



Deutsche Zeitung

of the German-American Society of Central New York

www.germanamericanscnyc.com

April 2014

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President's Report

Greetings from the sunny south! I hear you Northerners have had some horrible weather. Can't say we're sorry we missed it!

Hope you all enjoyed the **Bockbierfest**. We're looking forward to the **Maitanz** on May 17. I'm sure it will be a lot of fun and give us an opportunity to enjoy that great *Gemütlichkeit*!

Anyway, I will be back for the next Monthly Meeting on April 17. Hope to see you there!

WILLI KREUZER, *President*

Vice President's Report

Well, we're in full swing for **Oktoberfest**, and everything is moving along well.

Unfortunately, the March Oktoberfest Committee meeting was canceled. There will be a meeting on April 15 at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners. If you have ideas or are interested in serving on the Committee, please plan to attend the meeting.

I am happy to report that the entertainment schedule is done and will be in the May *Zeitung*.

It's not too early to start thinking about where you can help out at Oktoberfest. We will be setting up on Friday, August 15; the Oktoberfest will be Saturday, August 16 and 17; and we will tear down on Monday, August 18. More on the times, etc., will be discussed at the Oktoberfest Meeting on April 15 and will be in the next *Zeitung*.

Even though the planning is moving along very well, there is still plenty of work to be done. So, if you are interested in helping out, please attend the April 15 Meeting.

If you have any questions about Oktoberfest that I can help you with, please just give me a call at 675-8321 or attend the Committee Meeting.

KLAUS RAITH, *Vice President*

Treasurer's Report

Please attend the next Monthly Meeting on April 17 for a complete report on our financial status.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 622-2658.

Thanks, and see you at the meeting!

JIM KOZLOWSKI, *Treasurer*

Financial Secretary's Report

Sorry I missed the last Monthly Meeting, but Florida called! We have two membership applications to vote on at the April 17 Monthly Meeting: **Heidi Sager** of Phoenix, proposed by Klaus Raith; and **Linus Ressler** of Phoenix, proposed by Klaus Raith.

I am working on getting the 2014 stickers together for your membership cards. Please attend the April 17 Monthly Meeting to obtain the sticker. They will also be available at all our events.

If you have any friends or family members who would like to join our great organization, please have them complete a membership application and send it to me along with their \$25 check made out to The German American Society of CNY. My address is: The German American Society, c/o June Pardue, 692 Idlewood Blvd., Baldwinsville, NY 13027

Please attend the April 17 Monthly Meeting for a run-down on our current membership numbers and any new applications.

If you have any questions regarding your dues or membership, please contact me at 412-1761.

See you at the meeting!

JUNE PARDUE, *Financial Secretary*

From the House Committee

The **Bockbierfest** was a lot of fun! Although we had a smaller turnout than we'd hoped for (SU was playing that evening), everyone seemed to be having a great time.

Our next event is the **Maitanz** on May 17 from 2 to 6 P.M. at the Liverpool Fire Hall. This is the annual event that we have in conjunction with the **Stein Club**. The format is a little different

CLUB MEETINGS

Apr 15	Oktoberfest Committee Meeting, Turners, 7
Apr 17	Board Meeting, Turners 6 Monthly Meeting, Turners, 7
Mai 13	Oktoberfest Committee Meeting, Turners, 7
Mai 15	Board Meeting, Turners, 6 Monthly Meeting, Turners, 7

UPCOMING EVENTS

Apr 28	Scholarship Night, Turners, 5-9
Mai 17	Maitanz, Liverpool Fire Hall, 2-6

this year. Everyone will be coming at the same time. The Stein Club members will not be paying admission and will get a wrist band for their drinks. The admission for all other adults will be \$10, children ages 5–12 will be \$5, and under 5 are free. There will be beverages available at a nominal charge for non-Stein Club members.

This event will be a covered-dish dinner, so please plan to bring a covered dish that would be enough for a few people. The German American Society will provide the ham. **The Enzian Bavarian Quartet** will be playing for your listening and dancing pleasure.

I would appreciate reservations. Please make checks out to The German American Society of CNY (no cash in the mail), and send to: Brigitte Niebuhr, 319 W. Ostrander Ave., Syracuse, NY 13205; home 469-5304 or cell 491-3573. Reservations should be in by May 13.

I am asking the House Committee to please be there by 1 P.M. to set up and to stay after the event for cleanup.

If you would like more information on the House Committee, or if you would like to help out, please let me know.

BRIGITTE NIEBUHR, *House Committee Chair*

Sunshine Lady

Wget-well card went out to **Eric Lorenz** who is recovering from surgery. A belated get-well card went to **Sheri Nurk**.

Unfortunately, I needed to send some sympathy cards over the past month. A card went to the family of **Rolf Schwedes**. Our former president, **Henry Pfaff**, lost his sister, **Ana Kozlawski**, who was also a member. At the March Monthly Meeting we were informed that Klaus Raith lost his brother-in-law, who lived in Germany.

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

MARGARETHA MICH0, *Sunshine Lady*

Goethe and Schiller Monument

Believe it or not, spring is here! I want to make everyone aware that there is still an opportunity to purchase a brick at the Goethe and Schiller Monument. A single brick is \$50, 2 bricks are \$75, and 3 bricks are \$100, with each additional brick being \$30. These bricks can be purchased to honor or memorialize a loved one, friend, organization, etc. 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 or online at germanamericanscny.com.

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.

We will also be asking for help to clean up around the bricks at the monument. If you would like to spend a little time at the monument doing the spring clean-up, please let me know. Any help would be appreciated.

Happy spring!

BOB DOMACHOWSKI, *Goethe and Schiller Monument Chair*

German Student Scholarship Night

By the time you read this *Zeitung*, the Scholarship Committee will have met and the Scholarship recipients notified.

This is our 12th Scholarship year, and I am honored and pleased to remain active in this cherished event. It hardly seems possible that so much time has gone by and so many wonderful students have been honored over the years.

The German Student Scholarship Night is on April 28 from 5 to 9 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners, 619 North Salina Street, Syracuse. Please see the enclosed flyer. If you need directions, contact the Turners at 471-9851. The cost is \$10, which includes dinner, consisting of tossed salad, bratwurst, franks, sauerkraut, German potato salad, kuchen, coffee, and tea. The social hour with snacks is from 5 to 6, dinner 6 to 7 and then entertainment by the **Syracuse Liederverein Chorus** and the **Enzian Bavarian Folk Dancers**. Klaus Raith will also be playing his zither during social hour and dinner and may even have a singalong. After the entertainment, the award ceremony will take place.

Please have your paid reservations sent to Sally Frenza, 4 Commodore Circle, Baldwinsville, NY 13027, by April 21, or you can make your reservation and payment at the April 17 Monthly German American Society meeting. Checks should be made out to The German American Society of CNY.

German Student Scholarship Night is always a great time and a wonderful way to honor our students and their teachers. This year we are awarding six \$750 scholarships. Two of the scholarships are funded by our member, **Dick Schoeck**. One of the other scholarships is partially funded by donations in memory of our former member, **Herb Bauerle**, who passed away last year. The remainder of that scholarship and the other three scholarships are funded by The German American Society.

If you have any questions about the scholarship program, please contact me by cell or text at 345-6253 or e-mail at sallyzf@aol.com.

I am looking forward to seeing you all on April 28 at the Syracuse Turners!

SALLY FRENZA, *Scholarship Chair*

From the Editor

This month I want to start with an article that was submitted by our member, **Ken Blechl**, containing some of his family history.

Der Donauschwaben

By the end of the Thirty-Year War (1648), conducted by King Louis XIV of France, we saw the collapse of the Holy Roman Empire. The living conditions in areas such as the Rhinelands, Alsace, Lorraine, Luxembourg, and Pfalz were intolerable. In an attempt to colonize new lands in southern Hungary, “the breadbasket of Europe,” the promise of free land, tools, and relief of some taxes was given to the Germanic people of the war-torn lands. This area was ruled by the Habsburg Monarchy, which ruled Austria and Hungary. The Germans left in three waves, between 1718 and 1737, 1744 and 1772, and 1782 and 1787. The trip down the Donau started in Ulm with most using small boats called *Ulmer Schachteln* (Ulm boxes). Upon arriving in Vienna, they were assigned their new lands in parts of what is now Serbia, Romania, and Croatia. The total trip down the Donau was approximately 1,000 miles.

Despite hardships, more than a thousand German villages were established in southern Hungary.

My family started from the area near Saarbrücken and settled in Alt Palanka, remaining there from 1765 to 1920, when they migrated to the United States. There are many Donauschwaben groups across the U.S. More information can be obtained at www.donauschwaben-usa.org.

Below are the hardships endured by the three groups who traveled down the Donau:

Die erste hat den Tod The first encounters death,
Die zweite hat die Not the second need,
Die dritte erst hat Brot only the third has bread.

Oster in Deutschland

Since Easter is almost here, let's take a look at how it is celebrated in Germany, and what German customs have become part of our own celebration. Like many of our Christmas customs, Germany is also considered the birthplace of such Easter icons as the *Osterhase* (Easter bunny). German children were told of an *Osterhase* who hid eggs and chocolates for them to find on Easter morning. Immigrants to America, particularly in Pennsylvania, brought the tradition with them and it spread throughout America.

Germans also hollow out eggs by making a pinhole in the end of the eggs and blowing out the contents. These eggs are then beautifully decorated and hung from shrubs and trees during Easter week.

Another unique custom in some villages of Germany is the *Osterfeuer* (Easter fire). For the fire, all the Christmas trees are gathered and burned in a special place, making a huge bonfire, clearing away the last signs of winter, and preparing for a bountiful spring.

Easter Monday is also a holiday in Germany. In some villages, especially in southern Germany, people go out for a candlelit parade (*Emmausgang*) early in the morning to remember the walks that Jesus made after his crucifixion and resurrection.

However you choose to celebrate this most holy day, have a *Frohe Ostern!*

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 you would like to see in print, please let me know.

SALLY FRENZA, *Editor*

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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Members and Friends

Syracuse Liederverein Chorus

We need your help and participation! **Sängerfest** is coming up next year and we would like to compete. But we can't do this without new members. Some members asked why there have been no concerts over the past year. The answer is that we need you to sing with us to help our chorus to take its place again among the award winners!

The Syracuse Liederverein Chorus is always looking for new singers of all ages. 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. The chorus sings not only German songs, but also songs in English, and sometimes other languages. It's really fun!

We are currently regrouping and hope to start rehearsals again soon. If you would like more information on joining the only German chorus in our area, please contact George at 475-0282. Rehearsals are typically held on Monday evenings at 7 P.M.

Frühlingfest

The Syracuse Turners are holding their first *Frühlingfest* on April 5, starting at 4 P.M. There is a choice of Rouladen or a ham dinner, which will be served from 5:30 to 8 at a cost of \$10 at the door. Advance tickets are available at the bar for \$9 until April 3. Dinner, games, raffles, pull tabs, and fun are the order of the evening.

So come on down to 619 North Salina Street, Syracuse, on April 5 and support our Turner friends! If you'd like more information, please call the Turners at 471-9851.

Jazz Vespers

St. Stephen Lutheran Church, 873 DeWitt Street, Syracuse, is hosting Jazz Vespers on April 6 at 5 P.M. The program will feature well known local jazz vocalist **Ronnie Leigh**, accompanied by local jazz musicians. There is no charge, but a free-will offering will be taken. Following the program, there will be a light supper of soup, bread, dessert, and coffee. For more information or directions to St. Stephen, please contact the church at 479-9912.

Events at the Utica Männerchor

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

Contact the *Zeitung!*

Mail: Sally Frenza, editor, 4 Commodore Circle,
Baldwinsville, NY 13027

Phone: 315-345-6253

E-mail: sallyzf@aol.com

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