



Deutsche Zeitung

of the German-American Society of Central New York

Oktober 2019

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David A. Gunter, *President* B. Bruce Barnes, *Vice President*
Vacant, *Treasurer*
June Pardue, *Secretary*
Austin Westphal, *Financial Secretary*

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2 yrs: Sally Frenza, Eric Gang, Helen Kline,
Robert Kline, Brigitte Niebuhr
1 yr: Kenneth Blechl, Carl Bloss, Susan
Foster, Monika Loerzel, Bill Nurk

President's Report

Well, our Oktoberfest is over, and it was a great one! I want to personally thank everyone who helped out by heading up an area, volunteering at Oktoberfest, or anything else that was done to get this festival off and running.

A huge thank-you goes to **Bruce Barnes**, who took over more than a year ago and began the planning. Without his leadership, this Oktoberfest would not have gotten off the ground!

Since Bruce will not be available in October, I am asking that the Oktoberfest Committee members and other interested individuals attend the Oktoberfest Wrap-up Meeting at 6 P.M. on November 21 at the Syracuse Turners. This meeting is prior to the Monthly Membership Meeting.

Please attend the October 17 Monthly Membership Meeting, as it is Nomination Night.

If you have any questions that I can help you with, please feel free to contact me at 315-289-8145.

Thank you again to our members who continue to support our great organization, and I will see you at the meeting.

DAVID A. GUNTER, *President, Vice-President/Oktoberfest Report*

Ein Prost!

By the time you read this our 2019 Syracuse Bavarian Oktoberfest will have come and gone.

Over the past 14 months, personally speaking, it was a pleasure to meet with so many people and attend so many events, travel a lot of miles, and make so many phone calls to enable us to have a successful Oktoberfest. Changes had to be made, and I did my best to make everything cost-effective to the benefit of our organization.

Thank you to everyone who supported what I did or tried to do.

As I mentioned at our last meeting, as in the past, my mother and I go to Ohio to visit relatives and friends every October. Therefore, I will not be able to attend the October 17 Meeting. When nominations are called for from the floor, please do not nominate me for any Office or Board of Director position. I will not accept any nomination.

At our November Meeting I see no reason why a full and complete Oktoberfest report cannot be presented as most bills have been paid prior to Oktoberfest.

I will see you at our November Meeting and, once again, thank you for allowing me to be of service to the German American Society of CNY.

B. BRUCE BARNES, *Vice President and 2019 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 October 17 at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners, as it is Nomination Night.

If you would like to be nominated for the position of Treasurer, please see the article on Nomination Night in this *Zeitung*.

Financial Secretary's Report

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. Or it can be presented in person at any of our Monthly Membership Meetings. Applications can be obtained at a Monthly Membership Meeting, at any of our events, or on our website at www.germanamericanscnycny.com. Or just contact me and I will send one out. My contact information is found below.

Reminder: If you will be away for an extended period of time, 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 at 315-289-6568 and the Editor at 315-345-6253 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 the phone number above. Thank you.

AUSTIN WESTPHAL, *Financial Secretary*

CLUB MEETINGS

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Okt 17 | Monthly Membership Meeting and Nomination Night for 2020 Officers and Board Members, Syracuse Turners, 7 |
| Nov 21 | Oktoberfest Wrap-up Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6
Monthly Membership Meeting and Election Night, Syracuse Turners, 7 |

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Dez 15 | Christmas Party, Syracuse Turners, 2-6 |
|--------|--|

From the House Committee

Well, **Sally Frenza** and I have been working on the **Christmas Party**. I have booked the **Enzian Bavarian Band**, so be prepared to dance to their variety of German and other music.

Due to a scheduling conflict, the Christmas Party has been re-scheduled to Sunday, December 15 from 2 to 6 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners. So please mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend. It is always a lot of fun! There will be more information in the November *Zeitung* regarding the menu, price, etc. The Christmas Party is open to not just members, but also families, friends, and anyone who would like to join in the singing, dancing, and *Gemütlichkeit* that this party will offer. We will also have the usual auction, which raises money to support the party and is the source of many laughs!

If you would like to be on the House Committee or have any questions, just give either Sally a call/text at 315-345-6253 or me at 315-491-2573. At this time the members are myself, Sally, **Margaretha Micho**, **Anna Bultjer**, and **Ken Blechl**.

Thank you.

BRIGITTE NIEBUHR, *House Committee Member*

Sunshine Lady

I sent a birthday card to **Henry Beck**, who celebrated his birthday at Oktoberfest on Sunday with his family. We all wish him many more years!

Please report any illnesses, deaths, monumental birthdays, anniversaries, etc. to me at 315-468-4541.

Thank you.

MARGARETHA MICH0, *Sunshine Lady*

German Student Scholarship Program

I want to thank everyone who volunteered at the Scholarship/Hospitality area at Oktoberfest. In addition to the adults and members, there were several students of German who helped out with face-painting, selling German American flag pins, passing out the German Life magazines that were provided free of charge by the magazine publisher, helping with the raffles, and performing other tasks. It was great seeing so many young people come out on Saturday to participate and support the German American Society and our scholarship program. Thank you!

A special thank-you goes to our member **Tina Higgins**, who was there for the entire Oktoberfest helping me out and keeping everything moving in the Scholarship/Hospitality area as I spent a lot of time moving through the crowd speaking with people about our Scholarship Program.

As I was walking about, I met the mother of two of our prior Scholarship recipients. She came to our area and pointed out her sons in the Scholarship Book. She said she had fond memories of the Scholarship Nights and how much fun they were and how much it meant to her sons. She also shared with me that one of her sons is now an engineer and his company had sent him to Germany to work. His command of the German language helped him out tremendously.

Many people looked through the Scholarship Book and were impressed with what we've done for the students over the past 17 years.

We received several donations at Oktoberfest to support the Scholarship Program, and I thank each and every person who donated money, dropped bills and coins in the donation jars, or purchased German American flag pins or clothing.

There are still flag pins left for anyone who would like to purchase one for \$3. There is also some clothing for sale. The sale of these items supports our wonderful Scholarship Program.

The next German Student Scholarship Night will be on April 27, 2020.

If you have any questions about the Scholarship Program, or if you would like to purchase clothing or pins, please feel free to call/text me at 315-345-6253 or by email at sallyzf@aol.com.

Thank you!

SALLY FRENZA, *Scholarship Chair*

Crystal Brook B&B Weekend

The winner of the Crystal Brook B&B weekend that was raffled off at Oktoberfest is **Steve Stack**. Congratulations, and enjoy your weekend! Crystal Brook is a great place and tons of fun.

Nomination Night

Just a reminder that nominations for all Officers and 5 Board Members will take place at the October 17 Monthly Membership Meeting. Please give some thought to running for office and help our organization remain strong and grow! If you want to be nominated but are unable to attend the meeting, or if you would like to nominate another member, or if you have questions, please give Sally Frenza a call at 315-345-6253. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the October 17 meeting. In order to run for an office or the Board of Directors, you need to be a member in good standing for one year.

From the Editor

The Syracuse Bavarian Oktoberfest was great! At one point, there were no places to sit inside the pavilion and very few outside at the picnic tables, while many people stood to talk or listen to the music. Everyone looked like they were having a lot of fun. It was wonderful seeing families together enjoying the food, music and *Gemütlichkeit* that Oktoberfest provides. The balloon guys were a big hit and not only provided balloon animals and hats to the youngsters, but also several adults could be seen wearing their balloon creations as you can see from the picture of members **Margaretha Micho** and **Monika Loertzel** on the next page. If anyone has pictures from Oktoberfest that they are willing to share, please see my contact information on page 3 of this *Zeitung* on where to send them. I would like to include more pictures in upcoming issues.

There was a variety of music from the **Enzian Bavarian Band**, **Fritz's Polka Band**, and **The Dirt Road Ruckus Band**. People were on the dance floor really having a ball! **The Enzian Bavarian Dancers**, as well as the **Edelweiss Schuhplattlers** from Utica, put on good shows and gave the attendees of the Oktoberfest a taste of Bavarian folk dancing. They even persuaded some of the spectators to join them on the dance floor! What a blast!

Fritz's Polka Band had our member **Henry Beck** come out on the floor for a birthday wish as Happy Birthday was played and sung for him. *Alles Gute zum Geburtstag, Henry!*

A huge thank-you to **Bruce Barnes**, who worked tirelessly on Oktoberfest since last year. The new venue at the Pavilion in Lewis Park in Minoa worked out very well. **Dave Gunter** also provided a helping hand to Bruce, as did **Bill Nurk**, **Bob Kline**, and many others. Thanks to all who helped make this a great one!

Now for my monthly article. I thought that this month I would write about Halloween in Germany.

Although Halloween was not originally a German tradition, many people in Germany now celebrate this fun day while others feel it is just American hype. It is true that the commercialism of Halloween does come from America, but now Halloween has become so popular in Germany that it is estimated to bring in 200 million euros a year.

Just walk into some of the larger German department stores and you can find Halloween-themed decorations. Or go to a costumed Halloween party offered by many nightclubs. Some popular German family magazines provide information on how to throw a terrific, ghoulish party for your kids, complete with bat and ghost treats. One interesting difference between Germany and North American costumes worn by both adults and children is that the Germans tend to indulge in more scary outfits than Americans do. Oh, my goodness, more scary!!! I have chills just thinking about it.

Trick-or-treating is the part of Halloween that is the least observed in Germany and Austria. The reason this part of Halloween is not celebrated more is partly because just eleven days later children traditionally go door-to-door on *St. Martinstag* with their lanterns. They sing a song and then they are rewarded with baked goods and sweets.

Only in large, metropolitan cities of Germany will you see groups of children actually go door-to-door on Halloween. They say, either "*Süßes oder Saures*" or "*Süßes, sonst gibt's Saure*" as they collect treats from their neighbors.

Remember, if you have a German, Swiss, or Austrian holiday, tradition, or any topic that you would like me to write about, or if you have an article you have written and would like to see in print, just let me know.

SALLY FRENZA, *Editor*



Süßes oder Saures!

Members and Friends

If you are looking for somewhere to have a nice friendly Friday-night dinner, why not try the Syracuse Turners? They have great fish and other offerings on the menu, and all at a reasonable price. Dinner is served from 5:30 to 7:30. Just call the Syracuse Turners at 315-471-9851 for information about the dinner schedule or to request information on their events.

Events at the Utica Männerchor

For further information on hours, events, etc., just contact the clubhouse at 315-735-5882. Please try to support our friends in Utica by attending their events.

If you'd like to become a Patron of the *Zeitung* or if you are currently a patron and need to renew for 2019, please send your check for \$15 to the attention of the Editor at The German American Society of CNY, PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548. Please note on the message line that it is for Patron. Thank you to those Patrons who have already renewed.

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