

BULLETIN OF THE **POLONUS** PHILATELIC SOCIETY



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

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JUDGES ANNOUNCED FOR POLPEX 78

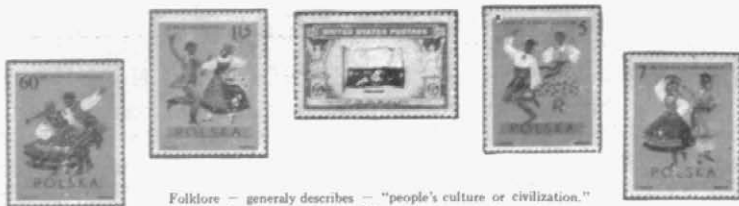
The 38th annual POLPEX 78 to be held March 18-19 at the Polish Veterans Building, 6005 W. Irving Park Rd., Chicago, will be judged by Dr. Mieczysław Lipiński of Poland, Richard Estka and Tom Ellen. Exhibition hours will be Saturday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Beeba following, and Sunday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission to the exhibition is free. Tickets for the Beeba and award presentations are priced at \$4.00 and are available from our treasurer Roman Strzelecki.

Because of the topical theme "Polish Folklore", instead of regular medals, beautiful objects of Polish folklore handcrafted in Poland, will be placed at the disposal of the judges. There will also be the Polonus Grand Award, for the best in Poland, Kozakiewicz Research Award, a President's Award, SPA Research and ATA Best in Topicals medals plus some others.

A twenty dealers' bourse and a US postal station will operate

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY **POLPEX 78**

Polish Folklore



Folklore — generally describes — "people's culture or civilization." In philately only a small part of it can be represented on a tiny postage stamp. The subject is of a very wide range — art, crafts, dances, music, costumes and many more. PolpeX 78 has chosen traditional and colorful costumes from four different regions. Poland has in the past issued many beautiful stamps showing various phases of folklore.

NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION
Chicago, Illinois • March 18-19, 1978

POLPEX 78 SOUVENIR CARD

on the premises using our special cancellation. Members are urged to make large stamp purchases as we want to be certain that the US Postal Service will again grant our request for a postal station next year.

During the show attractive four color souvenir sheets will be sold at 75c a pair; souvenir cards \$1.25 for mint, \$2.00 used; cacheted covers at 60c each, set of 2 - \$1.00; official exhibition program-catalog with articles on Polish Folklore in philately at \$1.00. The above are all available by mail from John Bor, 1810 N. Richmond St., Chicago, IL 60647. Please include return postage.

HARRY LINDQUIST, 1884-1978

Philately lost a great promoter of the hobby when Harry L. Lindquist, publisher of STAMPS magazine passed on. Mr. Lindquist was among the first to receive Honorary Membership in Polonus.

On August 23, 1946 Mr. Lindquist came down to the Polish Falcons Hall to attend the Polonus Beeba held in conjunction with the A.P.S.-C.P.S. Convention in Chicago that year. It was here that Polonus presented him with a Citation of Recognition in the form of a hand lettered scroll "in recognition of his untiring efforts in behalf of, his distinguished service to, and his exceptional cooperation with the Polonus Philatelic Society in the promotion of an understanding of Polish Culture, Literature and History through philatelic means". The scroll was made by the late Jack Domar who labored nearly a year to make it.

Write your Congressman about having a Pulaski At Savannah U.S. Commemorative in 1979!

IN OUR MAIL BOX

Polonus Philatelic Society
Dear Friends,

A World Conference of Poles living abroad, "POLONIA-78: Polonia of Tomorrow", is being organized by the American and Canadian Congresses and will be held in Toronto May 25-28. One of the events will be a non-competitive philatelic exhibition presenting a brief cross-section of Polish philately. The members of the Gzowski Philatelic Society will participate but there should also be the participation of other clubs and individuals other than from Toronto.

In connection with POLONIA-78 a 64-page booklet on "Polonica Canadiana" will be printed. Delegates participating in the conference will receive a copy.

If any Polonus members wish to show material in the philatelic exhibition please let me know as soon as possible so that I may coordinate the exhibits and avoid duplications.

Best regards,

Michael Lubinski
8 Attercliff Court
Rexdale, Ontario
Canada M9V 1H7

UNIQUE NAPOLEONIC STATIONERY ON AUCTION

Some unique historic letters of Polish Legions attached to the Napoleonic armies will be auctioned at the Great Lakes Stamp Auction March 31 and April 1st. The popular item is the letter handwritten and signed by Lt. General Dabrowski. The others are by General Kosinski, Garrison Commander A. Kralewski and Brig. General Wielhoski. (See ad in this issue of the Bulletin.)

Polish Folklore on Postage Stamps

By DR. MIECZYSLAW A. LIPINSKI

This year the traditional POLPEX is devoted to the popularization of Polish folklore on postage stamps.

Folklore Background Information

The word FOLKLORE was first coined by a British antiquarian, W. J. Thoms, in 1846 in Encyclopedia Britannica. Folklore was then defined by W. J. Thoms "as the traditions, customs, and superstitions of the uncultured classes in the civilized nations."

The meaning of the word folklore is not prescribed by the early definition, but by its usage, and by its scope. With time, folklore began to include not only the arts and the crafts, but also the intellectual and culture achievement of local peasantry.

In this broadest sense folklore began to include all of the cultural achievements of the local people such as: folk tales, myths, fables, legends, and fairy tales. In this category were also included the traditional dances which went back to antiquity; the various songs, proverbs, riddles, jokes and limricks.

In the material aspect of human civilization, folklore would also embrace various folk costumes; local and regional folk architecture, as well as many of the arts and crafts typical of various regions.

Also in its broadest meaning folklore would include all of the local customs; all of the belief and all of the traditions that people handed down from one generation to the next generation. In this



A Polish skier dressed in costume of the Tatra Mountains is pictured on the 1939 World Ski Games in Zakopane Issue.

manner various stories, music, religious beliefs, crafts, arts, and the games were perpetuated. In due time their customs in farming, their traditional way of running the household, and all the unwritten rules by which they governed themselves, could be included in folklore.

The people in ancient times did not have printing presses, nor the use of books as we have today. They relied solely on the traditional word of mouth method for passing knowledge: the parents would teach their children, and their children would instruct their offsprings in the traditional folklores.

The people's culture is also affected by foreign contacts, whether in peaceful co-existence, or in warlike encounters. Hence within a single society, the learning of one generation has a way of becoming the folklore of the next generation.

Polish Folklore in Philately

Polish folklore has been frequently presented in philately. During the prewar period, only two stamps were devoted to Polish folklore. The first one was issued in 1929, on the tenth anniversary of Polish Independence Exhibition at Poznań, known as PEWUKA. The Polish Postal administration issued a commemorative stamp depicting the ancient god of the Slavs, ŚWIATOWID.

Again in 1939 to commemorate the World Ski Games in Zakopane, the Postal authorities issued a set of four stamps, each with the same design, of a Polish skier dressed in the traditional costume of Tatra mountains.

After World War II a large number of stamps were issued to represent the various aspects of folklore. Many of these stamps depicted: peasant costumes, peasant dances, rural architecture, songs and ballets, as well as scenes from various tales and from fairy stories. Also many of stamps were devoted to showing: various crafts, woodcuts, sculpture, tapestries, and embroideries. One of the most unique of the recent folklore crafts are the paper cut-outs, the so-called "wycinanki" developed by the peasants.

Another special group of topical folklore collection would include famous writers, composers, sculptors, and painters, who actually transformed the national folklore into modern literary compositions; as well as into music. In this group can also be included several Polish writers and creators of the culture of modern times.



Types of Polish Folklore Depicted on Postage Stamps

To describe Polish folklore on stamps would be indeed a difficult task. Folklore has been extended into so many areas, that to do justice to a particular aspect of folklore, each such area must be broken down into subcategories, and each such area must be described separately. To condense this voluminous task into a workable categories Polish folklore has been divided into four sections, with some overlapping of the sections.

For ease of identification Scott's catalogue numbers are used for each stamps, or for group of stamps.

Classification and Identification of Folklore Stamps

The four sections are defined as:

Section 1. Devoted to Crafts, and Architectural Works.

Section 2. Devoted to Legends, Dances, and Festivals.

Section 3. Devoted to the Artists who Based Their Work on Folklore.

Section 4. Hunting Scenes.

Section 1 would contain the following

- 1.1 **Regional Costumes:** Scott #'s
Kraków — 888, 889
Kujawy — 898, 899
Kurpie — 890, 891, 1692
Łowicz — 894, 895, 1429, 1686
Lubelskie — 900, 901, 1685
Lubuskie — 904, 905
Opoczyńskie — 1689
Podhale — 335, 338, 896, 897, 1691, NB 8-11
Rzeszów — 886, 887
Silesian — 892, 893, 1687, 1688
Szamotuły — 902, 903
- 1.2 **Rural Churches in:**
Frydman — B85
Grywałd — 555

(To be continued)

POLONUS LOSES MYRON STECZYNSKI

"De profundis clamo
ad Te, Domine,
Domine exaudi
orationem meam..."

Polonus is saddened by the passing of Myron E. Steczynski, an outstanding Polish-American philatelist. He died following a massive heart attack on February 23, 1978.

His death is a great loss not only for Polonus, but also for Polonia and philately in general.

Myron was born July 25, 1897, the son of Marian Steczynski, a noted leader of Illinois Polonia, president of the Polish National Alliance 1903-1912, founder and chairman of the Alliance College, Cambridge Springs, Pa.

From his youngest years, he was in the circle, as well as the center of Polish activity in the United States.

Philately was his hobby since early school years and when Polonus was born, he was one of the fifty-four enthusiasts who met at the Polish Veterans Hall on Wood Street in Chicago to form the Polonus Philatelic Society.

During the 39 years of Polonus existence, he served as president in 1943-44, as Polpex Chairman, as historian and librarian, and on many committees.

During World War II, he was one of the most active members of Polonus, for the Polish cause, fought against Nazi propaganda, announcing to the world that Poland is not lost, as long as we live...

His collections of the Cracow Issues, Poland Number One, Locals, as well as collections of various labels, posters, fiscal and



revenue stamps, were known throughout the philatelic world, and Myron received the highest awards at local as well as international shows.

He was also known for his articles which appeared in the Polonus Bulletin, as well as many philatelic magazines and journals: Stamps, Philately, Weekly Philatelic Gossip, Linn's, Western Stamp Collector, etc.

The index of his philatelic articles in the Bulletin contains only his major publications. In addition he wrote reports, news, rebuttals, obituaries, etc.

His most famous research work was on the Cracow Issues with the plating of the various settings in all values. His last project was a great monumental work on Copernicus. Because of his death, this work remains unfinished.

At POLSKA 60 in Warsaw, Myron was a member of the International Jury, made up of people who came from the most remote

areas and he served as chairman of the section that judged the Polish exhibits.

In recognition of his outstanding services to Polish Philately, Myron was awarded Honorary Membership in the Polonus Philatelic Society; Polish Philatelic Society in Great Britain; Polski Związek Filatelistów in Warsaw; Collectors Club, New York. In 1963 he was the recipient of the M. A. Bojanowicz Polish Stamp Centenary Research Award.

To his wife Jeanette, his daughter Marsha, and his son John and their families, Polonus extends its deepest and heartfelt sympathy.

"Requiescat in pace"

—Dr. Mieczysław Lipinski

Check List of Steczynski's Articles Printed in the Polonus Bulletin

Abbreviations:

- B — Polonus Bulletin,
- M — Polonus Monthly (Chojnacki)
- C — Polpex Catalogue,
- S — Souvenir Sheet, Folders
- The 1st no.: Number of Issue
- Second no.: page

- A Thousand Years of Polish-Hungarian Friendship, B 147 2-3
- Canadian Postage Stamp to honor Gzowski, B 207 7
- Czechy, Municipal Postal Services during Austrian Occupation, B 87 7
- Chopin in Philately, B 70 3-4
- Christmas Greetings, B 5 5
- Christmas in Poland, B 5
- Christmas Seals, B 5 2
- Distinguished Personnel at Mercury Stamp Co., qualified to handle rare items of Poland, B 160 5-6
- Field Post of the Polish Legion 1914-18 (recession), B 279 7-8
- First Copernicus Stamp Designs, B 297 7-8
- First Polish Settlements in America, C 1951 2
- Hail to Golden Christmas, B 5 3
- M. Haiman, 1888-1949, B 70 2
- More of the Bicentennial, C 1977 7-17
- Na Biednych, B 10 4-6
- Nicolaus Copernicus (1473-1543), C 1965 9-12
- Paderewski, the Immortal, B 11 1-4

- Poland and Mexico, B 268 5
- Poland Provisional Issue of January, 1921, Scott 153, B 103 1-3
- Poland's Hall of Fame, B 15 1-6
- Poland's Millenium of Christianity, Poland Is Alive, M 1 11 9-11
- Polish Air Postage Stamps, M 1 8 9-11
- Polish Heroes of the Civil War, S 1962 8
- Polpex 1959 Honors the 400th Anniversary of the Polish Mail, C 1959 18
- Polpex 1966 Honors Poland's Millenium of Christianity, S 1966 2 pp
- Polpex 1958 Souvenir Sheet Honors The Arrival of the First Polish Settlers in America, S 1958 3 pp
- Postal Issues of Democratic Poland, B 55 5
- Sobieski at Vienna, B 20 1-3
- Stamps of Poland, M 1 4, 1 27, 1 3 8
- The Cracow Issue, B 242 3-4
- The First Semi-Postal Issue (1-sza Polska Wystawa Marek), B 67 4
- The Germans Came to Poland, M 1 1 2-6
- The Kosciuszko Stamp, C 1976 27-28
- The Late Henry J. Chojnacki, B 303 7
- The Moscicki Anniversary Stamp, B 140 1-2
- The Pulaski Stamp, C 1976 33-34
- The Recent Polpex Articles, B 86 1-2
- The Tourist Issues in Poland, B 106 1-7
- The Washington Stamp, C 1976 37-39
- Watch Those Krakows! B 68 4-5
- Zarki Municipal Issues, B 59 1-3, 7, 64 5-7.

Compiled by
Dr. Mieczysław A. Lipinski

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Yonkers, N.Y. 10701

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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.

39TH PUBLIC & MAIL AUCTION

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, March 17, 1978 —

Mounting of the Polpex. Bring rags, window glass cleaner, screw driver and pliers. We start 7 p.m. Members exhibiting must put up their own material and help put up out-of-towners' exhibits also.

Fri. & Sat., March 18-19, 1978:
POLPEX 78!!!

Friday, March 24, 1978 —

Good Friday. No meeting.

Friday, March 31, 1978 —

Program Meeting. Grand Award winner (if from Chicago area) to speak on his award winning exhibit. Starting 8 p.m.

Fri. & Sat., April 1-2, 1978:

Rockford Stamp Club Annual Exhibition, now a National Show, at Clock Tower Inn, Rockford, Ill.

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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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 —

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Half Page ad \$15.00

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NICOLAUS COPERNICUS WORLDWIDE POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUE 1973-1976

The Scope of the Catalogue

1. Color pages for each country. 50 in all.
2. Detailed description and specifications of all stamps featured. Authentication details and document illustration for all countries as available.
3. Notes on forgeries & non-postal issues.
4. Handstamps relating to FDC's shown.
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Compiled and edited by W.Z.J. Nowicki.

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