



Deutsche Zeitung

of the German-American Society of Central New York

www.germanamericanscnyc.com

Dezember 2013

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Henry Pfaff, *President* Klaus Raith, *Vice President*
James Kozlowski, *Treasurer*
Erika Carneim, *Secretary*
Mickey Palumbo, *Financial Secretary*

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Kenneth Blechl Anna Bultjer
Robert Kline Rita Knapp Brigitte Niebuhr
Bill Nurk John Ott Pat Palumbo
June Pardue Richard Schoeck

Klaus Raith, *Honorary President*

President's Report

Happy Holidays to all of our members and families! Your hard work was appreciated very much throughout the year—especially at the Oktoberfest.

I will be stepping down as President of the German-American Society at the end of 2013, but will remain active in the Club functions, as well on the Board of Directors.

Please welcome **Willi Kreuzer** as your new President.

REMINDER—NO BOARD MEETING OR GENERAL MEETING IN DECEMBER.

January 16, 2014, is our **Annual General Meeting and Installation of Officers and Board Members**. There will also be the presentation of an Amendment to our Constitution and By-Laws which needs to be voted on by the Membership. (Please see the information on this further on in this *Zeitung*). This meeting is very important so please try to attend.

Our German American Society **Family Christmas Party** will be Sunday, December 8, from 2–6 at the Liverpool Fire Hall. Details follow in this *Zeitung*. See you there!

HEINRICH PFAFF, *President*

Vice President's Report

The Oktoberfest Committee had a great wrap-up meeting on November 19. We reviewed the great things that happened at the 2013 Oktoberfest and also discussed ways to improve things in 2014. The biggest change that was discussed was that we need to have a two-day festival. And I'm pleased to report that this will happen in 2014. Through discussion with the Onondaga Parks Department, I was able to secure August 16 & 17 for the Great Syracuse Oktoberfest at Long Branch Park!

Now that the dates are set, I have also started to look around and make calls for next year's bands.

We will not be holding another Oktoberfest Committee Meeting until probably March 2014, so if you have any ideas or would like to serve on the Committee, please contact me at 675-8321.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! See you at the Christmas Party December 8.

KLAUS RAITH, *Vice President and Oktoberfest Chair*

Treasurer's Report

For a complete report on our financial situation, please attend the November Monthly Meeting on January 16 at 7 P.M. at the Turners.

JIM KOZLOWSKI, *Treasurer*

Financial Secretary's Report

At the November Monthly Meeting we had three new members accepted into the German American Society: **Bruce Barnes & Joyce** and **William Ciancola**, all from the Baldwinsville area. Welcome to these new members!

We also had three new-member applications: **Dave Gunter** of Syracuse, **Tina Higgins** of Syracuse, and **James Heckathorne** of Baldwinsville. With the acceptance of the three newest applications, we will have 199 members.

I will be retiring from the position of Financial Secretary effective December 31, but will still be very involved with our organization. I would like to thank all of you who have helped, put up with, and accepted both me and my wife Pat as friends.

The Financial Secretary position will be taken over by a very competent young lady by the name of **June Pardue**, who was voted in at our November Monthly Meeting. Please support her as you did me in the past.

Please send all future dues and applications to: The German American Society, % June Pardue, 692 Idlewood Blvd., Baldwinsville, NY 13027

See you at the January meeting (no December meeting) and hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you.

MICKEY PALUMBO, *Financial Secretary*

Sunshine Lady

Fortunately, this month there were no sympathy cards sent out. I want to report that **Helen Allman** continues on our disabled list. Also, **Anna Butjer** is scheduled for knee surgery.

Please contact me at 468-4541 to report any illnesses, surgeries, deaths, monumental birthdays, or other events that are deserving of a card.

MARGARETHA MICHU, *Sunshine Lady*

CLUB MEETINGS

Jan 16 Board Meeting, Turners, 6
 General Meeting and Installation
 of Officers, Turners, 7

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dez 8 Christmas Party, Liverpool Fire Hall, 2–6
Apr 28 German Student Scholarship Night

From the House Committee

Our Christmas Party is on December 8 from 2–6 at the Liverpool Fire Hall. Admission for adults is \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door. Children ages 10–18 are \$9 in advance or \$11 at the door. Children under age 10 get in free. *RESERVATIONS ARE A MUST!*

The menu will be pork, veggies, salads, potatoes, yams, coffee, and tea. Wine, beer, soda, and bottled water will be available for a nominal amount. Please, if you can help out by making a dessert, it would be greatly appreciated.

We are open to the public, as long as they make a reservation. So, bring your friends and family for a fun afternoon. Reservations need to be made by Friday, December 6. No cash, please. Checks or money orders only made out to The German American Society of CNY. Send reservations and checks to Brigitte Niebuhr, 319 W. Ostrander Ave., Syracuse, NY 13205.

We plan to have our annual auction, so if you are able, please bring something to auction off such as baked goods, Christmas wreaths, or whatever you would like to donate. The auction is always a lot of laughs and raises some money to help offset the cost of the evening.

The Enzian Bavarian Quartet will be playing for your listening and dancing pleasure. So bring those dancing shoes. Also, please give me the names and ages of any children from babies to 12 years old as I am planning something a little special for our younger generation.

Please contact me at: cell—315-491-2573; home—315-469-5304; or e-mail—omib21@aol.com with any questions.

Thank you and I hope to see you at the Christmas Party!

BRIGITTE NIEBUHR, *House Committee Chair*

Election Results

The following Officers and Board Members were voted in at the November Monthly Meeting:

President—Willi Kreuzer

Vice President—Klaus Raith

Treasurer—Jim Kozlowski

Secretary—Erika Carneim

Financial Secretary—June Pardue

Board Members: Henry Pfaff, Bob Kline, Brigitte

Niebuhr, Richard Pfaff, and John Ott

Thank you to all who ran for office, and all the members who turned out to vote. Installation of new officers will take place at the General Meeting on January 16.

Proposed Amendment to the Constitution and By-Laws

Below is the proposed Amendment to the Constitution and By-Laws of the German American Society of CNY. This amendment has already been proposed and agreed to by the Board of Directors, but a vote of the membership at the January 16 General Meeting to be held at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners is needed:

It is proposed that all annual dues be paid by January 31 of the membership year. If the dues are not paid by that date, an invoice will be sent by the Membership Committee reminding any unpaid member that his/her membership dues are past due, and that the dues must be paid by March 15 in order to remain a member in good standing. After March 15, any member who has not paid his/her dues will be automati-

cally dropped from membership without further notice. If any prior member wants to rejoin The German American Society of CNY, he/she must come in as a new member.

Scholarship Committee

Iam happy to report that our member **Dick Schoeck** has graciously agreed to continue to fund the three \$1,000 scholarships. A huge **Thank You, Dick!** These scholarships mean so much to the program and our wonderful students of German.

Also, there is a scholarship fund that has been started in memory of our member **Herb Bauerle**, who passed away this year. If you would like to donate to this scholarship, please send your donation to the German American Society of CNY, PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548. Please note on your check that it is for the Herb Bauerle scholarship.

Our next **Scholarship Night** is scheduled for April 28, 2014, so mark your calendar. If you have never attended Scholarship Night, why not plan to attend in 2014? It is a lot of fun and a great way to honor these wonderful students and their teachers.

If you would like additional information on the scholarships that we award each year, please give me a call.

SALLY FRENZA, *Scholarship Chair*

Holiday Extravaganza at Long Branch Elementary School

The German American Society has once again been invited to participate in the Holiday Extravaganza at Long Branch Elementary School. The event will be on Friday, December 13, from 9 A.M. to approximately 3 P.M. It's a great opportunity to tell the students about some German traditions and to have them participate in singing Christmas songs in German. Klaus Raith has always brought his zither and the students really enjoy watching him play and taking a look at an instrument they may never have heard of or seen before.

So far this year, Klaus, **Gracie Schell**, and I have volunteered to attend, but please feel free to help us out. The day starts with coffee and bagels at around 9:00. The first student segment is at 9:30 and continues for the length of the school day. Each segment is about 20 minutes long and includes students from K–6, each at his or her own individual time. Lunch is provided by the school.

If you are interested in participating in this fun day, or would just like more info, please contact me at 345-6253 or by e-mail at sallyzf@aol.com.

SALLY FRENZA

Goethe and Schiller Monument

It is hard to think about it, but Christmas is not that far off. Why not buy a brick or two or three at the Goethe and Schiller Monument? What a great Christmas gift for a loved one or organization! A single brick is \$50, 2 bricks are \$75, and 3 bricks are \$100, with each additional brick being \$30. Please call me at 451-1848 for further details or to get a form. Forms can also be obtained at any German American Society event.

As you may recall, bricks have been sold to help offset the cost of the Goethe and Schiller Monument Restoration Project that was a joint venture between the German American Society and the City of Syracuse a few years ago.

Thank you to everyone who has supported this project by helping to maintain the monument grounds, and to everyone

who has purchased bricks. If you would like more information or are interested in purchasing bricks, please contact me at 451-1848.

Have a Wonderful Holiday Season!

BOB DOMACHOWSKI, *Goethe and Schiller Monument Chair*

From the Editor

It's the most wonderful time of the year," as a famous Christmas song goes. The Christmas shows on TV and carols on the radio started even before Thanksgiving was here. Black Friday (and now Black Thursday, too! Can you believe some stores are opening on Thanksgiving evening and not closing until midnight on Black Friday!?) has passed and we are all now up to our elbows in thinking about what to do, what to buy, where to go, what to prepare for Christmas dinner, what cookies to bake, and all the other stressors that we feel this time of year. But it is also a great time of year; we get together with friends we may not see often, spend time with our families creating new memories and discussing Christmases that have passed and the people who were there, sharing laughs and sometimes shedding a few tears for those we miss. We have cards to write and send either by snail or e-mail, or on Facebook and all the other new means of communication, to let people know we're thinking about them and wish them holiday greetings.

This is also a time of year to reflect on what Christmas really means and why we celebrate. Sometimes it feels like the real reason for the season is lost in the flurry of shopping, baking, and cooking in preparation for the big day. So, as we prepare to celebrate, let's take a few moments to reflect on what this event that we prepare for weeks ahead of time means, and what we are really celebrating. Let's remember that it's a baby's birth in Bethlehem, the birth of the Messiah.

Now another Christmas tradition that that we all have that reportedly originated in Germany, the candy cane: According to information I found online, the popular account is that in 1672, in Cologne, Germany, the choirmaster at Cologne Cathedral, wishing to silence the noisy children in his church during the Living Crèche (Nativity Scene) tradition on Christmas Eve, asked a local candy maker for some sweet sticks for the children. In order to justify the practice of giving candy to children during worship services, he asked the candy maker to add a crook to the top of each stick, which would help the children remember the shepherds who visited the infant Jesus. He also used the white

color of the candy canes to teach children about the Christian belief in the sinless life of Jesus.

From Germany, the candy canes spread to other parts of Europe and eventually to us here in the States. What would Christmas be without candy canes? Next time you hand one out, think about the origin and the meaning behind that candy stick with the crook at the end.

Whatever your beliefs or background, take the time to celebrate with family and friends, and start by attending the **German American Christmas Party** on December 8.

Frohe Weihnachten und ein glückliches neues Jahr!

Have a topic you would like me to write about? Or do you have an article you have written and would like to see in print? Just let me know. My contact information is on page 3.

SALLY FRENZA, *Editor*

Members and Friends

Syracuse Turners

The Syracuse Turners, 619 North Salina Street, serves dinners on Friday evenings from 5:30-8:00. They have weekly specials, plus a regular menu, and a drink special to coordinate with the Friday Night dinner special. Why not come down, enjoy dinner and support our Turner friends? If you have any questions, please contact the Turners at 471-9851.

Syracuse Liederverein Chorus

The Syracuse Liederverein Chorus is always looking for new singers. You don't need to be able to speak or understand German to join our group. All you need is a love of singing and the desire to preserve a very important part of German culture: singing. If you'd like more information on joining the only German chorus in our area, please contact George at 475-0282 for more information about the group and our rehearsal schedule.

Liverpool Chamber of Commerce

As many of you are aware, the German American Society of CNY is a member of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce. So feel free to attend any of their meetings or events. For further information on the Chamber or its events, please contact Lucretia Hudzinski at the Chamber: 457-3895.

Events at the Utica Männerchor

Located at 5535 Flanagan Road in Marcy. Contact the clubhouse at 735-5882. Please try to support our friends in Utica by attending their events.

Your name could be here! \$15 for Patrons, \$10 for Sponsors, for one year. Send your check made payable to the German-American Society of CNY, attn. Sally Frenza, 4 Commodore Circle, Baldwinsville, NY 13027

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