



BULLETIN OF THE **POLONUS** PHILATELIC SOCIETY

534

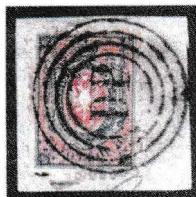
Five Dollars

SPRING, 2009

Zbigniew Korszeń Warsaw, 7.11.2005
Expert of the Polish Philatelists Union

Certificate of Authenticity

No. 83/05



The postage stamp illustrated above (*enlarged image at front and reverse shown*) is *Poland, Scott number 1b (Fischer 1b)* on piece cancelled with D.P. Railway circular postmark. This is a dark blue and rose variety.

I examined this stamp and found it to be authentic based on measurements, type of printing, paper and ink.

The condition of this cancelled stamp is VF. I have signed this piece on reverse.

Zbigniew Korszeń

Expert of the Polish Philatelists Union
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e-mail: zkorszen@onet.pl
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POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY
IMPLEMENTS
POLONUS EXPERTIZING SERVICE

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W. W. I

The Polonus Philatelic Society is a Not-For-Profit 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 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 – Residents of North America - \$25.00/Residents outside North America - \$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 the Editor.

Membership queries to be sent to the Membership Chairman.

General Society matters and complaints to be sent to the President. (see addresses above)

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 or punctuation mark. Member's name and address 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.
 - Half page copy ready ads:** \$50.00 per insertion
 - Full Page copy ready ads:** \$80.00 per insertion.

Send ad copy to Editor and make check payable to Polonus Philatelic Society

Message from the President

Bob Ogrodnik

It may be due to my relative inexperience with Philatelic Exhibitions or it may be the excitement of my initial attempt at exhibiting, but I am of the opinion that Sarasota 2009 was the best ever for Polonus. If not, we sure made a favorable impact by our presence and participation. Be sure to read the event coverage in this bulletin. My only regret is that more of our members could not be present.

With Sarasota 2009 behind us, we start working towards our next Annual Meeting and Exhibition in San Francisco at WESTPEX 2010. It is not too soon to start working on your exhibit, whether fine-tuning, expanding or becoming a first timer. In addition, as a Society we have another ambitious list of actions to complete, one of which (Polonus Expertizing) is featured in this bulletin.

In previous bulletins, I mentioned that we expected to introduce a new Membership Directory in Sarasota. The response to our survey was excellent, however, we underestimated the time required to complete the software and did not have a finished product to distribute at the Annual Meeting. We now expect to complete and distribute the directory within the next few weeks.

One of the issues we discussed at our Board Meeting and Annual Meeting was the need to expand our volunteer base in the Society. It is amazing how much satisfaction and fun can be realized when the load is shared. I want each of you to consider an area in which your talents might contribute to the Society and ask that you contact me or any of the Officers with your offer to volunteer. To give you some idea of our needs, we are looking for someone to lead the WW I Study Group; we need contributors to help build an adequate supply of articles for our bulletin; we need more proof readers; we need a bank of Polish – English translators; we are looking for someone to handle the “New Issues” portion of our bulletin; and more volunteers for existing and new committees (membership, website, et al). You can reach me by e-mail (krpsl@earthlink.net) or by phone (314-821-6130) or by the post (P.O. Box 240428, Ballwin, MO 63024-0428).

Founded in 1939, Polonus celebrates its 70th anniversary this year. In the traditions of the Society, the Chicago Chapter will host POLPEX 2009 on March 14 & 15, 2009 at Przybyło's White Eagle in Niles, Illinois. (see announcement in bulletin) If you reside in a reasonable proximity to Niles or plan to visit Chicago on March 14th or 15th, I encourage you to visit POLPEX 2009. Several members will be exhibiting (including your President); there will be a Society table and several bourse dealers; and of course, an opportunity to dine at a fine Polish restaurant. I hope to see you there.

POLONUS 70TH ANNIVERSARY AT POLPEX 2009

The Chicago Chapter of Polonus will celebrate the Society's 70th Anniversary with their annual POLPEX on March 14 and 15, 2009 at the White Eagle Banquets, 6839 North Milwaukee Avenue in Niles, Illinois 60714.

Due to a larger number of exhibits this year, the Exhibition will be held in a larger hall adjoining the Bourse, which will include approximately twenty dealers. Participants at POLPEX include the Polish American Numismatic Association with exhibits of coins and medals. Hours on Saturday will be from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm; on Sunday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

A special US postal cancellation has been authorized for use on opening day cachet covers. Covers are available to Polonus members for \$2.00 with SASE.

Write to: **POLPEX, P.O. Box 410452, Chicago, IL 60641.**

Polonus Members Meet in Sarasota

Bob Ogrodnik

The 7th Annual Polonus Meeting & Exhibition was held at the Sarasota National Stamp Exhibition (SNSE 2009) on February 6 – 8, 2009. Polonus members from California, Texas, Illinois, Missouri, Ohio, Florida, Canada and Poland were in attendance for the meetings, exhibits, and buying/ selling at the bourse. Weather was great, participation in the exhibition was excellent, and all appeared pleased to have attended this event.

Of the 47 exhibitors at this show, 18 or 38% were Polonus members, representing 65 frames of Polish material and winning six (6) gold, seven (7) vermeil, two (2) silver, and two (2) silver/bronze medals. Alfred Kugel's exhibit "Unusual & Exotic Polish 20th Century Postal History" was in the Court of Honor. In addition, Julian Auleytner received the "Reserve Grand Award" for his exhibit, "Polish Post Provisional Period 1918-1920"; Jerzy Kupiec-Weglinski received the APS Medal of Excellence Award 1900-1940 for his exhibit, "Air & Gas Defense League (LOPP) in Polish Aero Philately 1923-38"; Paul Phillips received the APS Medal of Excellence Award 1940-1980 for his exhibit, "Greetings from Paradise: Life in German Occupied WW II Poland"; and Chris Kulpinski received the AAPE (American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors) Award of Honor for his exhibit, "Soviet Occupation of Poland". Overall, congratulations to all Polonus exhibitors for an exceptional performance.

In addition to Show medals and awards, the following list of exhibitors received the prestigious Polonus medals and awards:

Polonus Gold Medal (for all Show Gold and Vermeil)

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| • Julian Auleytner | • Richard Mallow |
| • Roy W. Koczarski | • James Mazepa |
| • Alfred Kugel | • Jan Niebrzydowski |
| • Chris Kulpinski | • Paul J. Phillips |
| • Jerzy W. Kupiec-Weglinski | • Andrew Urushima |

Polonus Silver Medal (for all Show Silver and Silver/Bronze)

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| • Daniel P. Lubelski | • Chester Schafer |
| • Robert V. Ogrodnik | |

Polonus Grand Award (The Joseph Bieniecki Memorial Award)

- Julian Auleytner

Polonus One Frame Grand Award (The Polonus President's Award)

- Jan Niebrzydowski

On Friday, February 6th, Polonus members and guests were treated to a delightful reception at the home of Jim and Jean Mazepa. We thank our Chairman for this event, definitely a highlight of our visit to Sarasota.

On Saturday, February 7th, the Board of Directors met, with Chairman Mazepa presiding, and later on the same day, the Annual Membership Meeting was held with President Ogrodnik presiding. The President's Report is included at the end of this article. One of the highlights of this day was a presentation, "Life and Scout Mail During the Warsaw Uprising", by Bohdan Hryniewicz, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland in San Juan, Puerto Rico, which was open to the public.

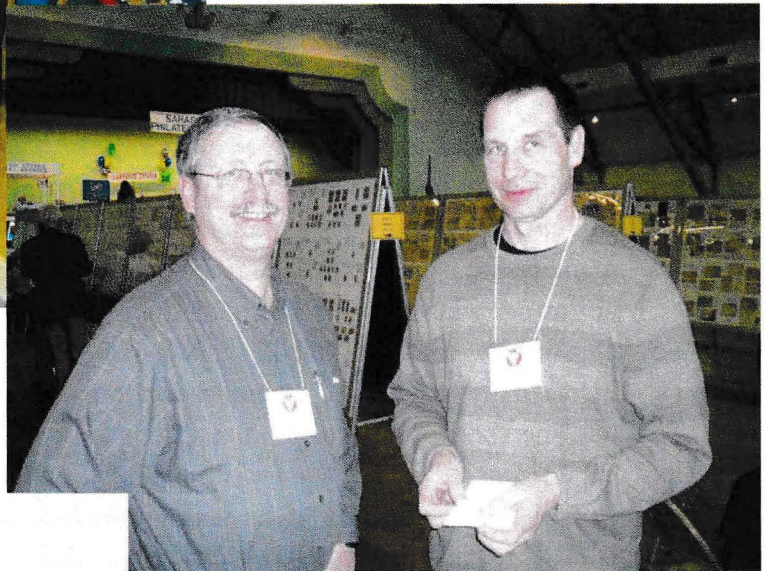
Hryniewicz was a scout in Warsaw during the Uprising of 1944 and his personal experience provided for a most interesting insight of the role of scouts and the handling of mail. Attendees included local Polonia who were later treated to a guided tour of the Polish exhibits by Jim Mazepa.

Our Society table was not only well organized, well located and well manned, but a popular stop for visitors over the three day show schedule. Whether it was the interest in Polish philately or the Polish sweets, we surely attracted some attention and gained some new members.

Pictures from the Exhibition



Society Table with Sam Ginsburg

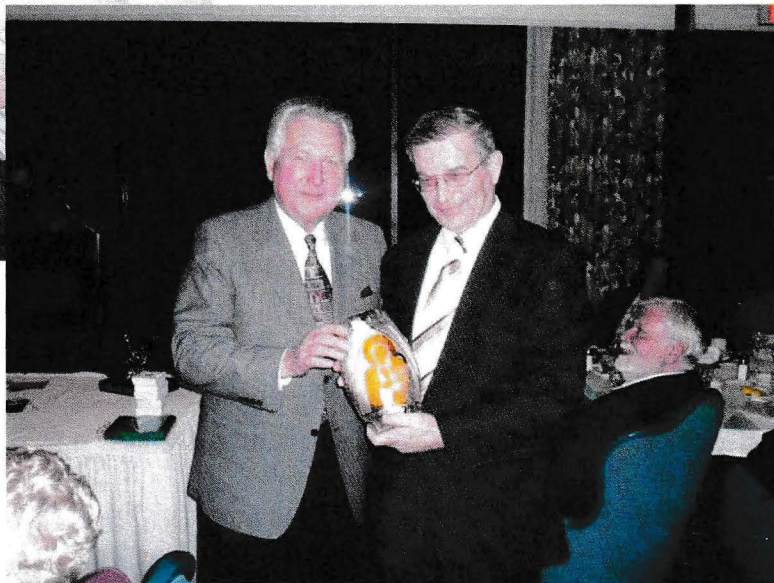


Dan Lubelski
Robert Puchala of Poland



Guest Speaker B. Chester Hryniewicz,
Robert Ogrodnik and Dr. James Mazepa

Dr. Julian Auleytner receives
Polonus President's Award
from Robert Ogrodnik



President's Report

This is my second and mid-term President's Report since being elected to the office during CHICAGOPEX 2007 and I am pleased to report that the state of Polonus is very good (B+) with a number of accomplishments that we can feel good about.

1. Our financial position remains sound with cash flow sufficient to meet our obligations. Membership continues to be our primary source of income, however, the sale of bulletin back-issues and tax-deductible contributions are becoming more important. Our cash balance on hand as of December 31, 2008 was \$4573.84.
2. Membership continues to be a challenge, as the total number (210) has not changed much since the last report. New members are not quite offsetting attrition.
3. Our 501(c)(3) status has helped encourage tax-deductible contributions and we are now well positioned to benefit from this status in future funding of projects.
4. Bulletin #533 represents continuous improvement with our #1 communication tool and membership benefit. Suffice to say, our bulletin remains a top priority as we endeavor to attain an "award winning" status through improvements in content, format and print/photo quality.
5. Our website continues to be a work-in-progress and another top priority. In addition to being an increasingly important communication tool, the website can be a powerful stimulus for recruiting new members. We have ambitious plans for this year, adding information on Polonus expertizing; adding a glossary of Polish to English philatelic terminology; adding a searchable Bulletin index; adding a Menu item for the Polonus Philatelic Library: etc.
6. Our expertizing program has been updated and packaged for promotion. This is a unique, as well as, valuable benefit for Polonus members. Program details will be featured in Bulletin #534.
7. The Polonus library has been busy accumulating materials, most of which has been donated by members. Before launching a program our Librarian has been busy working on a system by which members can access the reference materials and you will be hearing more about this valuable resource in future Bulletins.
8. Work has been completed on a presentation stand and packaging for the Polonus medal awards. Also, an ample supply of "limited edition-collectible" medals (made in Poland) has been generously donated by the Chicago Chapter of Polonus. These awards in the final form will be presented to the winners at SNSE 2009.
9. Work on a Master Membership Data Base has been completed and we are preparing to distribute a Member Directory. Not a visible resource, however, indispensable for an organization with decentralized offices and chairs in conducting their charge in a timely and accurate manner. I consider this a major accomplishment.
10. A new tri-fold Polonus promotional piece has been introduced at this exhibition. This piece will be used in attracting new members and, in general, promoting Polonus.
11. You will notice that our Society table is very visible with a new banner and table covering featuring our name and logo. In addition, we have a well organized table to meet members, guests and prospective new members.

Finally, I want to acknowledge and thank the Board of Directors and Committee Chairs for their contribution towards the achievements noted and look forward to working with all, including more volunteers from our membership ranks, towards building a Society that delivers great value to its members.

Polonus Philatelic Society – Financial Report
2008 Fiscal Year (Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2008)

Cash Balance on Hand – 1/1/08 \$5957.69

Income FY08

Member Dues	\$4706.00
Donations	\$ 842.00
Sales	\$1023.00
Other	\$ 261.30

Total Income \$6832.30

Expenses FY08

Bulletin Related	\$3325.28
Prepaid Postage	\$2400.00
One Time Expenses	\$1880.50
Supplies/Mailing	\$ 325.62
Other Expenses	\$ 284.75

Total Expenses \$8216.15

Net Income (\$1383.85)

Cash Balance on Hand – 12/31/08 \$4573.84

Note: In FY08 it would appear that the society expenses exceeded income by a significant amount. However, this is misleading as a decision was made to purchase \$2400 of prepaid postage for use in mailing the Polonus Bulletin. Of this postage, approximately \$1900 is still available for mailing purposes. In addition, there were one time expenses for Exhibit Awards (10 years worth) and incorporation fees as a 501(c)(3) organization. The organization continues to be in a cash positive situation. A detailed Profit and Loss statement is available by request via e-mail to info@polonus.org.

New Members

We welcome the following new members who joined this past year.

George Zelwinder - 1657
702 Fringed Orchid Court
Venice, Florida 34293-7258

Francis Czykun – 1658
3127 Fenton Street
Wheat Ridge, Colorado 80214

Alfred Kugel – 1659
502 York Road
Hinsdale, Illinois 60521-3587

Gerard Menge – 1660
P.O. Box 214
Ledbetter, Texas 78946-0214

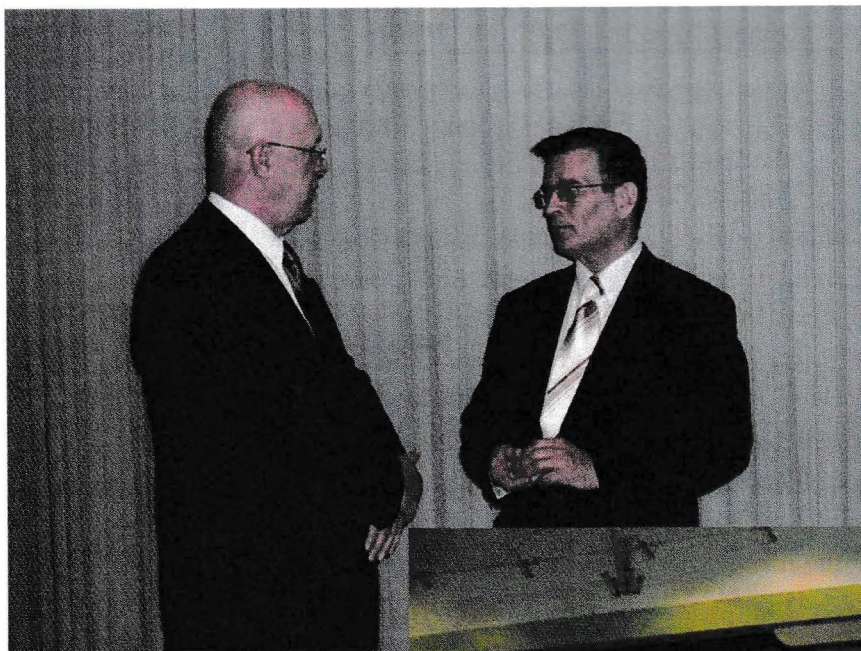
William Kellighan – 1661
Melita, 1 Deevue Road
Banchory, AB31 5US – U.K.

Dariusz M. Olszewski - 1662
1536 Lighthouse Drive
Naperville, Illinois 60565

Harold Ford - 1663
P.O. Box 871009
Stone Mountain, Georgia 30087

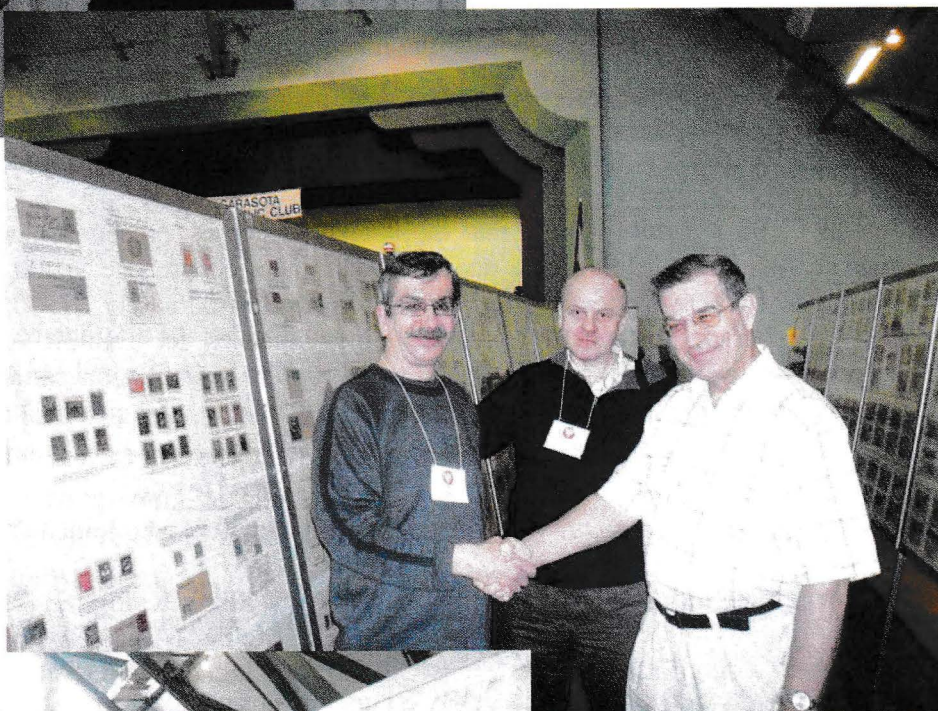
Frank M. Wiatr - 1664
53 Bittersweet Hill
Weathersfield, Connecticut 06109

Bernard Paull – 1665
64 Highacres, Loders
Bridport, Dorset DT6 3UJ – U.K.



**Dr. J.J Danielski and
Dr. Julian Auleytner**

**Roman Sobus
Zbigniew Korszeń
Dr. Julian Auleytner**



**Dr. Jerzy Kupiec-Weginski
Zbigniew Korszeń
Dr. Julian Auleytner**

POLONUS IMPLEMENTS EXPERTIZING SERVICE FOR POLISH PHILATELIC MATERIAL

Hank Bieniecki

For the purposes of this article "expertizing" and authentication" have the same meaning.

With the death of Dr. Stanley Kronenberg in December 2000, the ability to have Polish philatelic material (stamps, covers, cancellations, overprints, gum, etc) dependably expertized in North America abruptly ceased. Dr. Kronenberg had replaced the previous Polonus expertizing services provided by Polonus and Jack Domar during the 1950's and 1960's. For approximately 40 years Stanley was the primary expertizing resource for Polish philatelic material in North America.

About five years ago I began to work on the re-institution of a Polonus Expertizing Service with the assistance of Dr. Mike Melnichak and several certified members of the Polish Philatelists Union of Poland. The fact that it has taken five years to put together an effective and efficient program is testimony to the complexity of solving all the administrative and language issues. Rather than duplicating information here, I will instead refer the reader to my article "ABC's of Expertizing and Typing of Stamp and Covers" which appeared in Issue 530, Spring 2008 of the "Bulletin of the Polonus Philatelic Society". This article explains the differences between expertizing service performed by most organizations in North America versus what is required by the Polish Philatelists Union of Poland and other countries in Europe.

For the last three years the Polonus Expertizing Committee (PEC) which I chair has been developing and operating the Polonus Expertizing Service on a beta basis. Members and dealers have been using earlier versions of the various expertizing forms to submit several hundred items PEC. That material has been processed and returned to the owners. Appearing on the cover of this issue is an example (reduced size) of a typical Certificate of Authenticity (CoA) issued via this service which was prepared by an Expert of the Polish Philatelists Union (PZF), Warsaw Poland. All CoA's issued via PEC for genuine items will be prepared by members of PZF in English. PEC will handle the administration of the expertizing program.

Two key factors which allow PEC to be re-instituted are (1) the ability to issue CoA's in English versus Polish and (2) the arrangement for quarterly visits to the USA by members of PZF to perform a significant portion of the authentication work in the USA. When proper reference materials are not available in the USA the expert will take those items to Poland for authentication and return them via registered mail to PEC for record keeping, invoicing, and return to the owner. Items which need to be expertized during those times when Polish experts are not in the USA will be consolidated and sent by PEC to Poland via registered mail.

POLONUS EXPERTIZING REQUEST FORM (PERF) To facilitate administration of the Polonus Expertizing Service it was necessary to create a set of forms for use by owners and the use of PEC during the expertizing process. **Figure 1** is the front page of a "Polonus Expertizing Request Form". **Figure 2** is the reverse of the PERF which details the Terms & Conditions to which the owner of the submitted philatelic item(s) agrees as well as the obligations of PEC to the owner. Included with this Bulletin is a set of the forms for use in submitting items for expertizing. The PERF has been designed to be relatively self-explanatory. Any member with questions on how to use and complete this form should email me at hank@biistamp.com or call me at 618-659-1325.

EXPERTIZING SUBMISSION FORM (ESF):

Enclose this **ESF** in #4 or larger Glassine with item(s) being submitted:

Catalog Used _____
 Catalog #(s) _____
 Current Catalog/Retail Market Value: \$ _____

Condition of Submitted Item (check all that apply)

___ Original Gum ___ Part Original Gum ___ No Gum
 ___ Cancelled ___ On Cover ___ Mint Never Hinged
 ___ Mint Hinged ___ Perforated ___ Imperforate

Written Description:

Service Requested:

___ Expertize & Sign ___ Type ___ Plate
 ___ Issue Certificate

**POLONUS EXPERTIZING COMMITTEE****EXPERTIZING SUBMISSION FORM (ESF)**

◀ **Figure 3** is an Expertizing Submission Form (ESF) which must be completed by the owner for each item (stamp, set, cover, proof, etc) that is submitted with each PERF. Multiple ESF's may be submitted with a single PERF. Each separate item (single, set, cover, etc.) must be put in a separate #4 or larger glassine (3 1/4 x 4 7/8), cover, protective sleeve along with the completed ESF for that item. The ESF describes the item being submitted by the owner and specifies exactly which services are being requested. Depending on the item the owner may request one or all of the following services:

Expertize & Sign: Expert will sign genuine stamp(s), cover etc indicating that it is the item described by the owner on the enclosed ESF.

Type: Expert will, when possible, indicate the Type (variety) of the item submitted according to Fischer Catalog. Example: Scott lists #21 and 21a. However there are at least five different colors of Scott #21

(Fischer #12). Expert will note on the back of stamp if it is Type 12aa, 12ab, 12ba, 12bb, 12c, 12d. The difference in the value of these Types ranges from \$1.00 to over \$1000+, depending upon condition. For stamps with a value of less than \$50.00 an additional fee of \$3.00 is charge for Typing. There is no additional Typing fee for items with a value in excess of \$50.00.

Plate: For certain issues such as the Kraków Overprints (Scott 41-59), Gniezno Surcharges (Scott 77-78), etc. it is necessary to be able to identify with certainty the position in the sheet of 100 stamps (Plating) to be able to determine if the item is genuine. For Kraków's and similar material which requires Plating to confirm if it is genuine, there is an additional charge of \$3.00 if the items have a value under \$50.00 due to the time required to perform this service. There is no additional Plating fee for items with a value in of \$50 or more.

**EXPERTIZING NOTE**

After examination of the Polish philatelic item(s) described on the reverse of this ESF form, PEC has initialed the findings below that apply to this item(s):

___ The described item(s) was determined to be authentic based on measurements, type of printing, paper, ink, plus measurement and ink of overprint when applicable. This item has been signed.

___ Although the described item(s) is genuine, it may not be signed, given that the item(s) is not an official emission of Polish Post. A Certificate of Authenticity could be issued.

___ Examination of the item(s) described have determined that the item(s) and/or its overprint is a forgery.

___ The item(s) submitted are not the item described. Submitted item(s) is described in comments below

COMMENTS: _____

Signed: _____ Date: ____/____/____

(THIS DOCUMENT IS NOT A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY)

Certificates (CoA): Certificates are typically requested for two purposes. (1) Owners of expensive stamps require a CoA for insurance and/or sales purposes. The CoA provides a full description of the condition of the item which also has a direct bearing on value. (2) Certain Polish philatelic items which are highly collectible and valuable may be precluded from being signed by experts of the PZF as they do not meet the definition of "an official emission of the Polish Post." In such cases, an expert may issue a CoA which describes and authenticates the item(s). **Examples:** Various 1918-1919 Local Issues, certain Camp Mail issues, Slania private engravings, catalogs, etc.

◀◀ **Fig. 4**

EXPERTIZING NOTE (EN): Figure 4 is the Expertizing Note that is printed on the reverse of each ESF. This form will either be completed by an Expert from the PZF or a member of PEC. The party expertizing the item will indicate their findings by initialing one of four statements on the EN for the submitted item(s). Where required comments will be added to the EN and it will be signed and dated and returned to the owner with the item(s).

EXPERTIZAION FEE SCHEDULE: The fees for expertizing services appear on the back of the PERF along with Terms and Conditions for PEC services. Polonus Members receive a significant discount from fees charged to non-members.

With the exception of obvious forgeries and/or misidentified stamps submitted to PEC, all other expertizing, signing and issuance of CoA's will be performed by members of the Polish Philatelic Union. When PEC receives an obvious forgery or improperly identified item, depending on the requirements of the owner, PEC will either issue a Polonus Certificate indicating that the item is not genuine or improperly identified. Owners should stipulate in the PERF if the submitted item is one that they have purchased via auction, eBay, or from another party subject to authentication.

The objectives of the Polonus Expertizing Service are:

- Provide increased membership value by virtue of discounted pricing.
- Provide non-member collectors and/or dealers with an incentive to join Polonus
- Bring a high standard of professionalism to expertizing of Polish philatelic material which has not existed in North America for the last ten years.

I invite any members who have questions concerning these services to contact me at info@polonus.org or hank@biistamp.com

Polonus Expertizing Request Form

(OWNER must complete all entries. Only one Polonus Expertizing Request Form Requested per Submission)

I have read and fully understand the Polonus Expertizing Request Form (PERF) Agreement. I certify as the undersigned, that I am the Owner of the item(s) described in this PERF. I understand that I am responsible for obtaining my own insurance coverage against loss or damage.

Indicate in #44 or larger glassine one EXPERTIZING SUBMISSION FORM (ESF) plus the item described in that ESF for each of the following items:

Total Number of ESF's and items submitted: _____ Description of each item submitted (attach separate page if required): _____

Previously Expertized Items, if applicable please complete the following. (Attach separate page if required):

A copy of certificate from _____ dated _____ is enclosed

The following expertizing marks/signatures appear on this item: _____

Expertizing Services Requested. SERVICES REQUESTED TO BE NOTED ON EACH ESF, WHEN MORE THAN ONE ITEM IS SUBMITTED

___ Examine submitted item, if genuine, sign submitted item(s)

___ Type and/or plate submitted item (For items with value less than \$50.00 I agree to payment of additional typing fee per schedule)

___ Prepare Certificate of Authenticity bearing Photo and Description of submitted item(s)

Expertizing Charges and Post Fees:

Estimated expertizing fee for examination, typing, and signing of submitted item \$_____ (Per schedule)

Fee for Certificate of Authenticity \$_____ (Per schedule)

Return Mail Registered Mail Fee (\$10.00 + Postage charges) \$_____

All items submitted will be returned via USPS registered mail unless OWNER stipulates that Certified Mail should be used and agrees by signing below that OWNER agrees to hold any and all parties associated with POLONUS, and all members of PEC harmless for any damage, or loss arising from use of this less secure method of return.

Signed _____

Priority Certified Mail Fee (\$2.70 + Postage fees) \$_____

Estimated Total Fees \$_____

PAYMENTS: The OWNER will be invoiced for cost of expertizing via email or USPS mail and will remit payment via check (personal or money order) payable to the individual or organization designated on the expertizing invoice. Payment shall be received and cleared prior to return of material submitted for expertizing.

Name _____ Polonus Member Number _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Country _____ Daytime Telephone _____ Email _____

Signature of Owner _____ Date _____

POLONUS AGREEMENT FOR EXPERTIZING POLISH PHILATELIC MATERIAL

Members of Polonus Expertizing Committee (PEC), a Polonus Philatelic Society Committee, including Certified Experts from the Polish Philatelic Union (Polonus), via arrangement with Polonus Philatelic Society (POLONUS) will examine and provide opinions as to the authenticity of philatelic material of Poland to the Owner (OWNER), evaluating and submitting a Polonus Expertizing Request Form (PERF) and Expertizing Submission Form (ESF), subject to the terms and conditions of this agreement.

Terms & Conditions

- Each item stamp, set of stamps, cover or other philatelic item of Poland must be submitted with a properly completed PERF and an individual ESF for each stamp, set of stamps, cover or other philatelic item of Poland. A set of stamps submitted by OWNER with a single ESF will be examined as a set, the fee will be determined by the value of the set, and if requested a single Certificate of Authenticity will be issued for the submitted set of stamps.
- The fees for examination, typing, certificates when requested, and postage/handling fees, will be noted to OWNER and must be verified prior to return of submitted items. Members in good standing of POLONUS are entitled to receive expertizing services at reduced Member Fees indicated in following table. All others will be invoiced per Non-Polonus member fee schedule.

Expertizing Fee Schedule:

Genuine Philatelic Material of Poland: Includes examination, signing, and short note describing item. (Typing and/or Rating Fee extra for items having catalog/market less than \$50.00)	Fee Schedule	
	Polonus Member	Non-Polonus Member
Catalog/Market Value: Less than \$50.00	\$ 5.00	\$10.00
Additional Fee for Typing/Plating per Fischer Catalog	\$ 3.00	\$ 5.00
\$50 to \$250.00	\$10.00	\$18.00
Above \$250.00	4% of C.V.	5% of C.V.
Issuance of Certificate of Authenticity in English with photo and description of item determined to be genuine	\$30.00	\$40.00
Forged items or items on which no opinion is given	\$5.00	\$6.00

Administrative Fee: Expertizing fee with reason item deemed not to be genuine or why no opinion is given

- All items for expertizing and a completed PERF and individual ESF must be submitted by OWNER via Registered U.S. Postal Service to Polonus Expertizing Service, P.O. Box 489, Maryville, IL 62060-0489, USA. OWNER must include a #10 self-addressed stamped envelope or email address, which will be used by PEC to confirm receipt of submitted items.
- Upon receipt of submitted items, the PEC will scan and log submitted items prior to periodically forwarding these items to proper member of the PEC team not able to be checked in the USA will be sent via Registered mail service of the United States Postal Service to experts of the Polish Philatelic Union in Poland.
- The PEC reserves the right at all times to decline to examine or give an opinion on any item. Large imperforate stamps without large margins will not be accepted for authentication as imperforate varieties.
- The decisions rendered by the PEC are opinions based on their expertise. Due to the constantly evolving nature of philatelic knowledge these opinions are not guaranteed by POLONUS or PEC.
- All reasonable care will be taken to protect items submitted by OWNER for examination. All items are submitted with the full understanding by OWNER that neither PEC Members or POLONUS are liable for any loss or damage resulting from any cause whatsoever except gross negligence. Owner desiring coverage should obtain their own insurance. The American Philatelic Society offers insurance for philatelic material, including items very by mail.
- The request for examination constitutes acceptance by the OWNER of all the Terms and Conditions of this Agreement.

POLONUS EXPERTIZING COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 489
MARYVILLE, IL 62060-0489

TEL: (618) 659-1325 FAX: (618) 659-1327 Email: info@polonus.org

Polonus Expertizing Request Form (PERF)

Fig. 2

More on the Topic of the 1942 Easter Post Cancellers in POW Camp Woldenberg

Leslaw Schmutz, Jerzy Walocha

Translated from Polish, originally in Przegląd Filatelistyczny 12/2007

Continued from last issue

As indicated in part one of this article,[¹] this specific Easter Post canceller had not previously been

documented in the philatelic literature. J. Machowski [²] noted only one type of this device. We have now confirmed that there were two distinct types of cancellation devices. The first type canceller exhibits a notably smaller digit "2" (**Fig. 1**) in the year portion of the date, and it was rarely used, most likely at the very beginning of the function of the Easter Post. It was replaced with a second more durable version, most frequently found on the labels of this issue (**Figs. 2 & 3**).



Fig. 2 ▲▲



Fig. 3 ►►



Fig. 4

Of particular note, is that the first type was registered in the official version in the *Katalog Znaczkow Poczty Obozowej "Oflag IIC"* (Catalog of Stamps of the Camp Post "Oflag IIC" (Fig.4) [3].

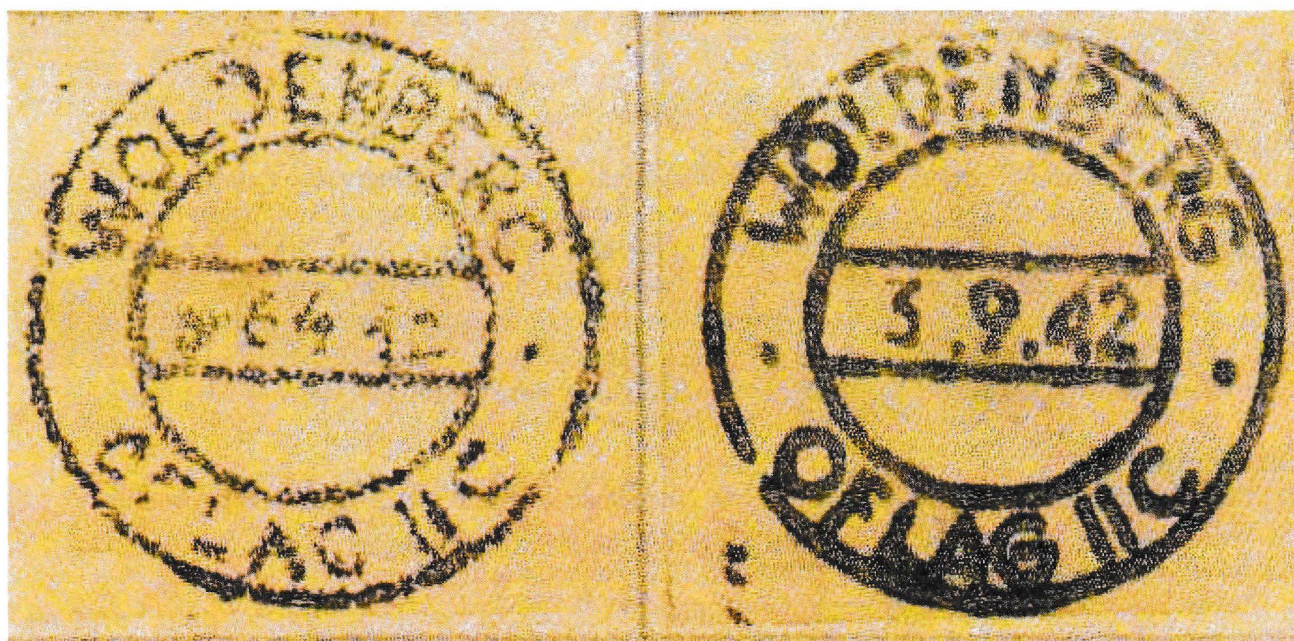


Fig 5

On page 19 of this catalog, at the beginning of the reproductions of the cancellation devices, they inserted an image of this type 1 canceller (**Fig. 5**) and identified it in the text as canceller number one without noting its characteristics, term of usage, and more specifically 5-6.IV.1942.

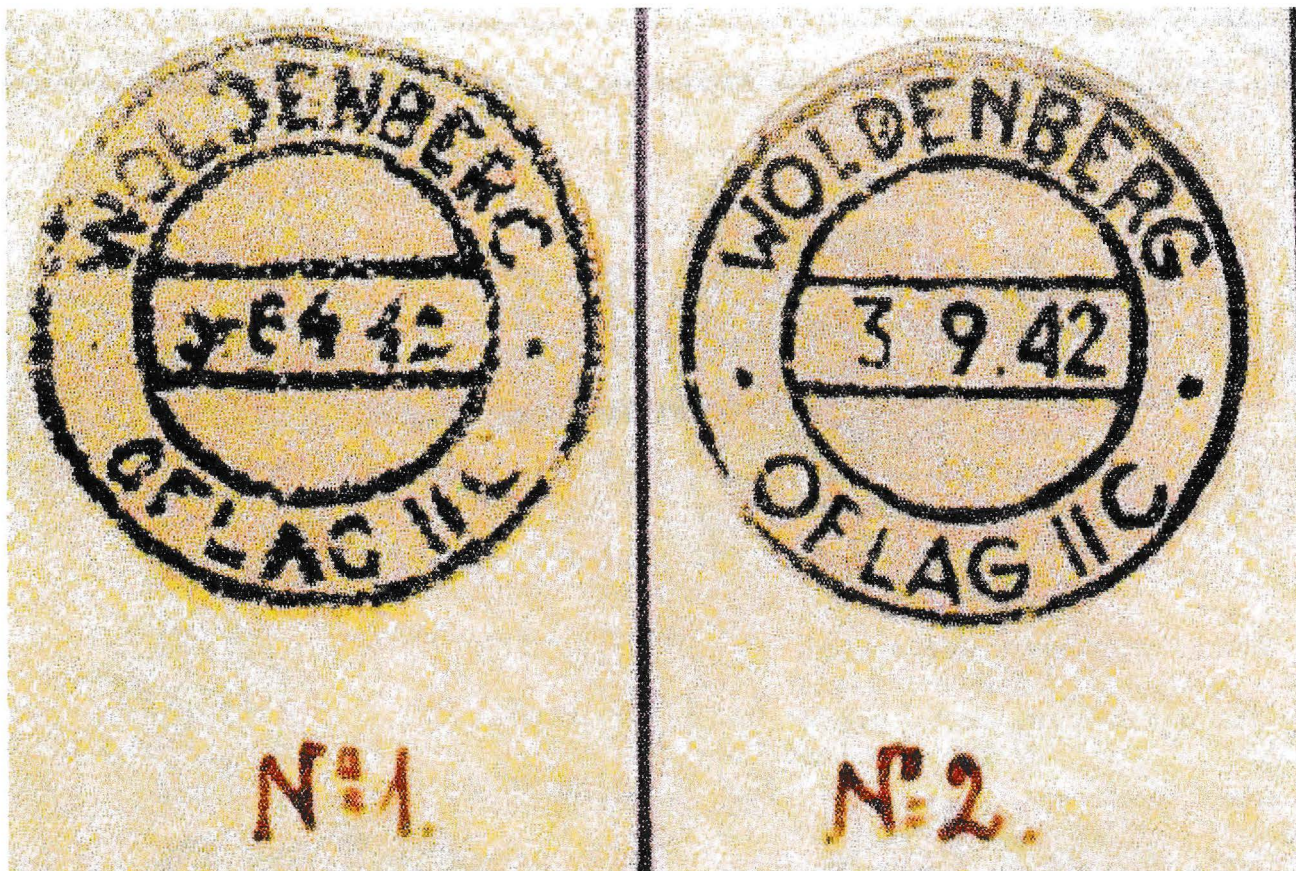


Fig. 6

This catalog [3] does not encompass the Easter Post labels. More interestingly, the type 1 canceller is identified as the first official cancel of the camp post. As mentioned by the authors in part one of this article, the catalog authored by Stanislaw Pokorski [4], also identifies as “No.1.” the first type canceller of the Easter Post, and adjacent to it, as “No.2.”, the second canceller of the Camp Post (**Fig. 6**). In this catalog, there is no indication as to what purpose canceller number one served. As shown, the illustrated type “No.2” should actually be listed as type “No.3”. Both of these catalogs documented the rarely used type 1 version of the Easter Post canceller, while the more common second Type was not noted.

Bibliography

- [1] Leslaw Schmutz, Jerzy Walocha, Kasowniki stosowane w tzw. Poczcie Wielkanocnej w obozie IICWoldenberg w 1942 roku. Przegląd Filatelistyczny 11/2007
- [2] Jozef Machowski, Katalog Poczty Obozowej IIC Woldenberg.
Zeszyt 2. Wydawnictwo Artystyczno-Graficzne Krakow 1963
- [3] Katalog Znaczkow Poczty Obozowej “Oflag IIC” Woldenberg. Nakladem Kola
Filatelisow. Woldenberg 1944
- [4] Ppor. Stanislaw Pokorski. Katalog znaczkow pocztowych poczty obozowej oficerskich obozow
jencow wojennych w Niemczech. IIC (Woldenberg). VIIA (Murnau). Murnau 1945 – rekopis.

Request for Help

I am a collector of Polish covers, author, and expert. I am requesting contact and cooperation with collectors of covers in the United States and Canada. I require scans of many items to assist in research and eventual publication of the findings. Currently, require Fischer nos. Ck 1-5, and entires from the Oflags, primarily Murnau.

Piotr PELCZAR, ul. Zawiszy Czarnego 5, PL 84-360 ŁEBA, mail: Piotr.Pelczar@wp.pl.

Experiences of a First-Time Exhibitor

Bob Ogrodnik

Over the past few bulletin issues I made overtures of transitioning from collector to exhibitor, and following my exhibiting debut, I would share my experiences with the membership. Well, I can finally talk about exhibiting in the past tense as I made my debut at the SNSE 2009 in Sarasota and received a Show and Polonus Silver Medal for a one-frame titled, "Poland: First Air Mail Issue After WW II". Shown below are the first two pages to give you an idea of the subject of my exhibit, however, this article will address my experiences and the process that I pursued in becoming a first-time exhibitor, rather than, the exhibit which might well be an article in the future.

POLAND: FIRST AIR MAIL ISSUE AFTER WW II PRODUCTION AND FIRST YEAR OF USAGE

This exhibit illustrates the production of the first air mail stamps in post war Poland and their first year of usage. PRODUCTION includes: PROOFS, ISSUED STAMPS, IMPERFORATES, VARIETIES and ERRORS. USAGE includes: domestic and foreign covers illustrating the franking, postal rates and markings of the time. The first air mail stamps, a series of six (6) values, were issued from 5 March to 10 September 1946, and they are commonly referred to as "Plane over Warsaw Ruins".

Poland re-established a postal system within the liberated territories immediately following the German occupation of World War II. In August 1944, the Postal authorities initiated air mail service, working with a Civil Air Unit attached to the Polish Air Force and beginning with two regular airline routes, Lublin-Bialystok and Lublin-Rzeszow-Przemysl. This was quickly expanded to seven routes exclusively for mail transport. This arrangement lasted until March 1945, when "LOT" Polish Airlines was re-organized as a state-owned enterprise and began service with branches in major cities and regular airline routes. Therefore, air mail service preceded the issuance of the first air mail stamp on 5 March 1946. This exhibit includes air mail covers prior to the issue of the first air mail stamps, as well as, covers franked with the first air mail stamps through September 1947, representing one year of usage since the issue of the final air mail value in the series.

PROOFS

Only the 5 and 10 Zl proofs are known to exist.



COLOR TRIAL PROOF PAIR
(INK APPLIED BY HAND)



COLOR PROOF



PROOF PAIR ON CARDBOARD

PRODUCTION - ISSUED STAMPS

The first air mail issue is commonly called the "Plane over Warsaw Ruins", referring to the image on the stamp. Designed by J. Wilczyński of Warsaw, the stamp portrays a Douglas C-47 (DC-3) which was in use in Poland at the time. The Douglas C-47 was also called the "Dakota", a name given by the British during WW II. Warsaw, the capital city of Poland, had 80% of its structures reduced to rubble by the retreating German army and this stamp memorializes the devastation of Warsaw at the end of the war. The stamps were printed on a rotogravure press in sheets of 100 at the Polish National Printing Enterprise in Kraków and issued on the dates noted below.



5 MAR 46



20 MAY 46



1 SEP 46



5 MAR 46



10 SEP 46



15 MAR 46

Pages from the Exhibit (Cropped and reduced)

Like many collectors, I have always looked at exhibiting as an advanced stage of the hobby requiring considerable philatelic and postal history knowledge, coupled with considerable financial resources to purchase the finest material available. While it is true that exhibiting is an advanced stage of the hobby, it is somewhat of a myth that it takes considerable knowledge and financial resources to engage in and enjoy exhibiting. I first came to this realization at CHICAGOPEX 2007 when Chris Kulpinski took me around the dealers' bourse for a "hunt" of covers for his exhibiting interests. Here I first became aware of the potential that covers have to reveal not only postal history, but a personal history of the times. I noted how Chris examined each cover carefully, looking at the cancels and other markings which in themselves told a story. It was also a revelation that it did not cost a fortune to acquire some unique and interesting material. Later the same day, Jim Mazepa spent some time encouraging me to consider exhibiting and suggested the topic which became my first-time exhibit. The other point in discussion that had added appeal was the opportunity to put together a philatelic story via an exhibit that could

create a value greater than the sum of the parts. Needless to say, I left Chicago committed to working on my first exhibit, a one-frame on the above mentioned subject.

Charged with a newly found enthusiasm for the hobby, I immediately began a search for information (books, articles, catalogs, internet, etc.) on the "Plane Over Warsaw Ruins". The logical start of this process was Fischer, Scott, and our Polonus Bulletin index. One quick observation was Fisher had much more information on the series (395-400) than Scott (C-13 to C-18), which confirmed my understanding that Fisher is an indispensable reference for Poland collectors. However, I was initially disappointed with the lack of articles about this stamp issue. In working with the Polonus Bulletin index, I began to find good information using different searches. For example, I started with "IV. The Index By Catalog Number" and found just one substantive article by Laszkiewicz. Through further research I found that Tadeusz Gryżewski authored articles on Polish air mail and under "III. The Author Index" I found a very helpful article on "Polish First Air Mails 1044-1956". In addition to Polonus Bulletins, I researched my copy of "Polskie Znaki Pocztowe" published by Ruch in 1966 and found an excellent coverage of the air mail issue. Another valuable source of information was "Filatelista". I might mention, the latter two sources are in Polish and fortunately, I could understand the majority of the text. However, I still asked for translation help to confirm my understanding of some of the terminology that was not in my vocabulary or in my dictionary.

As for stamps and covers, I began with a set of single MNH stamps in my collection. I was not even aware of the variation on the 5 zł issue, not to mention the imperforates, proofs, color variations, perf variations, and errors. I received great support from Bieniecki International in finding some outstanding material in Poland and elsewhere. I also became active on E-Bay and added to my collection of material, including an outstanding cover from Argentina with 79 – 30 zł (F400) stamp franking. I also engaged in the "hunt" for covers at other dealers in order to understand the rates in effect at the time.

I believe I coasted for a year researching the history of Poland in post war years, the use of air mail prior to the issuance of air mail stamps, the history of LOT Polish Airlines, who were the main carrier of air mail prior to WW II, and collecting material that could be used in my exhibit. With less than three months prior to the show in Sarasota, I stepped up my effort to determine if I could be ready for exhibiting. This was the time I accepted the mentoring support offered by Jim Mazepa and the St. Louis Bears (a local club of exhibitors). One sitting with Jim Mazepa crystallized my exhibit. There was more to the story than I could manage in a one-frame exhibit, so I decided to focus my presentation on the "Production and the First Year of Usage". I also realized that I have some excellent material that could lead to an expansion of my exhibit to a five-frame or more depending how I choose to define my exhibit. However, the challenge of telling my story with one-frame (16 – 8 1/2x11 pages = one-frame) became the real concern.

With less than 60 days to go for Sarasota, I realized that I needed some help with the physical preparation of my pages. What kind of paper? What kind of sleeves? What software? What font? All these were questions that I easily had answered thanks to the mentoring support mentioned above. The paper, or more appropriately the cardstock, used was a 67# white Bristol from Office Max. The page protector was and archival grade mylar D polyester from Atlantic Protective Pouches. The software used was Microsoft Office Word and the font was Times New Roman. Voila! I was ready for the artistic phase of preparing my exhibit.

I prepared drafts of each page and solicited mentoring comments and suggestions. Finally, I had my presentation in its final form on my dining room table for a last look before heading for Sarasota.

I must admit, as show time drew nearer, the excitement and involvement increased to a level that became very enjoyable. I felt that I had acquired knowledge and material regarding my subject that few

collectors possessed. My competitive instinct was to receive "gold" for the exhibit, but my pragmatic expectations were "not to embarrass myself with the judges". The moment of truth came soon enough and the judges awarded a "silver" for my exhibit. A most rewarding benefit to attending the show while exhibiting was the critique of the judges and their suggestions on improving my exhibit, which I readily accepted and will use in future exhibitions of the same subject, until I get a "gold".

In summary, I can say without hesitation that my experience as a first-time exhibitor was a thrill in my philatelic lifetime and I am now hooked on re-focusing my collecting interest, reducing my accumulations of space consuming albums and expanding my interest in exhibiting. I encourage you to consider becoming an exhibitor. Our Society has a wealth of experience in exhibiting, with gold medal exhibitors available for mentoring support. In addition, we have a treasure of reference material with our Polonus Bulletin, going back to 1939, and with our Polonus library. Having experienced the process, I am convinced that any collector can make a transition to an exhibitor.



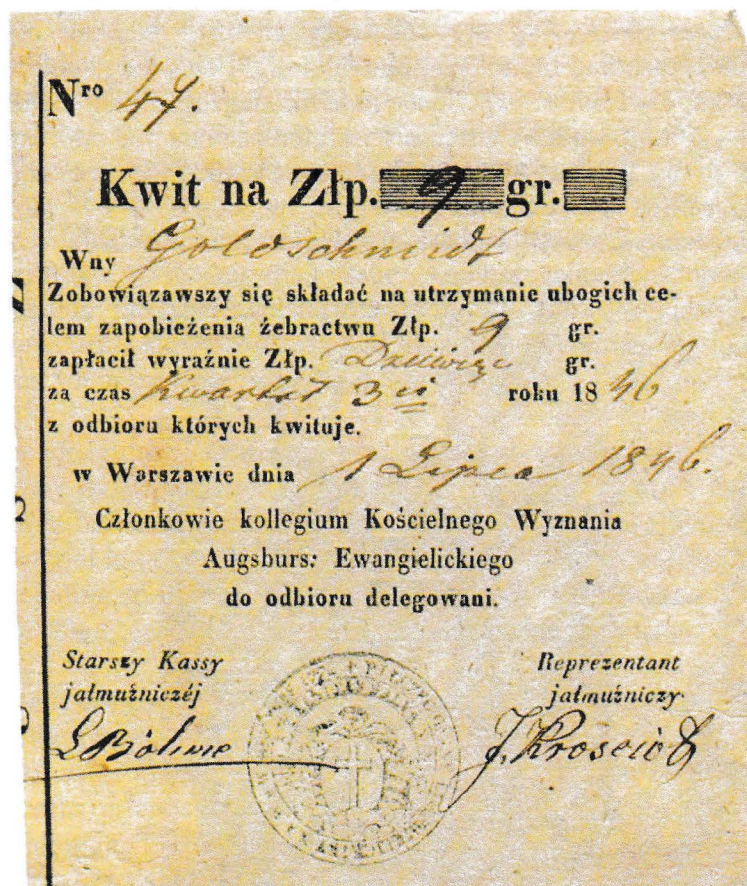
Dr. James Mazepa, Dan Lubelski, Robert Ogrodnik, Roman Sobus, Dr. Julian Auleytner, Ron Small, John Rudnicki, Robert Puchala, Zbigniew Korszeń, Peter Sóbiegraj and Ignacy Szymanski

ROSSICAPEX 2009

Mark your calendars! Polonus members are cordially invited to the ASDA-sponsored ROSSICAPEX 2009, the largest Russian-and-related-areas exhibition ever held in the U.S. The show will take place at the Santa Clara Convention Center from June 26th to the 28th, 2009. Entry to the ASDA Summer Postage Stamp Show is free, and you will have a rare opportunity to view over 200 frames of outstanding exhibits, attend the Rossica Society of Russian Philately's Annual General Meeting and its various events and go on docent tours with the exhibitors. Russian-related Polish exhibits are most welcome! Contact David Skipton at david.skipton@rossica.org or 50 D Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 for application forms, or download them from the Rossica website at www.rossica.org

1846 Pledge Receipt

I know that we have some very knowledgeable collectors reading this Bulletin, but how many of you have seen this type of receipt?



I collect cinderellas and labels. There are many such items that were used to signify payment for either union or membership dues, or as a receipt for donating money to some cause and even as a promotional item. i.e. an advertising label or, as was common between the wars, a label to advertise fairs and exhibitions.

Our group has created over 55 sub-sets to this one topic and the list is growing. This list ranges from labels for sports, the Red Cross, military, patriotic organizations as well as fund raisers for the poor, the unemployed, the rebuilding of schools, monuments and health resorts.

Just as this 1846 receipt shown, the labels and cinderellas are also receipts, so I guess we'll just create another category since there were no stamps of any sort in 1846.

TRANSLATION

Nr. 47

Receipt for Złp 9 (Polish zloty). gr. ____ (groszy)

Esquire Goldschmidt

I certify that the above named person following his pledge to pay dues in the amount of 9 Polish zloty and 0 groszy necessary to support the needy and poor and thus prevent them from begging (paid (the money in the amount spelled in words of nine Polish zloty and 0 gr.) for the period of the third quarter of 1846.

In Warszawa, 1 July 1846.

*Members of the Collegium of the Evangelical Church of Augsburg Confession
(The full Polish name is: Luteranski Kościół Ewangelicko-Augsburski)*

Authorized to accept the dues:

Senior Almsgiving Cashier

Almsgiving

Representative

/-/ L Bolinie

/-/J Krosiol



World Post Day

World Post Day is celebrated each year on the 9th of October on the anniversary of the

Universal Postal Union (UPU), which was established on 9 October 1874, and since 1948, belongs organizationally to the United Nations. It plays an

important role of chief supervisor, responsible for developing and improving the quality of postal services, setting up the delivery standards, and promoting cooperation between the member states. Poland joined the UPU in 1919. This year, the 2,10 ZŁ stamp depicts a "carrier pigeon" with a postman's cap.

Date of Issue	October 9, 2008
Sheet Format	20 Stamps
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Maciej Jędrzyk

Great Polish Composers of the 20th Century

The Polish Post presents four new postage stamps, each with a value of 1.45 ZŁ, containing the portraits of the Polish contemporary composers, whose work represents a model for the next generations. 20th century music is an enormous versatility of directions, rich in outstanding personalities such as the Polish composers presented on the postage stamps.

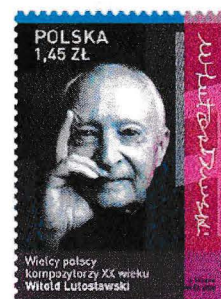
Date of Issue	October 18, 2008
Sheet Format	20 Stamps
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Jerzy Skakun

Mieczysław Karłowicz (1876-1909) – born in the area of Vilnius, he received training in the violin, the grand piano, and the concertina in Warsaw, and studied composing in Berlin. His style is characterized by nostalgia, and even sadness, contradicting his rich instrumentation, typical of the last decade of the 19th century Polish artists.



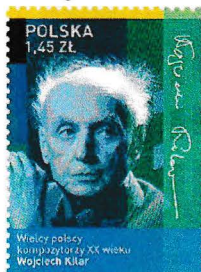
Witold Lutosławski (1913-1994) – an alumnus of the Warsaw Conservatoire, he received training in the grand piano and the violin as well as in the art of composing. During the war he earned

a living playing for the entertainment of café guests together with A. Panufnik. A versatile artist, he ventured beyond classical music and composed works for the radio, the theatre, and even songs for children. He was presented with numerous national and international awards.



Wojciech Kilar (born in 1932 in Lviv) – having finished his studies in Katowice,

he had an opportunity to go on a scholarship to Paris, where he was trained under the guidance of Nadia Boulanger. He wrote avant-garde music, but since the 1970's, he has begun seeking inspiration in religious and folk traditions. He has over 100 compositions for films, such as, "Ziemia Obiecana" (1974), "Drakula" (1992), "Pan Tadeusz" (1999), and "Pianista" (2001).



Henryk Mikołaj Górecki (born in 1933) – a student and subsequently a tutor at the Katowice Music Academy (PWSM

Katowice). His works appear simplified due to the use of repetitions, series, and symmetrical structures. However, the composer gradually began to make use of tradition and introduce citations and stylization. An album published in 1992, containing his 3rd Symphony that had been composed 16 years earlier, was an international success and went to the very top of the charts.



EU Capital Cities

The Polish Post issues a fourth edition of the "EU Capital Cities" series issued since 2005.

Representative buildings in the following cities have already been featured on stamps: Budapest, Berlin, Dublin, Lisbon, London, Ljubljana, Luxembourg, Madrid, Paris, Riga, Rome, Stockholm, Tallinn, Valetta, and Vilnius.

Date of Issue	October 24, 2008
Sheet Format	20 Stamps
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Magdalena Błażków



Amsterdam – Rijksmuseum – The Netherlands' capital city is a harbor town founded in the 13th century. The building depicted on the stamp, denominated at 1.45 ZŁ, is the famous Dutch national museum – Rijksmuseum, built at the end of the 19th century in a mix of Gothic and Renaissance styles.



Athens – the Acropolis – The origin of Athens was the Mykines fortress of the 13th century BC, further called Acropolis (in Greek means "upper city"). The Parthenon depicted on the stamp, denominated at 3.00 ZŁ, was built in 447-432 BC in honor of Athena Parthenos, patron of the city.



Copenhagen – the Royal Library – A fishing village Havn (Harbour) located by the Oresund strait, founded at the beginning of the 11th century and in the 15th century became the Danish capital – Kobenhavn (Harbour of Merchants). The stamp, denominated at 1.45 ZŁ, presents a photo of the newest part of the Royal Library, one of the largest in Europe.



Prague – the Charles Bridge – Famous for the beautiful architecture, Prague was established upon the joining of two cities of the early Middle Ages: Hradcany and Vysehrad. Capital city in 1918 upon the creation of Czechoslovakia and in 1993 after the split of Czechoslovakia, the city became the capital of the Czech Republic. The Charles Bridge is depicted on the stamp, denominated at 3.00 ZŁ, connects two districts: Mala Strana and Stare Mesto. Built in the 14th century, it replaced the 12th century Judith Bridge destroyed by flood.



Vienna – the Parliament – Founded around 500 BC, Vienna was originally a Celtic settlement and later, a Roman Vindobona. In the Middle Ages it was the capital city of the Habsburg Dynasties. In the 18th century Vienna flourished and transformed into a cultural capital of Europe. It has been the capital of Austria since 1918. The building of the Parliament presented on the stamp, denominated at 3.65 ZŁ, is a place where both houses of the Austrian Federal Assembly have their sessions

Terry Kurzinski

I buy old stamps and Mail

P.O. Box 5845
Rockford, IL 61125
H 815-332-3264
C 815-262-9117 TKURZINSKI2002@YAHOO.COM

The 50th Anniversary of the “Kabaret



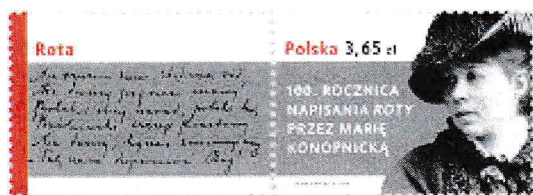
Starszych Panów” Comedy Series

This stamp is
denominated at 1.45

ZŁ and commemorates the 50th Anniversary of the “Cabaret of Aging Gentlemen”, a unique television series of musical and literary wit, and features its founders: Jeremi Przybora (1915-2004) and Jerzy Wasowski (1913-1984). The first episode of the comedy show was written in 1958

and merely 16 episodes were made by 1966. “Kabaret Starszych Panów” was a wonder of mass culture of the 1960’s, reaching not only the intellectuals, but simply everyone.

Date of Issue	October 30, 2008
Sheet Format	16 Stamps
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Agnieszka Sobczyńska



100th Anniversary of Rota (the Oath) by

Maria Konopnicka

This is a 3.65 ZŁ stamp with a se-tenant label commemorating the 100th anniversary of Rota (the Oath), a Polish poem and once proposed to be the Polish national anthem and written by Maria Konopnicka in 1908. The music was composed two years later by Feliks Nowowiejski. Rota was first sung publicly during a patriotic demonstration in Kraków on 15 July 1910 and quickly became popular throughout partitioned Poland. It served as an anthem of the Polish Scouting movement until 1918 and in 1927 found itself under consideration as a possible national anthem. Maria Konopnicka (1842-1910) was a Polish poet, novelist, translator and essayist. She sometimes used pen names, most frequently “Jan Sawa”. Konopnicka was a representative poet of the Positivist period in Polish literature. She composed sensitive poetry that projects realism, freshness and spontaneity. Her writings touched on many questions that beset society in her time, and thus, influenced the next generation of Polish poets and novelists.

Date of Issue	November 7, 2008
Sheet Format	10 Stamps + labels
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Joanna Górka

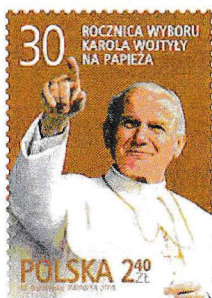


Year of Independence

On 11 November 2008, Poland celebrated the 90th anniversary of the regaining of independence. Officially celebrated only in 1937 and 1938, it was for-

Date of Issue	November 11, 2008
Sheet Format	35 Stamps
Printing Method	Engraved
Designer	Jerzy Pietras Maciej Kopecki

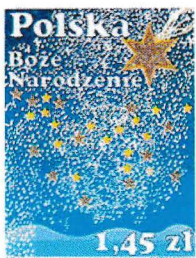
bidden during German occupation during WWII and during the Communist period following the war. The National Independence Day was reinstated under the Law only on 21 February 1989. The Sejm of the Republic of Poland, with due honor to all who fought for the free and just Fatherland, adopted a resolution on 7 February 2008 establishing 2008 as the Year of Independence. To celebrate this special year, the Polish Post issued a stamp, denominated at 1.45 ZŁ, with an emblem of the White Eagle with crown and a Latin inscription around it saying: “Amor Patriae Omnia Vincit” (“Love of Country Conquers Everything”). As a matter of philatelic interest, the first stamp to commemorate the regaining of independence was issued in 1933. In 1938, the 20th anniversary was celebrated by the issue of a block of four stamps with portraits of leaders of the 2nd Republic of Poland and a series of 13 stamps presenting historical events important for the country. Other anniversary issues appeared only after 50 years, in 1988, 1993 and 1998.



The 30th Anniversary of the Election of Karol Wojtyła as the Pope

This 2.40 ZŁ stamp commemorates the 30th anniversary of the election of Cardinal Karol Wojtyła, archbishop of Kraków, to the papacy. John Paul II became the first non-Italian pope since Hadrian VI in 1522. The election process took eight ballots to finally achieve the two-thirds majority. The newly elected pope was only 58 years old and he would remain in office for 26 ½ years.

Date of Issue	November 27, 2008
Sheet Format	6 Stamps
Printing Method	Photogravure
Designer	Marzanna Dąbrowska

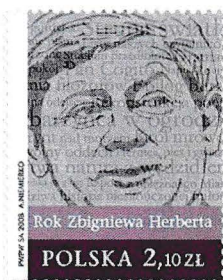


Christmas

In keeping with the practice of issuing Christmas stamps, the Polish Post has

issued this pair of stamps, denominated at 1.45 ZŁ for domestic and 3.00 ZŁ for foreign correspondence, for all those who would like to say the traditional "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year" by means of pen and paper. The dominating element of the graphic design of the stamps is the Star of Bethlehem placed on the background of a winter landscape, with snowflakes glimmering in the starry sky.

Date of Issue	November 27, 2008
Sheet Format	50 Stamps
Printing Method	Rotogravure
Designer	Jerzy Pietras



The Year of Zbigniew Herbert

28 July 2008 marked the 10th anniversary of the passing of one of the most

outstanding Polish 20th century literary artists – Zbigniew Herbert. This extraordinary poet, essayist and playwright did not live to receive a Nobel Prize, although in the minds of many of the connoisseurs and admirers of his work worldwide, he had deserved it more than anybody else. Therefore, by a resolution of the Polish Parliament, the year 2008 had been proclaimed the year of Zbigniew Herbert. Born in Lviv in 1924, Zbigniew Herbert completed studies in Law at the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, after which he took up philosophy. His versatile education later gave rise to unmatched poetry, forcing the reader to think hard and requiring knowledge of many fields of arts and science. His first literary appearance was in the press in 1950, and his published book, *Struna Światła*, came out six years later. In the 1980's, Herbert was the poet of Polish resistance. To commemorate the Year of Zbigniew Herbert, the Polish Post issued a stamp, denominated at 2.10 ZŁ, containing an image of the writer on the background of his poems.

Date of Issue	December 1, 2008
Sheet Format	20 Stamps
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Anna Niemierko

Have you been on the Polonus Web-site?

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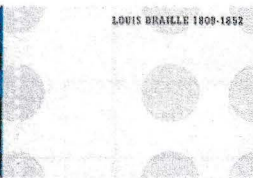
United Nations Conference on Climate Change – Poznań 2008

Date of Issue	December 1, 2008
Sheet Format	50 Stamps
Printing Method	Rotogravure
Designer	Anna Niemierko

Between 1 and 12 December 2008, a conference took place

in Poznań, organized by the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The event was hosted by the Government of the Republic of Poland, and the Polish Ministry of Environment was responsible for coordinating the arrangements. The purpose for the meeting, to which over 190 countries had sent their delegates, was among others to agree on a scheme of cooperation in the area of climate protection for the next year, to discuss the joint framework for the reduction of CO2 emissions to the atmosphere by individual countries, and to settle some financial issues related to the exchange of technologies allowing for the reduction of the emissions of greenhouse gasses. A similar meeting was held a year ago in Bali, and the next one is scheduled for 2009 in Copenhagen. To commemorate this event, the Polish Post issued a stamp presenting global climate change in a symbolic graphic representation.

2009



Date of Issue	January 4, 2009
Sheet Format	8 Stamps + labels
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Anna Niemierko

200th Anniversary of the Birthday of Louis Braille

In January 2009, two hundred years had passed since the birth of one of the greatest benefactors of mankind, Louis Braille – father of the system used by blind people to read and write, commonly referred to as the “Braille”. In appreciation of this memorable invention, the European Blind Union (EBU) proclaimed 2009 as the year of Louis Braille. On 4 January, the Polish Post issued a stamp, denominated at 2.10 ZŁ, commemorating the 200th anniversary of Louis Braille’s birthday. The stamp features a portrait of Louis Braille and the field includes his full name in Braille.

Extermination Camp Survivors

The Polish Post issued four stamps on 30 January commemorating the lives of former prisoners in Nazi concentration and extermination camps of WW II. From among the millions of prisoners, many of them had no chance to witness liberation. To represent those who survived, four famous individuals testify to the nightmare of camps and are commemorated by this issue.

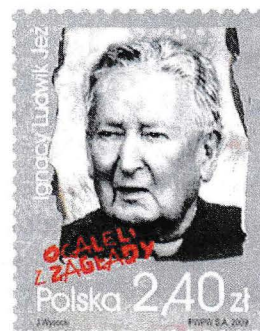
Date of Issue	January 30, 2009
Sheet Format	16 Stamps
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Janusz Wysocki



Witold Pilecki (1901-1948) – soldier of the Home Army (Armii Krajowej), cavalry platoon commander; he took part in the Warsaw Uprising. In September of 1941 he became a “voluntary prisoner” of Auschwitz (as Tomasz Serafiński). His plan was to learn about the running of the camp and to organize inmate resistance. In 1943 he escaped from Auschwitz together with two comrades. After the war commander Pilecki was imprisoned by the communist government, tortured and found – as many former underground activists – an “enemy of the People’s Republic of Poland” and sentenced to death. This stamp is denominated at 1.45 ZŁ.



Józef Władysław Wolski (1910-2008) – historian, professor at the Jagiellonian University, arrested during the Sonderaktion Krakau and imprisoned in Sachsenhausen (Nov 1939-41). This stamp is denominated at 2.10 ZŁ.



Bishop Ignacy Ludwik Jeż (1914-2007) – priest since 1937, co-author of the letter of the Polish Bishops to the German Bishops in 1965, prisoner of Dachau (1942-45). This stamp is denominated at 2.30 ZŁ.



Stanisława Maria Sawicka (1895-1982) – Art historian and student of the Muses of Greek Mythology, supervisor of the Print Room of Warsaw University Library, prisoner in Ravensbruck, the largest camp for women (1944-45). This stamp is denominated at 3.00 ZŁ.



I Love You

Commemorating St. Valentine's Day, Polish Post issued for the fifteenth time a special stamp which features the symbol of good fortune and luck – a four-leaf

Date of Issue	February 6, 2009
Sheet Format	20 Stamps
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Magdalena Błażków

clover. Its leaves are depicted as hearts, one of which –the pink one – is unique because it is there just for you. The stamp is denominated at 1.45 ZŁ. This day originates from the feast of St. Valentine, the bishop of Terni – a town in Italy

located near Rome. For Polish people, the town of Chełmno, known as the town of love, means as much as Terni does to the Italians. The local Church of the Assumption houses a baroque side altar dedicated to St. Valentine, and one of his relics famous for its miraculous properties. Apart from a ceremonial mass on 14 February, various concerts, games and competitions take place.

Dr. Julian Auleytner
Dr. James Mazepa
Dr. Peter McCann

