



Deutsche Zeitung

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März 2017

of the German-American Society of Central New York

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President's Report

February's weather took its toll. We did not have a Monthly Meeting to discuss the most up-to-date information on our activities and to socialize with our friends and to see how everyone was doing. As for myself, I did not do so well. I came down with a bad cold and then I shared it with my wife. So the last few weeks have not been the greatest.

March is here, with Ash Wednesday being on the first. This reminded me that *Fasching* is coming to an end in Germany. I have many great memories about the fun that was had during the *Fasching* activities.

I don't know how many of our members remember the *Fastnacht Sitzungen* we have in Germany, especially in the Rhein region. They are great. I just finished such a *Sitzung* from Mainz on my computer, and I can tell you it was great. Anyone who says that Germans have no humor has never seen an event like that. Thanks to my computer I can still keep tabs on something that I really enjoy.

Our next Monthly Membership Meeting is at the Syracuse Turners at 7 P.M. on March 16. Hopefully I'll see many of you there. Attending the meetings will keep you updated on our activities and events and will also provide information on how you can become more active in our organization.

For now, stay healthy, think warm weather, and I'll see you at the Monthly Meeting!

WILLI KREUZER, *President*

Vice President's Report

First want to thank everyone who called me to see how I did after my eye surgery. I am doing well and can now start driving again.

I reported at the last Oktoberfest Committee Meeting that I have contacted the bands for the entertainment portion of the Oktoberfest. I am now just waiting for the contracts before making up the entertainment schedule. Hopefully I will have it all together in the near future. We will have great entertainment this year, headed up by the **Bavarian Brothers**.

If you have any questions about the entertainment, I can be reached at 315-675-8321.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing you all at the March 16 Meeting.

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.

Please attend the Monthly Membership Meeting on March 16 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 315-412-1761.

Thank you.

JUNE PARDUE, *Treasurer*

Financial Secretary's Report

Currently, 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 contact Helen Kline. Her contact information is found below.

Reminder: The 2017 membership dues were due in January. There are still a few members who have not paid their 2017 dues. If you are one of the members who has not sent in their \$15 renewal, please do so ASAP. The dues can be paid in person at the March Monthly Meeting or paid by check made out to the German

CLUB MEETINGS

- | | |
|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mär 14 | Oktoberfest Committee Meeting,
Syracuse Turners, 7 |
| Mär 16 | Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6
Monthly Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7 |
| Apr 18 | Oktoberfest Committee Meeting,
Syracuse Turners, 7 |
| Apr 20 | Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6
Monthly Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7 |

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Apr 24 | Scholarship Night, Syracuse Turners, 5-9 |
| Mai 6 | Maifest, Syracuse Turners, 5-9 |
| Jul 9 | Picnic at Camp Brockway |
| Aug 5 & 6 | Syracuse Bavarian Oktoberfest, Long
Branch Park, Liverpool |

American Society of CNY (please add annual dues in the message portion of your check) and sent to the above-noted address. As 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/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.

Reminder letters will be sent soon with a date the dues must be received by. If the dues are not received by the date in the letter, the member will be automatically 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 at the \$25 rate.

Just a reminder: If you are going to be away and would like the *Zeitung* held until you return, please contact the Editor. **Or if you will be away for an extended period of time the *Zeitung* can be forwarded to you. Just contact the Editor to arrange for this complimentary service of the German American Society.**

Also, if you change your address, please contact the Financial Secretary with the new information to ensure that the membership list is kept current and 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 Helen Kline at 315-458-6415 or by e-mail at hkline8@twcny.rr.com.

Thank you.

HELEN KLINE, *Financial Secretary*

From the House Committee

The next event on our calendar is **Maifest**. It is a real fun activity held in conjunction with the **Stein Club**. Maifest is being held at the Syracuse Turners on May 6 from 5 to 9 P.M. There will be further details in the April *Zeitung*.

If you have any questions about the House Committee or our activities, please give me a call at 315-491-2573.

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 this month to continue their revisions.

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

During the past month, a get-well card was sent to **Klaus Raith**, who is recuperating from eye surgery. A card was also sent to **Anna Bultjer**, who had a bad case of the flu, but is now well on her way to recovery. **June Pardue** underwent surgery and she was also sent a card. We wish these members a speedy recovery!

A sympathy card was sent to **Pauline DeMartino** on the passing of her mother. Our thoughts and prayers are with her and her family at this most difficult time.

Please contact me at 315-468-4541 to report any illnesses, surgery,

ies, deaths, anniversaries, monumental birthdays, or other events that are deserving of a card.

MARGARETHA MICHIO, *Sunshine Lady*

The Syracuse Bavarian Oktoberfest 2017

The Committee members have been busy. The Bavarian Coat of Arms has been approved as the official logo for this year's event (see below). The logo will be on the commemorative steins, flyers, advertising, social media, and the website, as well as on all of our contracts, etc.

At the February 14 Oktoberfest Committee meeting, the committee approved a slight name change to our Oktoberfest, dropping the word "Great." It will now be known as **The Syracuse Bavarian Oktoberfest**. The Facebook page has been changed to reflect this update.

Entertainment Coordinator **Klaus Raith** has booked a few more additions to our entertainment line-up: **The Enzian Bavarian Band & Dancers**, **The Harmony Katz** (a barbershop quartet), and **The Edelweiss Schuhplattlers** from the Utica Männerchor. He is just waiting for contract confirmations from these and a few other groups.

In the KidsFunZone, **The Twin Magicians** will again provide entertainment. **Outback Steakhouse** will provide a face painter and a cornhole game. Spread the word that our KidsFunZone offers FREE entertainment for the children!

Klaus Raith has agreed to continue as the Master of Ceremonies for the weekend. Thank you so much, Klaus!

Applications for Oktoberfest vendors and advertisers for the event program are now available. The advertising rates in our program are very affordable for businesses and organizations. They will be posted on our Facebook page and the German American Society website soon. The applications will also be available at the March 16 Monthly Membership meeting. The Oktoberfest flyer will be available around April 5. Please help distribute the flyers and also share the event with your Facebook friends.

Our next Oktoberfest Committee Meeting is scheduled for March 14 at 7 P.M. at the Turners.

If you have any questions or suggestions please give me a call at 315-730-7498 or shoot me an email at mjdoyle@twcny.rr.com.

See you at the Monthly Membership Meeting on March 16, and in August at The Syracuse Bavarian Oktoberfest!

MAUREEN DOYLE, *Event Coordinator*



Scholarship Program

Scholarship Night, scheduled for 5 to 9 P.M. on April 24 at the Syracuse Turners, is quickly approaching. The students who

are applying to be considered for a scholarship must have their completed scholarship applications post marked no later than March 15. The Scholarship Committee then has the arduous task of reviewing the applications and making their decision on which students will be awarded a scholarship.

This year's Scholarship Night promises to be an exciting event for the scholarship recipients and all students of German, their teachers, and everyone who attends this special night.

There will be additional information regarding the time, cost, menu, etc. in the April *Zeitung*.

In the meantime, if you have any questions about the program, please feel free to contact me at 315-345-6253.

SALLY FRENZA, *Scholarship Chair*

Goethe and Schiller Monument

Spring is almost here, and it is time to think about installing additional bricks at the Goethe and Schiller Monument. Why not buy a brick or 2 or 3? What a great Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day, or birthday 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 315-451-1848 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.

The Onondaga Central High School German Club has started the ball rolling by being the first to purchase a brick for installation this spring. Why not join them in this great project?

If you have any questions about the monument or the bricks, please give me a call at 315-451-1848.

BOB DOMACHOWSKI, *Goethe and Schiller Monument Chair*

From the Editor

Although Ash Wednesday has passed and put an end to *Fasching* for this year, let's take a look at it, especially since our German American Society President, Willi Kreuzer, mentioned *Fasching* in his article this month.

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, that takes the prize. *Fasching* is often referred to as Germany's foolish or silly season. There are thousands of costume balls and dances all over Germany. All events start at 11 minutes past the 11th hour on November 11th. Although it remains low key for the first few weeks, the action really gets started 7 weeks before Easter.

The Thursday before Ash Wednesday is known as *Welberfastnacht* 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

Just a reminder that if you want to continue as a 2017 patron of the Zeitung, please send in your \$15 check to the editor at the contact information in this Zeitung. Thank you.

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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.

Also, we will soon be welcoming St. Patrick's Day, an Irish tradition. What about Germany on this festive day? Well, even though it is not celebrated to the extent that it is in Ireland or the U.S., the Irish living in Germany do celebrate *Sankt Patrickstag* with their German friends. (After all, isn't everyone Irish on St. Patrick's Day?) Many German pubs take advantage of the celebration to sell more beer and whiskey. (I'm sure there's no problem with that!)

March is special in Switzerland where the first Sunday in March is *Tag der Kranken* (Day of the Ill). The Swiss observation started in 1939 when Dr. Marthe Nicati, who specialized in tuberculosis cases, felt that a day needed to be created to further better relations between the ill and the healthy. She also wanted to create a better understanding of the needs of the sick. This "Day of the Ill" is celebrated on the first Sunday in March with visits to hospitals, media awareness campaigns, and a speech by the Swiss Federal President. Each year has a theme to raise awareness and get people out to visit ill friends and family members.

Why don't we all observe this, not just for one day, but whenever we hear about a sick friend or family member? A card, phone call, or visit really cheers up an ill or recuperating person.

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 at 619 North Salina Street? They have 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 also always a dinner special. Please give the Syracuse Turners a call at 315-471-9851 and they will let you know what the special will be.

Events at the Utica Männerchor

For more information about upcoming events at the Utica Männerchor, located at 5535 Flanagan Road in Marcy, just contact the clubhouse at 315-735-5882. Please try to support our friends in Utica by attending their events.

Contact the *Zeitung*!

Mail: Sally Frenza, 4 Commodore Cir., Baldwinsville, NY 13027

Phone: 315-345-6253 E-mail: sallyzf@aol.com

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	<p>Pat Mahar <i>Catering</i> 417 Abell Ave. • Solvay, NY 13209 315-560-9009 chefmahar@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Richard K. Schoeck Dianna Schoeck N.Y.S. Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitators 675-3690</p>	<p>JOSEPH J. ABT & SONS, INC. PLUMBING AND HEATING Edward C. Abt, Jr. PRESIDENT 144 Martin Street • Syracuse, NY 13208 (315) 455-1611</p>
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