

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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Polpex: a good cure for 'winter blahs'

POLPEX 82, held February 27-28 at the Polish Veterans Hall in Chicago, the first philatelic event of the season, was a huge success. Both days were sunny with comfortable temperatures, a welcome change from the "winter blahs", and as a result, attendance was large on both days.

The opening ceremony held Saturday at noon featured Rev. Donald Bilinski, curator of the Polish Museum of America, as the honored guest. He represented our Honorary Chairman, Wladyslaw Cardinal Rubin of Rome who could not attend.

After the ribbon cutting ceremony Rev. Bilinski spoke to the crowd attending and complimented Polonus on a beautiful presentation on this, the 600th Anniversary of Our Lady of Czestochowa — the theme of the exhibition.

Some of the exhibits that reflected the theme were a thematic collection of "Czestochowa" by Walenty Poniec-ki, "Madonnas on Post Cards" by Al Rvbarski, and a numismatic exhibit, "Black Madonna of Czestochowa" by Ted Maczynski of the Polish American Numismatic Association.



Present at ribbon cutting ceremony: (left to right) Polonus President John Bartczak, PANA President Art Marquart, Chester Schafer, Alfred Szebel, Polonus Founder Chester Mikucki, Rev. Donald Bilinski, Dr. Matt Gajewski of Buffalo, Roman Strzelecki, and Thomas Gobby.
(Photo: Mitch Starostka)



Despite their busy duties, these Polpex committee members managed to group up for a photo: (left to right) A. Szebel, W. Poniecki, S. Rusin, T. Gobby, W. Lewinski, J. Bartczak, C. Schafer, R. Strzelecki and A. Rybarski.

This year the Beeba was well attended. Extra tables and chairs had to be set up at the last minute. Fortunately, enough food was on hand, thanks to Beeba Chairman, Walenty Poniecki and his Committee. After a tasty meal, the Presentation of Awards took place.



Alfred Szebel accepting Grand Award from President John Bartczak. It was a hand carved wooden plate made to order for Polonus in Poland. A picture of the Madonna in the center is surrounded by the inscription "600th Anniversary of Our Lady of Czestochowa". Polonus received the plate in July of 1981, well before the Solidarity crisis.

The Grand Award was given to Alfred Szebel for his philatelic study of "Pilsudski—Freedom Fighter". The second best exhibit was "Henryk Sienkiewicz", a specialized study by Marek Kalawski of Worcester, Mass. He received a Gold Medal and the Kozakiewicz Research Award. A Gold Medal and President's Award went to Frank Wolosewick for his "Warsaw 1823 to 1945". Although his exhibit



Al and Fran Rybarski (left to right) handled sales at the Polonus table assisted by Omar Gobby, during the Saturday noon rush. Brisk sales were reported on the \$6.00 package deal.



Polpex award winners: (left to right) J. Mazepa, J. Bartczak, J. Zilke, R. Odrowski, C. Schafer, W. Poniecki, T. Gobby, M. Kalawski of Massachusetts. A. Szebel and F. Wolosewick.



Seated at table No. 1 during the Beeba were: (left to right) Florence Wilkowski representing PANA, A. Szebel, C. Schafer, Mr. & Mrs. J. Mazepa, W. Gruenbaum, Fred Blau, and John Ross, Dealers Comm. Chrm., International Ameripex 1986.



Doris Hoskins (left) of the U.S. Postal Service, capably handled the crowd at the Polpex postal station. She was assisted by Marie Lucas and Betty Dixon.

was not for competition, James Mazepa, who served as a judge at the Polpex, was awarded an honorary Gold Medal for a rare collection of "Air Post In Poland: The Pioneer Period, 1921-1923".

Vermeil awards were presented to John Barteza for "Austrian Ettapenpostamt", and to Chester Schafer for "Polish Constitution Issue, 1921-22". A Silver Medal was awarded to Conrad Straub of Minn. for "Warsaw Provisional Post Cards".



Judging the exhibition were Werner Gruenbaum, Julius Kaposta and James Mazepa.

Silver-Bronze awards went to Thomas Gobby for "Martial Law Censorship" and to Chester Schafer for "German Occupation of Lithuania".

Two Bronze awards were received by Walenty Poniecki for "Czestochowa" and "Pope John Paul II". Two



The stage was beautifully decorated by Walenty Poniecki featuring the theme of Our Lady of Czestochowa.

Bronze were also received by Romuald Odrowski for "Vatican City" and another "Pope John Paul II" exhibit. A Bronze medal also went to Jeanette Zilke for "U.S. Ship Cancellations".

Upon completion of the Awards Presentation, President John Barteza thanked all attending for their support and invited them to attend next year's exhibition which is to be held at the Palmer House in downtown Chicago and which will feature mili-



Forming this typical group scene at Beeba table were: (left to right) S. Kochanski, fiancée and Junjor Poniecki, Mrs. W. Poniecki, L. Pieczara, Mr. & Mrs. S. Styczynski.



This group traveled from Sunny Hills, Florida to attend Polpex: (left to right) Honorary Member Richard Estka, Anne Schubert, Rev. Francis Myszkowski of St. Adrian's Parish, Chicago, Rev. Gerard Kocik and Vic Beleckas.

tary class and will commemorate the 300th Anniversary of the victory at the Battle of Vienna by King Jan Sobieski.

A set of two cacheted envelopes were issued emphasizing the theme of the show with a scene of Jasna Gora (Bright Mountain) Monastery. The set of covers, once cancelled on each day of the POLPEX 82 show sell for \$2.00. The set of two multi-colored souvenir sheets are available for \$1.50

or \$2.00 with the special exhibition cachet cancellation. The Show Program which contains philatelic articles on the theme of the exhibition as well as information about the exhibits and the Society is \$1.00. A special package of all the above is available for \$6.00 (a \$7.50 value) plus postage. All orders for individual items or the package should be sent to John Bartczak, 10428 Avenue "O", Chicago, IL 60617.



Another happy group at Beeba table. Representing the First Czechoslovak Soc. was President Jos. Janecka; and the Beverly Phil. Soc. President Tom Borowiak.

(Beeba and Award Photos by T. Gobby — Other Photos by M. Starostka)

FOR POLAND

MAJOR MODERN RARITY



Jankowski stamp with tab

"JANKOWSKI VERSION" (Proofs) of Scott 2270A-71A Space Mini-Sheets. Three years after their printing less than 100 sets are known to exist outside the Polish Postal Museum. Reserve your copies now. Availability Limited !!

Description	Price
"Jankowski" 2270A-71A Mini-Sheets (2)	\$700.00
Following are from above M/S	
"Jankowski" singles with tabs (2)	\$195.00
"Jankowski" singles (2)	\$125.00

CLASSICS, RARITIES & VARIETIES

Scott #	Description	Price
#41. 42, 43, 44, 45, (thin z), 46, 56, 57, 58, 59 and 60, all tied to F-VF cover with BIAŁA cds dated Feb. 16, 1919, expertized		\$2,500.00
#50	90h Broken "A" variety, Used on piece, Very Fine, Rare, expertized	3,000.00
#53	Horizontal strip of 5, Center stamp is thin "S" variety, all VF, Mint, expertized	650.00
#55	10K, thin "S" variety, Mint, VF, expertized ...	11,000.00
#158	Carmine Color Error, Mint, VF	240.00
#215-22	Imperfs, several with Margin Markings, VF ..	450.00
#341	Imperf Proof on Blue Paper, VF	75.00
#341/43	Imperf Horiz Pairs, (one 343 is large head variety, unused, VF	1,200.00
#341/43	Complete Gutter Sheets of 60, unused, F-VF	7,000.00

SPECIALISTS

POLAND #1 - PARTIAL LISTING

Description	Price
#1a, Blue & Carmine, Missing "10" bottom plate variety F-VF, tied by Numeral "1" cancel to cover from Warsaw to St. Petersburg, Red Cyrillic Warsaw town mark, Very Fine	\$550.00
#1, Blue & Rose, VF, tied by D.P. Railway cancel to 6-25-1864 folded letter from Warsaw to Riga, Red Ekspedycja mark & Black Cyrillic Riga back stamp	650.00
#1a, Blue & Carmine, unused, regummed, VF+	650.00
#1, Blue & Rose, unused, regummed, few short perfs, F-Vf	500.00
#1, Blue & Rose, unused, regummed, tiny thin, several perfs repaired, fine appearance	300.00
#1, Blue & Rose, Red #70 Sokołow cancel, VF+	250.00
#1 Dark Blue & Carmine, Thin paper, "1" cancel, VF+	295.00
#1a, Blue & Carmine, "1" cancel, short top left corner Perf, fine	150.00
#1a, Blue & Carmine, "1" cancel, Thin short perf, Average	75.00

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ASDA — Polonus 166 — APS

U.S. Crazy Horse Stamp Honors Korczak Ziolkowski

When the U.S. Postal Service issued a Crazy Horse commemorative stamp January 15, 1982, it honored more than a fabled Sioux Indian chief who beat Gen. Custer at Little Big Horn. It also honored Korczak Ziolkowski, a South Dakota sculptor, who has spent almost half of his 73 years blasting and burrowing into Crazy Horse Mountain to create the yet unfinished statue of Crazy Horse. And that makes it the first US stamp to honor a still-living person. The long shadow of Ziolkowski is clearly cast across the Crazy Horse stamp pictured here.

The stamp was unveiled on Ziolkowski's 73rd birthday on September 6th at Crazy Horse Mountain in So. Dakota. It is part of the new Great American Series of regular stamps. The series, dedicated to American history as opposed to the history of some Americans, was inaugurated in 1980 and Crazy Horse will be the second North American Indian honored on it. It was designed by Brad Holland of New York City, who based his portrait upon the studies by Korczak Ziolkowski. The memorial, taller than the Washington Monument, is being sculptured from a mountain near Mr. Ziolkowski's home in the Black Hills. Holland's portrait seeks to capture the face of Crazy Horse as remembered by survivors of the Battle of Little Big Horn when interviewed by Mr. Ziolkowski in 1940.

Crazy Horse was a Sioux Indian Chief of the Oglala Tribe, described as one of history's ablest military tacticians. He was a major leader of the Indians in the Sioux Wars of 1875-77, when various Sioux bands refused to settle on reservations.

First Day ceremonies were held at the Black Hills on January 15th. The stamp is a 13c rate, which now serves for domestic postal cards.



POLAND LEADS PRICE CHANGES IN SCOTT VOL. 4

Scott Publishing Co. has released Volume 4, Panama to Zambezia, of its 1982 Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue. This year Poland has replaced Russia as the leader with 5,340 price changes.

While most of Poland's prices are up, there are numerous scattered decreases. The 1954 25-groszy definitive (656-A) is down 25 cents. One of the high values (655) drops to \$1.50/75c. A number of used prices are up, especially among the early issues.

The shades of the 1860 10-kop (#1) are up \$25.00 used. The Warsaw 50-fen. on 20-gr. inverted surcharge (14a) gains \$25.00.

The Gniezno provisionals (77-78) are up 25 per cent except for the invert which goes to \$2,000. The Americana item (267) picturing Kosciuszko, Washington and Pulaski climbs to \$2.50/30 cents.

Reprinted from LINN'S STAMP NEWS

POLPEX WELL WISHERS

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Denmark
KOICHI SATO, Tendo, Yamagata
Japan

"22nd Skiing Championship of Poland, 1947" Overprint and its Forgeries

By STANLEY KRONENBERG

In 1947 Polish stamps Scott #344 were overprinted into Scott #B 54 to commemorate the 22 Skiing Championships of Poland. 148,900 overprinted stamps were issued. A horizontal strip of 5 overprints was typeset and then reproduced 20 times to obtain the 10x10 typographic overprint form. Five distinct types of these overprints do thus exist. These types can be recognized by characteristics shown in figure 1 through 5. Distances between rectangles obliterating the old denomination measured at half height for the five types are: type I: 11.9 - 12.00, type II: 11.7 - 11.8, type III, IV and V: 11.5 - 11.6 (all in mm.). During the reproduction of the basic strip of five overprints additional distortions occurred resulting in numerous sub types within each column. One can also observe other overprint faults which occur only on one or a few sheets and are of no consequence in expertizing these stamps. 25 gr. "Goznak" stamps printed in rotogravure with the 3rd roller were used exclusively for these overprints. The distribution of small red ink blots and dots and other small accidental printing plate flaws make exact plating of all these basic 25 gr. stamps possible. This has been thoroughly researched and is described and illustrated e.g. in the book: "Czerwony Blednodruk znaczka 1.50 zl./25 gr." a joint project under the direction of Maciej Perzynski, Krajowa Agencja Wydawnicza "Ruch", 1976, (in Polish).

While these stamps were still in circulation a part of the original overprint form consisting of a strip of five overprints was stolen from the printing plant in Krakow together with a supply of the original blue ink and was used to forge normal over-

prints as well as numerous freaks e.g. inverted overprints and double overprints. These forgeries exist unused as well as used on original correspondence often cancelled with the genuine commemorative cancellation. The book by M. Perzynski and J. Kapkowski: "Forgeries of Postage stamps of People's Republic Poland" Prasa - Ksiazka - Ruch, Warsaw 1975 (in Polish) states on page 28 that the stolen strip of overprints contained positions 1 through 5 of the overprint form. My observations do not confirm this; instead I believe that the original typeset strip of 5 overprints may have been reproduced not 20 but 21 times and the extra strip was then stolen. In any case this question is difficult to address because all these overprints were printed carelessly and accidental imperfections often overshadow essential characteristics.

Forgeries having been made with the original overprint types and the original ink appear to be very difficult or even impossible to recognize. Nevertheless virtually all these stamps can be successfully expertized as is shown below:

1. If the basic 25 gr. stamp is printed with the roller 3 the overprint may be genuine. If it is printed with rollers 1 or 2 the overprint is forged.
2. Determine the plate position in roller 3 sheet of 10x10 stamps of the 25 gr. stamp.
3. Determine which basic type of 5 types of the overprint it is.
4. Determine if the overprint agrees with the stamp position. Forged overprints were imprinted on random positions of the sheet and therefore in most forgeries the plating position does not match the applicable overprint type. Exceptions are forged overprints which were accidentally



Figure 1.

Type I overprint occurs in columns 1 & 6 of the 10 x 10 sheet. Note the first "5" and both "I" in "XXII". The left "rectangle" measures 5.6 mm. on top and 5.3 mm. on the bottom. (Position 81).



Figure 2.

Type II overprint occurs in columns 2 and 7 of the 10 x 10 sheet. Note the "m" in "mistrzostwa", the second "r" in "narciarskie" and the "4" in "1947". (Position 82).

imprinted on the correct column of the 3rd roller sheet. These rare cases can be recognized by observing the ink of the overprints as described in item 5.

5. The ink used for the forgeries appears to have been the original stolen ink. However the forgers apparently let it stand quietly for some time and did not stir it sufficiently before use. The result is that the color mix separated to some extent in the ink container and shows deviations in the forgeries. Genuine overprints are in a dark blue color which



Figure 3.

Type III overprint occurs in columns 3 and 8 of the 10 x 10 sheet. Note the right side of the left rectangle and "i" of "mistrzostwa". (Position 83).



Figure 4.

Type IV overprint occurs in columns 4 & 9 of the 10 x 10 sheet. Note the second "s" in "mistrzostwa" and the second "r" in "narciarskie". (Position 69).



Figure 5.

Type V overprint occurs in columns 5 & 10 of the 10 x 10 sheet. The vertical line of "+" looks like an inverted exclamation sign, the left "rectangle" measures on top 5.5 mm. and 5.7 mm. on its bottom. (Position 70).

varies only in intensity. Forgeries are usually a more violet or reddish blue than originals, occasionally a lighter shade of blue. A direct side by side comparison with overprints known to be genuine is required.

6. To confirm ultimately the authenticity of the overprint, it should



Figure 6.

An example of a forged overprint. The basic 25 gr. stamp is from the (correct) roller 3, position 26. The overprint being inverted should therefore be type V from the position 75 in the 10 x 10 overprint form. In this case it is however type IV. The color of the overprint is a dark violet blue.

be carefully compared with the same position in the entire sheet of overprinted stamps.

In addition to the normal dark blue of genuine overprints there exist rare genuine overprints made with an entirely different ink, a dull light ultramarine. The origin of these overprints could not be determined; they could be proofs or stamps from a trial printing.

A typical example of a forged overprint is shown in figure 6.

I thank Mr. Joseph Bieniecki from Granite City, Illinois whose stock of these stamps made this article possible and who gave me numerous interesting forgeries for reference.

POLAPEX 82

The Poland Philatelic Club of Milwaukee will hold POLAPEX 82, its fifth annual stamp exhibition on May 1-2, 1982, at the Southgate Shopping Center Mall, 3333 South 27th Street, Milwaukee, from 9:30 am to 9:00 pm. Admission will be free and free parking is available.

The show's theme will be Polish Music with the 100th anniversary of the birth of Conductor Leopold Stokowski and Composer Karol Szymanowski (1882-1937) being noted.

A different envelope, printed in three colors and hot foil stamping, will be issued for each of the two days of the show and will feature the theme. Designer of the envelopes is California artist Leon S. Kawecki.

Interested collectors may order the covers at \$1.00 each or \$1.75 for the pair from Irene Orz, Box 1266, Milwaukee, WI 53201. They will be returned via first class mail, unless a stamped, self addressed envelope is provided for return. Each cover will be postmarked with the POLAPEX 82 special cancel. Make checks payable to Polish Philatelic Club of Milwaukee.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, April 23rd:

Regular meeting. Nominations of Polonus officers for new term to be made at this meeting. Starts 8:00 pm.

Thursday, May 13th:

P.A.N.A. meeting. A rare historical film on Marshal Jozef Pilsudski to be shown. Starts 7:30 pm at Polish Veterans Post 31 Hall, 3242 N. Pulaski Rd. Polonus members welcome.

Friday, May 28th:

Regular meeting. Election of officers.

NEW MEMBERS

- Rev. Michael Winkowski - 1188
2400 New York Avenue
Whiting, IN 46394
- John J. Lukasiewicz - 1189
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— Annual Dues are \$10.00 —
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Stanley Rusin, Treasurer

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NEW ISSUES

A set of eight stamps showing succulent cactus plants and flowers was scheduled for release in December of 1981.

- .90 gr. - Epiphyllopsis Gaertneri;
6,000,000.
- 1.00 zl. - Cereus tonduzii; 10,000,000
- 2.00 zl. - Cylindropuntia leptocaulis;
10,000,000.
- 2.50 zl. - Cylindropuntia fulgida;
10,000,000.
- 6.50 zl. - Nopalea cochenillifera;
10,000,000.
- 6.50 zl. - Lithops Helmutii, 10,000,000
- 10.50 zl. - Cylindropuntia spinosior;
1,500,000.

The stamps are multicolor rotogravure printed by "VEB Wertpapier-druckerei" in Leipzig, GDR. Designed by Alojzy Balcerzak.

IN MEMORIAM

Polonus member, Rev. Monsignor Michael I. Fronczak, passed away on March 23, 1982 at age 77.

A native of Newark, NJ, Msgr. Fronczak earned a bachelor of arts degree in 1929 from the Seton Hall College. He entered the Immaculate Conception Seminary and was ordained in 1933. He earned a master of arts degree and a doctorate degree in marine biology from Columbia University. Pastor of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Irvington, in 1963, he was declared Domestic Prelate by the late Pope Paul VI.