



MEMBERSHIP SURVEY RESULTS

by Chris Kulpinski

The survey results are in and have provided informative and valuable information to your officers and directors. 93 members responded and their supportive comments and suggestions reflect an overwhelming desire to help our Society move forward. We want to thank each of you for taking the time to respond. In this article I will address the major survey responses, member suggestions and what action your officers/directors/committee members are taking to respond to the survey.

Bulletin: The most frequently requested change in our Bulletin was an increase in the number of articles for beginning and intermediate collectors. For that purpose Hank has already developed the following Bulletin categories; ABC's, New Issues, Gems of Philately, which have and will continue to feature those type of articles. We are all working to expand the number and frequency of articles that appear in these categories. Take a moment to review the articles appearing in these categories. You may find that this is an area where many of you could contribute articles. We hope you have noted the Bulletin is being published on schedule and that both the layout and content have been improved. Please stay in touch with Hank and let him know if the material being published is of value to you.

POLONUS

PHILATELIC SOCIETY

OFFICERS

President

Chris Kulpinski, 9350 E. Palm Tree Dr.
Scottsdale, AZ 85255
chris@kulpinski.net

Vice-President

Jan Niebrzydowski, 186 Smith Street
New Britain, CT 06053

Secretary

Roman Sobus, 1110 N. Oakley Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60622
RSobus9013@cs.com

Treasurer

Gerald Zedlitz, P.O. Box 2
Wallace, CA 95254-0004
gzedlitz@caltel.com

Directors

Dr. James Mazepa, COB
jmazepa@comcast.net
Chris Kulpinski
Hank Bieniecki
Dr. Jerzy Kupiec-Weglinski
Roy Koczarski
Roman Sobus

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

Editor & Publisher

Hank Bieniecki
biistamp@charter.net

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Philately** *by Gerald O.
Zedlitz*

**27 Stamp Encyclopedia
Poland - PURLS, ABCs
of Philately** *by Stanley
Wlodek*

We were also pleased to learn how many of you are willing to write articles. Hank or I will be in touch with those expressing a wish to write after the publication and mailing of this Bulletin.

Members also requested translations from the Polish philatelic press. As you know one of the Societies primary objectives is to get as much of this material as possible translated into English. Hank was in Poland last November and received permission from renowned Polish expertizer Leslaw Schmutz to translate all of his articles. He has obtained blanket permission from Fischer to translate any articles published in *Przegląd Filatelistyczny*. Stan Wlodek is our senior translator and has done far more than his share in the area of translation as well as contributing original articles. At least 10 members indicated in the survey that they would be willing to translate articles from Polish to English. Again, Hank or I will be in touch with those of you who volunteered. In addition I am experimenting with OCR and translation software to see if it is possible to use technology to assist in doing at least part of the translations from Polish to English.

Study Groups: Another request was for information not found in catalogues. That's where our Society's Study Groups play a key role. A number of members indicated they are interested in joining study groups. This is without question the most efficient way for interested collectors to pool their information and print results in the Bulletin. The best way for those interested in forming new or joining existing study group is to contact me so that I can facilitate the process. It will be some time before we can get all this information on the web site, so to move things along we have to do it the old fashion way (telephone or email). If you are interested in forming or joining a Study Group, contact me and I will forward your names of like minded members. If you refer to page 2 of this Bulletin you will see three current Study groups and their leaders listed. Email or write me to join one of those groups.

SURVEY RESULTS

Develop Polonus Facilities For Members to Sell and Buy Material: A significant number of members indicated an interest in using the Society to facilitate member-to-member transactions. Some suggested member auctions in the Bulletin. Due to a variety of technical and cost issues the Bulletin is published quarterly. That frequency does not preclude members from using the Bulletin to post Member-to-Member offers to buy or sell material, but it does create administrative and efficiency issues for true auction type sales. Hank started a Member-to-Member section in Bulletin 518. If you have items for sale or want to post inquires for material you are seeking contact Hank at biistamp@charter.net and he will arrange to include your listing in the Members-to-Members section of the next available Bulletin at no charge.

Ultimately the best solution may be to place items for sale on the Polonus web site. Hank is working with a web site developer to have the Polonus site redesigned and expanded and will take into consideration Member-to-Member direct or auction type sales on www.polonus.org. We will keep you advised as progress is made in this area later in the year.

Email Addresses: There was great concern about what we intend to do with your email addresses. First, let me assure you that they will not become available to non-members under any circumstances. We will consider developing a section in member only section where you can post your email address for other members. They will not be posted on www.polonus.org without your written release to do so. In the next few months you will have the opportunity to exchange information on the website with other members. You will then decide if you want to supply another member with your email address. The email addresses you provided to the Society will be used only by the Society to communicate with you. A limited number of officers, directors, publication, and study group leaders, (all volunteers) often performing multiple tasks, keep the Society functioning and most of them are in the unfortunate position of having to earn an income!

We need to efficiently communicate with the membership and email is the primary way we communicate with one another.

Exhibits on Website: As part of the redesign and expansion of the website Hank is making provisions to be able to post collections and exhibits on www.polonus.org. This will take time, but it will allow members to look at all the frames of various exhibits to see what other have done and thereby learn about that topic. The cornerstone of any good exhibit is the knowledge it contains and provides to others.

In addition, Hank has arranged to obtain high-quality scans of the entire Dr. Kronenberg collection of Poland. It took nearly two years to obtain these scans. This collection will be put on the website over an extended period of time. Any members wanting to assist Hank with this project should contact him.

Philatelic Literature: There were several requests for a Society Library. No problem. Who wants to be the librarian, gather the material, send it out upon request and make sure it is returned? The APS (www.stamps.org) has a wonderful reference library, as does the Western Philatelic Library (www.fwpl.org) though I am not sure of what is available that is Polish-related.

How many of you have a complete set of Polonus Bulletins? 521 issues have been printed. Imagine what a vast storehouse of Polish philatelic information is contained in those 521 issues.

A few complete sets of the first 400 issues are available for only \$350.00. That is less than \$1 per copy. The regular prices is \$2 per copy so you get them for less than half price. You will also receive a hard copy of the index at no extra charge. If you want to reserve a set email Hank at biistamp@charter.net. Zero interest installment payments can be arranged. This special offer expires as of 30 April 2006 or upon prior sale of the limited number of available sets.

SURVEY RESULTS

I am including a flyer with this Bulletin which outlines 16 philatelic reference books which are available for sale from me at modest prices. They are available on CD's for \$15.00, including shipping, or for those without computers, spiral bound hard copies are available as well.

Expertization Service: Many of you indicated a desire for efficient and cost effective expertizing of Polish material. Hank has been working for the last two years to create such a facility for Polonus. This year we will begin to issue Polonus Certificates. Zbigniew Korszen, a long-time member of Polonus and the leading expert in Warsaw, has been working with Hank to solve all the issues associated with the Society sending material to him in Poland for expertizing and issuance of certificates when required. Other members have also been identified who have the expertise and material to expertise various issues. Hank will administer the expertizing program. We anticipate that by mid 2006 that Polonus will be providing expertizing of Polish material for its members, non-members and dealers and will eventually become the primary facility in North America for this activity.

Financial Reports: Some members asked about financial reports. Jerry Zedlitz has accepted the position of Treasurer and Hank has transferred all the records to him. By time you read this article you will have received your 2006 Dues Notice from Jerry. He will also create a set of financials for 2005 that will be presented at the Annual Meeting/Exhibition in March. Jerry and Hank are also looking into establishing an electronic form of payment. PayPal seems the like an obvious choice. However PayPal is not subject to banking regulations and can tie up funds in the account at its own discretion. Therefore we will probably look into setting up MasterCard and Visa which are regulated.

Communications Via Polonus Web Site: Members asked about member-to-member communication via the web, chat rooms, or on

bulletin boards. The majority of you who responded to the survey are internet users. The redesigned www.polonus.org will allow members to post messages and respond to posts by other members. Each member will have a User ID and password. Watch for updates. Hank will contact those of you who have submitted your email address when it is ready for use.

There are several chat rooms now in existence relating to Polish philately. For all intents and purposes, they are useless because of the lack of activity. I automatically get any messages posted and it is usually weeks between posts. Most posts are questions about present-day Polish stamps, or when the next Fischer catalogue will be produced. I myself have posted several inquiries to which I have received zero answers. I don't use these sites any longer and therefore am not providing the email addresses in this article. I will make a note to provide them in the next edition of PURLS.

Collecting Interests: Let me close by giving you a summary of what areas of Poland other members are collecting. Most of you indicated more than one area of interest and the numbers reflect those interests.

I have listed the Collecting Interests according to the number of times they were checked, and have separately listed the "thematic" and "other" sections together as there is some overlap. **Column 1** lists collecting interests in order of popularity, **Column 2** indicates number of members who checked that area of interest. **Column 4** lists Thematic interests in order of popularity, and **Column 3** indicates the number of members who checked each area.

To those of you who have forgotten to send in your survey, it is never too late. If you would like to complete a survey sheet, please contact me and I will get it out to you immediately! We need and welcome your participation.

SURVEY RESULTS

1	2	3	4
Collecting Interests			Thematics/Other
Poland - General	69	6	Pope Paul II
General Government	41	5	Krakow Overprints
Poland - 1918/39	41	3	Lublin Issue - 1944 Heroes
Free City of Danzig	36	3	Cinderellas
People's Republic - 1945/89	33	3	1944 White Eagle
Offices Abroad, Port Gdansk	31	2	Groszy overprints
Poland - 1989 Onward	30	2	Copernicus
WWI Foreign Occupations	29	2	Charity labels
Locals & Provisionals	29	2	Slania
Air Mail - General	27	2	Lwow Postal History
Partition to 1918 - Austrian	27	2	West Ukraine - Pol/Uk. War
POW Camp Mail	27	1	Sower Issue
WWII Foreign Occupations	27	1	Monument Issues - 1945
Military & Field Post	25	1	Perfins
Cancellations	25	1	Warsaw Cancellations
Postal History - all Periods	24	1	Polish American Themes
Central Lithuania	24	1	Solidarity
Plebiscites	24	1	Przedborz
Semi-Postals	21	1	Scouts
Oddities, Forgeries. Etc	19	1	Warsaw Postal History
Airmail, LOPP, Glider, etc	18	1	Warsaw Locals
Cancellations	18	1	Eastern Silesia
Literature	18	1	Officials & Postage Dues
Partition to 1918 - Russian	18		
First Day covers	18		
Partition to 1918 - Prussian	16		
Errors	17		
Partition to 1918 - Austrian	16		
Postal Stationery	14		
Kingdom of Poland - 1815/71	13		
Revenues	13		
Polonica	4		
Prestamp Only	4		

In addition I have summarized below Society activities members indicated they wished to participate in (descending order of interest).

Participation Interest Levels
Attendance at Shows
Joining/Starting Study Groups
Writing Articles
Volunteering in Short-Term Projects
Exhibiting
Translating Articles into English
Holding Office
Website Development/Maintenance
Bulleting Editing/Production

Nearly a third of the survey respondents indicated they are interested in attending Philatelic shows, so I trust we will see a sizeable Polonus turnout at the National Meeting/Exhibit in Cleveland this March.

Fourteen expressed an interest in exhibiting. Please consider exhibiting in Chicago in 2007 by fine-tuning your exhibit at local shows. If you have never exhibited, contact me and I'll try and give you some guidance and suggestions, as well as put you in touch with other exhibitors for suggestions. One of the things that make for a vibrant and viable Society is a high level of visibility. High level exhibits, not only at Polonus gatherings but at other shows is a critical factor in producing that level of visibility. We will also expand our visibility with a professional Bulletin and an excellent web site. As we strive to continually improve our Society, we will call on those of you who have responded to assist us.

Thanks for responding and giving your Officers, and Board of Directors your data, suggestions as well as an indication of how you would like to participate. And again, thanks to Bob Ogrodnik for volunteering to create and conduct the survey, with the assistance of Sam Ginsburg. Hope to see many of you in Cleveland.

ANNUAL DUES

by Hank Bieniecki

In 1999 annual dues were increased from \$15 to \$25 per year to help cover the increasing cost of publication and distribution of the Bulletin. It was anticipated that this increase might create a financial hardship for some loyal long term members with restricted incomes. Therefore we also created a separate category of Retiree (limited income) with annual dues of \$15. As the former treasurer I noted more and more members paying \$15 versus \$25 based simply on being a retiree. I was also aware that many of the retired members did not fit the Society's criteria for limited income.

Our Society does not have records of member age, income, etc. Therefore when the 2006 invoices were sent all members where billed \$25 and a cover letter was enclosed requesting that retired members with limited income write and request the \$15 rate. It was not the Society's intent to embarrass or offend any of its valued and loyal retired members. We simply had no other method of determining which members would benefit from a \$15 versus \$25 rate. This is one time request for information to enable us to update our member data. **Members who request the \$15 rate will automatically be billed at that rate in the future.**

MEMBER-TO-MEMBER

Wanted: Articles on Przedborz in the following journals. (None of these are at the APRL.) Contact Sam Ginsburg at 510-525-3906 or samgins1730@yahoo.com.

Illustrowane Wiadomosci Filatelistyczne Dudziński article in vol. 5, #42, pp 3-5, No. 41 (Feb. 1935) pp. 6-8 Mikstein articles in vol. 4, Issue 38, pp 3-5, 11-14; #39 pg 6

Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal Articles on Przedborz & Zarkach (Zarki) in Vol. 46 (1919), pp. 37-38

Filatelista — Articles on Przedborz & Zarkach (Zarki) in: Nr. 12 (1976), K. Sztaba, author

"Aus der Expertenliste - Przedbórz Eckrandviererblock - alle vier Werte de MiNr. 5 stellen die Typen 3 dar", H.E. Jungjohann, Mitteilungsblatt BarGe Pólan II/1977 (???)

POLAND NEW ISSUES

by Hank Bieniecki & Dan Lubelski

Within this Bulletin you will find illustrations and information on all the 2005 emissions of Poland which were not covered in Bulletins 520 and 521. In the future we plan to provide coverage of new emissions of Poland issued in the quarter prior to publication of each Bulletin.



My Favorite Literature

This issue encourages reading by showing illustrations from favorite children's books. Each stamp depicts a title familiar to school children.

Date of Issue	Jun 1, 2005
Sheet Format	SS of 4 Stamps
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Agnieszka Sobczynska

Illustrated are, *The Hour of the Crimson Rose* by M. Kruger, *The Little Prince* by de Saint-Exupery, *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* by Jules Verne and *The Desert and the Forest* by Henry Sienkiewicz. Printed in a block of four, the stamps carry denominations of 1.30, 2.00, 2.20, and 2.80 PLN.



Date of Issue	Jun 15, 2005
Sheet Format	Sheet of 100
Printing Method	Rotogravure
Designer	Maria Dziekanska

Polish Cities - Sopot

A new addition to the ongoing series "Polish Cities" features the coastal recreation city of Sopot. Sopot is located in the central part of the Pobrzeze Kaszubskie, (Kaszuby Coastal Region) on the Gdansk Bay. One of the first historical references of the town dates back to 1283, when Prince Msciwój II granted reign of the fishing village to Oliwa Cistercians. During the Renaissance Period, Sopot was the summer resort destination of the wealthy residents of Gdansk and began a transition to a holiday resort.

Sopot was finally granted city rights on October 8, 1901, by the Prussian Government. The city was considered a multi-national city as prescribed by the Treaty of Versailles, and fell within the administrative boundaries of Gdansk (Danzig).

The city became a health resort area because of the naturally occurring therapeutic mud and salt springs. The 2.20 PLN stamp shows the coastal character of the town.

LIMITED TIME OFFER BULLETINS 1 THROUGH 400

Polonus has a limited number of complete sets of Bulletins 1 through 400 plus a bound index which will be sold on a first-come basis to members only.

Purchase may be made using installment payments.

PRICE \$350.00 INCLUDING PH

To order, e-mail Hank at biistamp@charter.net or write to P.O. Box 489, Maryville, IL 62062.



National Museum in Wilanow, 200th Anniversary

2005 marked the 200th anniversary of the founding of the National Museum in Wilanow, the seat of King Jan Sobieski III. To this day, visitors are awed by the magnificent architecture and splendor of the surrounding gardens. In 1805, art lover and connoisseur Stanislaw Kostka Potocki opened one of the first Polish public museums in Wilanow. The Palace's interior is a gallery of Polish portraits encompassing the 16th thru 19th centuries as well as historic apartments (17-19th centuries). In 1968, a World Poster museum was opened in the building that had formerly housed the palace's riding school.

Date of Issue	Jun 21, 2005
Sheet Format	SS of 4
Printing Method	Rotogravure
Designer	Januz Wysocki

The mini-sheet of four stamps depicts items from the museum's collections. Depicted are: J.L. David's painting "Stanislaw Kostka Potocki" (1.30 PLN); "Nautilus Wine Cup", 17th century (2.00 PLN); "Clock with Jason", 19th century (2.80 PLN); and "Flower Girl", porcelain, 18th century (2.20 PLN).

NEW ISSUES



Date of Issue	Jul 15, 2005
Sheet Format	Sheet of 20
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Elzbieta Skrzypek, Magdalena Malczyńska

Roses - Polish Embroidery

The set presents the beauty of the difficult folk art, embroidery, from different regions of Poland. The motif is the rose portrayed in the Lowicz (central Poland) and Podhale (southern Poland) regions embroidery style. The Lowicz style is characterized by the multiplicity and overlapping of colors. The main elements have been embroidered with flat and graded stitch and the whole element has been framed with string stitch. The 1.30 PLN value presents a rose embroidered in the Podhale technique. The stitch is thick and the whole element delicately framed. The set contains four different face values, 1.30, 2.00, 2.20 and 2.80 PLN.



Date of Issue	July 29, 2005
Sheet Format	Sheet of 100
Printing Method	Rotogravure
Designer	Maria Dziekańska

Polish Cities: Sieradz

This continuing series honors the city of Sieradz, which is considered one of

the oldest Polish cities. Sieradz existed in the 11th century as a medieval town. The earliest written sources about the city date back to the year 1136. In the period from the 13th to the 15th century, Sieradz was visited by nobility coming to participate in mass assemblies and Seyms. The city was destroyed by wars and the Swedish invasions.

At the end of the 18th century it was reconstructed. On the issued 0.20 PLN stamp, is the facade of the All Saints Collegiate Church. The shrine, although wooden, dates back to the 11th century. It was plundered by the Tartars and the Czechs and was later burnt down by the Teutonic Knights. In the 17th century the inhabitants of Sieradz reconstructed and enlarged the church in the Gothic style. Inside the church one can admire baroque altars, rococo stalls of the 18th century and, among other paintings, the "Christ with Cross" by Wojciech Gerson.



2005 World Athletics Games - Helsinki

The major summer sports event in 2005 is the World Athletics Championships.

The wrestling was held in Helsinki, Finland. This is the second time the capital of Finland has hosted the event. The first world athletics championship took place in Helsinki in 1983. This Souvenir Sheet contains four stamps depicting the four athletic disciplines with denominations of 1.30 and 2.00 PLN.

Date of Issue	Aug 8, 2005
Sheet Format	SS of 4
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Maria Dziekanska



Polish – Russian Battle at Vistula River

This SS honors the memory of the 85th anniversary of the “Miracle on the Vistula”, sometimes referred to as the Battle of Warsaw. The

Date of Issue	Aug 12 2005
Sheet Format	SS of 1
Printing Method	Rotogravure
Designer	Maria Dziekanska

Battle of Warsaw was fought from 13 to 25 August 1920 as Russian Red Army forces approached the Polish capital of Warsaw and nearby Modlin Fortress. On August 16 Polish forces commanded by Józef Piłsudski counter-attacked from the south, forcing the Russian forces to retreat eastward behind the Niemen River.

Before the Polish victory at the Vistula, both the Bolsheviks and the majority of foreign experts considered Poland to be on the verge of defeat. The stunning, unexpected Polish victory in the Battle of Warsaw crippled the Bolshevik forces. Over the coming months, several more Polish victories would secure Poland's independence and eastern borders.

The issued 3.50 PLN stamp depicts a crowned eagle – the symbol of regained independence and statehood and Józef Piłsudski.



Date of Issue	Aug 17, 2005
Sheet Format	Sheet of 20
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Maria Dziekanska

Solidarity 25th Anniversary

August 2005 commemorated the 25th anniversary of the creation of the independent self-governed trade union Solidarity. The union arose as a result of the strikes of the working class in the Lublin and Wyrbrzeze regions. The Lenin Shipyard in Gdansk was the historical home of Solidarity. The workers demanded economic, social, political and union changes from the communist authorities. The solidarity union had between 9 and 10 million members working in different companies and institutions in the 1980's. The 2.20 PLN stamp commemorates the events that initiated the political transformations, not only in Poland, but all over Central Europe. The image of Lech Walesa, the legendary leader of Solidarity from the Gdansk Shipyard and its first union leader are illustrated on this stamp.



Date of Issue	Sep 1, 2005
Sheet Format	Sheet of 20
Printing Method	Rotogravure
Designer	Maria Dziekanska

Polish Radio 80th Anniversary

This 1.30 PLN commemorative stamp celebrates the 80th anniversary of the founding of Polish Radio. On August 18, 1925, Polish

NEW ISSUES

Radio received a license to construct and use radiophonic devices in Poland. In June 1926 the first studio and broadcasting station of Polish Radio was created in Warsaw.

Until 1939 there were eight broadcasting stations active in Poland. During World War II the broadcasting stations, record libraries, and archives of Polish Radio were destroyed. In the post-war period the radio system was rebuilt and was the leading source of information until television was established on a broad scale.



Date of Issue
Sheet Format

Sep 16, 2005
Sheet of 20
plus Limited
SS of 4

Printing Method
Designer

Offset
Maria
Dziekanska

15TH Chopin Piano Competition

The Chopin 15th International Piano Competition was held between September 23rd and October 24, 2005 at the National Philharmonic

Hall. The Chopin competition has an unusually rich tradition and is highly ranked, not only in Poland, but internationally. The first competition took place in 1927 under the direction of Professor Jerzy Zurawlew, a Polish pianist, educator and composer.

Every five years during the International Competition, pianists play the masterpieces of this great Polish composer. The 2.20 PLN stamp depicts Fryderyk Chopin's image on the background of one of his compositions.



Date of Issue	Sep 30, 2005
Sheet Format	Sheet of 20
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	Magda Blazkow

Zoological Gardens

The first zoological gardens were created in ancient times. In the medieval ages zoological gardens and traveling menageries were established which, in time, transformed into professionally arranged parks. The first Polish zoological garden with a scientific basis was S.K. Pietruski's garden, established in 1833 in Podhorodce.

There are 11 zoological gardens in Poland. In these modern structures animals are presented in settings resembling their natural environments. The 4 issued stamps include photos of a ring tailed Lemur (1.30 PLN), Tiger (2.00 PLN), Rhinoceros (2.20 PLN) and an Anteater (2.80 PLN).

The city became a health resort area because of the naturally occurring therapeutic mud and salt springs. The 2.20 PLN stamp shows the coastal character of the town.

NEW ISSUES



Date of Issue	Oct 5, 2005
Sheet Format	Sheet of 100
Printing Method	Rotogravure
Designer	Maria Dziekanska

Polish Cities: Katowice

This continuing series presents the City of Katowice on a single 0.30 PLN stamp depicting a theatre in the central area of the city. The area around Katowice, Upper Silesia, was inhabited by ethnic Poles since the 10th century. It was ruled by the Silesian Piasts dynasty until the partitions of Poland in 1795. The city itself was founded in the 19th century, a period while the area was under Prussian rule. Katowice gained city status in 1865. Mainly inhabited by Poles, Katowice became part of the Second Polish Republic following the Silesian Uprisings throughout the Silesian region between 1918 and 1921. In 1921 Katowice became part of Poland.



Date of Issue	Oct 7, 2005
Sheet Format	Sheet of 20
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	M. Blazków

World Post Day

October 9th is celebrated by post services as World Post Day. The subject of this year's issue are historical architectural structures of the postal service. Despite the advent of telecommunications and the internet, the traditional wide-range services provided by the postal service are still necessary. This year's 1.30 PLN stamp presents an architecturally interesting antique building of Polish Post in Cracow.



Date of Issue	Oct 14, 2005
Sheet Format	Sheet of 16
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	M. Blazków A. Wasik

60th Anniversary: United Nations

This 2.20 PLN stamp commemorates the 60th anniversary of the creation of the United Nations Organization (UNO). The UNO was founded on the basis of the Charter of the United Nations, signed on 26th June 1945 in San Francisco. The main tasks of the UNO include the maintenance of peace and safety between nations, organization of international cooperation, humanitarian aid, and respect for and observation of human rights. Poland signed the UNO Accession Treaty on 16th October 1945. Today, the UNO unites 191 states. The issued stamp depicts a symbolical union of representatives of different races and nations.



Capital Cities of EU States

"Capital Cities of EU States" is the title of this new stamp

Date of Issue	Oct 24, 2005
Sheet Format	Sheet of 20
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	M. Blazków

NEW ISSUES

series. The European Union was created by the member states of the European Community on January 11, 1993. The aim of the agreement was to conduct joint economic, agricultural and foreign policy. One of the assumptions of the European integration, apart from economic and monetary union is the principle of the free flow of services, goods, capitals, and the enabling of the citizens of the member states to move freely over the territory of the Community. On May 1, 2004, the European Union extended its boundaries to 10 new states, including Poland. Traveling over the territory of the whole of Europe has become easier, as passport and customs checks have been cancelled at most of the internal borders of the EU states. The presented stamps include photographs of architectural structures characteristic of particular capitals of the EU member states: Triumphant Arch on Charles de Gaulle's Square (2.80 PLN) in Paris, France; St. Maciej's Church and St. Stefan's Statue (1.30 PLN) in Budapest, Hungary; Monument to the Discoverers Belem (2.20 PLN) in Lisbon, Portugal; Vilnius Cathedral (1.30 PLN) in Vilno, Latvia; and a government building (2.20 PLN) in Dublin, Ireland.



Date of Issue	Nov 11, 2005
Sheet Format	SS of 4 stamps
Printing Method	Rotogravure
Designer	A. Pagowski

Impressionism in Polish Paintings

A new trend in art called impressionism (from Claude Monet's "Impression Soleil Levant - Impression - Sunrise") appeared in the late 19th century. It sprung from the urge to create art faithfully reflecting nature and at the same time depicting the subjective impressions of the artist. The main postulate of the impressionists was to study nature in plain air and to abandon academic subjects in favor of every-day life scenes. Impressionism freed color in painting, thus lightening up the palette of colors. Artists attempted to capture the transient state of nature, the mood of the moment, and the surrounding reality, depending on the range of hues and light.

The four issued stamps depict reproductions of paintings of Polish impressionists: J. Pankiewicz: "Still nature with fruit and knife" (1909) 1.30 PLN; O. Boznanska: "Flower Sellers" (1889) 2.00 PLN; L. J. Wyczolkowski: "Ploughing in the Ukraine" 1.30 PLN; W. Podkowinski: "In the garden by the tree" 2.00 PLN.



Date of Issue	Nov 24, 2005
Sheet Format	Sheet of 20
Printing Method	Offset
Designer	M.Dziekańska

Polish Association of Doctors – 200th Anniv.

NEW ISSUES

This new issue honors the 200th anniversary of the founding of the Polish Associations of Doctors (PAD). The Association consolidates in 45 regional sections over 25 thousand first-contact doctors, family doctors, and doctors of different medical specializations. The aim of the Association is to improve the skills of physicians, mainly by extensive scientific and training activities. Each year the PAD organizes numerous scientific conferences, sessions and conventions all over Poland and worldwide. The issued stamp (1.30 PLN) depicts a doctor's white apron with a stethoscope.



Christmas 2005

The Christmas period, especially Christmas Eve, is for many people the most wonderful time of the year. Christmas is associated with many symbols

originating both from the Christian tradition and from folk customs. Santa Claus, traveling around ancient Poland, frequently did not arrive alone but accompanied by helpers - two small angels. It is these angels that appear on this year's Christmas stamps (1.30 PLN and 2.20 PLN) issued by the Polish Post. The snowy Christmas tree present on the stamps came to us from Germany in the 19th century, and today it is no doubt the most common symbol of this holiday.

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COLLECTING WARSAW LOCALS – A RANDOM WALK

by Gerald O. Zedlitz

Preface

This is the first of a series of articles related to collecting the Warsaw Local Issues that were issued during the period from September 1915 to October 1916 in Warsaw, Poland. As the title implies the articles will be random in nature and will, hopefully, illustrate the collecting possibilities that exist within this local issue.

This article and any future articles are not intended to be a historical summary of the Warsaw Local Post. That information has already been adequately covered in previous *Polonus* bulletins and other handbooks.

Finding A Gem!

The Warsaw Local Post issues offer numerous collecting possibilities when a collector considers all the facets of these issues. One facet is the type of cancellations that were utilized by the Local Post. Our first look will be to examine the Warsaw Local Post "Circular Cancellor with Date Bridge". There is nothing usual about this style of canceller except that two distinct types exist, one with the sub-letter "a" and one with the sub-letter "b" as shown in **Figure 1**. Again, nothing unusual except that the canceller with the sub-letter "a" was stolen on or shortly after November 21, 1915, only thirteen days after its use commenced on November 9, 1915. Therefore, only the cancellation dates November 9, 1915, November 11, 1915 through November 16, 1915 and November 19, 1915 through November 21, 1915 may be found with the sub-letter "a".

The Circular Cancel with Date Bridge containing the sub-letter "a" potentially exists on any emission that was in existence before November 22, 1915. I would suggest that it is most likely to exist on Fischer Nr 2, Nr 5, and Nr 6, although possibly it could exist on

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Fischer Nr 3 and Nr 4. What this means is that there may be a "Gem" hiding among those Warsaw Local Post issues which were cancelled with the Circular Cancellation with Date Bridge containing the scarce sub-letter "a" as illustrated on the 13 Nov 1915 cover shown in Figure 2.

I hope this article and future installments will help you find your own Gems and stimulate your interest in the fascinating area of Poland Locals. Start by trying to find the sub-letter "a" cancel on one or more of the issues listed above. Happy Hunting!



Figure 1: Examples of Circular Cancel with Date Bridge exhibiting both sub-letter "a" and sub-letter "b"



Figure 2: Postcard mailed on 13 Nov 1918 franked with Fischer # 6 tied by Circular Cancellation with Date Bridge exhibiting scarce sub-letter "a".

STAMP ENCYCLOPEDIA POLAND WEB SITE

by Stanley T. Wlodek

This site, entitled "Stamp Encyclopedia Poland," maintained since 2002 by Ben Nieborg in the Netherlands, merits the attention of all interested in the philately and history of Poland. It is in English, and you can find it at <http://members.home.nl/bnieborg/> or simply by searching for "Stamp Encyclopedia Poland" on Google. The site contains more than 1900 pages and has more than 6500 images to explore.

The site shows photographs of Polish stamps from 1865 to 2005, including locals, occupations, Central Lithuania, Militaria, Port Gdansk. and Plebiscites, essentially all aspects of Polish Philately listed in Fischer. What makes this site unusual is that it provides links to the historical and artistic background of most of the earlier Polish issues. All such sites are also in English. For instance, the 1938 set issued to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of Polish Independence, has 28 web links to sites that provide detailed information on each of the historical events that are portrayed in this stamp series. Also, in a section titled Philatelic Web Resources there are links to Polish philatelic web sites (including Polonus), and web pages related to Polish and Eastern European history.

The site is full of pleasant surprises. It has won the vermeil Website Excellence Award in 2003, and the medal is portrayed on the home page. If you click on the image of the medal, you will obtain a full list of all the other winning web pages that have been similarly honored. Although none of these sites pertain to Polish material, most of them have additional links to excellent philatelic information. The most interesting site that I found by following some of the links given here is a site entitled "Gallery of Polish Painting Masterpieces." This site, which is at <http://artyzm.com/>, has images of 975 paintings representing the works of 257 Polish artists. A similar site exists at <http://webart.omikron.com.pl>. Both sites are difficult to reach and can often be best found by searching in Google for "Gallery of Polish Painting Masterpieces." Many of the paintings have been reproduced on Polish stamps or are of other philatelic pertinence. Most can be downloaded and printed in color.

ABCs - PURLS

Ben Nieburg is Dutch, 37 years old and married with one daughter. He has no family ties to Poland and simply became interested in that country's history because he enjoyed taking his vacations there, where he made many friendships. He learned Polish, and because of his interest in stamp collecting and the lack of information on Polish philately decided to start the web site "Stamp Encyclopedia Poland." He is the Web Master for the Dutch Philatelic Society for Eastern Europe and a member of the local philatelic society.

Editors Note: During a review of this site I noted that certain issues illustrated are forgeries. I will be working with Mr. Nieburg to supply him with scans of genuine stamps in the future. Despite this problem, in all other respects this site is an outstanding reference site.



The Polonus Philatelic Society is a Not-for-Profit Organization which was incorporated in 1939 in the State of Illinois. Its objective is to promote Polish philately via the dissemination of Polish philatelic information in English. The opinions expressed by authors of articles appearing in the Polonus Bulletin do not necessarily reflect the views of the Polonus Philatelic Society.

Members receive the Polonus Philatelic Bulletin quarterly, have full access to www.polonus.org and participate in the events and activities of the society. Annual dues are payable in US funds before the end of March of each calendar year. Membership categories are as follows:

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