

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Meets Every Fourth Friday at Polish Veterans Home, 6005 W. Irving Pk., Chicago

Issue No. 363

PRICE 50¢

May, 1978

Stamp Advisory Committee Rejects Pulaski Stamp

The U. S. Postal Service announced that it will issue a commemorative postal card during 1979 to honor General Casimir Pulaski, a hero of the American Revolution. The appeal of the National Committee for a Pulaski Commemorative Stamp has been in vain. Thousands of letters and cards sent to the U.S.P.S. did not sway them.

We were turned down by the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee. According to the report we received taken from the minutes of their last meeting of April 28, 1978 at Washington, D.C., all committee members voted against the Pulaski stamp.

We don't want a postal card! We want a stamp that can be used on envelopes of mail sent here and abroad. Had a Pulaski stamp been authorized, the Postal Service would stand to make a greater profit. Thousands of collectors and non-collectors would purchase full sheets of stamps as they did for the Poland Millennium and Copernicus issues. The first day cover sale would surpass the sales of the previous mentioned stamps.

Lafayette rated three stamps. Pulaski contributed more to the



General Pulaski at Savannah 1779

US Bicentennial 16c

An artist's proposed design

American Independence by giving up his life when he was mortally wounded at the Battle of Savannah. Could not Pulaski rate a second commemorative stamp?

IMPORTANT MEETING

Friday, May 26th, 1978 —

Election and Installation of Officers. Participation of Chicago-land members is imperative. Our biggest Polonus event ever, POLPEX 79 at the Pamer House, is coming up. Join us at 8:00 p.m.

363-1

Proof of the Second Provisional Issue Postal Stationery for the City of Warsaw

By JAMES MAZEPA, ACSW

All the standard works which discuss the stationery provisionally issued for the city of Warsaw in 1958-59 mention a reprint of the second issue made in 1869. However, none of these works (cf. references) cites any official documentation or source to give substance to this claim. Recently, I had the opportunity to examine one such envelope. It is 102 mm. x 65 mm. which makes it slightly larger than the issued envelope. The flap is rounded rather than pointed and there are no control signatures on the back of the flap. The paper is buff in color while the issued copies are on a much whiter paper. The postal imprint is in the same size (34 mm.) and design as the issued envelope, but the red ink is somewhat oily which causes the impression to be a bit smudgy. The rim of the imprint is sharper and more distinct than in any of the issued copies I have seen and a bit narrower.

I believe this envelope is more correctly described as a proof made prior to the issuance of the visit-card size envelope and not a reprint made some ten years later: My reasons are:

1. No official government documentation is recorded to indicate a reprint was authorized in 1869.
2. No adequate explanation has been offered as to why such a reprint should be made.
3. The envelope bears the coat of arms of Imperial Russia with the Polish crest superimposed in the center. 1869 was during the period of intense Russification in Poland and it does not seem probable that the Russian authorities would allow the distribution of the Polish National emblem.



4. Imperial Russian postal authorities were not prone to manufacture reprints and no other examples exist from this period. Production by any "underground" group in Warsaw seems unlikely, and in any case, it would not then qualify as a reprint.

5. One would suspect that the reprints would be fairly common, at least as common as the original. Such is not the case. Stephen Rich (op. cit.) states he knows of only three copies. I know of two copies in the United States, and of only one other copy, that in the collection of Mr. Bojanowicz. I believe there is a copy in Poland, but I have no confirmation of this.

For these reasons I believe this to be a proof and welcome the opinions of others on the subject.

References:

1. Łaskiewicz, Anton, et al., *Ikaros*, Warsaw, 1935, pp. 338-9.
2. Rich, Stephen, "Stamped Envelopes of the Kingdom of Poland 1858-1865," *Stamps*, March 20, 1943 pp. 411-13.
3. Żółkiewski, Stanisław, *Calostki Polski*, Warsaw, 1958, pp. 68-9.
4. Żółkiewski, Stanisław, "The First Polish Postal Envelopes", *Polish Philatelic Review*, March-April, 1960, London, England.

CHESTER SCHAFER HONORARY POLONUS MEMBER

By DR. MIECZYSLAW A. LIPINSKI

The Board of Directors of the Polonus Philatelic Society unanimously elected to bestow Honorary Membership to Chester Schafer for his outstanding contributions to Polonus.

Joining Polonus in March 1942, he became active at the start. After writing a few articles for the Polonus Bulletin, he was asked if he would take over as editor. He worked at this post from January 1946 to February 1947, and since March 1949 has held held this position till today, a period of over 30 years. In addition to editing, he wrote articles and did many translations from Polish to English.

Besides the editor assignment he served the society as librarian-historian, Polpex chairman, secretary, and then as president. He held the presidency for seven years from 1968 thru 1974, longer than any other member. Presently, he still serves on the executive board as vice president.

Among his collections of Poland are Poland Lublin Overprints of 1919 with full sheet platings, and postal History of the Kingdom of Poland 1815-1870 which are among the finest in the world. He has received three grand awards and many major awards especially for his research collections.

For outstanding contributions to Polish Philately he was distinguished in 1977 by the presentation of a recognition diploma from Club Polonica of the Poznan Philatelic Society in Poland.



An honorary membership plaque was presented Chester on March 18th by president Alfred Szebel at this year's Polpex award presentation ceremony.

Congratulations and long live Chester Schafer and his valuable work for Polonus and Philately!

A MEMBER DOWN SOUTH

Our member Rev. L. Siekaniec, O.F.M., Ph.D., who is stationed in Monroe, Louisiana, is vice president of the local Twin City Stamp Club. At a recent meeting he spoke on "The Post Office and Stamps of the Confederate States." Before that he gave a talk on "Union Stamps and Covers during the Civil War, 1861-65".

A Doctoral Dissertation of Rev. Ladislav Siekaniec titled "Polish Contribution to Early American Education, 1608-1865", has been published by R & E Research Assoc., San Francisco, CA. Cost \$10. You may order directly from Rev. L. Siekaniec, Little Flower of Jesus Rectory, 616 S. 16th St., Monroe, LA 71202.

HAVE YOU MOVED?

If you have moved, please notify us of your change of address. Mail notice to Chester J. Mikucki, 4704 N. Overhill Av., Norridge, IL 60656. This will insure your receiving the Bulletin promptly and avoid Polonus the expense of postage dues.

BULLETIN AD RATES

Full Page ad \$25.00
Half Page ad \$15.00
Quarter Page ad .. \$10.00

Excessive copy subject to extra charge.
Extra charge also for illustrations and cuts. Send copy with check to Editor.
Make check payable to Polonus Phil. Soc.

AN UNUSUAL STAMP OF POLAND

By STANLEY KRONENBERG

Shown is a photograph of a Polish stamp which I have not previously known and which as far as I could determine has not been reported in the literature.

It is the upper left part of a diagonally halved red brown 50 Halerzy stamp of 1919, Scott No. 127, Ruch No. 79, printed on regular paper, perforate 11½. This half of a stamp is hand overprinted in black: "25h". Dimensions of the overprint are: width — 9.3 mm, height (vertical line of "h") 3.8 mm.

The stamp is tied to a piece of an envelope by the black railroad type cancellation of Świątniki Górne; only the year (1920) of the cancellation's date shows. A fragment of the address is visible on the bottom.

This stamp could be a rare auxiliary issue possibly made locally in Świątniki Górne to alleviate the shortage of 25 Halerzy stamps. It also could be one of the many speculative philatelically inspired "issues" of that eventful period in Polish philately.

NEW MEMBERS

Jan Jurewicz

4054 N. Lawler Ave.

Chicago, IL 60641

Antoni Mierzejecki

1117 N. Dearbor St.

Chicago, IL 60610

Jerzy Srebro

3607 W. Diversey Ave.

Chicago, IL 60647

Roman J. Harmel

961 Beaver Lane

Lilburn GA 30247

Miss Donna M. Majeski

331 Cortlandt Park Ave.

Yonkers, Ni 10701



WILL BUY PROOFS

and RUCH #376

Pre-War Polish Proofs Especially by Vacek and Ruch #376 mint cancelled on covers.

Also Ruch #437-40 proofs.

DR. JERZY J. BIALY

P.O. Box 234

Glenham, N.Y. 12527

POLISH POW STUDY GROUP

In the March-April edition of the Polish POW and DP Camps Study Group Newsletter appears an excellent article by Ray Schneider, "Airgraphs of World War II" sent by Poles in the Mediterranean and Middle East to soldier friends in Britain and visa versa. Two pages are devoted to write-up and eight pages to illustrations. The Polish POW Study Group mailing address is 43 Mayer Ave., Buffalo, N.Y. 14207.

APPLICANT PENDING

Leo J. Stawicki

R.R. 1, Box 251

Yorkville, IL 60560

ZACHARIASIEWICZ RETIRES

Walter Zachariasiewicz recently retired from the position of Director for International Contacts at the United States Post Office Dept.

Beginning as assistant to Postmaster General John Gronouski in the Kennedy administration and during the Johnson tenure he was named Director of the Bureau for International Contacts.



A reception in his honor was held in the Post Office building. The new Postmaster General Wm. Bolger attended the gathering.

Mr. Zachariasiewicz, a Polonus member, served as Director of the Polish Immigration Committee, Director of the Nationalities Division of the Democratic Party, and as President of the American Council of Polish Cultural Clubs.

Best of luck on your retirement!

POLONUS EMBLEM PINS

Because of the many inquiries received for a Polonus emblem pin, President Alfred Szebel designed a lapel pin, and with the approval of the board ordered 250.

The long-awaited lapel finally arrived and it's thing of beauty in gold, red and white enamel. Members may purchase them at \$3.00 each plus 50c postage from John Bor, 1810 N. Richmond St., Chicago, IL 60647.



Pin design (double size)

APPLICANT PENDING

Mrs. Marjory Hagens
18583 Harmon Ave.
Melvindale, MI 48122

STAMP MARKET TIPS

By JOHN G. ROSS

During World War II after Hitler's armies had occupied Poland, the German authorities created the General Government in order to administer the Polish territory. During the war special stamps were issued and right after the end of the war, huge quantities were sold to the U.S.A. at very low prices. All that happened about thirty-five years ago. Now some of the sets are difficult to find and are starting to rise in price considerably. I suggest you make sure you own the set of four values issued in August 1940 to raise money for the Red Cross, Scott No. NB1-4. This set was printed by the Government printing office in Vienna, Austria. Figures as to how many sets were issued, never were published, but my guess is around one million. Scott 1978 lists the four stamps for \$2.80 up 60¢ from last year's catalog. Dealers in Germany who advertised only a year ago and were willing to pay around one dollar, are now offering about \$2 per set. As long as the buy price for that set has doubled in just about one year, it could easily double in price again. It still can be found over here fairly easily but all that might change very quickly.

Reprinted from STAMPS of 5-20-78.

WANTED — Revenue stamps of any kind: Passport, Documentary, Beer, Wine, Liquor, State Tax stamps, etc. Doctors & Dentists, your obsolete annual Federal STS for dispensing narcotics, too! Cash or trade, your specialty? Your kind attention appreciated.

John S. Bobo, 1668 Sycamore St.,
Des Plaines, IL 60018 U.S.A.

Polonus Member 125.

POLISH FOLKLORE on POSTAGE STAMPS

(Continued from April Bulletin)

Her most famous folklore fairy tale is "The Orphan Mary and the Dwarfs", and which are shown on Scott #1105-1110.

Korczak, Janusz, a doctor of medicine, born 1879, executed by Nazis with his pupils in Tremblinka on August 5, 1942. His family name was Henry Goldschmidt. He was a famous Polish physician, writer, educator and an author of books for the children. His most famous work for the children is: "King Matthew 1st". In this story, Dr. Korczak writes about a little king whose only desire was "to change everything into better" so that all children of the world would be happy. During the occupation of Warsaw by the Nazi, he organized an "Orphan House" for Jewish children. During the Nazi liquidation of Jews, the children from the orphanage were sent to Tremblinka for cremation. Dr. Janusz Korczak went with his proteges, and was executed with them on August 5, 1942. He is depicted on Scott #1098.

Kraszewski, Joseph Ignac, born 1812, died 1887. One of the most prolific of Polish writers of historic novels and stories. In these writings he describes the whole history of the Polish people, beginning with the prehistorical times. His stories are based on legends, on myths and on customs of those times. He is shown on Scott #541.

Mickiewicz, Adam, born 1798, died 1855. One of the greatest of Polish poets, author of numerous poems, folk-ballads, romances, fables and historical novels based on native folklore. His most works are: *Switezianka*, *Romantyczność*, *Grażyna* named after a Lithuanian heroine. The most famous of his poetical works is "Pan Tadeusz", consisting of 12 books, written in verse, and is considered to be the classic epic poem. In this work, the author depicts the whole Polish life style, that of peasantry, and that of nobility, with the various customs and folklore at the turn of 18th and 19th centuries. In his drama "The Beggars", the old peoples customs are depicted on All Souls Day.

He is depicted on Scott #464, 468, 674, 711-714, 1059.

Moniuszko, Stanisław, born 1819, died 1872. He is one of the greatest of Polish musicians and composers; and is considered to be the founder of the Polish national opera, and of national ballets. His most famous opera *Halka* is based on folklore. Besides this he also wrote many other operas all based on folklore such as: *The Fable*, *The Raftsmen*, *Paria*, *The Terrible Court*. He also compiled a "Polish National Songbook" based on Polish folklore. He composed several church songs based on folk customs, the most famous being the church song of "Ostra Brama". He further composed music for several ballads of Polish poets *The Beggars of Mickiewicz*, *The Three Lithuanian Brothers*; as well as music for the drama "Spectre" based on Polish folklore. He is shown on Scott #526, 527, 832, 1900, 1907.

Ogiński, Michael, born 1728, died 1800. A Polish nobleman and a composer of several national dances based on native folk music; and is most noted for his polonaise dances. He is depicted on Scott #1755. His son, Michael Cleophas was also a composer of numerous polonaise dances, the most famous one being "The Farewell to Homeland". This was composed after he was exiled by the Russians for participating in an uprising to free Poland in 1830's.

Paderewski, John Ignac, born 1860, died 1941. He was one of Polish most famous pianist, as well as composer. His compositions were based on Polish folk songs and dances. His most famous works are opera "Manru", and "Polish Fantasy" based on folk songs. He was a Statesman, and Premier of Poland after World War I. He is shown stamps of Poland. Scott #134, 136, 932; as well as on United States stamps, Scott #1159, 1160.

Rej, or Rey Mikołaj of Nagłowice, born 1505, died 1569. He may be considered as the father of Polish national literature, and began writing his literary works in Polish language, instead of the traditional Latin, as used in the past. His literary works were documentation of the folklore of his time. His most famous work is the

"The Mirror", in which he portrays a debate between the nobleman of the village and the rector of the village. He is shown on Scott #594.

Reymont, Władysław, born 1867, died 1925. A Polish novelist and a short story writer. He is the author of several novels based on folklore such as "Ferments", and "The Promised Land". In this later work he describes the folklore of the newly developed industrial city of Lodz. His greatest masterpiece of literary effort is the four volume work, "The Peasants", depicting the country life of working farm people. For this masterly presentation, he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1924. He is shown on stamp #1560, of Scott.

Sienkiewicz, Henryk, born 1846, died 1916. One of the greatest Polish literary writers of the late 19th century, and the early 20th century. He wrote numerous short stories all based on folklore. In his classic stories: "With Fire and Sword", "The Deluge" and "Mr. Michael", he describes the customs and the folklore of the 17th century during the most critical years of Polish History. His "Quo Vadis", depicting the life in Roman Empire at the beginning of the Christian Era, won for him the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1905. He is shown on stamps with Scott #257, 1404, and B88. SEE ADDENDUM "A" TO BE INSERTED HERE.

Ślowski, Juliusz, born 1809, died 1894. One of Poland's great romantic poets, who in his numerous dramas, short novels, and ballads described the folklore. His famous works are "Lillia Veneda", "Balladyna", and a great novel "Maurice Beniowski", written in verse. In this later work is an encyclopedia of Polish folklore at the end of the 17th century and the beginning of the 18th century. He is shown on Scott #249, 402, 411, 466, and 1060.

Stwosch, Wit, born 1435 or 1445, died in 1527. One of the greatest wood carvers of the Renaissance Period. He began carving the altar of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Krakow in 1477, and completed the monumental work in 1487. All of his carvings depict the contemporary cus-

toms and folklore of his era. He is shown on Scott #277, 285, 925, 931, 2086.

Tuwim, Julian, born 1894, died 1953. A modern poet and writer who in his various literary works depicts the contemporary folklore of the 20th century, especially the slums of the industrial cities. His work "The Polish Flowers", is one of the best literary compilations of the folklore of this period. His work "Cicer Cum Cole" (that is a Hodgepodge) is the finest collection of folklore, proverbs, riddles, limericks and obituaries of that era. He is shown on Scott #1714.

Wyspiański, Stanisław, born 1867, died 1907. One of the more brilliant writers of the so-called "Young Poland" era, which initiated a new trend in Polish literature. He was a poet, a dramatist, a writer, a painter, and a stained glass maker. All of his efforts were based predominantly on folklore of the Krakow region. His most famous drama "The Wedding", is a monument dedicated to the customs of the peasants, as well as a compilation of the superstitions of that time. His famous stained glass windows are all based on the folklore, as well as his many drawings and etchings. He is depicted on Scott #402, 411, 831, 851, 1675, 1914, and his "Flowers" on 2017-2022.

Żeromski, Stefan, born 1864, died 1925. A writer of historical novels based on folklore. His "The Turon" describes Christmas peasant customs; while "Ashes" presents the folklore of the Napoleonic time. His other great work, "The Early Spring", is devoted to the folklore of the northern regions of Poland.

ADDENDUM "A":

Two additional stories, "The Polańskie Family", and "Without Dogma" are based on the contemporary folklore of the 19th century.

Section 4 is somewhat of limited scope, but it depicts the various customs, games of the native people. Because of uniqueness of these stamps, they can rightly be classed with folklore. The Scott #1628-1635, 1971-1978, identifies the stamps.

To assist in the location of folklore areas, the enclosed map has been prepared.

FOR DELINQUENT MEMBERS

With this issue of the Polonus Bulletin 163 notices are being sent to members who are delinquent in paying their dues. The total amount due Polonus for unpaid dues is \$1,930.00.

As per the last Board of Directors meeting, members who do

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The Polonus Philatelic Society is non-political. Views expressed by authors of articles appearing herein do not necessarily express the views of the Polonus Philatelic Society.

— Annual Dues are \$5.00 —

not pay up by July 31st, 1978, will stop receiving the Bulletin and will be dropped from our membership roster.

The cost of printing and mailing has risen steadily, and will continue to rise. We just can't afford it!

Please, if you haven't as yet, send in your dues!

MEMBERS MART

WANTED: POLISH FIELDPOST 1914-21, 1939, 1944-46. POSTAL HISTORY OF WARSAW 1700-1864.

TO DISPOSE: Duplicates of Polish Fieldpost & Legions, Postal History WW2, Concentration & POW Camps, etc. Groszy Overprints on Covers.

WILL BUY, TRADE or SELL. A. SZEBEL,
9041 Emerson, Des Plaines, IL 60016

POLISH BOOKS AND CATALOGS ON STAMPS AND COINS

1978 Ruch catalog	\$ 2.00
1916-1977 Monet catalog on Polish Coins	2.00
1794-1976 Banknote catalog	2.00
Znaki Pocztowe Volumes I-V (5)	35.00
Each volume separately	7.00
Bound Volumes of Filatelista	7.00
Unbound Volumes of Filatelista	4.00
Complete set of P.O.W. catalogs	5.00

Other books, catalogs, etc. available or can be ordered.

Price list of Polish stamps available free to members.

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