



German, Italian and Polish American Heritage Month Booklist October 2013

America's melting pot includes many European origins. The first Polish settler at Jamestown was Ivan Bohdan [Bodgan] of Kolomyya in modern Ukraine, part of the Kingdom of Poland in the early 1600s. Polish American Heritage Month began in Philadelphia in 1981 and is celebrated in October to coordinate with General Pulaski Memorial Day on October 11.

On October 6, 1683, thirteen Mennonite families left the overpopulated town of Krefeld and crossed the Atlantic to found Germantown, Pennsylvania. This date continues to be remembered with German American Heritage Day. It was started in 1983 by President Ronald Reagan to celebrate the 300th anniversary of German American immigration and culture to the United States. Since 1990 October 3 is celebrated as the Day of German Unity.

Italians and Italian Americans are the fifth largest ethnic group in the United States. Set in October to coincide with the October 11th Columbus Day holiday, each year the president issues an executive order designating October as Italian American Heritage and Culture month to acknowledge the contributions of Italian Americans to our country.

The following is a selected list of books and websites that will help you learn more about German, Italian and Polish American history and ancestry. All books are available at the Norfolk Public Library, and the websites may be viewed online at any of the public computer stations located in the library.

2013 GIPHM Bibliography

Nonfiction

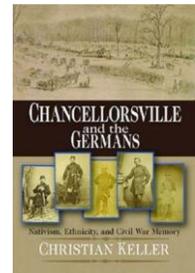
The following list is selected nonfiction to provide important insight to the history of German, Italian, and Polish American heritage and culture.

Casimir Pulaski: Cavalry Commander of the American Revolution

(Francis Casimir Kajencki) A biography of the founder of the American Cavalry.

Chancellorsville and the Germans : Nativism, Ethnicity, and Civil War Memory

(Christian B. Keller) Drawing for the first time on German-language newspapers, soldiers' letters, memoirs, and regimental records, Christian Keller reconstructs the battle and its aftermath from the German-American perspective, military and civilian. He offers a fascinating window into a misunderstood past, one where the German soldiers' valor has been either minimized or dismissed.

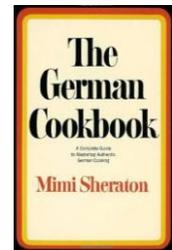


Finding Italian Roots: The Complete Guide for Americans

(John Philip Colletta) Genealogical handbook.

The German Cookbook: A Complete Guide to Mastering Authentic German Cooking

(Mimi Sheraton) In this classic cookbook, Sheraton includes easy to follow and authentic German recipes for the American kitchen.



A History of the Polish Americans

(John J. Bukowczyk) Following a chronological format, Bukowczyk explains the historical reasons that led Polish people to come to America, the experience of the first wave of immigrants, the identity problem of second-generation Poles, and the kind of organizations and institutions that Polonia established in America.

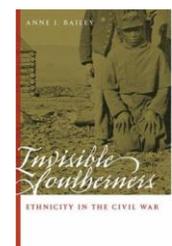


In Search of Your German Roots: A Complete Guide to Tracing Your Ancestors in the Germanic Areas of Europe

(Angus Baxter) Genealogical handbook.

Invisible Southerners : Ethnicity in the Civil War

(Anne J. Bailey) Most Southerners who fought in the Civil War were native born, white, and Confederate. However, thousands with other ethnic backgrounds also took a stand--and not always for the South. *Invisible Southerners* recounts the wartime experiences of the region's German Americans, Native Americans, and African Americans.



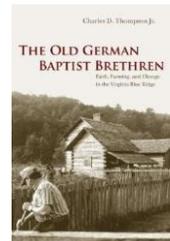
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Italian-American Family History: A Guide to Researching and Writing About Your Heritage
(Sharon DeBartolo Carmack) Genealogical handbook.

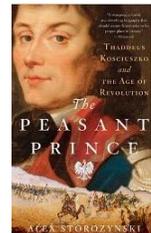
Korzenie Polskie = Polish Roots
(Rosemary A. Chorzempa) Genealogical handbook.

My Name Is Million: An Illustrated History of the Poles in America
(W. S Kuniczak) Chronicles the arrivals of Poles in America beginning with the settlers of Jamestown.

The Old German Baptist Brethren: Faith, Farming, and Change in the Virginia Blue Ridge
(Charles D. Thompson, Jr.) Thompson combines oral history with ethnography and archival research--as well as his own family ties to the Franklin County community--to tell the story of the Brethren's faith on the cusp of impending change, how individuals interpret their own futures in farming, their hope for their faith, and how the failure of religiously motivated agriculture figures in the larger story of the American farmer.



The Peasant Prince: Thaddeus Kosciuszko and the Age of Revolution
(Alex Storozyński) From Pulitzer Prize-winning author comes an extensive tribute of the man who was a leading hero of the American Revolution. Storozyński ties together Kosciuszko's accomplishments in America and his fight for the civil rights of serfs and Jews in his Polish homeland.

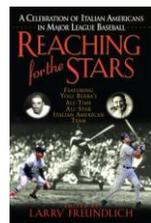


3

Polish Classic Recipes
(Laura Zeranski) In this concise cookbook, Zeranski shares many favorite Polish recipes along with notes on Polish customs and history.

Polish Family Research
(J. Konrad) Genealogical handbook.

Reaching for the Stars: A Celebration of Italian Americans in Major League Baseball
(Larry Freundlich, ed.) This glowing tribute features an all-star line-up of contributors from George Vescey to Wilfrid Sheed, along with complete stats for every Italian American player.



Schlegel's American Families of German ancestry in the United States: Genealogical and Biographical, Illustrated
(Carl Wilhelm Schegel) Originally published: New York by The American Historical Society, 1918-1926 and includes an index.

Using Civilian Records for Genealogical Research in the National Archives, Washington, DC, Area

(U.S. National Archives and Records Administration) Genealogical handbook.

Fiction

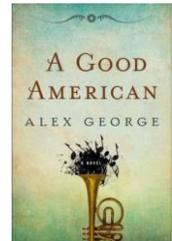
The following selected fiction includes titles by award winning authors, recent best sellers, novels that are acclaimed, or titles that provide important insight into the history of German, Italian, and Polish American heritage and culture.

The End

(*Salvatore Scibona*) *The End* follows an elderly abortionist, an enigmatic drapery seamstress, a teenage boy, a jeweler—dramatically into the heart of a crime that will twist all their lives. Against a background of immigration, broken loyalties, and racial hostility, we at last return to August 15, 1953, and see everything Rocco saw—and vastly more—through the eyes of various characters in the crowds.

A Good American

(*Alex George*) It is 1904. When Frederick and Jette must flee her disapproving mother, where better to go than America, the land of the new? The Meisenheimer family struggles to find their place among the colorful residents of their new American hometown, including a giant teenage boy, a pretty schoolteacher whose lessons consist of more than music, and a spiteful, bicycle-riding dwarf.



4

Half-Blood Blues: A Novel

(*Esi Edugyan*) Short-listed for both the Booker Prize and Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction Edugyan's novel chronicles the story of a popular German American jazz band The Hot Time Swingers and their trumpet player Hieronymous Falk who is both German and black. In Hitler's Germany, Falk faces increasing danger when a ban is placed on jazz music.



Lovelier Than Daylight: A Novel

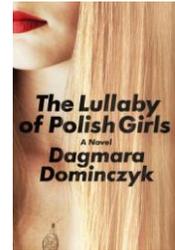
(*Rosslyn Elliott*) Johann Giere is heir to a thriving German-American brewery in Columbus. He doesn't expect to meet Susanna, a pretty temperance crusader who wins his sympathy. This third book in the Saddler's Legacy series is a story of love and faith based on the Westerville Whiskey War of 1875, a dramatic real historical event featured in the 2011 documentary "Prohibition" by Ken Burns.



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The Lullaby of Polish Girls: A Novel

(Dagmara Dominczyk) A vibrant, engaging debut novel that follows the friendship of three women from their youthful days in a small town in Poland to their complicated, not-quite-successful adult lives. Moving to the U.S. as a child, misfit Anna visits her grandmother in her native Poland at the age of twelve and forges an intense friendship with two girls with whom she shares adventures that she scrutinizes years later in the aftermath of a scandalous murder.



North of the Port: Stories

(Anthony Bukoski) A collection of 12 stories drawn from the experience of post-World War II Polish refugees in the U.S.

The Shoemaker's Wife: A Novel

(Adriana Trigiani) Two star-crossed lovers--Enzo and Ciro--meet and separate, until, finally, the power of their love changes both of their lives forever. Set during the years preceding and during World War I. Lush and evocative, told in tantalizing detail and enriched with lovable, unforgettable characters, *The Shoemaker's Wife* is a portrait of the times, the places and the people who defined the immigrant experience, claiming their portion of the American dream with ambition and resolve.



Very Valentine: A Novel

(Adriana Trigiani) Valentine Roncalli struggles to save her decades-old family business, one of the last family-owned businesses in Greenwich Village, finding love and the life she wants along the way.

What Remains

(Nicholas Delbanco) Delbanco offers a richly textured portrait of a German Jewish family with artistic and intellectual inclinations. The story encompasses several generations as the family travels through London and the United States.

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Young Adult

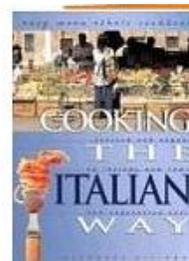
The following selected titles are to inform young adults about German, Italian, and Polish American heritage and culture.

Cooking the German Way

(Helga Parnell) An introduction to the cooking of Germany featuring such traditional recipes as spaetzle, hot potato salad, Black Forest torte, and marzipan. Also includes information on the history, geography, customs and people of this European country.

Cooking the Italian Way

(Alphonse Bisignano) Seasoned with vibrant, color photographs and easy, step-by-step directions, many of the recipes are low in fat and call for ingredients you may already have at home. Also included are new vegetarian recipes, complete menu suggestions, and an expanded cultural section highlighting each country or region's people, customs, holidays and of course, food.



Cooking the Polish Way

(Danuta Zamojska-Hutchins) Introduces the land, culture, and cuisine of Poland and includes recipes for soups, salads, main dishes, and side dishes. Includes material on healthy, low-fat, vegetarian cooking, and holidays and festivals.

The German Americans

(Anne Galicich) Discusses the history, culture, and religion of the Germans, factors encouraging their emigration, and their acceptance as the United States' largest ethnic group.

The Italian Americans

(J. Philip di Franco) An in-depth portrait of the history and culture of Italian immigrants and their contributions to America.

Jersey Angel

(Beth Ann Bauman) It's the summer before senior year and the alluring Angel is ready to have fun. She's not like her best friend, Inggy, who has a steady boyfriend, good grades, and college plans. Angel isn't sure what she wants to do yet, but she has confidence and experience beyond her years. Still, her summer doesn't start out as planned. Her sometime boyfriend Joey doesn't want to fool around anymore, he wants to be her boyfriend, while Angel doesn't want to be tied down. As Joey pulls away, and Inggy tours colleges, Angel finds herself spending more time with Inggy's boyfriend, Cork.



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Parallel Journeys

(Eleanor H. Ayer with Helen Waterford and Alfons Heck) When Alfons and Helen met in the US 40 years after the war, they found that they shared a common purpose: to help young people understand that peace and compassion are possible between individuals who had very different lives in Nazi Germany and on a larger scale as well.

The Polish Americans

(Sean Dolan) Discusses the history, culture, and religion of the Polish, factors encouraging their emigration, and their acceptance as an ethnic group in North America.

Juvenile

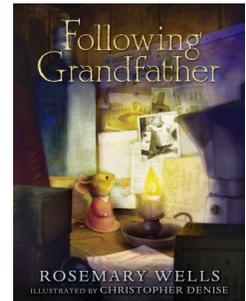
The following selected titles are to inform young people about German, Italian, and Polish American Heritage and culture.

The Christmas Spider: A Puppet Play from Poland & Other Traditional Games, Crafts and Activities

(Loretta Holz) Step-by-step illustrated directions on how to make traditional Polish crafts such as painted eggs and paper cutting.

Following Grandfather

(Rosemary Wells; Christopher Denise, ill.) Jenny is as close to her grandfather as a small mouse can be. Grandfather shows Jenny how to button her buttons and how to write her name. He passes along to her the secrets of making the best lasagna in all of Boston. When Grandfather is all of a sudden gone one day, the hole he leaves behind is too great for Jenny to fathom. Rosemary Wells peels back the layers of grief to reveal, at its core, something as exquisite and achingly beautiful as the rare and storied queen's teacup seashell.



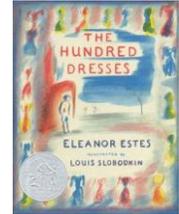
The German Americans

(Anne Galicich and Sandra Stotsky, eds) Discusses the history, culture, and religion of the Germans, factors encouraging their emigration, and their acceptance as the United States' largest ethnic group.

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The Hundred Dresses

(*Eleanor Estes; Louis Slobodkin, ill.*) In this classic, Wanda Petronski, a Polish girl in a Connecticut school who is ridiculed by her classmates for wearing the same faded blue dress every day. Wanda claims she has one hundred dresses at home, but everyone knows she doesn't and bullies her mercilessly. The class feels terrible when Wanda is pulled out of the school, but by that time it's too late for apologies. Maddie, one of Wanda's classmates, ultimately decides that she is "never going to stand by and say nothing again."



Italian Americans

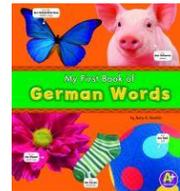
(*Carolyn Kott Washburne*) Like other books on the immigrant experience, these titles begin with a description of a group's homeland, why people left, and their reception in the U.S. The authors then go on to Italian American cultural values as related to family, community, and religion and celebrations. Customs pertaining to food, clothing, language, music, etc. are also described.

Italian Picture Dictionary

(*Illustrated by Chris Demarest*) Developed by a team of language experts and educators, these fun dictionaries for children ages four to nine are a goldmine of more than 1,000 colorfully illustrated words.

My First Book of German Words

(*Katy R. Kudela*) Simple text paired with themed photos invite the young reader to learn German vocabulary.



Polish Americans

(*Al Gabor*) Cultures of America series covering customs, celebrations and community.

Rodzina

(*Karen Cushman*) In 1881 young Polish orphan, Rodzina Clara Jadwiga Anastazyja Brodski boards an orphan train bound for the west coast from Chicago after all of her family tragically dies. Rodzina entertains the other young orphans with tales of her Polish heritage. Poignant story of family loss peppered with humor.



Twice a Hero: Polish American Heroes of the American Revolution: Thaddeus Kościuszko and Casimir Pulaski

(*Dirk Wales*) The stories of Thaddeus Kosciuszko and Casimir Pulaski (founder of the American Calvary), Polish American heroes of the American Revolution.



Where Does Pepper Come From?

(*Brigitte Raab*) German wit and humor translated from German into English provides seven questions with first a silly answer and then the scientific one.

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Databases

Databases are subscription resources that contain reliable, timely, and authoritative online sources of information. Links to these are found on the Library's Webpage at www.npl.lib.va.us under "Research" and then "Databases." Use your Norfolk Public Library card number for access to these resources:

Biography In Context

Full text articles drawn from hundreds of periodicals and books that provide biographical information from ancient days to the present.

Encyclopedia of World Biography

A multicultural biographical electronic book that covers notable individuals from every part of the world and from all time periods who have made significant contributions to human culture.

World Book Online

Containing every article from the 22-volume printed set plus thousands more, this database has multimedia maps, videos, and articles including contributions of Italian, German and Polish Americans to world history.

Websites

German American Cultural Foundation of the USA

www.ugac.org/

German Heritage and Genealogy

www.daddezio.com/germgen.html

Italian Heritage and Genealogy

www.daddezio.com/

National Italian American Foundation

www.niaf.org/milestones/index.asp

Polish American Cultural Center

www.polishamericancenter.org/index.html

Polish Cultural Website

www.polishsite.us/