



# Deutsche Zeitung

of the German-American Society of Central New York

www.germanamericanscny.com

Oktober 2020

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David A. Gunter, *President*      B. Bruce Barnes, *Vice President*  
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Sally Frenza, *Secretary*  
Nadja Allmann, *Financial Secretary*

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Robert Kline, Brigitte Niebuhr

## President's Report

**G**reetings to everyone. I hope you are all staying safe and well. If anyone needs **anything** that our organization may be able to help you with, please give me a call at 315-289-8145.

The Board met in August to discuss where we are and what we hope for the future to keep the membership involved. At this point, no one knows how long this pandemic will last or how long we will need to practice the measures to keep safe.

We are hoping to have a Monthly Membership Meeting in the near future following the rules of masks, sanitizing hands, and social distancing. The Turners have set up the room that we meet in following the state mandates to keep everyone safe. When we do have the meeting, please try to attend and offer your suggestions and obtain the latest information on our wonderful organization.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 15, at 6 P.M. at the Turners.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or suggestions that I can help you with, please feel free to contact me.

Hope to see everyone soon. Stay safe!

DAVID A. GUNTER, *President*

## Vice-President's Report

**I** have nothing new to report at this time.

B. BRUCE BARNES, *Vice President*

## Treasurer's Report

**A**lthough we've had to curtail our activities due to the pandemic shutdown, the Club is still conducting necessary business. So far in 2020 I've prepared and submitted our 2019 tax return, prepared and submitted our NYS charitable organization registration, deposited receipts, paid invoices, and maintained records. Our year-to-date expenditures were primarily the four scholarships, the newsletter, donations to organizations providing food to those in need, and our operational expenses.

Please plan to attend the next Monthly Membership Meeting, which we hope will be in the near future, to obtain a complete report of our financial status and to discuss any ideas you may have to keep our organization strong.

Just a reminder: Please send all dues, payments, invoices, patron fees, advertising, or financial communication to: The German-American Society of CNY, PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220. If you have any questions, you can reach me by email at [heckatjr@gmail.com](mailto:heckatjr@gmail.com), or via text message at 315-200-5209.

Thank you.

JAMES HECKATHORNE, *Treasurer*

## Financial Secretary's Report

**I**would like to thank everyone who follows our Facebook page for your support and engagement. You can find our Facebook page at German American Society of CNY if you have not done so already. You'll see posts about notable German Americans in Syracuse, German holidays and traditions, as well as German *Bier* and food! If there's something you'd like to share or would like to see us post, please message us on Facebook or email us at [cnygermansociety@gmail.com](mailto:cnygermansociety@gmail.com).

Membership update: So far this year, we have voted in five new members. The 2020 membership stickers should have come to all members in good standing attached to this *Zeitung*. If you did not receive a sticker you may obtain one at any upcoming meeting or event.

When the board met on August 20, 2020, the three applicants that were pending from the beginning of the

### CLUB MEETINGS

Okt 15      Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6

### UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

No events have been scheduled at this time, although we are hoping to be able to get together before too long. More information regarding events to follow in future issues of the *Zeitung*.

year were voted into membership. This decision was made outside of typical protocol and in consideration of the current circumstances we find ourselves in that have limited our ability to meet as a Society. We would like to welcome **Jane Neer**, Baldwinsville, proposed by Jim Heckathorne; **Kristine Capria**, Syracuse, proposed by Dave Gunter; and **Derrick Pratt**, Chittenango, proposed by Sally Frenza. We look forward to getting to know you!

We are always looking to expand our membership. If you have any ideas or suggestions about how we can reach out to potential new members please let us know! We value your suggestions and input and would love to have you involved! 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, at any of our events, or on our website at [www.germanamericanscny.com](http://www.germanamericanscny.com). You can also email [cnygermansociety@gmail.com](mailto:cnygermansociety@gmail.com) and one can be emailed or mailed to you, whichever you prefer.

For any member who has an email address and would be open to receiving information and communications this way, I ask that you send an email to [cnygermansociety@gmail.com](mailto:cnygermansociety@gmail.com) so that this can be added to your contact information. You will continue to receive the *Zeitung* in the mail as usual.

Reminders: If you will be away for an extended period of time, the *Zeitung* can be forwarded to you. Please contact the Editor at 315-345-6253 or [sallyzf@aol.com](mailto:sallyzf@aol.com) to arrange for this complimentary service. If you change your address, please call or text me at 315-450-4655, email [cnygermansociety@gmail.com](mailto:cnygermansociety@gmail.com), or contact the Editor with the new information to ensure that the membership list is kept current and that *Zeitung* reaches you.

To discuss any of the above areas or if you have questions regarding your dues or membership, please contact me at the above number or email address. Please be advised that email or text are the most effective way to reach due to my work schedule. If you call, please anticipate that you will most likely have to leave a message and I will return your call when I am able.

Thank you.

NADJA ALLMANN, *Financial Secretary*

## From the House Committee

Due to the pandemic we have been unable to have our planned activities. We are hoping to be able to plan a get-together before the end of the year. There will be further information as plans progress.

If you would like to be on the House Committee or have any questions, just give a call or text to Sally Frenza at 315-345-6253 or me at 315-491-2573. We can use your help and suggestions for activities.

Thank you.

BRIGITTE NIEBUHR & SALLY FRENZA, *House Committee*

## Sunshine Lady

Over the past few months, I have sent out two sympathy cards. One card was sent to member **Rolf Ziemer** on the passing of his dear wife **Ruth**, who was also a member. The other card was sent to **Barbara Omicinski**, a longtime member, on the passing of her brother. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends of these two dearly departed individuals.

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

Thank you.

MARGARETHA MICH0, *Sunshine Lady*

In addition to the above, I would like to inform the members that we lost a past member, **Steve Dreher**. He sang with the Liederverein Chorus and the Deutscher Gesangverein as well as being my dance partner for quite a while in the German Folk Dancing Group.

Rest in Peace, Steve.

SALLY FRENZA

## 18th Year of the German Student Scholarship Program

Unfortunately, due to the stay-at-home restrictions, the Scholarship Night set for April 27 had to be canceled.

The following students had been chosen to each receive an \$800 scholarship from the 2020 German American Society Scholarship Program: **Alexandra Egnaczak**, Fayetteville-Manlius; **Samuel A. Theoharis**, Fayetteville-Manlius; **Evan Blunt**, Mexico; and **Morgan Fischer**, Mexico.

After receipt of the required confirmation information, an \$800 scholarship check was sent to each recipient. Along with the check, each student also received a German American flag pin, a framed certificate of their award, and a German American T-shirt. We wish the students the best during their college years.

Since we do not know how long this pandemic and the mandated restrictions will continue, it is unclear what the 2021 scholarship Program will look like, but it will continue. Further information will follow in future issues of the *Zeitung*.

Thank you to the German American Society of CNY for their ongoing support of this wonderful program.

Just a reminder: There are still flag pins for sale for anyone who would like to purchase one for \$3. We also have some gently used German clothing for sale at very reasonable prices.

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

Thank you!

SALLY FRENZA, *Scholarship Chair*

## From the Editor

At this time of the year there are usually more Autumn fun activities than we can keep up with. However, 2020 will go down in history as the year of cancelations, face masks, social distancing, take-out meals, virtual learning for students, and a realm of other things. It has also been a time for families to get to know each other again, away from the rush of pre-pandemic days. Zoom is the word of the day! Things are starting to open up, but it looks like it will be a while before we return to normal. And who knows what the new normal will look like?

Even though it appears that **Oktoberfest** has been canceled, not only in Munich, but other popular places as well, let's reminisce a little, and look back at how Oktoberfest first began.

When Crown Prince Ludwig of Bavaria and the Princess of Saxonia, Theresia, were married in Munich on Oktober 12, 1810, a national holiday was declared and the citizens were invited to the five-day wedding festivities celebrated in the fields outside the city's gates. The celebration was so popular that it became an annual festival in Munich with beer stands set up for townfolks to quench

their thirst. The original beer stands gave way to large beer tents in 1896, and are still part of this elaborate and festive German celebration. Fourteen big tents each accommodate thousands of people seated at picnic tables inside and thousands more outside the tents.

Germany is famous for its beers and its beer-brewing purity laws. There are six breweries highlighted at Munich's Oktoberfest tents. Many revelers arrive at the beer tents in the morning to secure seats for the fun-filled days of drinking, singing, dancing, and eating.

Since the start of Oktoberfest, the dates have been changed from the original wedding date in mid-October to September to have more favorable weather to celebrate the two-week-long festival.

In Munich, the Oktoberfest usually starts on the third Saturday in September, with the tapping of the first keg of beer by the mayor of the city to officially open the festivities. However, in America, the dates of Oktoberfest make up a wide spectrum from summer months through October.

Oktoberfest is not just the celebration of the famous wedding, it is a spirited and wonderful feeling between old friends, new friends, and family. Strangers become friends when the music and dancing start. It is a warm, wonderful feeling that words cannot describe. It gives true meaning to the word *Gemütlichkeit!*

Hopefully the world will come out of this pandemic soon, and the celebrations and fun can start again. In the meantime, make yourself a *Bratwurst*, put on some Oktoberfest music, have a *Spaten*, and enjoy our beautiful autumn colors.

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*

Anyone who would like to become a Patron of the *Zeitung*, 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 "Patron" on the message line of your check. Thank you.

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## Members and Friends

The Syracuse Turners are currently operating on a very limited activity schedule due to the pandemic. If you would like information regarding the Turners, just call 315-471-9851.

Contact the *Zeitung!*

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

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

## Deutsche Zeitung

VOLUME XVII, ISSUE 10

Published monthly by the

German-American Society of Central New York

P.O. Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548

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