

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Meets Every 2nd & 4th Friday at St. James Clubroom, 2424 N. Mango, Chicago, Ill.

Issue No. 300

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May, 1972

ANNOUNCING . . .

A 250 FRAME POLPEX 73 AT LA SALLE HOTEL

The Polonus Philatelic Society announces that POLPEX 73 will be held on March 23, 24 and 25, 1973, at the La Salle Hotel in downtown Chicago. A 250-frame exhibition is planned on an international level, with entries from collectors in Poland, Canada, England, Australia, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia and other countries. A forty-dealer bourse and a U.S. Postal Service substation with a special cancellation will operate on the premises. There will be cacheted covers, souvenir sheets, and a commemorative medallion. A program catalog will be issued in connection with the show. A meeting of representatives of Polish philatelic societies throughout the world and other activities are being planned.

Chairman of the event is Alfred Szebel.

POLPEX 73 will honor Copernicus — the great Polish astronomer who documented the fact that the earth and other planets revolve around the sun and thereby initiated the solar system, thus laying the foundation of modern astronomy. It will be 500 years on February 19, 1973,



A 40 gr. yellow, sepia and carmine issue of 1969 of a set of three released as a precursor to the 500th Anniversary Copernicus celebrations in 1973. The Copernicus portrait is at the left and the inscription "He stopped the sun and set the earth in motion" is at the right. that Copernicus was born in Toruń, Poland. The occasion of the Quincentennial of Copernicus' Birth will be commemorated by the United States Postal Service with a postage stamp to be issued in 1973, as announced by Postmaster General E. T. Klassen.

APPLICANTS PENDING

Peter Romaskiewicz
2535 W. Medill
Chicago, Ill. 60647
Ronald G. Hampton
650 Kennedy Road
Lexington, Ky. 40505

Polish Amer. Congress Copernicus Stamp Contest

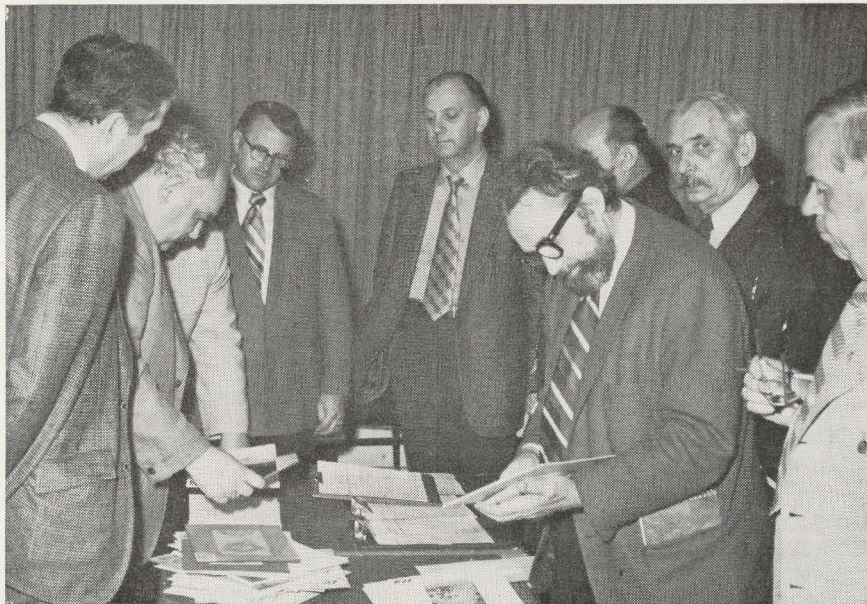
The Copernicus U. S. Stamp Design Contest, sponsored by the Philatelic Committee of the Polish American Congress, has met with success. A total of 270 entries were received by the contest committee. Of this amount, 142 came from Poland and the others mostly from the U.S. The deadline for entries was March 31, 1972.

A total of \$2,250.00 in cash prize money is to be awarded along with 25 consolation prizes.

Napoleon C. Zbyszewski, chairman of the Philatelic Committee, called a meeting on May 10 at the Bagatela Hall in Chicago for the purpose of screening the entries. Of the total of 270 entries, 72 of the best designs were selected as the first phase of the judging procedure.

Your editor, as a member of the contest committee, was present at the screening. The majority of the designs were professionally done. One design was by a 17 year old boy from Poland. Besides Poland, there were entries from Canada, England, France, Germany, New Zealand, Australia, Argentina, Rhodesia, and Czechoslovakia. Among unusual designs was one imbedded in plaster of paris, another hand tooled on a copper plate. The likeness of Copernicus to the portraits by artists Matejko and Szyk was in abundance on many of the entries. One woman artist painted Copernicus as a glamorous movie star.

The next phase of the contest took place May 23 at the Chicago Society clubrooms. A judg-



The Copernicust stamp contest judges at work — (from left to right) Roman Burkiewicz; Dr. James J. Matejka, Chairman; Mitchell Kobelynski, President P.A.C. Illinois Div.; Napoleon C. Zbyszewski, Contest Chairman; Zdzislaw Wagrowski; John Fabian, noted artist; Jerzy Miklaszewski; and Dennis Voss, Chairman of the Board of Parkview National Bank.

ing committee consisting of Dr. James J. Matejka, Samuel Ray, John Fabian, Dennis Voss, Mitchell Kobylinski, Joseph Zurawski, and Polonus members Zdzislaw Wagrowski and Roman Burkiewicz met here to choose the best drawings.

Selected as outstanding were the works of Wacław Falkowski of Warsaw, Poland; Tadeusz Janowski of Syracuse, N.Y.; Tadeusz Pawlak of Chicago; and Jan Szczepek of Warsaw. One of the above had a dual entry.

Selected also were 45 entries to be eligible for the four main awards, the sixteen \$25.00 prizes, and the 25 consolation prizes. At the next meeting of the judging committee the selections are to be finalized.

The work of the contest committee is mainly the selection of the best entries which can be used as a guide by the Stamp Citizen Advisory Committee in Washington, D.C.

The Chairman of the P.A.C. Philatelic Committee, Napoleon Zbyszewski, took the selected as best designs to Washington, delivering them personally to the head of the Advisory Committee, Mr. Gordon Morrison. The final decision will be made in Washington.

Polonus members in the Chicagoland area will have an opportunity to see fifty of the Copernicus contest stamp drawings at their June 9th meeting at St. James Clubroom. P.A.C. Philatelic Committee Chairman, Napoleon Zbyszewski, has consented to bring them down to our next meeting and tell us of the latest contest developments.

POLSKA 73

POLSKA 73, an international philatelic exhibition, will be held in conjunction with the many



Copernicus celebrations on August 19th thru September 2nd, 1973 at the Poznań Fair. One and a half million stamps are to be displayed in some 5,000 frames. Topical collections of Copernicus will be featured in a separate pavillion. The exhibition is under the auspices of the "Federation Internationale de Philatelie." Chairman of the organizing committee is Jan Witkowski.

A colorful booklet with the rules and regulations on the exhibition in four different languages, has been released along with the preliminary entry forms. Polonus members desiring to exhibit may receive copies by writing to Alfred Szebel, 9041 Emerson, DesPlaines, Ill. 60016.

Several stamp emissions are planned. The first, a miniature sheet of 10 + 5 zł. with the emblem of POLSKA 73 will appear in September of 1972. In addition, a set of four values depicting Copernicus' life and accomplishments as an astronomer, economist, humanitarian, and citizen will be issued.

NEW RATES ON BULLETIN ADS

One inch ad.....\$3.00

Quarter page ad...10.00

Half page ad.....15.00

Full page ad.....25.00

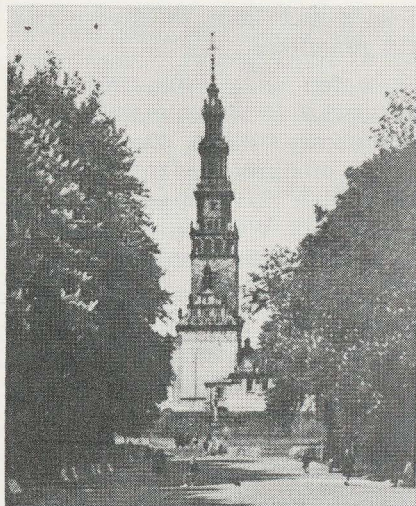
Send copy for ad with your check to the editor.

The Monastery of Jasna Góra in Częstochowa During the Years of World War I – 1914-1918

By St. Żółkiewski

(Translated by Chester W. Makowski)

During the period of World War I, the monastery of Jasna Góra in Częstochowa, in spite of the fact that the city was occupied by the German Army and was part of the make up of the General Gouvernement of Warsaw, it was not subject to the administration of the occupying Germans. It was under Austro-Hungarian administration and constituted a so called enclave. Most likely, this was due to the pleading of the Prior of the Order of the Pauline Fathers in charge of the Monastery who would rather be under the rule of the Arch Catholic Emperor and King Franz Joseph, and not subject to the Lutheran German-Prussians. A further motive no doubt was to avoid pillage of the monastery treasures.



Correspondence sent from the Monastery to land occupied by the Austro-Hungarian Army was sent by the way serviced to the



Illustration 1

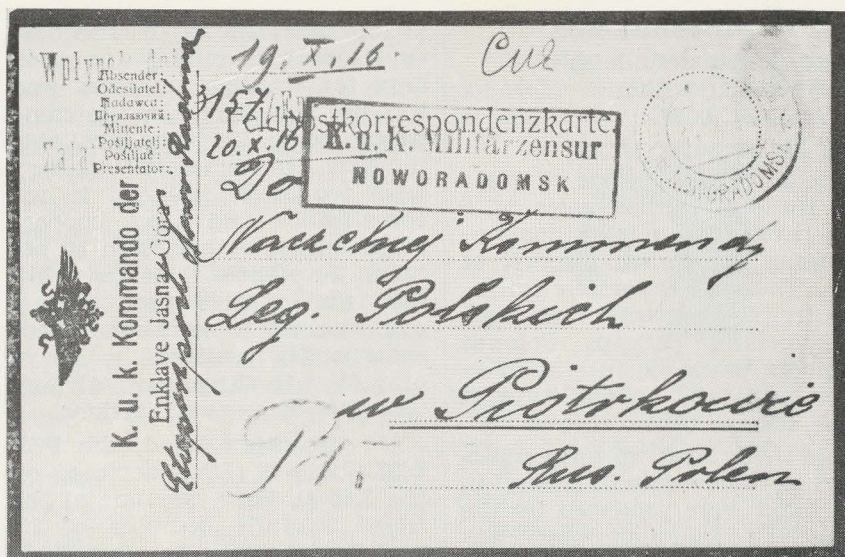


Illustration 2

Bureau of the Post at a staging point in Noworadomsk.

Mail sent from here was given two types of characteristic rubber handstamps "K.u.K. Kommando der Enklave Jasna Góra": a circular design with eagle in center (Illustration 1), and a simple horizontal two-line inscription (Illustration 2).

The enclave of Jasna Góra lasted to the end of the war.

TID BITS

Member Vojtech Maxa, a Prague newspaperman, won a silver ward for his exhibit of Perfin at Jihlava, Czechoslovakia. Mr. Maxa also collects Poland and plans to exhibit at POLPEX 73.

* * *

Dr. Miet Kamiński of Scarborough, Ont., Canada is very busy these days working on his **Kraków Overprints** book. He reports that quite a number of people have shown an interest in the book and have been helpful with their material. In an

effort to make it as complete as possible, he has been going through all existing literature. Recently he completed photographing Herbert Bloch's rarities from his reference collection.

Dr. Kamiński presented a slide program and lecture on his **Kraków Overprints** on April 30th at the Polish Philatelic Society of Buffalo.

* * *

A large crowd of members assembled at the recent Friday night COMPEX Polonus meeting at the La Salle Hotel.

After the meeting all went to the hospitality room where they enjoyed themselves into the wee hours of the morning.

* * *

It is now the belief that member Daniel Dohm, Jr. of St. Louis Mo. has the second largest holding of Poland Number Ones. He bought most of the lots of the recent Mercury stamp auction of Dr. Kozakiewicz's collection. M. A. Bojanowicz of London is the owner of the largest known holding of this scarce adhesive.

IN OUR MAIL BOX

Editor, Polonus Bulletin
864 N. Ashland Ave.
Chicago, Ill. 60622

Dear Mr. Schafer,

The April, 1972, issue of **Polonus Bulletin** carries news of a new three stamp issue commemorating the Polish aircraft of 1939. There is a certain confusion in the description of these stamps, and perhaps Polonus members would be interested in more details on the aircraft these stamps depict.

The three craft were the mainstays of the defense of Poland in 1939, and were produced by the State Aircraft Factory (Państwowe Zakłady Lotnicze), and therefore, prefixed by the letters P.Z.L.

The P.Z.L. P.11c, shown on the 90-gr. issue, was Poland's best operational pursuit plane with a top speed of 242 mph, and armed with four 7.7 mm machine guns. In the 1939 campaign, Poland had 166 fighters, of which P.11's numbered 129. The remainder were earlier versions of the P.11, the P.7. While it was considered to be one of the finest planes in the world in 1934, competing in several international air races, it was definitely obsolete in 1939. Nevertheless, the "Jedenastka" as it was called after the number eleven in Polish, performed creditably. The Luftwaffe lost 129 aircraft destroyed in the air, largely by Jedenastka pilots who were known to ram their machines into the superior enemy aircraft to bring them down.

The PZL P.23B "Karaś" (Crusian-Carp), shown on the 1.50 zł. stamp, was a dive-bomber designed to provide tactical support to the infantry. It was also obsolete in 1939, being capable of carrying 1,500 lbs. of bombs

at less than 200 m.p.h. The older "Karaś" A model was used only for training purposes and was not significant in the campaign. Some 120 were available in 1939. Unfortunately, they were too often assigned to reconnaissance and army cooperation duties, rather than to attack. Nevertheless, at least fifteen major raids were carried out against German armor spearheads resulting in heavy casualties to the enemy 4th and "Kempf" Armored Divisions.

On the other hand, the PZL P.37 "Łoś" B (Elk), depicted on the 3.45 zł. issue, was one of the finest altitude bombers of its day. Some ninety were available for the campaign. It was capable of 273 m.p.h. and could carry over 2½ tons of bombs. Its effectiveness was hampered by the lack of high performance fighter planes to protect it.

Contrary to well-established belief, the aircraft of Poland were not largely destroyed on the ground in the first few days of the war. Over a third of Poland's fighting planes were evacuated to Roumania when on the 17th of September, the Russian attack on the Eastern border no longer made the defense of Poland possible.

Detailed histories, together with many photos and drawings of the P.11 and of the P.23 are to be found in **Profile** publications #75 and #104 available at many aircraft model hobby shops. A brief description and illustration of the P.37 is found in **Bombers 1939-45**, by Kenneth Muuson and published by Macmillan Co., 1969.

A new and comprehensive history of Polish aviation, not yet generally available in the U.S., is Jerzy B. Cynk's **Polish Air-**

craft 1893-1939. It was published in 1971, by Putnam & Co., London, England, and numbers 760 pages.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Czerwinski, #881
1476 Roundleaf Court
Reston, Virginia 22070

PHILATELIC LITERATURE REVIEW

"Muzyka jako temat w filatelistyce" (Music as a Theme in Philately) by Cezary Rudnicki, Editor for the Warsaw District of the Polish Philatelic Alliance in 1971.

Here for the first time in Polish philatelic literature, appears a cataloging of postal markings pertaining to the theme of music. The first part covers Polish music; the second part covers music of Poland's neighbors: White Russia, Bohemia, Lithuania, Germany, Russia, Slovakia and the Ukraine.

The work of Rudzinski embraces stamps, covers and cancellations, not chronologically, but thematically, making it simpler to complete a collection of music. This work goes beyond that of a catalog, and covers the information for forming a collection by showing you what kind of themes there are in a music collection.

This catalog names the postal markings pertaining to composers and performers. The names of composers are listed alphabetically. Postal cancellations however, are listed chronologically with annotations, enabling a rapid orientation of the various material.

—H.

RESIGNED

Joseph A. Borkowski #452

PLEWACKI POST SHOW

Better than 15,000 people attended the Apex 799 Stamp & Coin Show in Buffalo, N.Y. Edmund Kloss, chairman of the show, said the goals of the show were met, especially with the large number of children attending with parents. There were also busloads of school children attending with their teachers.

The Grand Award went to Walter J. Orton III for his "U.S. Essay proof of 1896." In the Poland class Joseph Kudja won first prize for "General Government of 1939-1945." This display also won the Polonus medal. Second place went to Raymond F. Schneider for his "Prisoner of War Oflag VII Murnau." In the Foreign class Raymond F. Schneider received a first award for "Polish Stampless Covers."

Stanley J. Hodziewich, U.S. Postal Service Liaison Division Manager, of the U.S. Philatelic Sales Unit was voted as one of the men who had done the most for the hobby of philately and was presented with a plaque by Dr. Matt A. Gajewski at the awards dinner following the show. Mr. Hodziewich, who brought the U.S. die proofs displayed at the exhibition, was honored for his contributions to the hobby on the national level. Congressman Thaddeus Dulski, Chairman of the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee, applauded the work Mr. Hodziewich is doing and in appreciation presented him with an American flag that had flown over the Capitol in Washington. Mr. Hodziewich told the 115 people attending the dinner the U.S. would issue a commemorative stamp in 1973 to honor Nicholas Copernicus.

Dr. Gajewski announced that next year's show will be held on Palm Sunday weekend, April 13-14-15, 1972.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, June 9th, 1972:

Program Meeting at 8:00 p.m. There will be a display of fifty of the better stamp designs entered in the Copernicus U.S. Stamp Design Contest sponsored by the Polish American Congress. Contest Chairman, Napoleon C. Zbyszewski will personally bring the display to the St. James Clubroom and be on hand to give us first hand information.

Friday, June 23rd, 1972:

Regular Meeting at St. James Clubroom — 8:00 p.m. August Picnic and POLPEX 73 plans to be announced.

NEW ISSUES

Cosmos Research

On November 17, 1971 two values of 2.50 zł. each were issued in a sheet of six with two tabs, depicting the success of science in the field of moon research.

The first sheet shows the Soviet automatic station 'Luna 17' taking off from the earth on November 17, 1970. On the first tab is the moon landing of 'Luna 17' showing the lunar automatic vehicle 'Lunochod'. On the other tab the earth is shown receiving pictures transmitted from the moon by apparatus of the 'Lunochod'.

The second sheet shows 'Apollo 15' taking off on July 26, 1971 and returning August 7, 1971. On the first tab the earth is shown. The stamp shown the lunar 'Rover' and two astronauts on the moon. The second tab pictures the moon.

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 \$4.00 —

Rotogravure printed on chalky paper in sheets of six stamps plus two tabs and in sheets of fifty stamps by PWPW Warsaw. 'Luna 17' was designed by Z. Stasik. 'Apollo 15' was designed by A. Balcerzak. A total quantity of two million stamps and 400,000 sheets were issued.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Members who change their address are requested to notify us promptly. Mail us the notice with your new address to: Polonus Bulletin, 4704 N. Overhill Ave., Norridge, Ill. 60656.

NEW MEMBER

Jack W. Luckowski
1100 West Chester Pike
West Chester, Pa. 19380

THANK YOU!

In spite of the increase in dues, the membership has responded favorably and dues payments are coming in very well. The treasurer thanks you for this and reminds those remaining who have not yet responded that Polonus dues as of 1972 are \$4.00. Send check or money order to treasurer Al Rybarski, 2435 First Ave., River Grove, Ill. 60171.