

POLISH EXILE GOVERNMENT

By Bob Lamb



World War II officially started on September 1, 1939 when Germany invaded Poland. The fate of Poland was sealed when Russia attacked on September 17.

Despite their homeland being crushed between two totalitarian giants, Polish soldiers, sailors and airmen fought on—in the Home Army in occupied Poland; in the battles of France and Britain; in the Battle of the Atlantic at sea; with the Allied forces in North Africa; on the Eastern Front with the Soviets; and in Italy, the Netherlands and France.

As the Nazis and Soviets completed their occupation of Poland, the Polish government-in-exile with Władysław Raczkiewicz as its president was first established in Paris, then Angers. The fall of France forced the government to move to London.

To help establish legitimacy, the exile government started issuing postage stamps to be used on packages sent to and from military and merchant vessels. Of the several stamp issues for Polish Nationals living outside Poland's borders during or after World War II the most important and known were printed and issued in England.

On December 15, 1941, the Polish Exile Government in Britain inaugurated the "Polish Postal Service" in a limited way.

POLISH EXILE GOVERNMENT (con't)

The creation of Polish postage stamps and the mail service was dictated by the necessity of maintaining contacts with Poles still fighting, Polish nationals in the world, and to propagandize the fact that Poland still existed and the Polish Army, Air Force, Navy, and Merchant Marine were still fighting beyond Poland's boundaries.

In 1941, the Polish Government-in-Exile began issuing postage stamps for use on letters and packages. These stamps are listed in the Scott Catalogue with catalog numbers prefixed 3K. In total, 20 postage stamps and one semi postal stamp were issued. The designs show Polish military forces in action during the war, and they are popular with militaria and WWII topical collectors.

Not far from the Italian city of Cassino, the Abbey of Monte Cassino was about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile away. In 1944, following the Allied landings in nearby Anzio, the Abbey had a commanding view of the surrounding territory. The Allied forces were certain that the Abbey was being used as an observation point by the German forces. They were wrong, but a bombing campaign leveled the structure. In one of the ironies of war, after the bombing, the Germans did indeed place troops in the ruins. Among the many troops taking part in the battle of Monte Cassino were Polish units commanded by Lt. General Władysław Anders. Playing a major role in the battle, Polish troops of the 12th Podolian Cavalry Regiment were the first Allied troops to make it to the top of the ruined Abbey. The Germans surrendered to the Polish.



BUFFALO STAMP CLUB

www.buffalostampclub.org

October 2022

Alfred Carroccia

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OCTOBER NOTES

The Club is off to a running start! Activities began in late August with the End of Summer Stamp Show being held on August 20th and 21st. The show was a huge success with decent attendance on Saturday, competing with the football game, and stronger attendance on Sunday. Ten dealers including the United States Postal Service were present. All the dealers were pleased, especially with the show being two days. The silent auction was popular with last minute bids moving some of the lots.

The following Saturday, August 27th, more than a dozen Club members and partners convened at Meegan Manor, the home of Bob and Mary Meegan for the annual Club picnic. A good time was had with plenty of food, refreshments and conversation. An impromptu auction brought spirited bidding for a few lots. Thank you, Bob and Mary Meegan.

Note the return of the Club presentations! The first one will be **October 27th** with Irv Tesmer talking about and showing his Tax Paid Revenues. Take note of the Date change! Don't miss it!

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Thursday, October 6th: Meeting/Auction

Thursday, October 27th: Presentation - 7pm
Led by Irv Tesmer – see more info on the insert

Thursday, November 3rd: Meeting/Auction

Saturday, November 19th: Autumn Stamp Festival

At The Knights Halls, 2735 Union Road just north of William St. in Cheektowaga

Auctions begin immediately following any business and announcements beginning at 7:00 PM.

Arrive early to submit and view lots; seller deadline to submit lots is 6:30 PM

OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

President: Alan Davis (ddavis504@roadrunner.com)

Vice President: Dan McNess (dmcness@mac.com)

Secretary: Al Carroccia (fuzzy9600@verizon.net)

Treasurer: Tim Carey (careystea@gmail.com)

Membership Chairman: Bob Meegan
(meegan9697@roadrunner.com)

Auction Chairman: Dan Sherwood

Auction Registrar: Kevin Suckow

Auction Assistant: Bennie Passantino

Auction Acctg: Paul Moore (paulkmoore29@gmail.com)

Advertising & Publicity Coordinator: Open

Bourse Chairman: John Leszak (coverconnection@gmail.com)

Historical & Library: Al Carroccia & Casey Kielbasa

Other Directors: Larry Cherns (katchke@hotmail.com),

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Heidi Rust (youdafox@hotmail.com)

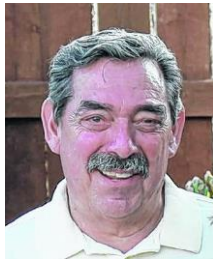
ELLIOTT HUME

Elliott passed away on August 9, 2022. Elliott attended all the Club functions, especially the auctions. He will be missed.



GEORGE THOMAS

George passed away July 27, 2022. George was a retired Buffalo Police officer who ran a snow-plow business. He collected worldwide and organized an impromptu study group with late Club member Dorothy Haaf. He also will be missed.



BENNY PASSANTINO

Congratulations to Benny and his wife for celebrating their **55th wedding anniversary!**



JOHN LESZAK

Congratulations to John and Paula Leszak on the arrival of their new granddaughter, Gabriella Grace on August 27th. John reports that all are doing well.



DAN SHERWOOD

In case you have not noticed, Dan Sherwood has been missing from recent Club events. Dan called to say that he had a medical issue and is recovering. He will not be able to drive and will return to the Club in October. The Club wishes Dan well and a speedy recovery.

DUES

Club dues should be paid now. Dues remain at \$20 and can be paid to Membership Chairman Bob Meegan. Bob is also updating the membership roster. If you have any questions regarding payment of dues or the Roster Information Report, please contact Bob Meegan at 716-655-5583 or by email at meegan9697@roadrunner.com

NEW MEMBERS

Jerome Hobart

Collects U.S., Canada, and World-wide. Also collects U.S. First Day Covers.

James Szumla

Collects United States.

Mark Luswig

Collects U.S., Canada, and Germany.

Norman Tittington

Collects U.S., Canada, and British Colonies

Holiday Social

The Club members decided on the date for the Holiday Social in December. The choice was Friday night or a week night. Club members at the September 15th meeting decided by a vote of 17 to 3 to hold the Holiday Social on a weeknight. Wednesday was more desirable. Therefore, the Holiday Social will be held **Wednesday, December 7th**. The auction will precede an evening of food and camaraderie.

HILTON STAMP SHOW

Sponsored by the Western Monroe Philatelic Society, the Hilton Stamp Show will be held Sunday, October 2nd from 10 AM to 4 PM at the Hilton Exempts Club, 135 South Ave in Hilton. For more info, contact Dave Bombard at 585-352-6955. The local Apple Festival is the same weekend.

Attending the Great American Stamp Show Sacramento 2022

By Joe Brzezowski

The Great American Stamp Show (GASS) was held in Sacramento, Ca. from August 25th to the 28th, 2022. Gail and I had the opportunity to attend and enjoy a wonderful APS show.

It was held at the Safe Credit Union Convention Center and the show was billed as the largest philatelic exhibition in the United States for 2022. It was presented jointly by the American Philatelic Society, the American Topical Association, and the American First Day Cover Society. Each of these societies had large welcome tables with free handouts and information for interested parties.

The show was very organized with separate entrance areas for preregistered and walk in attendees. APS members were noted on their name tags. I also wore my Buffalo Stamp club badge, which attracted a lot of attention on its own.

There were rows and rows of exhibits and separate areas for youth and non-judged exhibits. Two of our favorites were an exhibit on the first stamp albums and one on advertising and commercial covers which included a pane of the Larkin Soap Company from right here in Buffalo.

Of special interest was the first day ceremony for the new USPS "Pony Car" stamps. In the USPS booth area, they had the real car that was represented on each stamp so people could have their picture taken with them. Each day had a special cancel related to the cars and the show. I especially liked the Model A postal delivery truck, brought in by a local stamp and car collector.



Joe Brzezowski at GASS

The real reason for going to a show is of course to find those items needed to fill the spaces on your album pages and GASS did not disappoint. There were over 70 dealer booths to choose from along with over 30 organizations and societies on all subjects of the philatelic spectrum. Stamps, covers, and material were available from 25 cents to thousands of dollars.

It was also nice to meet with dealers we know from past shows and see new material. Also in attendance was a booth for Roy's Stamps, Roy Houtby from St. Catherines, Ontario.

It is always a pleasure and so enjoyable to visit a large, national show like the GASS. If you are interested and would like to be a part of one, mark your calendars for August 10-13, 2023 and head to Cleveland, Ohio and see all that is a Great American Stamp Show!

ASK AN EXPERT

In case you didn't notice, there was an insert added to your newsletter. Its purpose is to offer you the opportunity to add content to the newsletter that is of interest to you. If you have a question or topic that you would like discussed, just submit the request back to us, and we'll do our best to respond. We have Club members with all kinds of expertise, and we'll try to tap that and share the knowledge! Give it a try!