

BULLETIN OF THE

POLONUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY



Meets Every Second and Fourth Friday of the Month at Falcons Hall, 1062 N. Ashland Ave. Chicago, Ill.

Issue No. 267

March 1969

POLPEX 1969 PACKED THEM IN!

POLPEX 1969, held March 1st and 2nd at Radio Halls in Chicago, attracted not only philatelists, but also Polish Army veterans, scouts, non-collectors. Extensive publicity on TV, radio, in the philatelic press, the Polish press and local shopping weeklies brought out capacity crowds. At some hours in the afternoon it was so thick with people that it was impossible to get through the rows to view the exhibits.

For the first time at a Polpex the exhibits were limited to material of a specific period—World War II. Only four court of honor exhibits were the exception. These were of Poland 1919

issues, by invitation only, on the 50th anniversary of their issuance. Despite the fact that the exhibition was thematic, the amount of frames was over-subscribed and the invited exhibits had to be allotted less frames.

Exhibits came in from Canada, England, Australia and Switzerland as well from over the U.S. and Chicagoland.

Polonus honored the 25th anniversaries of the Battle of Monte Cassino and the Warsaw Uprising and these themes proved very popular. Heavy sales of our souvenir sheets and special cacheted covers resulted. The special Monte Cassino memorabilia exhib-



The Special Exhibit on the stage consisted of documents, maps, photos, and an original water color painting of Monte Cassino. The giant shield in the center contains the insignias of the various units of the Polish 2nd Corps which participated in the Battle of Monte Cassino. The exhibit was compiled by members: Walenty Poniecki, W. Hermanowski and Romuald Bilek, all veterans of the battle.



A general view of the 96-frame exhibition at Radio Halls. The two gentlemen in center are Dr. James J. Mateyka, Jr., President of the Society of Philatelic Americans and Howard Selzer, Complex administrator, chatting with their wives and Burton S. Adlerblum, an exhibitor. Behind them is a group that came along with Dr. Miet Kamienski, from Scarborough, Ont., Canada.

it on the stage of Radio Halls received a steady stream of viewers.

The Beeba on Saturday night was filled to capacity. For a time it appeared that there was no end to the line of people waiting to get to the buffet tables.

After they all were fed, the master of ceremonies, Judge Lester Jankowski, introduced the distinguished guests, among who was a Polish veteran of Monte Cassino, holder of the highest award, the *Virtuti Militari*.

Out-of-town members were then introduced, namely, Zbigniew Mikulski of Switzerland, Dr. Miet Kamienski of Scarborough, Ont., Canada, and Arnold L. Shay of Wynnewood, Pa.

The Presentation of Awards was next in order:

Grand Award—Chester W. Makowski for Postal History of the Warsaw Uprising.

Dr. Kozakiewicz Research Award—T. H. Poulie of Aubonny, Switzerland for Gniezno Issues.

Dr. Uznanski Historical Award —

Chester J. Mikucki for "The Tragic Six Years", from the invasion of Poland in 1939 to the liberation, 1945.

Newcomer's Award and Gold Medal—Arnold L. Shay of Wynnewood, Pa. for Concentration Camps and Ghettos Postal History.

Silver Medal — Walenty Poniecki for Fieldpost of the Polish Second Corps.

Silver Medal — Colonel Jan Z. E. Berek of London, Eng. for Polish Fieldpost in Soviet Russia.

Silver Medal — Alfred Szebel for Postal History of World War II.

Bronze Medal — Winston Gruszyk of Downsview, Canada for Polish Corps in Italy.

Bronze Medal — Gwidon Borucki of East Malvern, Australia for General Government.

Bronze Medal — Burton S. Adlerblum of Oak Park, Ill. for Polish Fieldpost in Palestine.

Bronze Medal — Stanley Kucharz for Fieldpost Cancellations of the Polish 2nd Corps.



Polpex Committee members pose with the Guests of Honor. (Left to right:) Alfred Szebel, Chester Schafer, Chairman Walenty Poniecki, Bob Lewandowski of TV and Radio, Felix "Ref-Ren" Konarski, author of the lyrics to the song "Czerwone Maki Na Monte Cassino", and Stanley Dobrzycki.

Bronze Medal — Julius Oster for World War II Postal History.

Bronze Medal — Emil R. Mrugacz for Poland's First Issue After World War II.

Bronze Medal — Michael Lynn of Darien, Conn. for World War II Postal History.

Bronze Medal — Chester Schafer for Polish Army in France Covers.

All Court of Honor exhibitors received Gold Medals:

Z. Wlodarski of London, Eng. for Poland Provisionals on Germania,

Dr. Miet Kamienski of Scarborough, Ont., Canada for Krakow Overprints,

T. H. Poulie of Aubonny, Switzerland for Gniezno Issues of 1919,

Chester Schafer for Lublin Overprints.

The Honored Guests at POLPEX 1969 were Bob Lewandowski of TV and radio fame and Felix "Ref-Ren" Konarski" author of the lyrics to the song "Czerwone Maki Na Monte Cassino. On display in the special exhibit of Monte Cassino memorabilia was the original copy of the song signed by Ref-Ren. It was sent here by member Gwidon Borucki of East Malvern, Australia.

There is still a limited supply of souvenir sheets on hand at 50c per set and cacheted covers (two different) at 30c each available from J. P. Rux, 6156 Addison St., Chicago, Ill. 60634.



Typical scene at the Beeba. The buffet table was filled with Polish sausage, kapusta, herrings, bigos, cheeses, cold cuts of Martadela, Krakowska, Warszawska, ponczki, chrusciki, kolacki, home baked cakes, salads, etc. Dr. L. P. Kozakiewicz donated 25 pounds of Polish sausage. Many other members donated money, cakes, foods.



Chester J. Mikucki receives the Historical Award and congratulations from Judge Lester Jankowski for his Postal History of "The Tragic Six Years".



The Polpex exhibits were judged (right) Zbigniew Mikulski of Switzerland and Leon P. Kozakiewicz.

POLPEX PATRONS

The following names were received after the Polpex Program Catalog had gone to press. Better late than never!

N. Frank Lanocha
Baltimore, Md.

Rev. Walter R. Korycki
Kings Park, N.Y.

Frank N. Kernozak, Jr.
Saddlebrook, N.J.

Anthony J. Pius
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Gustave Kukiz
Windsor, Conn.

Anonymous

T
Napoleon C. Zb
3928 W. Corn
Chicago, Ill.

Joseph Kujda
54 Shepard St
Buffalo, N.Y.



After the Presentation of Awards, the recipients gathered for this group photo. First row: (left to right) Chester W. Makowski, Myron E. Steczynski, Walenty Poniecki, Arnold L. Shay, Emil R. Mrugacz, Chester J. Mikucki. Top row: Alfred Szebel, Judge Lester Jankowski who made the presentations, Chester A. Schafer, Stanley Kucharz and Burton S. Adlerblum.



by this competent team: (left to right) Myron E. Steczynski, Dr. [Name obscured], [Name obscured].



Honorary Membership along with a plaque was presented by the Judge to Myron E. Steczynski for his 30 years of devoted service to Polonus. (See article on page 267-6.)

APPLICANTS PENDING

The following men submitted their applications for membership in the society:

- | | | |
|-----------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| yszewski | Edward Lancello | Bruno Joseph Jagielski |
| elia Ave. | 6597 Lucia Lane | 931 Manhattan Ave. |
| 60618 | Fridley, Minn. 55432 | Brooklyn, N.Y. 11222 |
| reet | Bron. Wlecial | John B. Sylvester |
| . 14212 | 30-15 33rd Street | 1646 Mineral Spring Road |
| | Long Island City, N.Y. 11103 | Reading, Pa. 19602 |



The Grand Award Winner, Chester W. Makowski, accepts framed photo of trophy with gold medal from the Hon. Lester Jankowski during the award presentations which followed the Beebe.

Special thanks go to the hard-working Polpex Chairman, Walenty Poniecki and his Committee for a job well done!

ALPEX-799

The 13th annual stamp and coin exhibition held by the Plewacki Post Stamp Society will take place March 28th thru 30th at the Plewacki Post Auditorium, 385 Paderewski Drive, Buffalo, N.Y. Chairman of the Alpex is our member, Dr. Matt A. Gajewski, president of the Plewacki Post Stamp Society, who played a strong part in obtaining the government amendment authorizing postage stamp reproductions in color. Congressman Thaddeus J. Dulski, of the House Post Office & Civil Service Committee introduced the bill, and was responsible for its passage. Co-chairman of Alpex is Harry J. Kwadrane.

This show draws as many as 20,000

visitors. The bourse consists of 25 dealers with a stamp auction March 29th and a coin auction on the following day. There will also be an exhibition of the work of Josef Slawinski, artist and mural painter. Dr. Joseph Manch, Buffalo photographer, will exhibit a collection of photographs.

A slogan cancellation has been authorized and a substation will be set up by the Post Office Department. The United Nations Postal Administration will also have a special station for the sale of recent postage material, and all mail deposited there will receive the N.Y. City cancellation.

Cacheted covers franked with the 6c American Legion stamp, and first day cancelled in Washington, D.C. on March 15th, 1969 at 30c each; for unaddressed covers, send self-addressed stamped envelope to ALPEX-799, 385 Paderewski Drive, Buffalo, N.Y. 14212.

POLONUS HONORS MYRON STECZYNSKI

At the Beebe of the 1969 Polpex, an honorary membership was conferred on Myron E. Steczynski for his 30 years of devoted service to Polonus. As the Hon. Lester Jankowski mentioned in his presentation remarks, this distinction awaited Myron for some time and Polonus was happy to honor one of its founding members.

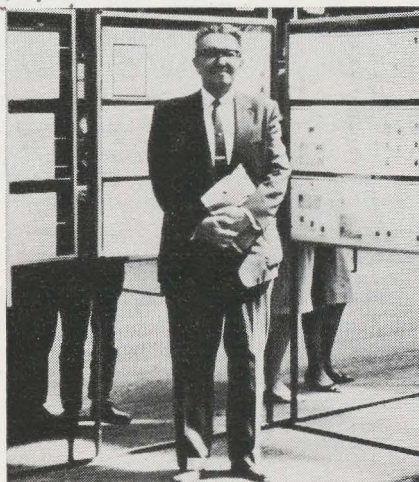
Myron is also an honorary member of the Polish Alliance of Philatelists in Warsaw and of the Polish Philatelic Society in London. He likewise belongs to the American Philatelic Society, Society of Philatelic Americans Chicago Philatelic Society, Collectors Club of New York and the Austin Stamp Club.

Steczynski represented Polonus at the Warsaw, Paris, Mexico and other international shows, being a member of the jury at POLSKA 60 in Warsaw. By invitation of Henry W. McGee, postmaster of Chicago, Myron is a member of the Philatelic Liaison Committee for the Chicago Post Office, acting as a channel between the Post Office and Chicago Philatelic Societies.

As president of Polonus in 1945, Steczynski succeeded in his efforts to include Chicago as a first day city for the Poland flag stamp of the Overrun Nations series. This was the only instance that any city shared first day honors with Washington on the 13 stamps in this series.

Polonus selected Steczynski as chairman of its committee to honor Poland's Millennium of Christianity with a United States postage stamp in 1966. Steczynski expanded this committee to nearly 100 members to embrace senators, congressmen, civic leaders, the hierarchy, representatives of the cultural group, the art group, the philatelic group, other Millennium groups, etc. Zealous and organized

work of the extensive Polonus national committee was crowned with success when Poland's Millennium stamp was issued in Washington, D.C. on July 30, 1966.



Myron at PHILATEC Paris 1964

In 1945 Steczynski acquired through H. R. Harmer of London the Col. Larking Collection of Poland comprising 72 volumes, reputed to be the largest in the world, and expanded it to over 120 volumes. Steczynski's plating of the 1919 Krakow issues included every position in every setting, making it the foremost reference on this overwhelming subject. Myron won the Polonus Grand Award more times than anyone else and won numerous trophies and medals at important shows throughout the world. He is recipient of the Bojanowicz Research Award for studies of the Poland No. 1 stamp issued in 1860.

Steczynski designed and wrote up most of the Polpex souvenir sheets, having won the competition for Polonus' silver anniversary design in 1964.

Myron is a mechanical engineer by profession, now retired, and acts as consultant in his specialized field.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, March 28, 1969 —

Program meeting at Falcons Hall. Myron Steczynski will speak on his trip to EFIMEX in Mexico City and will show color slides. Beeba following.

ATTENTION CHICAGOLAND POLPEX 1969 AWARD WINNERS

If you have not turned in your medals for engraving of your name, please send them in to Alfred Szebel or give them to him at the March 28th meeting.

OUR APPRECIATION

Many thanks to Joseph Bieniecki of Granite City, Ill. for the gift of books to the Polonus Library.

APPLICANT PENDING

Antoni Groniek
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RESIGNATION

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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 \$2.50 —

NEW MEMBERS

Tadeusz Maksymowicz
61-35 81st Street
Middle Village, N.Y. 11379

Kazimierz Franke
2635 N. Spaulding Ave.
Chicago, Ill. 60647

APPLICANT PENDING

Jerzy J. Bialy
R.D. #2, Andrews Rd.
LaGrangeville, N.Y. 12540

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