



# Deutsche Zeitung

of the German-American Society of Central New York

## September 2016

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Klaus Raith, *Honorary President*

## President's Report

What a great **Oktoberfest** we had! The weather cooperated, and the people came and had a good time. The food was so good we ran out of *Schnitzel* the first day. Great job, Ken! We had music all day long, and if you were not there Sunday, you missed some great music from the **New York 42nd Infantry Army National Guard Band**. They were a joy to listen to with all the different music they played, including some rock, jazz, and patriotic music. Hearing both national anthems played by them was a wonderful start on Sunday.

Our thanks also to the **Bavarian Brothers** from Massachusetts. They put a lot of *Schwung* and fun into their music, which made for a really good time. Thank you again, and you are welcome to play for our Oktoberfest next year! I also have to thank **Klaus and his band** for a job well done. I must say that everyone that entertained us for the two days did a great job, and I heard many compliments. Thanks, everyone!

My thanks also go out to the many volunteers that made these days happen and successful. Now we need to look forward to next year and recruit more members to work on the Oktoberfest. A lot of the fun of Oktoberfest is in volunteering with your fellow society members. We need more members to step up and help those who have been volunteering for many years.

Our next event is the **Weinlesefest** at the Liverpool Elks Club. There is more below in the House Committee article. I hope to see many of you there, and make this a fun evening for all.

It's also time to start thinking about next year and how you can help out. Think about possibly running for an office or the board. At the September meeting the Nominating Committee will be formed. See the article later in this *Zeitung* for more details.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the September 15 Monthly Membership Meeting!

WILLI KREUZER, *President*

## Vice President's Report

Don't know where to start to thank everyone who volunteered at our **Great Syracuse Bavarian Oktoberfest**. The area captains and their crews, the many people who volunteered for the setup and tear-down, wherever you volunteered, **Thank You** from the bottom of my heart!

The weather was with us and we had a great festival! It was just wonderful to see everyone working together to make this such a fantastic Great Syracuse Bavarian Oktoberfest! The many people who attended really appeared to be enjoying themselves. The dance floor was teaming with dancers while others were swaying in their seats and singing. I'm sure "*Ein Prosit*" could be heard for quite a distance.

The **Bavarian Brothers** really added to the merrymaking with their great dance music and entertainment on the Alpenhorn and the skis. I have already told them that they will be hired back for next year.

And, how about that military band? Were they great or what?

I could not believe what I was hearing and the quality and variety of music they played. We were very fortunate to have them join us this year. They stayed around for a while after they were done playing and joined in the dancing and *Gemütlichkeit*. Before they left, they said what a great time they had had.

It will probably be about two months before the Oktoberfest financial report is ready. As you are aware, this is our only fundraiser to support our activities, such as the Scholarship Program and donations to organizations like the Food Pantry, and other charitable organizations.

I would like to have an Oktoberfest Wrap-up Meeting on Tuesday, September 13, at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners. If you were on the Oktoberfest Committee, please plan to attend so we can discuss what we did well and where we can make some improvements for next year. So, if you have ideas, please let any of the Oktoberfest Committee members know so they can be presented at the meeting. Or you can give me a call at 675-8321.

Thanks again to all, and I hope to see Committee members at the September 13 Wrap-up Meeting, and everyone at the September 15 Monthly Membership Meeting.

KLAUS RAITH, *Vice President, Honorary President & Oktoberfest Chair*

## 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 Membership Meeting on September 15 at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners for a complete report on our financial status.

The bills for Oktoberfest are coming in and as soon as they are all received and paid the report will be done. I am aiming for the end of the year.

In the meantime, if you have any questions about our financial

### CLUB MEETINGS

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| Sep 13 | Oktoberfest Committee Wrap-up Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7                 |
| Sep 15 | Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6<br>Monthly Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7 |
| Okt 20 | Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6<br>Monthly Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7 |

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Okt 22    | Weinlesefest (Wine Fest), Liverpool Elks, 6-10 |
| Okt 28-30 | Bus trip to Crystal Brook Resort, Round Top    |
| Dez 4     | Christmas Party, Syracuse Turners, 2-6         |

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

We received the following membership applications from Oktoberfest: **Kateri VanDamme** and **Laford Hessler**, Liverpool (sponsored by Sally Frenza), and **Joy Vogt** and **Koii Schuppler**, Camillus (sponsored by Willi Kreuzer). There were also two more applications not from Oktoberfest: **Cynthia S. Green**, Weedsport (sponsored by Sally Frenza), and **Carla Martin**, Liverpool (sponsored by Nancy Crast). Carla came to the August 18 Monthly Meeting and turned in a completed application. These six applicants will be voted on at the September 15 Monthly Membership Meeting.

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.germanamericanscny.com](http://www.germanamericanscny.com). Or, just give me a call at either of the numbers listed below and I will send an application to you.

If you have any questions regarding your dues or membership, please contact me at 437-6889 or 447-3547.

Just a reminder, if you are going to be away and would like me to hold your *Zeitung* until you return, please let me know. Also, if you change your address, please contact me so that I can keep the membership list current and ensure that the *Zeitung* reaches you. I look forward to our membership continuing to grow. Thank you.

NANCY CRAST, *Financial Secretary*

## From the House Committee

First, I'd like to thank everyone for the cards and phone calls for my husband and me during our health problems. They sure brightened up our days.

Also, thanks to the **Faith Journey United Methodist Church** for cooking and serving in the hot kitchen.

Now, for our next event. Our **Weinlesefest** is coming up at the Liverpool Elks Club on October 22 from 6 to 10 P.M. Admission is \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door. Please make out the checks to The German American Society of CNY and mail to: Brigitte Niebuhr, 319 W. Ostrander Ave., Syracuse, NY 13205. The cut off date for reservations is October 18.

**The Enzian Bavarian Quartet** will be playing for your listening and dancing pleasure. As always, the event will be a lot of fun!

We are currently working on the menu and if you have any suggestions on what you would like to have served, or if you have any questions about the House Committee or our activities, please give me a call at 491-2573. Thank you.

BRIGITTE NIEBUHR, *House Committee Chair*

## Constitution and By-Laws Committee

The committee continues to work very diligently under the leadership of the Chair, Willi Rohrbach, to revise our Constitution and By-Laws. They will be meeting before our next Monthly Membership Meeting and will give a progress report on September 15. 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 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 August I sent a sympathy card to **Linda and Bruce Barnes**, as Linda's father had passed away. Our thoughts and prayers are with them both.

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 MICH0, *Sunshine Lady*

## Crystal Brook Resort Trip

For anyone who has not yet heard, the German American Society of CNY is sponsoring a bus trip to Crystal Brook Resort in Round Top, in the northern Catskill Mountains. The trip includes bus transportation courtesy of the GAS of CNY, 2 nights lodging, 6 meals, and live entertainment both evenings. There are a limited number of ground level rooms and accommodations for 4.

This trip is open to family and friends at the same price. All are welcome. The dates are Friday, October 28 to Sunday, October 30. The cost is \$250/person, all inclusive as noted above.

Anyone planning to go on this fun-filled weekend, please send a \$100 deposit to Nancy Crast, 242 Roxbury Road, Syracuse, NY 13206-2413 ASAP.

There are still spots available, but you need to contact Nancy Crast at 437-6889 or 447-0814 immediately for reservations or with any questions. Nancy will have further details regarding departure time, etc., soon. This promises to be a great time!

## Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee will be appointed at the September 15 Monthly Membership Meeting. If you would like to serve on this committee, please attend the meeting and volunteer for the committee or as a candidate for office or the Board.

The Nominating Committee will be putting together a slate of nominations for Officers and Board Members to be presented at the October Monthly Membership Meeting and then posted in the *Zeitung*. Elections are in November.

Please think about helping either as a committee member or a candidate for office and have a hand in who represents the membership.

## From the Editor

Oktoberfest was a real blast! Everyone seemed to be having a great time. As noted in the various articles above, there are many individuals being thanked for their part in Oktoberfest. However, in my opinion, a huge thank-you needs to go out to **Klaus Raith** for another tremendous job in ensuring that the Oktoberfest provides the avenue for our German heritage and culture to be preserved and observed by all. On behalf of everyone, **Thank You, Klaus! Great job!**

As I promised last month, here are ten things that you probably didn't know about Oktoberfest. This information was submitted by our member **Richard Pfaff** from information posted on the Internet by Amanda Marsteller, who wrote this for anyone planning to attend the Oktoberfest in Munich. Below is a summary of that information:

- Oktoberfest has been raging for over 200 years. The first Oktoberfest took place in 1810 to honor the wedding of Bavarian Crown Prince Ludwig's wedding to Princess Theresa of Sazony-Hildburghausen.
- It should really be called Septemberfest since the sixteen-day affair in Munich starts in September.
- The party doesn't start until the mayor taps in.

- Only authentic German beers are served at Oktoberfest. The breweries supplying the beer are Hofbräuhaus München, Spaten-Franziskaner-Bräu, Paulener Bräu, Löwenbräu, Hacker-Pschorr Bräu and Augustiner Bräu. The alcohol content of the Oktoberfest beers clocks in at about 6% ABV. Festival-goers have been known to faint from the combination of warm weather and alcohol, earning the nickname *Bierleichen* or “beer corpses.”
- There’s more to Oktoberfest than beer. Belly up for some seriously hearty eats. These include 500,000 roast chickens, 120,000 pairs of sausages, 50,000 pork knuckles and an unfathomable number of head-sized soft pretzels. There are also massive piles of potato dumplings and potato pancakes, sauerkraut and apple strudel. After all that indulgence, save room for a giant gingerbread heart souvenir decorated with endearing phrases and worn as an edible necklace.
- Trying to run off with an official Oktoberfest stein? Thousands before you have tried and failed. Security guards are stationed near tent entrances to keep steins from sneaking off. You’ll definitely get caught and slapped with a hefty fine if you try. In 2008, a Bavarian waitress balanced 19 full beer steins (each weighing about 5 pounds) and walked across the tent without spilling a drop.
- Feeling invincible? If you feel you need to stretch out your legs, beware of placing your foot on the table. That’s the universal sign for preparing to down an entire Stein of beer in one go. If you succeed, prepare to be fully drunk in seconds. If you fail, an audience of thousands will show you no sympathy, and a symphony of boos.
- Get ready to sing your heart out. There will be brass bands playing Herman Oompah songs and American hits. “*Ein Prosit*” is the number one Oktoberfest standard that encourages interactive drinking and toasts, but your ears will perk right up when you hear the melodies of “Sweet Home Alabama,” “YMCA,” Sweet Caroline,” and “Take Me Home, Country Roads.
- Beer, pretzels and a . . . crossbow competition? Visitors can wander about the annual Fun Fair, which includes a 164-foot-high ferris wheel, the famous Olympia Looping Rollercoaster and log flumes, as well as a flea circus and roving street performers. Craving a little more action? Head to the Armbrustschützenzelt tent that has hosted a crossbow competition inside since 1895.
- Can’t make it to Munich? Check out a fest near you. They are found all over the world. The biggest Oktoberfest outside of Germany? Canada claims that honor with its Kitchener-Waterloo festival that’s been running since 1969. Attracting nearly one million visitors each year, this fest follows many of Munich’s customs. Not to be outdone, the largest Oktoberfest in the U.S. is hosted in Cincinnati. Zinzinnati lasts only three days, but closes down six blocks of the city with an opening parade, beer stein race and the “Running of the Wieners”: a dog race that features dachshunds dressed as hot dogs.

Thank you, Richard for this very interesting article. So, since our

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**Eric Lorenz    The Schaack Family**

own Great Syracuse Bavarian Oktoberfest is over, is it off to Munich, Kitchener-Waterloo, or Zinzinnati?

Since this is return to school time, just a reminder about the German and Austrian tradition of the Schultüte or School Cone, or as it is called in some parts of Germany, a Zuckertüte or sugar bag. This is a paper bag in the form of a big cone. When the children in Germany and Austria set out for their first day in school upon entering the first grade (kindergarten is considered like our pre-school) their parents and/or grandparents present them with a big decorated cardboard cone filled with toys, chocolates, candies, school supplies, and various other goodies. Sometimes there are even CDs, books, and even articles of clothing. The children are excited to get the cones, and it makes the first day of school very special for them. This tradition has reportedly been going on since the nineteenth century. There are advertisers in *German Life* magazine that offer these cones for sale. What a surprise for our own little ones!

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**

If you are looking for somewhere to have a nice friendly Friday night dinner, why not try the Syracuse Turners? Dinners resume on September 9 (they do not serve dinners during the State Fair). 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 p.m. There is always a special. Please give the Syracuse Turners a call at 471-9851 and they will let you know 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**

On October 6 there is a German Day Celebration and Liederabend (Sing-along) and on October 9 there is a Sauerbraten Dinner from 12 to 4.

If you would like to know the hours for the German Day Celebration or more about 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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