

# PHILATELIC BULLETIN



Sarasota Philatelic Club

2024

## OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

President:	Patricia Stilwell Walker
VP Operations:	Liz Hisey
VP Programs:	Mark Issacs
Treasurer:	Dan Walker
Secretary:	Jack Harwood — acting
Editor:	Vincent Centonze
Directors:	Vacant
	Dick Murphy
	Vacant

## 2024 BOOSTERS

Frank Blum	Bill DiPaolo
David Landry	Vince Centonze
Mariano DeLise	Dawn Hamman
Barbara Noah	John Hamman
Phil Billard	Phil Leber
Fred Olsen	Al Light
Larry Smith	David Mederios
Pat & Dan Walker	Mark Isaacs
Bob Reeder	Jim Mazepa
Joe Reichenbach	Dick Murphy
Liz & Bob Hisey	
Gisela Weinland	

## Stamp Quiz



**Congratulations to Ronald**

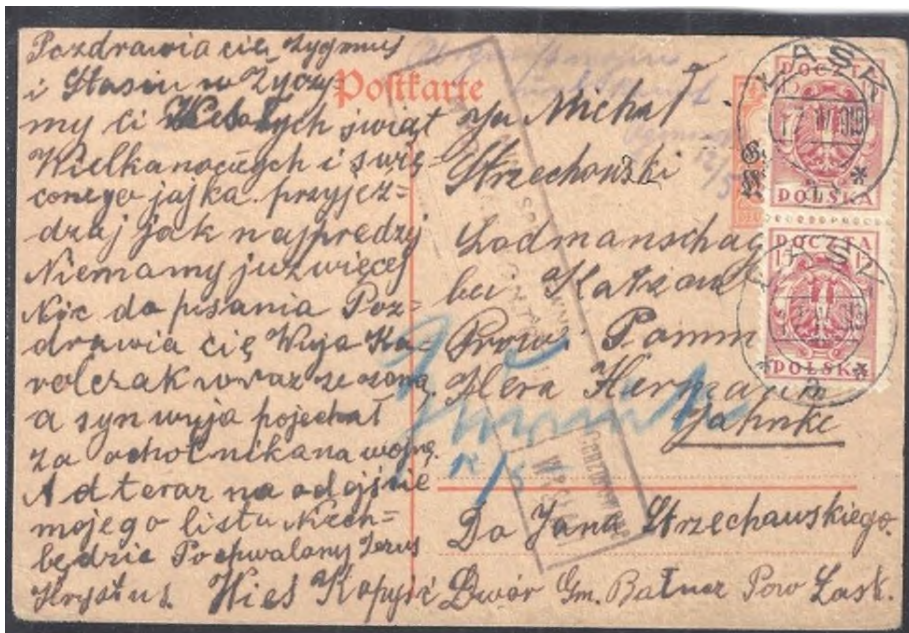
**Brown who recognized last month's stamp quiz as France Scott 163, 10c green, issued in 1921 as part of the Sower Issue (1903-1938). There were three design types, Scott A20, A21, and A22. There were two types of this stamp, but that was impossible to guess because you would need to see the numeral and letters. Stay tuned for next month's stamp quiz!**



## Polish Post Office "Cover-Ups"

By Dr. Jim Mazepa, RDP

What is a post office to do if it runs out of postal material? This is especially relevant in times of transition such as the 1918-1919 and 1944-1945 time periods in Poland. After independence was declared in 1918, in the Warsaw Administration the stamps and stationery of the former German occupiers were valid until December 15, 1918. However, in March 1919 someone in Łask had an invalid postal card from the German occupation and covered-up the German indicium with two 15 fen Polish stamps (Poland Scott 97) to pay the 30 fen postal card rate to a foreign country. Figure 1 shows the address



**Figure 1. Address side of postcard postmarked 17 March, 1919, in Łask showing two 15 fen Polish stamps covering up the indicium of German military occupation postal card (H&G I-45).**

7½ pfennig Germania type Military Occupation of Poland postal card of 1916 with the indicium overprinted with a two-line Gen.-Gouv./Warschau (General Gouvernement/ Warsaw) (Germany Military Occupation of Poland, H&G catalogue no. I-45). The indicium is shown in Figure 2.

A similar situation occurred in the former Austrian occupied territory of Poland. Austrian stamps and stationery were valid until January 20, 1919. An individual in Żegiestów had an invalid Austrian 10 hal postal card and covered the indicium with a 15 hal Polish stamp (Poland Scott 124) in March 1920 to pay the domestic postal card rate to the Court in Mieszyń, Poland. Note that during this period, stamps in Northern Poland were denominated in "fenigi" (fen) and "marks," while the same design stamps in Southern Poland were denominated in "halerzy" (hal) and "kronen." The card is shown in Figure 3. The original postal card that was covered-up is a 1918 Austria 10 heller card (H&G 235).



**Figure 2. Indicium of 1916 Germany Military Occupation postal**

*Continued on next page*



## The Prez Sez ...

### Next meeting:

**Tuesday May 7th -  
6:30 at the  
Universalist  
Church.**

**Show and Tell ,  
maybe - see appeal  
to right**

Greetings all - I hope you have had a good April! Dan and I are just returned from Romania! We went over to attend the International Stamp Show in Bucharest - EFIRO2024 - where I was part of a jury of 36 - we had a Lot of work to judge all the exhibits in 2 and a half days. I was on a team of 3 which judged postal history exhibits relating to Europe. After the show we spent three days touring Transylvania.

No club member has come forward to volunteer a program for the next meeting - It is not too late , contact me via email at [snse-exhibits@comcast.net](mailto:snse-exhibits@comcast.net) with a title and any AV requirements.

In June, July and August we will meet at Perkins Restaurant 5921 Fruitville Rd., Sarasota, FL 34232 to eat dinner and then socialize philatelically. In September we will resume meeting at the Universalist Church location - As above - PROGRAMS are needed. A program chair with email would also be helpful who can coordinate with Mark Isaacs.

See you all soon,

Pat

## Polish Post Office “Cover-Ups” (Continued)

Similar situations occurred after the Second World War. Because of the scarcity of postal material, the Polish Post used the stationery of the General Government until it could produce its own material. For example, in 1945 in Błonie, a 50 groszy (gr) stamp (Poland Scott 345) was used to cover the indicium of a General Government postal card. The original postal card that was covered up is a 12 gr General Government Hitler head postal card (Germany Military Occupation of Poland, H&G I-61). Part of the German card indicium can be



(Above Left) Figure 3. Address side of 1920 postcard sent from Żegiestów to the Court in Mieszynie, Poland. A 15 hal stamp covers up the indicium of a 10 heller Austrian postal card (Austria H&G 235).

(Above Right) Figure 4. Address side of 1945 postal card postmarked from Błonie with a 50 gr Poland stamp

The post office and even individuals used whatever means available to deface the hated Hitler indicium. Figure 5 shows an item in which an individual in Sempolno used pieces of paper to paste over the Hitler indicium as well as other German language instructions on the postal card. There is a Polish manuscript instruction “Opt. Got. 50 gr” (Fee Paid 50 Groszy/signed by the post official) and sent forward on June 22, 1945, to the Red Cross in Lublin.

Figure 6 shows a card in which an individual blotted out the Hitler indicium and German language instructions with black ink. Again, there is a manuscript notation “Opt. Got. Dobroń 1.3.45” (Fee Paid Dobroń March 1, 1945) and sent forward to Częstochowa.

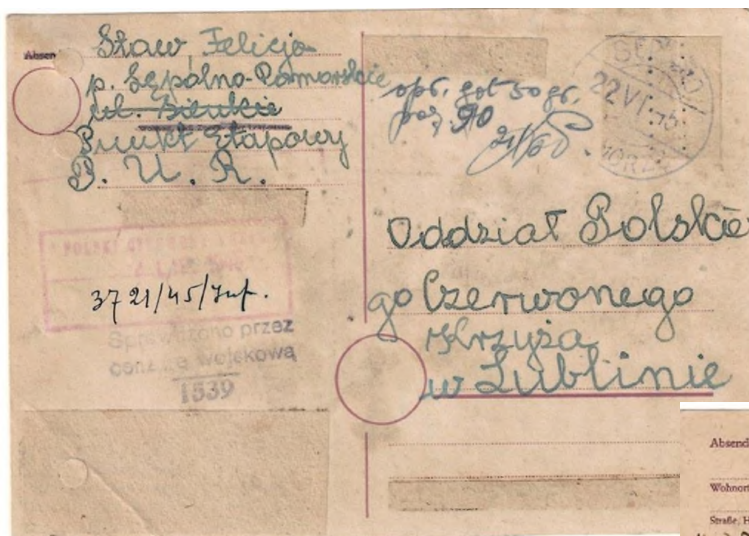
Continued on next page



## Polish Post Office "Cover-Ups" (Continued)

Some individual did a "double Dose". Figure 7 shows a card in which an individual scratched out the Hitler indicium and then applied a 50gr stamp (Poland Scott 345) over the scratched-out part (the stamp was removed to show the scratched-out indicium). The postal card was sent from Nowy Targ to Chymów. Note the provisional (handmade) registry cachet in red as well as a Polish Army censor cachet. The original postal card that was covered up is a 12 gr General Government Hitler head postal card (Germany Military Occupation of Poland, H&G I-61).

All in all, these "postal cover-ups" document the post and individuals will manipulate whatever is at hand to get the mail to destination!



(Left) Figure 5. Postal card dated June 22, 1945, sent from Sempolno to the Red Cross in Lublin. An individual pasted pieces of paper over the Hitler-head indicium, German language instructions, and German propaganda slogan in the lower left. Note There is a Polish manuscript instruction "Opt. Got. 50 gr" (Fee Paid 50 Groszy/signed by the post official). The original postal card is a German 6 pf violet Hitler-head card (Germany H&G 313a).



(Right) Figure 6. Postal card in which an individual blotted out the Hitler-head indicium and German language propaganda slogan in the lower left with black ink. There is a manuscript notation "Opt. Got. Dobroń 1.3.45" (Fee Paid Dobroń March 1, 1945) and the card was sent to Częstochowa. The original postal card is a German 6 pf violet Hitler-head card (Germany H&G 310h/ propaganda slogan Type 9).



(Left) Figure 7. Postal card in which the Hitler-head indicium was scratched out before a stamp was applied over it. The 50 gr stamp (Poland Scott 345) was removed to show the largely obliterated indicium. The removed stamp is also shown here at right



Sarasota Philatelic Club

PO Box 20625 Bradenton, FL 34204

www.sarasotastampclub.com



APS Chapter 353

For information: snse-exhibits@comcast.net