



Deutsche Zeitung

of the German-American Society of Central New York

Februar 2016

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Robert Kline Brigitte Niebuhr
Bill Nurk John Ott Henry Pfaff
Richard Pfaff Richard Schoeck

President's Report

Sadly to say we did not have a quorum for the January General Meeting. We were to install the new Officers and Board Members, but this will now be done at the February Monthly Meeting.

Although January 21 was not an official meeting, there were several discussions about various elements of our society. As noted in Article 2 of our current Constitution and By-Laws, our purpose is "to engage in charitable, literary, educational, scientific, social, memorial, cultural and other activities in support of mutual fellowship, common goals and German ethnic interests of its members . . ." We really need to respect each others' differences of opinion and support each other in a positive manner.

Once again I am asking for the members to attend our meetings and get involved. Our next meeting is February 18 at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners, and I hope to see many of you there.

WILLI KREUZER, *President*

Vice President's Report

There have been some ideas tossed around by members about how to improve our 2016 Oktoberfest scheduled at Long Branch Park on August 6 and 7. These suggestions and others will be further discussed at the first Oktoberfest Committee Meeting scheduled for March 15 at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners.

I have been checking with booking agents regarding a three-piece German band, but nothing positive to report at this point.

If you would like to serve on the Oktoberfest Committee or have suggestions for the 2016 Oktoberfest, please plan to attend the March 15 meeting.

If you have any questions I can help you with, or if you would like additional information about the Committee or Oktoberfest, please feel free to contact me at 675-8321.

KLAUS RAITH,

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.

Please attend the Monthly Meeting on February 18 at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners for a complete report on our financial status.

If you have any questions or concerns that I can help you with, please speak with me at any of our meetings, or reach out to me at 412-1761.

Thank you.

JUNE PARDUE, *Treasurer*

Financial Secretary's Report

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has sent in their dues for 2016. The dues for current members remain at \$15 a year and were due by January 31. If you have not yet paid your dues, the dues can be paid in person at the February Monthly Meeting on February 18 or paid by check made out to the German American Society of CNY (please add annual dues in the message portion of your check) and sent to the address noted below as soon as possible.

As I mentioned in past issues of the *Zeitung*, per a prior Amendment to our Constitution and By-Laws, all annual membership dues must 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 or 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 or her dues will be automatically dropped.

CLUB MEETINGS

- Feb 18 Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6
 Monthly Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7
Mär 15 Oktoberfest Committee Meeting, Syracuse
 Turners, 7
Mär 17 Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6
 Monthly Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mär 19 Bockbierfest, Syracuse Turners, 6-10
Apr 25 Scholarship Night, Syracuse Turners, 5-9
Mai 21 Maitanz, venue to be determined
Jul 10 Picnic, Camp Brockway, 2-6
Aug 6/7 Oktoberfest, Long Branch Park, 11-7
Okt 1 Weinlesefest (Wine Fest), Liverpool Elks, 6-10
Dez 4 Christmas Party, Syracuse Turners, 2-6

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

If you have any friends or family members who would like to join our great organization, please have them 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.germanamericanscny.com.

If you have any questions regarding your dues or membership, please contact me at 315-437-6889.

I look forward to a great 2016 and an increase in our membership and member participation.

Thank you.

NANCY CRAST, *Financial Secretary*

From the House Committee

Well, a new year has begun, and plans are underway for several social events. Our first event of 2016 is the **Bockbierfest** on Saturday, March 19, from 6 to 10 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners. For anyone who feels they cannot climb the stairs from the parking lot behind the building, there will be valet parking, so the front door can be used.

There will be further information on the Bockbierfest in the March *Zeitung* regarding cost, dinner, reservations, etc. For now please add the date of March 19 to your calendar.

Further details will also be discussed at the February 18 Monthly Meeting at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners, so please try to attend.

If you have any questions about the House Committee, please give me a call at 491-2573.

BRIGITTE NIEBUHR, *House Committee Chair*

Sunshine Lady

This month was very busy. Get-well cards were sent to **Sally Frenza**, who had knee replacement surgery; **Dianna Schoeck**, who is recuperating from a shoulder injury; **Mary Pfaff**, who is hospitalized; and **Bob Kline**, who had surgery. Our best wishes go out to these members.

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 MICHON, *Sunshine Lady*

Goethe and Schiller Monument

Just want to remind everyone 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 obtain a

form. Forms can also be obtained at any German American Society event or on our website at www.germanamericanscny.com.

BOB DOMACHOWSKI, *Goethe and Schiller Monument Chair*

German Student Scholarship Program

Well, the Scholarship Program is approaching very quickly. The Committee members have been contacted and we are good to go. The Scholarship Applications and criteria will be going out by mid-February to the schools. At this time the number of scholarships to be awarded and the monetary amount for each has not been determined.

The German American Society of CNY recently received a monetary contribution from **Dr. M. A. Niemczura**, who for numerous years was a teacher of German at Cicero-North Syracuse High School. She has asked that her donation be used toward a 2016 scholarship.

Thank you so much, Dr. Niemczura, for your donation and for your many years of support for our German American Society of CNY Scholarship Program. Dr. Niemczura stressed in her letter that “what the Society does for the promotion of the German language in Central New York and beyond is crucial to the future of our young leaders.”

If you weren't able to attend last year's Scholarship Night, why not plan to attend on Monday, April 25, at the Syracuse Turners from 5 to 9. There will be additional information in the next *Zeitung*.

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

SALLY FRENZA, *Scholarship Chair*

Installation of Officers and Board Members

Since there was not a quorum at the January 21 General Meeting, the 2016 Officers and Board Members will be installed at the February 18 Monthly Meeting.

Please plan to attend this installation if at all possible to meet and speak with the individuals who will be leading our organization in 2016.

From the Editor

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has sent a card or made a phone call following my January 8 knee replacement. It really means a lot. I guess I am about bionic now with two hips and two knees! Hopefully I'll be on the dance floor at the Bockbierfest next month.

Many people continue to ask about **Fasching**, so below is a repeat article about the “German Mardi Gras.”

Most people would probably say that the Munich Oktoberfest is the biggest bash in Germany. However, it is none other than *Fasching* or *Fastnacht*, Germany's Mardi Gras. This is often referred to as Germany's foolish or silly season. There are thousands of costume balls or dances all over Germany. All events start at 11 minutes past the 11th hour on November 11. Although it remains low key for the first few weeks, the action really gets started seven weeks before Easter.

The Thursday before Ash Wednesday is known as *Welber-*

fastnacht or Women's Carnival Night. On this day, the women dress up like old ladies and go door to door pulling jokes on people, especially politicians. (Way to go girls!!!) The women are allowed to cut off the tie or kiss (or both) any man within their reach! It is also tradition in many areas for the women to capture the local *Rathaus* (city hall) and take over the city key. The following Monday is known as *Rosenmontag* (rose Monday). During this day there are parades and carnival floats. *Faschingdienstag* (carnival Tuesday) is the last day of *Fasching* and when most of the festivities happen. Usually workers get the afternoon off to celebrate.

In Munich from 2 to 5 P.M. on *Faschingdienstag*, the *Viktualienmarkt* pedestrian area is turned into a party zone. At night there are gala balls, the biggest held at the Bayerischer Hof. The Bavarians refer to *Fasching* as the "season of fools." Some people dress in costumes and ski down hills. It is a great time of the year to be able to dress up in costumes, act like a fool and have a great time.

Munich also features donuts during *Fasching*. They can be found everywhere! The story goes that in pre-Christian Europe it was customary to choose a man to be the "sacred king" of the tribe for a year. When his year in office was up he would be sacrificed and his blood returned to the soil to ensure a successful harvest. The method of choosing the sacred king was the King's Cake. A coin or bean would be placed in the cake before baking and whoever got the slice with the coin was the chosen one. In recent times the King's Cake idea has evolved into donuts.

Below is a recipe for *Fastnachts* (German donuts), which was given to me by a German friend who is no longer with us. These donuts are usually made on Shrove Tuesday to use up the lard before Lent.

- 1 c lukewarm milk
- 1 fresh yeast cake
- ¾ c soft butter
- 2 T sugar
- 6 eggs
- 6 c flour
- 2 t salt

Dissolve yeast in lukewarm milk and set aside. Sift flour and salt into a large bowl. Make a hole in the center and pour the

Thank you to the Patrons who have already sent in their \$15. If you want to continue with your name in the *Zeitung* as a Patron, please forward the \$15 check made out to The German American Society of CNY to the Editor with a note on the check that it's for your 2015 Patron sponsorship. Thank You.

*Your name could be here! \$15 for Patrons for one year.
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dissolved yeast and all other ingredients into the hole. Mix till no longer sticky. Cover and let rise in a warm place till doubled. Punch down and let rest for 10 minutes. Roll out about ¼ inch thick and cut out the donuts with a round cutter (not the usual donut cutter with the hole in the middle). Let the donuts rise for about 20 to 30 minutes. Fry in deep fat till light brown. Drain on paper towels, then, while hot, roll in sugar. Enjoy!

Do you 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.

SALLY FRENZA, *Editor*

Members and Friends

Syracuse Liederverein Chorus

For more information on joining the only German chorus in our area, please contact George at 475-0282. We really would like to start back up again.

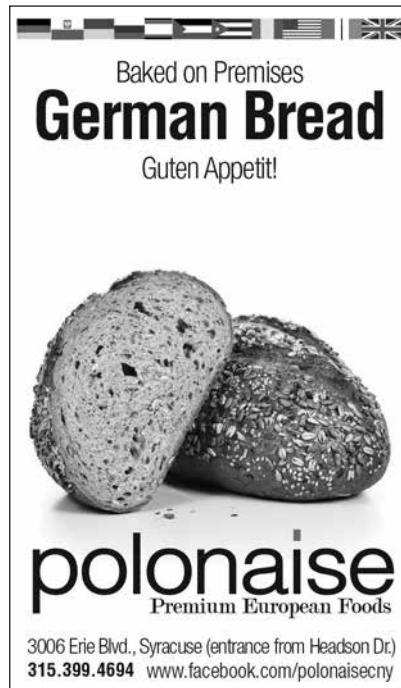
Friday Night Dinner

Looking for somewhere to have a nice friendly Friday night dinner? Why not try out 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. Please give the Syracuse Turners a call at 471-9851 and they will let you know if dinner will be served that evening and what the special will be. There is also a special libation offered at the bar to go along with the dinner special of the night.

Events at the Utica Männerchor

If you would like to know more about 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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