

Helen Kline, Financial Secretary

John Ott Dave Gunter Klaus Raith, Honorary President

Please Note: If we have inclement weather on the day of any of our scheduled meetings, please either call President Willi Kreuzer at 315-472-3507 or the Syracuse Turners at 315-471-9851 to find out if the meeting is canceled. Apologies go out to anyone who went to the Syracuse Turners on December 14 only to be told that the meeting was cancelled.

# **President's Report**

#### Prosit Neu Jahr!

I hope everyone had a great beginning of the New Year! Looking back at 2017, we had a great run. We did have some setbacks, but with everyone's help, we overcame them all. Our last party, the Christmas **Partym** was well attended, and I believe all had a great time.

Now is the time to look forward to the New Year and to what we can accomplish together.

Please attend the January 18 General Meeting being held at the Syracuse Turners at 7 P.M. and get the ball rolling. We need participation and for members to step forward with ideas and suggestions. See you at the meeting!

WILL KREUZER, President

#### Vice President's Report

Thope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

We now need to get started on our plans for 2018, including Oktoberfest. That being said, the first Oktoberfest Committee Meeting is being scheduled for January 16 at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners. Give some thought to where you can help out. Someone is needed right away to start on the advertising. Many publications start early in setting up the ads.

Also, someone is needed to start soliciting for sponsors as soon as possible, as many businesses have their budgets in place early in the year and we need to contact them soon in order to secure sponsorship money.

There are many areas where your talents can be used. Please attend the Oktoberfest Committee Meeting on January 16 and express your ideas and where you would like to help out. You are needed and appreciated!

The January General Membership Meeting is scheduled for January 18. Please try to attend to obtain information on upcoming events and to take an active part in our future.

If you have any questions that I can help you with, or if you would like more information on the Oktoberfest Committee, just give me a call at 315-675-8321.

Thank you!

KLAUS RAITH, Vice President and Honorary President

#### **Treasurer's Report**

ust 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 January General Membership Meeting on January 18 at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners for a complete report on our financial status.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns that I can help you with, please speak with me at any of our meetings or events or contact me at 315-437-8746.

Thank you.

RICHARD PFAFF, Treasurer

### **Financial Secretary's Report**

sincere wish to all for a very happy and healthy New Year in 2018! We have an application for membership from Jeannine Nolan of Fayetteville. She will be presented at the January General 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. Or just contact me. My contact information is found below.

Reminder: The 2018 membership dues are due in January and should be sent to the above address. The dues for renewing members remain at \$15 per year. The dues can be paid in person at the January General Membership Meeting, or sent to the above address. Checks need to be made payable to the German American Society of CNY (please add annual dues in the message portion of your check). 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 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 from membership

#### **CLUB MEETINGS**

- Jan 16 Oktoberfest Committee Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7
- Jan 18 Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6
- General Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7
- Feb 13 Oktoberfest Committee Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7
- Feb 15 Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6 Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Scholarship Night, Syracuse Turners, 5-9 Apr 30
- Syracuse Bavarian Oktoberfest, Aug 4
- Long Branch Park, Liverpool & 5

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.

**Reminder**: If you will be away for an extended period of time this winter the *Zeitung* can be forwarded to you. Please contact the Editor to arrange for this complimentary service of the German American Society. Also, if you change your address, please contact me 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 me at 315-458-6415 or by e-mail at hkline8@twcny.rr.com.

Thank you in advance for your help and cooperation.

HELEN KLINE, Financial Secretary

## **The House Committee**

The December 10 **Christmas Party** was a huge success. We had good attendance and everyone appeared to be enjoying the music, dancing, and food. Thank you to everyone who helped prepare and serve the food and to those who contributed the tasty desserts.

The Enzian Bavarian Quartet sounded great and kept people dancing and swaying in their seats all night long. The sing-along really got everyone into the Christmas spirit.

Also, thank you to "Santa" for stopping in. It made the children very happy to see him, and to receive the gifts from "Mrs. Santa."

Our auctioneer, **Eric Gang**, and everyone who contributed to the auction, helped make this annual event a success. Thanks!

The events for next year will be in an upcoming Zeitung.

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 315-491-2573 or email omib21@aol.com.

Thank you, and I look forward to a great 2018 with a lot of fun events! BRIGITTE NIEBUHR, *House Committee Chair* 

## **Constitution and By-Laws Committee**

There will be a special meeting immediately following the January 18 General Membership Meeting to discuss the Revised Constitution and By-Laws. Clarification will be provided to any questions from the membership. However, no additional changes can be made. A vote will then be taken to either accept or reject the Revised Constitution and By-Laws. There will be absentee ballots allowed.

If you have not received a copy of the Revised Constitution and By-Laws, contact Willi Rohrbach, Committee Chair, at warohrb@gmail.com or by cell or text at 610-972-4169.

## **Sunshine Lady**

uring the month of December, there were no cards sent.

Please contact me at 315-468-4541 to report any illnesses, surgeries, deaths, anniversaries, monumental birthdays, or other events that are deserving of a card.

MARGARETHA MICHO, Sunshine Lady

### **Installation of Officers**

Concerning the December 14 Monthly Membership Meeting was canceled due to inclement weather, the installation of the 2018 Officers and Board Members will take place at the January 18 General Membership Meeting.

### **Goethe and Schiller Monument**

Christmas is over but there are other gift opportunities coming up. Valentine's Day is just around the corner. Why not buy a brick or 2 or 3 at the Goethe and Schiller Monument? What a great 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 or online at www.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 315-451-1848.

BOB DOMACHOWSKI, Goethe and Schiller Monument Chair

# **Scholarship Program**

The Scholarship applications should be out to the schools by the time you read this *Zeitung*.

Scholarship Night is scheduled for April 30 at the Syracuse Turners from 5 to 9 P.M. Please plan to attend if at all possible to support the wonderful students of German. It is a very enjoyable night. There will be more information in the *Zeitung* in the upcoming months.

## **From the Editor**

am still looking for someone to take over the mailing of the *Zeitung*. If you are interested in taking on this job, please contact me at 315-345-6253 and I will provide you with additional information about this task.

Thank you to Carla Martin who previously provided this service for part of 2017 and to Nancy Crast for her help in getting me going when Carla was no longer able to do the mailing.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the readers of the *Zeitung* who provided me with some very positive feedback throughout 2017. You have no idea how good it makes me feel when someone tells me how much they enjoy reading the *Zeitung*. I really appreciate and need those strokes.

The German American Society of CNY has had some real positive events during 2017:

• Scholarship Night was great and honored the recipients in the photo below, as well as all students of German and their teachers. If you were not able to attend in 2017, the 2018 Scholarship Night is just around the corner.



From left to right: Connor Maltby from Onondaga Central High School, who will be attending Onondaga Community College in the General Studies program with a concentration in Psychology; Ryan Bishop from Fayetteville Manlius High School, who will be attending the University of Rochester in the Chemical Engineering program; Nathan Tinklepaugh from Paul V. Moore High School in Central Square, who will be attending SUNY Albany in the Material Scientist program; Scholarship Chair, Sally Frenza; Becca Saya from Mexico High School, who will attending Stony Brook University in the Endocrinologist program; and, Austin Whitaker from Mexico High School, who will be attending Rochester Institute of Technology in the Microelectronic Engineering program.



Bob Gang and his wife Holly, dancing at our Society Picnic.

- The **Maitanz** was a lot of fun. In 2017 we were again joined by some members of the Syracuse Turners who were spotted on the dance floor kicking up their heels! Hopefully 2018 will see the two clubs support each other's functions.
- The **Society Picnic** was enjoyed by all. This is a benefit of German American Society membership. No member in good standing pays for the picnic. Guests are \$15 and can become members for their picnic entry fee. If you have not attended in the past, why not try 2018? See picture above of our most senior member, Bob Gang, who is 99 years young, and his wife, Holly, dancing at the Picnic.
- And speaking of enjoyment, the **Christmas Party** was a lot of fun. It was really great as noted in the House Committee Report.
- The Syracuse Bavarian Oktoberfest in August brought out many merrymakers, young and not so young. The Bavarian Brothers really added to the fun with their great dance music and entertainment on the Alpenhorn, bells, and skis. The Enzian Bavarian Band and Dancers were a hit as always. And the Edelweiss Schuhplatlers from Utica showed off their dancing skills.

Just a reminder that if you want to continue as a 2018 patron of the Zeitung, please send in your \$15 check to the editor at the contact information in this Zeitung. Thank you.

If anyone else would like to become a patron and see your name in each issue of the Zeitung, please follow the instructions regarding your \$15 check. New patrons are welcomed with open arms!

### PATRONS

Jack Bligh Eric Doell Sally Frenza Eric Gang Tina L. Higgins Udo John Fritz Kucinski Eric Lorenz Robert Oberst Barbara Omicinski Willi Rohrbach Dick Salanger The Schaack Family

- Through our events we made the Syracuse community near and far aware of our German heritage and culture, and we look forward to continued promotion in the upcoming year.
- Unfortunately, we had the following members pass away in 2017: Joe Domachowske, Herman Amrhein, Alois (Alex) J. Engler, Edward Kokernak, Ria Breu, and Jennie Hill. We wish to express our sincere condolences to their families and friends. If I have left out any members or former members who passed away during 2017, please let me know and I will note the names next month.
- We have also seen our membership again start to grow as more people have joined our organization. We look forward to continued growth and increased participation from our new and current members.
- Since we just greeted the New Year, below is a little information regarding New Year in Germany.
- In Germany, the New Year's celebration begins with New Year's Eve. December 31st is the feast day of Saint Sylvester and New Year's Eve is named after him. Sylvester was a Pope who lived in the fourth century. According to German legends, he healed leprosy and baptized the Roman Emperor, Constantine the Great.
- People spend time with their dear ones at this festive time. As soon as the clock strikes 12, people hug, kiss, and wish each other *ein gutes neues Jahr*. Church bells start ringing and the champagne and wine flow lavishly as fireworks light up the skies. It is considered auspicious by the people to eat carp or herring. For Sylvester, lentil (or split pea) soup with wieners is very popular.
- Happy New Year to all! Looking forward to 2018 being a great year!
- 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? 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 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

### Deutsche Zeitung

VOLUME XV, ISSUE 1 Published monthly by the German-American Society of Central New York P.O. Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548

Deutsche Zeitung



#### German-American Society of Central New York

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