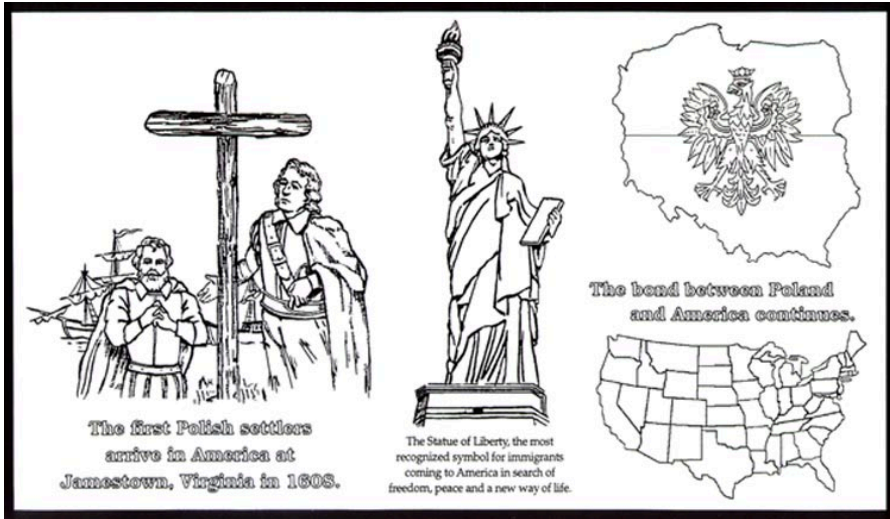


2007 Polish American Heritage Month Coloring Contest Artwork

Artwork Prepared by Walter Cichocki



America, the Nation of Many Nationalities

The coloring contest artwork depicts (1) the first Polish settlers who immigrated to Jamestown, Virginia, (2) the Statue of Liberty, known as the welcoming beacon for all immigrants in search of freedom, peace and justice in the New World, and (3) maps of Poland and America to symbolize the lasting bond between these countries.

People of all nationalities can reflect on their heritage and remind themselves that they are all part of the "Great American Mosaic." For centuries people from all over the world immigrated to America in search of freedom, peace and justice. From Europe, the Irish, Polish, Germans, Italians and many other nationalities came in large numbers to live in the new land of opportunity. Today, people from all over the world make up America's ethnic and racial mosaic.

In October, Polish Americans celebrate national "Polish American Heritage Month". This year everyone is asked to take time to trace his or her own family history in preparation for the 400th Anniversary of the First Polish Settlers to America, which will be celebrated in October, 2008. To help you trace your heritage, there is a Trace Your Heritage form on the front page of the Cultural Center's website at: PolishAmericanCenter.com

It was on October 1, 1608, that the English ship Margaret and Mary arrived at Jamestown, Virginia. The ship carried eight people of Polish descent who had been hired by the Glass Company of England to help open a glass house in the New World. After their arrival in Jamestown, this group of skilled glassmakers, along with other immigrant settlers, experienced many hardships. They did, nevertheless, accomplish their mission of building and operating the first glass house, and first factory, in America. As time passed and they made enough glass to serve the needs of the Jamestown colony, their products were then shipped to England. These glass items became the first products to be exported from America to Europe. Another noteworthy fact is that, in 1619, after eleven years in the Jamestown colony, the resolute Polish settlers staged the first labor strike in order to extend the right to vote to all members of the colony.

The arrival of the first Polish settlers in America marked a humble, yet significant, entry into American history. Over the years, people from Poland continued to emigrate to America. Today, people of Polish descent are the sixth largest ethnic group in America, residing in all fifty states and participating in every aspect of American life. They are among the tens of millions of immigrants who came to America from all over the world and are proud to call America their home. This anniversary celebration provides an excellent opportunity for persons of all national origins to reflect on the journey of their immigrant ancestors who continue to add color to the American mosaic.

Donation

Offered by

Union of Polish Women in America, Group 93
Polish Roman Catholic Union of America, Society #2065

Krakus Meat Market

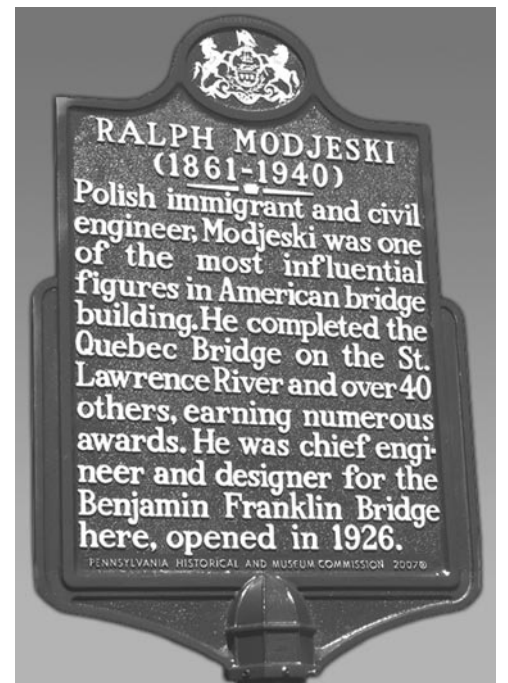
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Modjeski Honored in Philadelphia

On Saturday, September 15, 2007, members of the Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia hosted the dedication of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Historical Marker honoring Ralph Modjeski, the chief engineer and designer of the Benjamin Franklin Bridge between Philadelphia and Camden, NJ, which first opened on July 1, 1926.

The marker is located on the corner of 6th and Race Streets near the entrance of the bridge. Compliments to the individuals and organizations that attended the dedication ceremony. When you're in the area, look for the historical marker at 6th and Race Streets.



Pictured at the dedication ceremony left to right are: Jan Romanski, Vice President, Polski Uniwersytet Ludowy; Michael Blichasz, President, Polish American Cultural Center Museum and Polish American Congress, Eastern Pennsylvania District; Krzysztof Kasprzyk, Consul General of the Republic of Poland; Paul Bosse, Financial Secretary, Polish Arts Club of Trenton, NJ; Debbie Majka, President, Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia; Peter Obst, Historian; and Joseph Zazyczny, former Philadelphia City Councilman.

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Polish American Social Services "PASS"

**308 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106**

Office hours: Monday - Friday - 9 A.M. - 4 P.M.

Telephone: (215) 923-1900

Internet: PolishAmericanSocialServices.com

Donor Option Campaign Code Numbers:

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If you live outside the tri-state area, contact your local United Way for information on how to become a PASS supporter.

Best Wishes and Sto Lat!

Additional Polish American Heritage Month Greetings from Pennsylvania State Representatives:

State Representative Babette Josephs
State Representative George Kenney, Jr.
State Representative Thaddeus Kirkland
State Representative Kathy Manderino
State Representative Michael McGeehan
State Representative Michael O'Brien
State Representative W. Curtis Thomas
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