



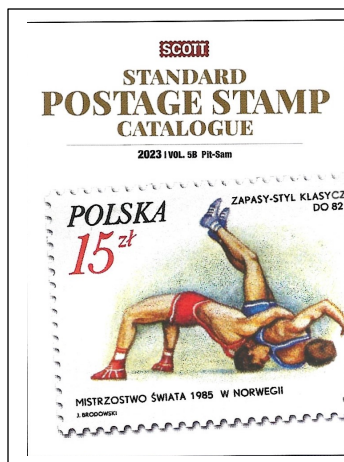
POLONUS

POLISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER #1
Summer 2022

Dear Polonus Members,

At our last Board of Director's meeting, we discussed how to increase communications with the membership. One suggestion we decided to follow is to create a Newsletter that would be sent by email to our members during that time between the Polonus Bulletins. This Newsletter is open to all members who would like to post their questions, opinions, new information, new findings and anything that would be of interest to the general membership. No attacking or harmful posts would be accepted, as one can imagine. For the time being, I will manage the Newsletter, so please send your ideas and thoughts to jmazepa@comcast.net, or aurushima@yahoo.com



2023 Scott Catalog

Did you know that the new 2023 Scott Catalog Vol. 5b which came out August 1st has a Polish stamp on the cover? It is the 1985 15zł Wrestling stamp (Scott #2753) from the set commemorating the victories of Polish athletes.

Yes, Ukraine! “JESTEŚMY Z WAMI!! We Stand With You”.



In March of this year the Ukrainian Post initiated a competition for patriotic inspired stamps. The winner was Boris Groh whose design created international acclaim as well as an international belly-laugh! The stamp commemorates the Snake Island incident with resulted in the sinking of the Russian Black Sea flagship “Moskva” by two Ukrainian anti-ship missiles on April 14th. The stamps picture a Ukrainian soldier “flipping the bird” at the warship and has come to be known as the “Fu*k You” stamp. The stamp comes in two values which we would call “forever stamps”, the “F” for domestic postage and “W” for international postage. Later issues of this stamp have a “DONE” overprinted as the ship sinks. These stamps have commanded a high premium on the philatelic markets such as eBay. But hold tight If you want one, I hear the printing is 600,00 to 1,000,000. No doubt the prices will get lower in time.

Poland, along with a dozen or so other countries, have issued stamps supporting Ukraine (see the cover of the May 2022 Bulletin). I've been told there is a request for the United States to issue a semi-postal stamp to support Ukraine. Will let you know as I get more information.

Poland has absorbed over 4,000,000 Ukrainian refugees fleeing the Russian invasion. One of my friends in Poland told me of one of his philatelist friends who volunteers to drive Ukrainian families from the Polish/Ukrainian border to their relatives in Germany or the Czech Republic. Do you have a similar story, please do share if you do.

My Favorite Cover ...



I would like to begin a "My Favorite Polish cover/stamp" in the Newsletter. We can have one or two in each Newsletter. Only thing

required is that it is one of your favorites, a 300dpi scan, and a short description. Value is irrelevant. I will begin with one of my favorite Polish covers:

My maternal grandfather was born in Lublin, Russia (!), in 1892. Not sure when he immigrated to the U.S., but early enough to serve in the U.S. Army in WW I. (My paternal grandparents were from Western Ukraine, hence, my last name is of Ukrainian origin). The letter was sent to my grandfather after WW II from Urzędów, Lublin Province, by the parish priest. I suspect he was asking for food and clothes.



The Polish stamp on the reverse of the cover is that of a steel worker. Is it a coincidence that my grandfather worked in the Gary Works of US Steel?

Collecting

New Areas of Polish Philately...

One query we often get is, “what new area of Polish philately can I collect?” The September Bulletin is what you’ve been waiting for! In addition to an article on the voluminous topics of Polish philately that can be tackled, Dawn Hamman, president of the American Topical Association, will tell you how to get started and how the ATA can help.

Exhibiting

FIP Update

The FIP, the Federation Internationale de Philatelie, is the umbrella organization for international philatelic affairs and international exhibitions. One of their goals is to promote friendship and unity among its 84 international Federations. Give the unprovoked war upon Ukraine and the atrocities committed by the Russians in Ukraine, several of us, myself included, petitioned the President of the FIP to exclude the Russian and Belarus Federation's judges and exhibits from participation in future FIP sponsored exhibitions. The FIP Board unanimously agreed that the Russian and Belarus Federations are to be excluded until further notice. The Russian and Belarus Federations were refused participation in the recent FIP Congress in Indonesia.

Mark your calendars...

2022 Members Meeting

This year's Annual Member Meeting will be a zoom meeting, similar to the one we held in the past. The meeting will be Sunday, October 16th. Tom Bieniosek will give a great presentation "You Don't Have to Be Polish to Collect Poland". The meeting will start at 5:00pm Eastern time. Andrew will send out the necessary links. If you have anything you would like to have on the agenda, please send it to jmazepa@comcast.net or aurushima@yahoo.com

2023 Annual Meeting at WESTPEX

Our annual meeting for 2023 will be in San Francisco at WESTPEX April 28-30th. Stay tuned for further information.

Dziękuję!

Dr. James Mazepa, RDP