



Deutsche Zeitung

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November 2023

of the German-American Society of Central New York

Officers

David A. Gunter, *President* Bob Kraus, *Vice President*
 Jim Heckathorne, *Treasurer*
 Sally Frenza, *Secretary*
 Nadja Allmann, *Financial Secretary*

Board of Directors

2 yrs: Austin Westphal, Susan Foster,
 Frank Heine, Tina Higgins, Bill Nurk
1 yr: Eric Gang, Helen Kline, Robert Kline,
 Brigitte Niebuhr, Derrick Pratt

President's Report

Thanks to everyone who volunteered and attended the October 14 **Oktoberfest** at Freight Yard Brewing in Clay. It was a lot of fun and helped raise funds to support our Scholarship Program.

Please plan to attend the November 16 **Monthly Membership Meeting** at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners for information on the upcoming **Christmas Party**. We will also have refreshments after the Monthly Meeting, giving everyone an opportunity to enjoy the company of their fellow members.

We always welcome any suggestions that you may have for future activities, fundraising ideas, or Monthly Meeting presentations.

If you need anything that I can help you with, please feel free to contact me at 315-289-8145. The German American Society of CNY is here to support its members.

I hope to see everyone at the November 16 Monthly Membership Meeting!

DAVID A. GUNTER, *President*

Vice President's Report

We continue to work on increasing our membership. So please continue to get those applications coming in!

Thank you for helping to increase our membership! See you all at the November 16 **Monthly Meeting**.

If you have any questions or ideas, please contact me at chk1205@centurylink.net.

BOB KRAUS, *Vice President*

Treasurer's Report

Thank you to everyone who helped out and attended the recent **Oktoberfest** at Freight Yard Brewing. This event helped raise awareness of and funds for our **Scholarship Program**.

As always, feel free to offer suggestions for future events or ask questions about our club finances at our Monthly Meetings, or by email at cnygermansociety@gmail.com.

Please plan to attend the November 16 **Monthly Membership Meeting** for a full report on our financial status.

Thank you.

JAMES HECKATHORNE, *Treasurer*

Financial Secretary's Report

Thank you to everyone who helped with this year's **Oktoberfest!** It was a successful event and everyone I talked to was having a wonderful time! We look forward to making it even better next year. Freight Yard Brewing has also asked us to join in their **Christmas Market** the first weekend in December—Saturday the 2nd and Sunday the 3rd. We will be working on coordinating our participation. If you have interest in being part of this discussion and event please let me know. We will share more

information about the Christmas Market on our Facebook page as we receive it.

We currently have 154 members and 1 new-member application to present at November's meeting: **Jennifer Nurk**, proposed by **Sheri and Bill Nurk**. Please continue to encourage your circles to join the society! The strength of our society depends on the participation of all our members, so we hope to see everyone at upcoming meetings and events!

I would like to start reminders for 2024 membership dues. If you are planning to be away for the winter months please consider submitting your dues payment before you depart. Membership dues are \$25 for an individual and \$40 for a household couple. Payment can be submitted by mail, at upcoming meetings/events, or electronically upon request. Please email cnygermansociety@gmail.com with questions or to make arrangements for dues payment.

If you have anyone to propose for membership, have the person complete a membership application and forward it along with the \$25 payment for a single membership or \$40 for a household couple to The German American Society of CNY PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548 or by email to cnygermansociety@gmail.com. Applications can be obtained at any meeting or event, on our website at www.germanamericanscny.com, or by email. Checks should be made out to The German American Society of CNY.

Thanks.

NADJA E. ALLMANN, *Financial Secretary*

House Committee

Our annual **Christmas Party** has been scheduled for Sunday, December 10, from 1 to 6 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners,

CLUB MEETINGS

Please note that the December Board and Monthly Membership Meetings are the 2nd Thursday. This only happens in December due to the closeness of Christmas.

- | | |
|--------|---|
| Nov 16 | Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6
Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7
Election Night |
| Dez 14 | Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6
Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7 |
| Jan 18 | Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6
Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7
Installation of Officers and Board Members |

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Dez 2 & 3 | Christmas Market at Freight Yard, Rte. 31, Clay |
| Dez 10 | Christmas Party, 1-6, Syracuse Turners |

619 North Salina Street, Syracuse. There will be a social hour from 1 to 2 to give everyone a chance to get there, find a seat, spend a little time with friends, and have a couple of snacks before dinner. There are adult beverages for sale in the bar. We are planning a pork dinner for 2 P.M. **The Syracuse Oktoberfest Band** will be playing for your listening and dancing pleasure from 2 to 6. So dust off your dancing shoes and let's see those feet out there on the dance floor! **The Edelweiss Schuhplattlers** from Utica will be entertaining with a few dances on one of the band breaks.

The cost for the pork dinner with all the fixings is \$20 for members of the German American Society and \$25 for non-members. There is no charge for children up to age 16. Reservations are requested by December 2 with a check made out to the German American Society. Reservations and checks need to be sent to Sally Frenza, 4 Commodore Circle, Baldwinsville, NY 13027-2105.

Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive with gifts for the children up to age 12 who are children, grandchildren, nieces, or nephews of German American Society members. Please call or text Brigitte Niebuhr at 315-956-9270 with the names, relationship, and ages of the children who will be attending the party as well as what they like by November 21 to allow Santa's elves ample time to get the gifts together and wrapped.

We will also be having our traditional auction. So if you are able, please bring something to be auctioned off. In the past members have brought things like beer steins, household items, knick-knacks, baked goods, bottles of wine—just all kinds of things. It's always fun and a good way to offset some of the cost of the party.

If you have any questions about the Christmas Party, please come to the November 16 Monthly Membership Meeting at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners or call or text Sally at 315-345-6253.

If you would like to be on the House Committee, please let us know at the November 16 Monthly Membership Meeting. Or if you would like more information about being on the committee, or would like to volunteer at our events, just give a call or text to Sally at the above number. We can use your help and suggestions. Thank you.

SALLY FRENZA & BRIGITTE NIEBUHR, *House Committee*

Sunshine Lady

A sympathy card was sent to **Richard Pfaff** on the passing of his father, **Henry Pfaff**. In the past Henry was a very active member of the German American Society, serving as a Board Member and President. He and his wife **Mary** were also on the Scholarship Committee from the first year and for many more. Henry and Mary were long-time Oktoberfest volunteers as well as supporters of all club events. Our sincere condolences go to Richard and the rest of the Pfaff family and Henry's many friends. As requested, in lieu of flowers, a donation has been sent to Francis House.

On a happy note, birthday wishes are sent to **Brigitte Niebuhr** on her 90th birthday. Happy birthday and many more!

Just a reminder: Please report any illnesses, deaths, monumental birthdays, anniversaries, etc., to me at 315-468-4541. Thank you.

MARGARETHA MICH0, *Sunshine Lady*

Our Scholarship Program

I am once again reminding everyone about our wonderful Scholarship Program that will be entering its 22nd year in 2024! We typically not only provide scholarships, but a wonderful, fun-filled evening for not just the Scholarship recipients, but all students of German and their teachers at no cost to them. Guests,

CHRISTMAS PARTY!

of the German-American Society of CNY

December 10
from 1 to 6 P.M.
at the
Syracuse Turners Club

\$20 for members
\$25 for non-members

Children under 16 free

Entertainment by
The Syracuse Oktoberfest Band

Enjoy a delicious roast pork dinner.
Adult beverages for purchase at the bar.

If possible, please bring
an item for the raffle.

Checks and RSVP by December 4 to

Sally Frenza
4 Commodore Circle
Baldwinsville, NY 13027-2105

For more info, call/text
Sally at 315-345-6253

families, and German American Society members who attend pay a small fee.

As I have mentioned in the past, to continue to administer our Scholarship Program is a costly undertaking for the German American Society. The **Oktoberfest** held on October 14 helped to raise funds to support the Scholarship Program. However, our Scholarship Program could also use your financial support. If you would like to make a donation, please send a check or money order to: The German American Society of CNY, PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548 with a notation that it is for the Scholarship Program. Any amount would be helpful. Since we are a 501(c)3 not-for-profit, donations are tax deductible. If you would like to know more about the Scholarship Program and how you can help, please call or text me at 315-345-6253 or email me at sallyzf@aol.com. I look forward to the opportunity to answer any questions you may have.

Good news! Most of the German clothing was sold at the Oktoberfest. All I have left is the adorable size 3 girl's dress, as well as a couple of ladies' blouses. The German-American flag pins are available at our meetings and events for \$3. If you're interested in purchasing any of these items, please just call or text me at the above number. All proceeds from the sale of these items goes to help fund our Scholarship Program. Thank you for your support!

SALLY FRENZA, *Scholarship Chair*

Oktoberfest Road Signs

Just a reminder to anyone who put the Oktoberfest road signs along roads in the community, if you have not yet returned the retrieved signs to **Jackie Schneider-Rivette**, please bring them to the November 16 Monthly Membership Meeting. Thank you.

Reminder About Election Night

At the October 19 **Monthly Membership Meeting** the following slate was presented by Nomination Chair **Willi Rohrbach**, for the November election.

Board of Directors (2-Year Terms): Eric Gang, Mark Gondeck, Jackie Schneider-Rivette, Willi Rohrbach, and Brigitte Niebuhr.

Officers: *President*—Dave Gunter, *Vice President*—Bob Kraus, *Treasurer*—Jim Heckathorne, *Secretary*—Sally Frenza, and *Financial Secretary*—Nadja Allmann.

Even though all candidates are running unopposed a vote will still need to be taken. No further nominations can be made from the floor at the November Meeting unless one of the nominated Board Members or Officers decides not to run.

From the Editor

November is upon us, which provides an opportunity to thank our armed forces members both past and present for helping to maintain peace in our unsettled world. Please take advantage of Veteran's Day, November 11, to say Thank You to a vet. Actually, any time you see a vet is a good time to say thanks. You don't need to wait for a special day.

Thanksgiving is the time for us to reflect on the many positive things that have happened over the past year and to count our blessings. One thing we should all be thankful for is the opportunity to celebrate Thanksgiving with our friends and family. At many family gatherings, before the blessing is said, each person at the table, including the children, tell one thing that happened over the past year that they are thankful for. It really puts a positive spin on the day, and makes us all think about our many blessings.

Here are some excerpts from past writeups on how Thanksgiving is celebrated in Germany.

Thanksgiving in German Europe is different in many ways from that in America. First of all, the Germanic *Erntedankfest* (harvest festival of thanks) is primarily a rural and a religious celebration.

When it is celebrated in larger cities, it is usually part of a church service. Although it is celebrated locally and regionally, none of the German-speaking countries observes an official national Thanksgiving holiday on a particular day as in the U.S. However, during harvest time visitors to German churches will find a plethora of fruits, vegetables, sheaves of grain, and also baked goods, as decorations around the altars.

Now a little about a children's procession before November 11, which is *Sankt Martinstag*. Leading up to this day children can be seen walking in procession carrying candlelit lanterns behind *Sankt Martin* in his Roman uniform riding *Shimmel*, a white horse. Children of all ages sing songs that celebrate the life of Martin of Tours. Long before the lanterns go out, the final verse of one of the most popular songs rings through the German streets:

*Ich geh' mit meine Laterne,
Und meine Laterne mit mir.
Dort oben leuchten die Sterne,
Hier unten, da leuchten wir.
Mein Licht is aus,
Wir geh' nach Haus,
Rabimmel, rabimmel, rabum.*

The procession often ends up at a huge bonfire, with a snack of a *St. Martin Weckman*, a sweet yeast dough "breadman" with raisin eyes and a clay pipe, with hot chocolate for the children and heated mulled wine for the "older" children. Afterwards, some of the children will go singing door to door to be rewarded for the originality of their lanterns as well as their singing, with such treats as fruit, nuts, and other treats.

Have a wonderful and blessed Thanksgiving, and think about all we have to be thankful for! Just a thought: if you know of someone who may be spending this day alone, why not extend an invitation for the person to join you and your family or friends? It may make them also have a happy and blessed Thanksgiving.

Remember, if you have a German, Swiss, or Austrian holiday, tradition, or anything German, Swiss, or Austrian that you would like me to write about, or if you have an article, recipe, or poem you would like to see in print, please let me know.

SALLY FRENZA, *Editor*

It's easy to get your name in print in the *Zeitung*. All you need to do is send in a \$20 check made out to the German American Society of CNY to the Attention of the Editor at The German American Society of CNY, PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548. If you would like your patron ad to be in honor of or memory of someone, please note that. Also, please note Patron on the message line of your check. For current Patrons, thank you for your continued support.

For anyone who takes out and pays for a new business or patron ad after Oktober 1, the ad will run through December 31, 2024.

Please contact the Editor at 315-345-6253 or email at sallyzf@aol.com if you have any questions about advertising in the *Zeitung* or becoming a Patron. Thank you.

PATRONS

Bruce Barnes Henry Beck *in Memory of Virginia Bechteler* Jack Bligh *in Memory of Helga Bligh Cheryle & Michael Bockheim in Memory of Joseph Bockheim & Joseph & Katherine Evertz-Dillmann In Memory of Eric Doell* Sally Frenza Holly & Bob Gang *in Memory of Jack Gang* Dave Gunter Tina L. Higgins Udo John Fritz Kucinski John LaLande *in Memory of My Oma, Ursala Müller* Eric Lorenz Robert Oberst Barbara Omicinski Nicholas Pirro Willi Rohrbach *In Memory of Richard Schoeck*

Members and Friends

Call the Turners at 315-471-9851 to get details on their Friday-might dinners and special events. You can also get information on how to join their great organization.

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Contact the *Zeitung*!

Mail: Sally Frenza, 4 Commodore Cir., Baldwinsville, NY 13027

Phone: 315-345-6253 E-mail: sallyzf@aol.com

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