he was a renowned composer and concert pianist whose artistic talent made him one of the highest earning performers of his time. He was unstinting in offering financial support to a number of patriotic organizations, including the Polish Army of General Józef Haller which was formed in France in 1917 in order to fight for Poland's independence.

His second wife Helena, whom he married in 1899, set up the Polish White Cross organization in the US during World War I. Its aim was to provide aid and support to Polish soldiers in Haller's Army. This took the form of clothing, medicine, cigarettes and other necessities. The White Cross also provided training for 40 nurses who were sent to care for Polish soldiers in France and Poland. The organization continued to provide for and support orphans after the war.

Paderewski was a wealthy man leading the life of a celebrated artist. In May 1899, he and Helena took up residence in Switzerland in the beautiful Riond-Bosson villa, near Morges. He purchased the villa from Prince Le Marois. Paderewski had other

residences in Poland and the USA. In Warsaw, he was co-owner of the elegant Bristol Hotel. However, his Swiss villa is probably the most famous.

On the occasion of the 500th anniversary of the battle of Grunwald, in which Polish and Lithuanian forces defeated the knights of the Teutonic Order, Paderewski donated money to build a monument commemorating the battle. He presided at the unveiling ceremony in Kraków on 15 July 1910.

When World War II broke out he set up an International Committee to help Poles in POW and



Figure 1 - Postcard showing Paderewski villa in Switzerland

internment camps. Throughout the war, his secretary Helena Liibke dispensed charitable aid from his estate to needy Poles. In the summer of 1940, Paderewski left Switzerland and moved to the USA, where he died in New York on the 29th of June in the following year.

Paderewski left behind many mementos but they are difficult both to find and buy, since they are of interest not only to Poles but also to music enthusiasts throughout the world. The department

Paderewski (cont.)



Paderewski and his wife were friends with Monsignor Lucjan Bójnowski and visited him twice in New Britain, Connecticut.

Figure 2 depicts a cover with Christmas Greetings from 1928 which Paderewski sent to Monsignor Bójnowski, who was also a major benefactor of the Polish White Cross set up by Helena Paderewska.

of music in Kraków's Jagiellonian University has the biggest collection of Paderewski memorabilia in the world. Featured in this article are some philatelic momentos from my private collection.

Figure 1 is a postcard showing the Paderewski villa near Morges, Switzerland. The card is signed "Hanka", i.e., Helena Paderewska. It reads: "So far so good. It is difficult to describe how beautiful it is here. There is a lake close by and the mountains behind it. Absolutely exquisite. Kind regards". The card is dated 20 February 1920 and addressed to Miss J. Szwed, who was a nurse from the USA in General Haller's Army. At the time she was stationed at a centre in Skierniewice, central Poland, for soldiers demobilized from Haller's Army.

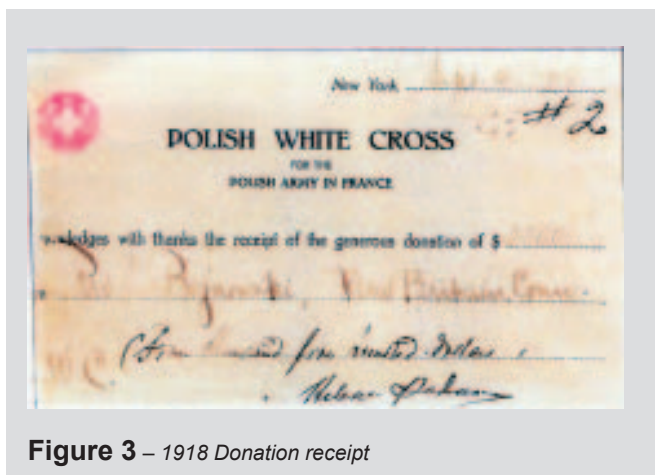
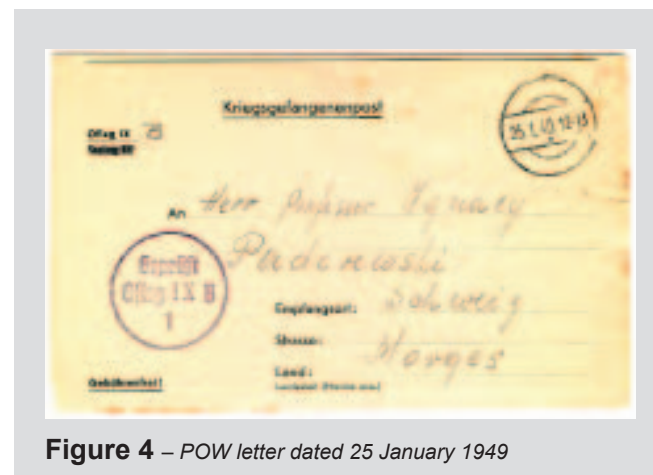


Figure 3 shows a receipt for the sum of 5,500 USD for a donation by Monsignor Bójnowski to the White Cross for aid to General Haller's Army in France. The receipt bears the signature of Helena Paderewska and is dated 6 September 1918. This was a very large sum of money at the time.

Figure 4 is a letter from a Polish POW held in German Oflag IXB addressed to Paderewski in Morges and dated 25 January 1940.

Figure 5 is a postcard sent by a Polish officer imprisoned in Oflag XIA addressed to Paderewski in Angers, France and dated 21 March 1940.

Figure 6 shows a cover from a Pole in Wasen camp in Switzerland addressed to Paderewski in Morges



Paderewski (cont.)

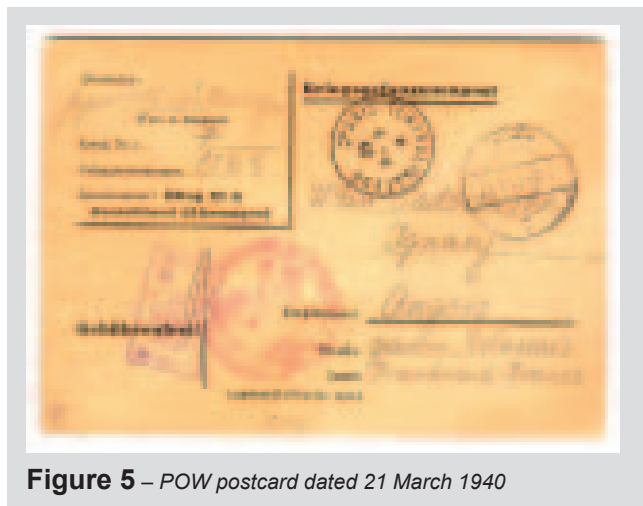


Figure 5 – POW postcard dated 21 March 1940

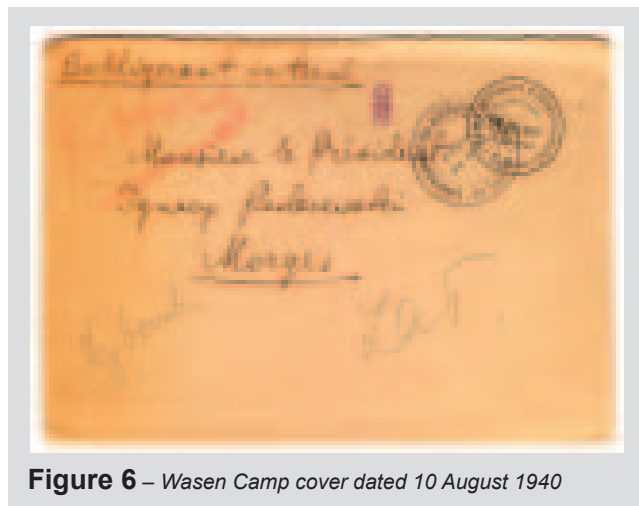


Figure 6 – Wasen Camp cover dated 10 August 1940

on 10 August 1940.

Figure 7 depicts a cover from a Polish officer held in the Leimiswil POW camp addressed to Paderewski in Morges on 16 August 1940.

Editor's Note: The likeness of Ignacy Jan Paderewski, from a painting by Tadeusz Styka, was featured on the 4 and 8 cent "Champion of Liberty" stamps released on 8 October 1960 in Washington, D.C. Polonus took an active part in appealing for the issuance of these stamps (see bulletin issues 167-169 and 180-184). A special first day cover was also prepared by Polonus – see page 9. We thank member Jan Niebrzydowski for sharing with us a more personal side of Paderewski and examples of related postal history from his collection.



Figure 7 – Leimiswil Camp cover dated 16 August 1940

For Sale

- Two deluxe Minkus albums with dustcovers, 2-post style with pages up to 1984; Albums custom embossed with POLAND on spine and POLAND with Eagle on cover; includes 100+ stamps in hingeless mounts. Like new condition. \$60.00 (includes postage within USA).
- Fischer Katalog 2001, TOM I & II, in excellent condition. \$20.00 for set (includes postage within USA).

Contact: Bob Ogrodnik, P.O.Box 240428, Ballwin, MO 63024-0428;
tel: (314) 821-6130 e-mail: krpsl@earthlink.net

1919 Kraków Overprints on Letter Cards & Postal Usage

By: Robert Puchała

Edited by: Hank Bieniecki

Editor's Introduction: Virtually all collectors of Polish stamps are familiar with the famous Kraków provisional stamps overprinted "POCZTA POLSKA" in 1919. Most collectors, however, are unaware that various types of Austrian postal stationery were also overprinted for use by the Polish Post during that same period. The following article will address the overprinting of Austrian "Letter Cards," which unlike postcards, are folded over and sealed around the edges to keep the writers message private. For clarification I refer you to Figure 4 which illustrates the outside of a Letter Card.

Letter Cards were popular at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th century. The beginning of WW I marked the decline of their usage. Universal censorship regulations and the bans on sealed mail of any type rendered this format of postal stationery obsolete during WW I.

Although various postal services, including the Austrian Post, continued to issue new editions throughout WW I, their postal use was dwindling. Austrian Letter Cards which had been in circulation in the areas of Galicja (southern Poland under Austrian rule) with postmarks from the WW I period are scarce. This is probably why when after WW I ended, and the newly formed Polish Post took over the former Austrian Post, large stocks of unsold Austrian Letter Cards and other forms of postal stationery were discovered. The majority of the stock of Letter Cards would have borne the pre-printed portrait franking of Emperor Karl I of Austria. (His other titles were Charles I of Austria and King Karoly IV of Hungary. He reigned from 21 Nov 1916 until 12 November 1918 when WW I ended).

The Letter Cards were prepared with POCZTA POLSKA overprints in the Koźniański printing shop in Kraków, along with the remainder of Austrian postal cards, telegraph receipts and package receipts. The Letter Cards went into postal circulation in the order in which they were overprinted. The first ones appeared in early March 1919. **Figure 1** illustrates the earliest known postal



Figure 1 - Earliest known usage of a Kraków Overprinted Austrian Letter Card after WW I



Figure 2 - Example of Kraków Overprinted Austrian Letter Card with Bielsko Railway Station Circular Date Stamp.

use of a Letter Card which I have documented. It was sent from Kraków on 4 March 1919 to Oświęcim. (Author's Note: In this article, I am not taking into consideration the Letter Cards cancelled with the Bielsko railway station post office double-ring circular date stamp (c.d.s.) with the inscription 'BIELITZ 2 ÖSTERR. SCHLES'. See Figure 2 with the 3a type date stamp. There are various Letter Cards of this issue cancelled with these c.d.s. as early as January 1919. Postal stationery bearing this specific c.d.s. is covered in my article in 'Filatelista' [2]. The English translation will appear in a future Bulletin.)

Most postal usage Letter Cards are from late 1919 and early 1920. It is possible that only a single batch of the Letter Cards was overprinted in late

Kraków Overprints (cont.)



Figure 3 - 1920 Censored Registered Letter Card from Lwów to Munich.



Figure 5 - Very Scarce Emperor Franz Joseph bearing Type Cs1 Kraków Overprint sent from Bielsko to Vienna in 1920.



Figure 4 - Very late usage of Registered Letter Card sent from Lwów to Newport News, America in 1921

February 1919, and then overprinting was resumed in the second half of 1919. However, it seems more likely that they were overprinted in large numbers and, due to a lack of demand for this format after WW I, they remained in postal stocks and in the hands of customers for an extended period. This may be confirmed by two letter cards used as ordinary postcards (without factoring in the pre-

printed face value to pay the fee). **Figure 3** shows a Letter Card sent as registered mail from Lwów on 4 December 1920 to Munich. The Letter Card has military censorship marks from Lwów and Berlin. The fee, according to postal rate of 1 September 1920, was 5 mk. (2.50 mk. for the letter and 2.50 mk. for registered mail). The full 5 mk. franking is affixed to the face of the card. A very late usage is shown in **Figure 4**, a letter card sent as registered from Lwów on 10 February 1921 to Newport News (America). An excessive franking of 25 mk. instead of 20 mk. was collected from the sender, or alternatively the sender had no other stamp.

Cs1 and Cs2 Letter Cards franked with the preprinted portrait of Emperor Franz Josef (the predecessor to Emperor Karl I) were overprinted by the Polish Post in much lower quantities. By comparison with other stationery from this period, with known print productions, the Emperor Franz Josef issues are very scarce. I estimate their number at a total of several hundred pieces (certainly no more than 1,000). It is clear each printing run of Letter Card batches included a variety of color, pre-printed frankings and paper types. Therefore, as small batches of Letter Cards were returned from small post offices in different areas of Poland overtime, including some items such as older Cs1 and Cs2 issues, it is likely that they were all overprinted together. (*Editor's Note: "Cs" is Fischer's designation for Letter Cards or "Sekretniki". Fischer lists 4 major overprint types for the Karl I and 3 major overprint types for the Franz Joseph Letter Cards. Additional printing errors and sub-types exist.*)

Kraków Overprints (cont.)



Figure 6 - Very Scarce Emperor Franz Joseph bearing Type Cs2 Kraków Overprint sent from Cieszyn to Vienna in 1920.



Figure 7 - Examples of two very scarce postally used overprinted Emperor Karl I Letter Cards posted from small towns in Poland.

Figure 5 shows a Cs1 Letter Card sent as registered from Bielsko on 17 May 1920 to Vienna. Oddly, the fee was 1 kr. (50 hal. for the letter plus 50 hal. for registered mail) according to the old foreign rate of 1 October 1919 which was changed in the Cieszyn Silesia area on 1 June 1920, a month and a half later than in the other territories of former Austrian occupation. **Figure 6** shows

a Cs2 Letter Card sent from Cieszyn on 29 May 1920 to Vienna and paid in the same manner as the previous one. Postally used Cs1 and Cs2 Letter Cards are very rare. In both cases the 25 hal pre-printed franking was used to pay part of the postage fee.

The final two postally used overprinted Emperor Karl I Letter Cards illustrated in this article are very scarce. Letter Cards sent abroad (except to the countries of the former Austro-Hungarian Empire) or from small towns are the rarest. **Figure 7** shows a Letter Card sent registered from Złotniki on the eastern border of Poland (Tarnopol voivodship) on 1 April 1920 to Lwów and a Letter Card sent as registered from Lipica Dolna also on the eastern border (Stanisławów voivodship) on 10 March 1920 to the Red Cross in Warsaw.

The study of Kraków Overprinted Letter Cards and other related Kraków Overprinted Postal Stationery represents a very interesting and challenging area for collectors. While genuine postal used material is scarce, the collector has the opportunity to find both used and unused material at bourses and from other sources. Forgeries of the overprints are not common. The shortage of available material will challenge you. However I strongly encourage those collectors looking for an area of philately that is not common to give it a try.

(Editor's Note: Robert Puchała is a well known collector of classic Poland who has specialized in the study of the provisional issues of Poland including all aspects of the Kraków issues. He is a prolific author and will be contributing other articles on various aspects of the 1918-1919 provisional issues of Poland on a regular basis.)

Bibliography:

- [1] *Polskie Znaki Pocztowe*, PPF RUCH 1962, vol. III, pp. 145-149
- [2] Puchała R., *Obieg pocztowy kartek wydania krakowskiego z 1919 roku*, 'Filatelista' 2/2008, pp. 68-70

Gross Born Foxes – Another Look

By: Adrian Wortman and Roman Sobus

November 1944 marked the fifth anniversary in German captivity for the Polish officers at Oflag IID. The war's momentum now was with the allies; American and British forces were at the German border and the Soviet army had advanced several hundred miles past Poland's 1939 eastern border. Supply lines once having the protection of the mighty Luftwaffe were now easy prey for allied fighters and bombers.

Oflag IID housed some 5000 Polish POWs, virtually all of them officers. About 500 enlisted men were also interned to perform various tasks for the camp. Yet, armies needed to be supplied, and soldiers and prisoners of war alike needed to be fed. The "feeding of prisoners" is the topic of a story that led to the creation of a most interesting protest label in the German POW camp IID.

All provisions were brought from outside the camp and prepared on site. One day in the latter part of November 1944, a supply of meat of an unknown type and origin was brought into the camp to be offered to the prisoners. The POWs speculated that the "mystery" meat had its origins at a Silver Fox farm operated by the Germans a short distance from the camp. As news circulated among the men, they protested to the officials.

When the Postal director was informed of the delicacy that was being prepared for the men, he quickly printed a label which was applied to all mail on the 21st of November. The label, in orange, depicted a fox, with a fork in its mouth. (**Figure 1a**) Many of the cards mailed on this date featured humorous notes. The reverse of the card mentioned above (**Figure 1b**) offers suggestions for preparing fox.

The same fare was again on the menu a week later, and once again, the label was applied, but this time in blue. Total numbers printed are given as 650 in orange, of which 250 were actually used, and 750 in blue, of which about 700 were applied to mail. (**Figure 2a**). The reverse shown in **Figure 2b** has the message: "Serdeczne Pozdrowienia,



Figure 1a – Postcard with orange fox label from 21 November 1944 mailing

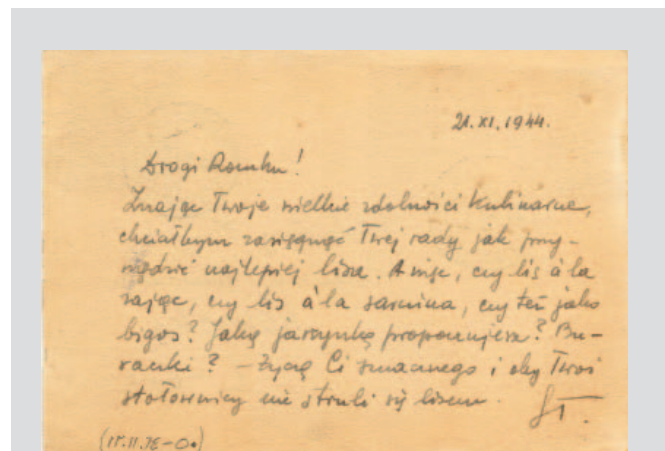


Figure 1b – Reverse of card in Figure 1a with serving suggestions for fox

Smaczno", which translated means "Heartfelt Regards, and the Polish equivalent of Bon Appetit".

The die was the work of Lt. Jarosław Gliniski, engraver of a number of stamps for use by the IID internal post. A proof of this label is pictured in **Figure 3** and has the word "POCZTA" at the top, above the fox's head. At the bottom is "OFLAG IID," with the number "20" above the "OFL". The label must have been prepared at some time prior to the 21st of November. Originally engraved with a value of 20 pfennig, the denomination was obscured in the finished product. All reference material used

Gross Born Foxes (cont.)



Figure 2a – Postcard with blue fox label from 28 November mailing

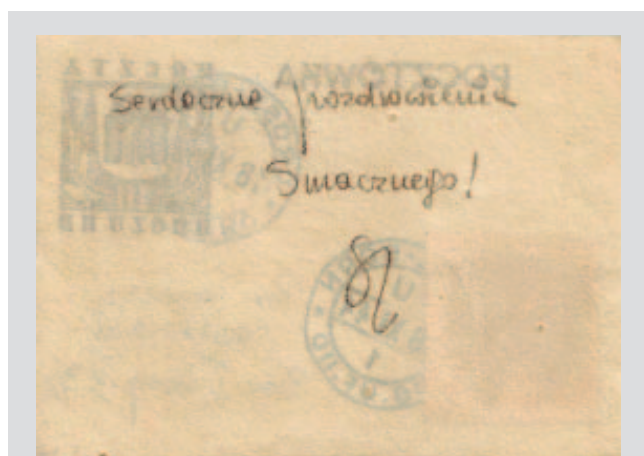


Figure 2b - Reverse of card in Figure 2a with message "Smacznego"

in the preparation of this article indicates the denomination as 10 pfennig, but the "20" is clearly visible in copies of Lt. Glinski's proof made more than a decade ago.

The full issue of both colors was to have been cancelled, with remaining unused labels being destroyed. This is how the information was presented, but in reality, at least some of the unused labels were divided up among the members of the postal commission.

Lt. Glinski, the engraver, had a number of unused singles and blocks of four in his personal collection.

Certainly other members had similar items, but they are exceedingly scarce and are cited in literature as originating from "unofficial" sources.

One unique and scarce item is shown in **Figure 4**. This is the only known example of what may be considered a full sheet of 18 impressions. They are printed on rather thick, spongy paper, quite unlike that used to print most of the camp's labels. Also, they are not perforated, as had been the standard for all labels used in IID and they are not gummed. The adhesive must have been applied to each label just prior to use. Another unusual characteristic of this item is the 6 impressions that are inverted, creating the possibility of tete-beche pairs.

The authors would be interested in obtaining copies or scans of other multiples of this issue.

Bibliography:

[1] Machowski, Józef; "Katalog Poczty Obozowej w Gross Born"; Wydawnictwo Artystyczno-Graficzne, Kraków; 1963

[2] Longden, Howard, *The Polish Prisoner of War Posts*; Caldra House Ltd. 1994



Figure 3 – Proof of fox label with clear "20" denomination



Figure 4 –Unused block of 18 blue fox labels... unique and scarce

BOOK REVIEW: Polish Postal & Commemorative Service In G.B. 1941-2003

By: Jan Korzeniowski

In case some people may not know or know very little about Polish Forces stationed in the United Kingdom from 1939 onwards, may I in few lines outline the background.

A few days before the German invasion of Poland, some Polish Navy warships were ordered to escape from being captured or destroyed. So, they departed via the Baltic sea and headed towards Great Britain. Once the war started on the 1st of September 1939, Poles started to escape through Romania and Hungary to France, where a Polish Government in Exile was being formed. Other Poles in the thousands made their way by different routes to Great Britain, and then to Scotland, where a Polish Army Headquarters had been established in Perth. New Polish military units were formed, trained and organized to defend the shores of Scotland from imminent and expected invasion by German troops. Amongst those tens of thousands of soldiers there was no shortage of philatelists eager to pursue their hobby.

The first Philatelic Circle (koło) formed in Edinburgh and Glasgow, where there were large gatherings of Poles. Soon they started to issue bulletins to their members. It has been estimated that the Polish Forces in the West had numbered around 300,000 people. After the war ended, the majority of Poles did not return to their homeland for a number of reasons. Instead, they decided to remain where they were or emigrate to other countries. Those philatelists who decided to remain in Great Britain once again joined or formed new branches of Philatelic Circles (koła) in several cities, such as London, Bradford, Birmingham, Manchester and Leicester. Over the following years many members advanced in age have died or have given up the hobby, and new members do not appear to have the same knowledge or passion for philately.

Over the years, the achievements by the Society for Polish Philately in Great Britain, in London, have been fairly impressive and prolific. We have issued over 500 items such as covers, postcards, souvenir folders, philatelic medals given as prizes for exhibition displays, exhibition catalogues, journals, and ties with PZF logos.

In 1980's the Polish Philatelists Association decided to use British postage stamps with perforated initials (perfins). The resulting perfins were used on covers, postcards and exhibition correspondence with British post office cancellations. For example, the perfin

created for the 40th Anniversary of the Battle of Monte Cassino was "MC 40" and the perfin for the 5th Anniversary of the Pontificate was "JP II".

One member, Adam Tutak, of the Society for Polish Philately in Great Britain, realized the need to catalogue of all the Polonica items issued by Polish Philatelists and Polish institutions such as the General W. Sikorski Museum and the Jozef Piłsudski Institute. Numerous other ex-combatant organizations and social/cultural organizations have been issuing commemorative postcards and covers, on special occasions for different historical events or for

outstanding personalities. The catalogue is in A5 format size, soft cover, with 260 richly illustrated pages. It starts from the first "LONDON" issue, a set of 8 stamps as issued by Polish Government in Exile London, 1941 and followed by chronological events of Polish philatelic history in Great Britain.

Editor's Note: We thank Jan Korzeniowski for this book review and for his explanation of an important part of Polish philatelic history. Anyone interested in acquiring a copy of this catalogue may do so by contacting Jan Korzeniowski at jkorzeniowski@freenetname.co.uk. Price is US \$30 (shipping included) and payment can be made using PayPal.





Anniversary of Polish Special Services

This 1.55 zł stamp honors the 20th anniversary of Poland's special services unit, the Grupa Reagowania Operacyjno – Manewrowego (Operational Mobile Reaction Group) or GROM (acronym meaning thunder). Constituted as the primary special forces unit of the Polish Land Forces, it was officially activated on July 8, 1990, and reportedly consists of 270-300 men in 4 squads. It has focused on a variety of special operations and unconventional warfare roles, including anti-terrorist activities, and participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom. The stamp design and first day cancellation depict the Polish eagle on a thunderbolt.

Date of Issue	April 6, 2010
Sheet Format	20 Stamps
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Jerzy Pietras



Remembering the Katyn Massacre

This 3 zł stamp in a numbered souvenir sheet honors the 20,000 Polish POW's, among them Polish intellectuals and top military officers, who were shot by the Soviet NKVD in 1940 in the vicinity of the Katyn Forest in the former Soviet Union. Responsibility for the massacre was denied by the Soviets and covered up by the pro-Soviet Polish government until the fall of communism in 1989. In 1990 Russia formally acknowledged its responsibility for the massacre; however, the individuals responsible for the killings have not been held accountable in a war crimes tribunal and no compensation has been paid by the Russian government to the victims' families. Sadly, on April 10 Polish President Kaczyński, together with top military and political leaders of Poland, died in a plane crash on their way to the 70th anniversary ceremony. The commemorative stamp appears to show an aerial view of the mass gravesite, with an overlain cross made of buttons from the officers' uniforms.

Date of Issue	April 7, 2010
Sheet Format	Single in SS
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Marzanna Dąbrowska



World Philatelic Exhibition “Portugal 2010”

This 3 zł stamp in a numbered souvenir sheet honors the world philatelic exhibition scheduled for Portugal this year, and depicts historic buildings, a map, and early Portuguese sailing ships. The very attractive first day cover also depicts historic ports and sailing vessels.

Date of Issue	April 30, 2010
Sheet Format	Single in SS
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Jacek Konarzewski

New Issues



Europa - Reading

This 3 zł stamp appears to depict a caricature of a young boy who, when reading, becomes a prince with a crown. The first day cover pictures a young girl riding a book through the skies, and the first day cancellation portrays a book being read.

Date of Issue	May 5, 2010
Sheet Format	
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Maciej Jędrzyk

Karol Wojtyła from Wadowice

These 1.95 zł stamps commemorate the early career of Karol Józef Wojtyła, later Pope John Paul II, and appear to depict churches in the Wadowice area near Kraków, together with photos of him. He was born in Wadowice (German Frauenstadt) and educated at the Jagiellonian University and Rome, acquiring proficiency in 12 languages. Ordained as a priest in 1946, he first served in the village of Niegowić, near Kraków, beginning in 1948, and later as Archbishop and Cardinal, and ultimately as the 264th Catholic Pope from 1978 to 2005. His activist papacy played a major role in the fall of communism in Eastern Europe, and earned him the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004. Efforts are now in progress to beatify him, perhaps as early as this year.

Date of Issue	May 16, 2010
Sheet Format	5 Stamps with labels
Printing Method	Offset & Embossing
Designer	Janusz Wysocki



750th Anniversary of the Tower of Tczew

This 1.55 zł stamp celebrates the founding of the town of Tczew, located on the Vistula River in Eastern Pomerania, Kociewie, in northern Poland. The earliest recorded reference to the city, then known as Trsow (Kashubian: Derszewo) dates to 1198, and by 1252 the settlement was known as Tczew (German: Dirschau). The two major features of the town, the old walled town fortress and the nearby famous river bridge, are depicted on the issued stamp and official first day cover, respectively, while the cancellation portrays the town's coat of arms

Date of Issue	May 27, 2010
Sheet Format	50 Stamps
Printing Method	Rotogravure
Designer	Andrzej Gosik