



an affiliate of
The American Council for Polish Culture

The Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia is the local representative of the American Council for Polish Culture (ACPC). The Society is dedicated to the preservation and promotion of our rich Polish cultural heritage among the citizens of the Greater Delaware Valley.

Through its stimulating monthly programs, the Society enhances understanding and enjoyment of Polish history and culture and values of our forefathers. Its Annual Chopin Concerts, the Adam Styka Art Exhibit, visiting author lectures, Polonaise Ball and other special events showcase the talents and accomplishments of Polish and Polish-American artists, musicians, writers, scholars and scientists.

Overall, the Society strives to share an awareness and appreciation of the quality of the Polish ingredient in our modern American mosaic.

For membership information contact:

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Polish Heritage Society Web Page: www.poles.org/PHSP

view our FACEBOOK page:

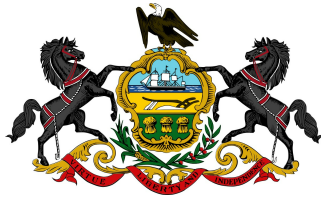
Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia/Facebook

Edward Piszek



Historical Marker Dedication
September 20, 2025

Our Sincere Thanks
to the



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Josh Shapiro, *Governor*



Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
Hayley Haldeman, *Chair*
Andrea Lowery, *Executive Director*



Wissahickon Trails
Gail Farmer, *Executive Director*
John Ferro, *Conservation Director*

POLES IN AMERICA
FOUNDATION, INC.

The Poles in America Foundation
Jack Pinkowski, *President*

for making this historical marker a reality



Polonia Technica, INC.
Association of Polish-American Engineers
[www. Polonia-Technica.org](http://www.Polonia-Technica.org)

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Email: polonia-technica@att.net
ph: (718) 599-9036

Dr Janusz Romanski
Honorary President

September 20, 2025

Peter Obst, *President*
Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia
Philadelphia, PA

Dear Sir:

On behalf of the Association of Polish Engineers and Technicians "Polonia Technica," I extend my heartfelt congratulations on the ceremonial unveiling of the historical marker commemorating Edward Piszek, an outstanding representative of the Polish American community, a patriot, philanthropist, and a man devoted to our homeland, Poland.

Edward Piszek was deeply involved in the affairs of the Polish community and Poland. Over the years, he organized numerous projects. It is worth noting his involvement in the purchase of the Tadeusz Kościuszko house in Philadelphia, which now houses a museum dedicated to our national hero.

Edward Piszek was known as a generous philanthropist, supporting many initiatives of the Polish American Congress in Philadelphia over the years.

He was a personal friend of St. John Paul II and frequently attended audiences with the Pope, discussing matters of importance to Poland and the Polish community in the USA.

A historical marker commemorating Edward Piszek and his achievements builds the prestige of the Polish American community and provides an opportunity to promote him within American society.

Sincerely,

Janusz Romanski



Embassy of the Republic of Poland
in Washington, D.C.

Washington, D.C., 20 September 2025

Dear Mr. President of the Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia,
Members of the Board, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission,
Members of the Wissahickon Trails Organization,
Members of the Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia,
Distinguished Guests,

First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the individual efforts of the President of the Polish Heritage Society of Philadelphia and the commitment of its members to creating this plaque and bringing to life the idea of commemorating Edward Piszek.

Today's ceremony commemorates a Polish patriot, philanthropist, and active member of the Polish community in Philadelphia. His actions saved one of the most important monuments of Polish material heritage in the United States. It would be difficult for us all to imagine a map of Polish material heritage without the Tadeusz Kościuszko House in Philadelphia. The gratitude of the American Polish community and Poles will always be expressed to Edward Piszek, who not only purchased the building in 1976, on the 200th anniversary of the founding of the United States, but also convinced the Congressional Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation in Washington, D.C., of the need to protect this historic place. Thus, the presence of General Tadeusz Kościuszko in Philadelphia, a hero of both our countries, has been preserved for future generations.

I would like to express my gratitude to the Rangers of the National Park Service who take care of this place today, ensuring that our shared history is passed on to future generations of Americans and Poles.

Most of all I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission for approving and co-financing this project. This historical marker strengthens the historical and cultural ties between our countries. I would also like to extend my thanks to the Wissahickon Trails organization for their assistance and cooperation. The Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Washington, D.C. has always supported and will continue to support initiatives that preserve traces of Polish presence and Polish heritage in the United States.

With appreciation,



Bogdan Klich
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Republic of Poland
in the United States of America



presents
the dedication of an official historical marker
commemorating

Edward Piszek

entrepreneur, philanthropist, patriot
friend of statesmen and popes

Saturday, September 20, 2025
at 12:00 noon
Piszek Preserve, 700 Pennsylvania Ave.
Fort Washington, Pennsylvania

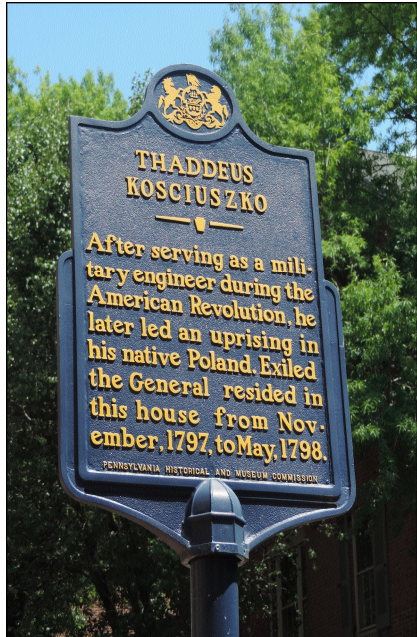
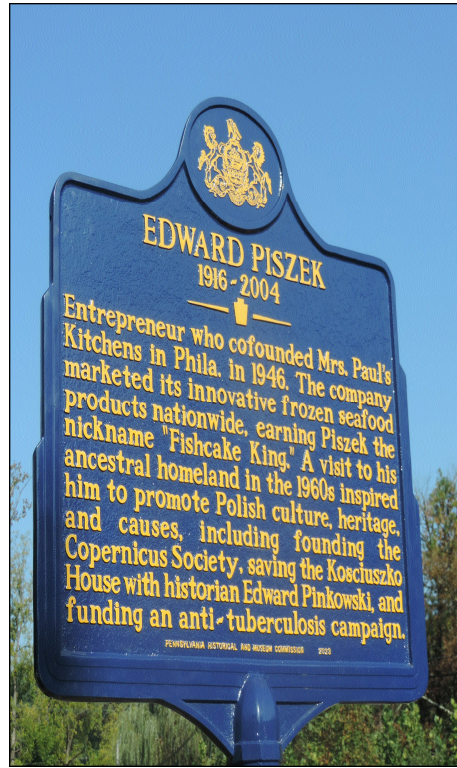
Program

Welcome
Peter Obst, *President, Polish Heritage Society*

Remarks on behalf of the
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
Katherine Dowdell
AIA, PHMC Preservation Board Member

Commentary from our Guests

Removal of the Cover and Adjournment



Edward Piszek

(1916-2004)

In Philadelphia, Edward Piszek is remembered as the founder of Mrs. Paul's Kitchens Inc. a company that produced "heat and eat" frozen seafood meals. This brand became famous nationwide across the United States.

But that is only a part of his story. Born in Chicago, Illinois of immigrant parents, Edward Piszek became aware of his Polish heritage later in life and traveled to Poland becoming friends with Cardinal Karol Wojtyla of Krakow who later became Pope John Paul II.

One of his first projects in Poland (1967) was financing an anti-tuberculosis campaign that stopped an outbreak of the disease. This included 11 mobile x-ray units, ancillary equipment and support vehicles.

In Philadelphia, for the US Bicentennial in 1976, he purchased the house in which Revolutionary War Hero General Thaddeus Kosciuszko resided. Working with historian **Edward Pinkowski**, he donated this building, and the adjacent one, to the National Park Service (Independence National Historical Park District). This is now a museum called the Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Memorial.

Edward Piszek conducted a positive publicity campaign to improve the image of Poles in the United States ("Project Pole") in 1972. With baseball star Stan Musial, he promoted American baseball in Poland. He convinced the Little League international organization to locate its European Headquarters in Kutno, Poland.

These are but a few of his accomplishments. Writer Jake Morgan, working, with Edward, produced the memoir: *Some Good in the World: A Life of Purpose* published in 2001 by University of Colorado Press, 235 pages (available on Amazon).

The caricature on the front cover was drawn by Polish artist Julian Zebrowski during a visit with Edward Piszek in Philadelphia.