



Deutsche Zeitung

of the German-American Society of Central New York

November 2016

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June Pardue, *Treasurer*
Sally Frenza, *Secretary*
Nancy Crast, *Financial Secretary*

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Klaus Raith, *Honorary President*

President's Report

Sometimes an idea and thought just don't come off as wished. In the beginning of the year we thought we needed another fun evening of music and entertainment, and we scheduled a **Weinlesefest**. Since there is a lot of *Wein* grown around here, and we Germans also are fond of our *Wein*, we thought this would be fun. I can truly say that the members and their families that were there last Saturday night had a good time. My thanks go to the hard workers of the house committee that made the place look great. Special thanks to **Monika Loerzel** for the beautiful centerpieces. I am sorry not more of our members came and joined in the fun.

It is hard to have dances and parties without the support and participation of our members. This is, after all, our organization. We are at a crossroads as to what will become of it in the future. We need you all to come out!

A very important date is coming up in November. Election night is taking place at the next Monthly Meeting, which is on November 17 at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners. We will be voting for the new Officers and Board Members. Please see the Election Night article later in this *Zeitung*. Let's have a great turnout for the voting! When you vote, you will have a say in which direction our Society will move.

On a more lighter note, the **Christmas Party** is coming up, and I know we always have a good time there. See the details in the *Zeitung* under the House Committee section. Hope to see many of you there!

WILLI KREUZER, *President*

Vice President's Report

I want to thank everyone for all the hard work and volunteering at **Oktoberfest** over the many years that I was the Oktoberfest Chair.

The Oktoberfest Committee held a meeting on October 18. Although more ideas for the 2017 Oktoberfest were discussed, the main purpose of the meeting was to select a new Oktoberfest Chairperson. **Maureen Doyle**, who has worked on the Oktoberfest advertising, was nominated and unanimously approved by the Committee. Maureen has successfully assisted several not-for-profit organizations with their events. We welcome Maureen's experience to help the German American Society of CNY grow and have even greater Oktoberfests in the future. Thank you Maureen for stepping forward and agreeing to chair the Oktoberfest!

I have agreed to stay on as the Entertainment Chairperson for 2017. If you have any questions, I can be reached at 675-8321.

Thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

See you at the November 17 meeting where we will vote for next year's Officers and Board Members.

KLAUS RAITH, *Vice President and Honorary President*

Treasurer's Report

Just a reminder that all bills and financial communication should be sent to: The German American Society of CNY, PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548.

The Oktoberfest Report is almost done. As soon as the remaining bills have been received and paid I can finish the report. I am aiming for the end of the year.

Please attend the Monthly Membership Meeting on November 17 at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners for a complete report on our financial status.

In the meantime, if you have any questions about our financial status or concerns that I can help you with, please speak with me at any of our meetings, or contact me at 412-1761. Thank you.

JUNE PARDUE, *Treasurer*

Financial Secretary's Report

There are no new-membership applications for posting this month.

Please remember, we are always looking to expand our membership. If you have anyone to propose for membership, just have the person complete a membership application and forward it along with their \$25 check made out to The German American Society of CNY to: The German American Society of CNY, PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548.

Applications can be obtained at any Monthly Membership meeting or any of our events, or on our website at www.germanamericanscnyc.com. Or just give me a call at either of the numbers listed below and I will send an application to you.

Just a reminder, if you are going to be away and would like me to hold the *Zeitung* until you return, please let me know. If you will be away for an extended period of time this winter, the *Zeitung* can be forwarded to you. Just give me a call at either of the numbers noted below to arrange for this complimentary service of the German American Society.

Also, if you change your address, please contact me so that

CLUB MEETINGS

Nov 17	Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6 Monthly Meeting, Syracuse Turners, Election Night, 7
Dez 8	Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6 Monthly Meeting, Syracuse Turners, Installation of Officers, 7

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dez 4	Christmas Party, Syracuse Turners, 2-6
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I can keep the membership list current and ensure that the *Zeitung* reaches you.

To discuss any of the above areas or if you have any questions regarding your dues or membership, please contact me at 437-6889 or 447-3547.

I look forward to our membership continuing to grow. Thank you.
NANCY CRAST, *Financial Secretary*

From the House Committee

The Weinlesefest is over. The attendance was low, but everyone who attended seemed to have a great time. I also thank everyone for their donations.

Our **Christmas Party** is December 4 from 2 to 6 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners, 619 North Salina Street, Syracuse. Admission is \$13 in advance or \$18 at the door. Children up to 6 years old are free and children ages 7 to 12 are \$6.

Dinner will be roast pork, sauerkraut, red cabbage, mashed potatoes, yams, and salad. If members are able to bring a dessert it would be appreciated. There will be a variety of beverages for purchase at the Turner's for a reasonable price.

Santa Claus will be bringing gifts for children ages baby to 12 years old.

The Enzian Bavarian Quartet will be playing for your listening and dancing pleasure.

The Christmas party will be a lot of fun! Please bring something for the auction if you are able. It can be a baked good, a Christmas item, or anything else you would like to donate. The auction is always a blast and a fun way to make some money for our society.

We will have valet parking for anyone who cannot find a place to park in the front of the Turners and is unable to climb the back stairs. Call 345-6253 when you arrive at the Turners if you need to take advantage of this service.

Please make your reservation by November 18. Include the names and ages of any children who will be getting Christmas gifts from Santa. Reservations and checks payable to the German American Society of CNY should be sent to: Brigitte Niebuhr, 319 W. Ostrander Ave., Syracuse, NY 13205.

If you have any questions about the House Committee or our activities, or if you would like to serve on the Committee, please give me a call at 491-2573 or email at omib21@aol.com.

Thank you, and I look forward to seeing you at the November 17 Monthly Membership Meeting and the December 4 Christmas Party.

BRIGITTE NIEBUHR, *House Committee Chair*

Constitution and By-Laws Committee

The committee continues to work under the leadership of the Chair, **Willi Rohrbach**, to revise our Constitution and By-Laws. They will be meeting again soon and will give a progress report at the November 17 Monthly Membership Meeting.

When all the proposed revisions have been completed, a special meeting will be called of the German American Society of CNY membership for the purpose of reviewing the revisions and discussing them in person. The next step in the process will be further reviewed at that time.

In the meantime, if you have any questions about the by-laws or revisions, please contact Willi Rohrbach, Committee Chair, at 610-972-4169.

Sunshine Lady

In October I sent a sympathy card to members **Bob Domachowski** and **Joe Domachowski** on the passing of their sister, **Carolyn Waterman**, who was a former member of the German American Society. A card also went to Carolyn's husband of 60 years and former member **Ed Waterman**. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this most difficult time.

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

MARGARETHA MICHU, *Sunshine Lady*

Election Night: November 17

The Nominating Committee Chair, **Willi Rohrbach**, presented a slate of nominations at the October 20 Monthly Membership Meeting. Below is the slate of nominations based on Nominating Committee recommendations and nominations from the floor:

Officers: *President*—Willi Kreuzer and Bruce Barnes; *Vice President*—Klaus Raith; *Treasurer*—June Pardue; *Secretary*—Sally Frenza; *Financial Secretary*—Nancy Crast; *Board Members:* Bob Kline, John Ott, Brigitte Niebuhr, Eric Gang, Rita Knapp, David Gunter

Please plan to attend the November 17 Monthly Membership Meeting as you need to vote to have a say in who leads our wonderful organization in the coming year.

Thank you to Willi Rohrbach and his committee members Helen Kline and Bob Domachowski for their work on getting the slate together.

Oktoberfest 2017

Iwant to thank everyone for giving me the opportunity to serve as the Oktoberfest Chairperson for 2017. I look forward to working with everyone to make this the best Oktoberfest yet!

I have scheduled an Oktoberfest Committee meeting for Tuesday, January 17 at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners.

If you would like to serve on the committee or if you have suggestions for Oktoberfest, please contact me at 730-7498 or by e-mail at mjdoyle@twcny.rr.com.

Thank you, and I look forward to working with everyone.

MAUREEN DOYLE, *Oktoberfest Chairperson*

Goethe and Schiller Monument

It is hard to think about it, but Christmas is not that far off. Why not buy a brick or 2 or 3 at the Goethe and Schiller Monument? What a great Christmas gift that would be 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 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.

If you have any questions about the monument or the bricks, please give me a call at 451-1848.

BOB DOMACHOWSKI, *Goethe and Schiller Monument Chair*

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 and preserve freedom. Please take advantage on 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 to us over the past year and to count our blessings. At many family gatherings before the blessing is said, or one morsel of food is touched, each person at the table, including the children, tell one thing that happened over the past year they are thankful for. It really puts a positive spin on the day, and makes us all think about our many blessings. We live in a free country;

we have a roof over our heads and food to eat; friends and family. And, of course, we have our wonderful German American Society.

Thanksgiving in German Europe has a long tradition, but one that 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 and not anything like the big traditional family holiday in America. 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. Visitors to market places and fairgrounds will oftentimes find *Erntefeuer* (harvest fire) and other festivities to celebrate this occasion.

In the regions where wine grapes are grown, *Winzer* (vintners) will present their new wines and allow for a public wine-tasting. A *Bauernmarkt* (farmers' market) will allow visitors to purchase the freshest produce available, while the more immediate culinary needs are attended to in a *Festzelt* (party tent), where it can be assumed that some of the famous German beer will be available." For, after all, what is a German celebration without beer!?

Now a little about a children's procession on *Sankt Martinstag*, just before November 11. Leading up to this day, children can be seen walking in procession carrying candlelit lanterns behind "Sankt Martin" in his Roman uniform riding *Schimmel*, a white horse. Children of all ages sing songs that celebrate the life of Martin of Tours.

The procession often ends up at a huge bonfire, with a snack of a *Sankt 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.

Here is a recipe for *Sankt Martin Weckman* from the Internet:

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup milk
- ½ cup sweet butter
- 3 tablespoons shortening
- 1 cup sugar
- 3 tablespoons real vanilla extract
- 1 grated lemon peel
- 1 packet rapid yeast (¼ ounce)
- 3 tablespoons warm water
- 4 whole eggs
- 6½ cups flour
- 1 egg beaten with 2 tablespoons water for glazing

INSTRUCTIONS

Mix yeast with warm water and 1 tablespoon of sugar. Combine milk, butter, shortening, and sugar in a saucepan and heat gently, then set aside to cool. Place flour in a large bowl. Make a well in the middle of the flour and pour in yeast mixture.

Your name could be here! \$15 for Patrons for one year.
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Cover and let rise for 20 minutes. Add milk mixture to flour and mix all the ingredients together. Knead into a ball, dust with flour, and let rise for 45 minutes.

Roll dough and divide into 10 pieces to form into gingerbread men-shaped *Weckmänner*. Place the *Weckmänner* on a large baking sheet covered with baking or wax paper, making sure to leave enough room between each shape. Let rise for a further 20 to 45 minutes.

Brush with egg and water mixture and decorate with raisins and dried cranberries for the eyes and buttons.

Bake at 325–350°F for 10 to 15 minutes.

Have a wonderful and Blessed Thanksgiving, and think about all we have to be thankful for!

Do you have a German, Austrian, or Swiss topic you would like me to write about? Or do you have an article you have written or found and would like to see in print? Just let me know.

SALLY FRENZA, *Editor*

Members and Friends

Syracuse Turners

The Syracuse Turners, 619 North Salina Street, Syracuse, is having its annual *Gemütlichkeit* on Friday and Saturday, November 11 and 12. The cost is \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. There will be a Sauerbraten or fish dinner on Friday and Sauerbraten or ham dinner on Saturday. There will be raffles, pull tabs, and games. These are really fun-filled evenings and a great way to support our friends at the Turners. If you have questions, please call the Turners at the number noted below.

Also, if you are looking for somewhere to have a nice friendly Friday night dinner, why not try the Syracuse Turners? They have really great fish and other offerings on the menu, and all at a very reasonable price. Dinner is served from 5:30 to 8 and there's always a special. Call the Syracuse Turners at 471-9851 to ask what the special will be.

Events at the Utica Männerchor

November 12 is the *Schlachfest Dinner Dance* from 6 to 10 with Fritz's Polka Band.

For more information about the *Schlachfest* or other upcoming events at the Utica Männerchor, located at 5535 Flanagan Road in Marcy, just contact the clubhouse at 735-5882. Please try to support our friends in Utica by attending their events.

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Phone: 315-345-6253

E-mail: sallyzf@aol.com

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