

What is the Value of the Journal *Optical Engineering*?

Not many of us have probably ever stopped to think about the value of *Optical Engineering*, since we receive the journal as part of our membership to SPIE—The International Society for Optical Engineering. Well, let me tell you that the March 1992 issue of *Optical Engineering* is now a collector's item. The reason we know this is best explained by including here a series of letters from Dr. Rogalski, a member of SPIE's Polish Chapter; Dr. Pluta, the chair of SPIE's Polish Chapter; and L. Palagi, the managing editor of *Optical Engineering*. The first two letters were also included in the Polish Chapter's newsletter.

Prof. Antoni Rogalski
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Military Academy of Technology
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November 26, 1992

Prof. Maksymilian Pluta
Institute of Applied Optics
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03-805 Warsaw

Dear Prof. Pluta,

On Monday 4th May this year, after meeting of SPIE PL Chapter Staff, I received from Mrs Powichrowska several copies of *Optical Engineering* for my colleagues (members of SPIE) from Military Academy of Technology. I left these journals in my car in order to carry them to my Institute next day. However, in the night between 4th and 5th May my car was stolen. I got back my devastated car after three days, but unfortunately the copies of *Optical Engineering* disappeared. I feel guilty about it. It is the more troublesome for me, because the above numbers of *Optical Engineering* contain special Polish section - *Optics in Poland*.

I apologize for the inconvenience. I am terribly sorry.

Yours sincerely



P.S. I told my students about my event. One of them drew this drawing.

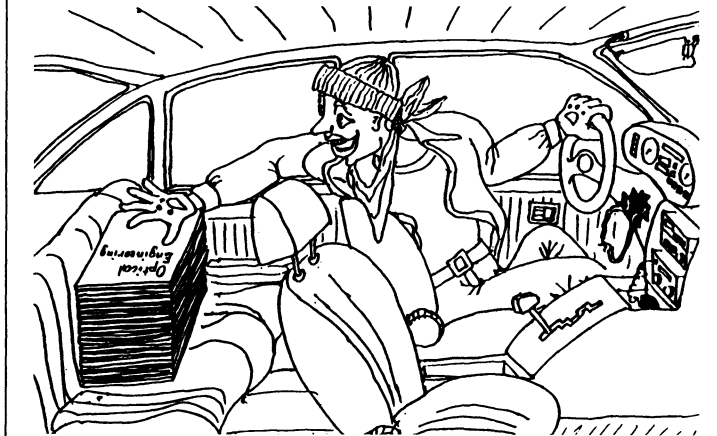


Illustration by Marcin Sobiech.

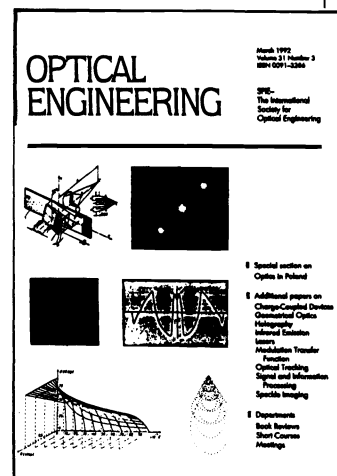
Dear Professor Rogalski,

The situation described by yourself and expressively illustrated by one of your students is lamentable and, in contrast to that described earlier by myself (see page 64 and a respective photo), worthy to be remembered. At any rate OE copies and especially those with special section on *Optics in Poland* must be guarded much more carefully than SPIE/PL Chairman.

I am sorry to have to say that no additional copies of the OE issue in question are available from SPIE/PL Office and even my author's copy was presented to Dr Grzegorz Kowalewski (Technical University of Łódź), a potential SPIE/PL member for a lot of months.

However, I would like to help you in two different ways. The first one is specified on page 70. The second is as follows:

Anybody who at the street market or in any second-hand bookshop will be able to recognize a journal with a front cover as shown close by is cordially asked to announce on this fact to SPIE/PL Office. A finder (or finders) of the stolen EO copies will be rewarded.



With best wishes for our success in finding the stolen OE copies or in receiving additional ones from SPIE Headquarters.

Yours sincerely,





LETTERS FROM THE SPIE / PL CHAIRMAN
THE REPLIES TO WHICH
ARE GREATLY WELCOMED

Lorretta Palagi
Managing Editor, Optical Engineering
SPIE-The International Society for Optical Engineering
P.O.Box 10
Bellingham, Washington 98227-0010, USA

Dear Ms Palagi,

I would be greatly grateful if you could read the letter on p. 66 and my reply to it on p. 67, then put yourself in Professor Rogalski's place, and try to help us in receiving several additional copies of *Optical Engineering*, March/1992 issue (Volume 31, No.3), from the SPIE Headquarters. I hope that a number of surplus copies of that issue can be found in your office or a SPIE's store-room and several of them, say, 3 to 5 copies may be presented to Professor Rogalski, who then will be able to get out of the debt in relation to a number of SPIE/PL members (he prefers to be indebted to you rather than to his colleagues who have not received their OE copies until now).

On the other hand, the situation described by Professor Rogalski and illustrated by one of his students can be qualified as a favourable event from your point of view referred to as the post of Managing Editor: several copies of the March/1992 issue of your journal appeared to be of greater value for a thief than a car.

With my good wishes for 1993.

Yours sincerely

M. Pluta
Maksymilian Pluta
Editor, SPIE/PL Bulletin

cc. Brian J. Thompson
OE Editor

If anyone has a spare copy of the March 1992 issue, Drs. Pluta and Rogalski would be happy to receive it.

Brian J. Thompson
Editor

OPTICAL ENGINEERING

The Journal of SPIE-The International Society for Optical Engineering

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April 14, 1993

Dr. Maksymilian Pluta
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Dear Dr. Pluta,

I recently received a copy of your fine December 1992 Chapter publication and found it to be very interesting. Who knew that the demand for *Optical Engineering* was such that somebody had to steal a car just to obtain a few precious issues? We are flattered and happy to know that *Optical Engineering* is so popular in Poland.

We did just as you suggested in your letter and combed through our basement and storage facilities and various bookcases to find extra copies of the March 1992 issue. I was able to come up with three copies and am sending them to you under separate cover, along with some other issues. I trust you will convey them to Prof. Rogalski with our condolences on his "loss" (including the devastated car!).

I certainly hope that you have arranged sufficient facilities for the protection of these valuable "Optics in Poland" issues! Might I recommend a security system such as that used for the Hope diamond? I understand that system is quite reliable.

Thanks again for informing me of this unfortunate incident. I'm happy we were able to help you with your quest.

Best regards,

Lorretta Palagi
Managing Editor, *Optical Engineering*

xc: Dr. Brian J. Thompson
Editor, *Optical Engineering*

September 1993

Optical Science and Engineering in Canada

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October 1993

Microlithography

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Optical Engineering in Hungary

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November 1993

Acquisition, Tracking, and Pointing

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December 1993

Magnetospheric Imagery and Atmospheric Remote Sensing

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January 1994

Infrared Technology

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February 1994

Optical Interconnects and Packaging

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619/534-2413 • 619/534-1225 FAX

March 1994

High Heat Flux Optical Engineering

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Manuscripts due Aug. 1, 1993.

April 1994

Optical Pattern Recognition

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Manuscripts due Sep. 1, 1993.

May 1994

Semiconductor Infrared Detectors

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Manuscripts due Oct. 1, 1993.

June 1994

Optical Science & Engineering in India

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Manuscripts due Nov. 1, 1993.

July 1994

Adaptive Wavelet Transforms

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Manuscripts due Dec. 1, 1993.

August 1994

Digital Image Recovery and Synthesis

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Manuscripts due Dec. 1, 1993.

September 1994

Optics in South Africa

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Manuscripts due Jan. 1, 1994.

October 1994

Optics in Russia

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November 1994

Micro-Optics

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December 1994

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January 1995

X-Ray/EUV Optics

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March 1995

Optical Engineering in Ophthalmology

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April 1995

Optics in the Ukraine

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