



Deutsche Zeitung

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November 2020

of the German-American Society of Central New York

Officers

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

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2 yrs: Carl Bloss, Susan Foster, Tina Higgins,
Monika Loerzel, Bill Nurk
1 yr: [Vacant], Eric Gang, Helen Kline,
Robert Kline, Brigitte Niebuhr

President's Report

Greetings to everyone. I hope you are all staying safe and well. It appears we are in another surge of Covid-19 cases. 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 October to discuss our direction amid this pandemic. 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.

Although we were hoping to have a **Monthly Membership Meeting** and possibly a social gettogether in the near future following the rules of masks, sanitizing hands, and social distancing, the uptick in Covid-19 cases will put a damper on that. It appears now that the safest thing to do is to postpone our meeting till possibly February. When we do have the meeting, please try to attend to offer your suggestions and to obtain the latest information on our wonderful organization.

At the **October Board Meeting** we discussed a **Holiday Fundraiser** for the CNY Food Bank and the Shriners. Please see further information in the Financial Secretary's Report in this *Zeitung*.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 19 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

Although we've had to curtail our activities due to the pandemic shutdown, the club is still conducting necessary business. Our expenses at this time are fairly low, with the *Zeitung*, mailings, and a few ongoing monthly expenses.

Please plan to attend the next **Monthly Membership Meeting**, which we hope will be in February 2021 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, advertising, or financial communication to: The German-American Society of CNY, PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220. If any member has any questions, you can reach me by email at heckatjr@gmail.com, or via text message at 315-200-5209.

Thank you.

JAMES HECKATHORNE, *Treasurer*

Financial Secretary's Report

Iwould 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. We will soon be adding information about a Holiday Fundraiser that the German American Society will be doing this year to assist the CNY Food Bank and the Shriners. If you are able and would like to donate to this fundraiser, please send a check in any amount to The German American Society of CNY, PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548. On the message line of your check just add "Holiday Fundraiser." There will be additional information on our Facebook page. Your donation will be tax deductible as we are a not for profit 501(c)3 organization. You'll also see posts about notable German Americans in Syracuse, German holidays and traditions, as well as German *Bier* and food on our Facebook page! If there's something

CLUB MEETINGS

Nov 19 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 in early 2021. More information regarding events to follow in future issues of the *Zeitung*.

you'd like to share or something you'd like to see us post about please message us on Facebook or email us at cnygermansociety@gmail.com.

Stay tuned for updates regarding 2021 dues that will be coming in the December *Zeitung*. I ask that you hold off on sending dues payments at this time. 2020 membership stickers should have come to you attached to the October *Zeitung*.

Currently we have no new-paid applicants. We are always looking to expand our membership and even more so now as our membership numbers are decreasing due to people moving away and, sadly, some of our members passing away. If you have any ideas or suggestions about ways 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 meeting, event, or on our website at www.germanamericanscny.com. You can also email cnygermansociety@gmail.com and one can be emailed or mailed to you as preferred.

For any member that has an email address and would be open to receiving information and communicating in this way, I ask that you send an email to cnygermansociety@gmail.com so that we can add this 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 to arrange for this complimentary service. If you change your address, please call or text me at 315-450-4655, email cnygermansociety@gmail.com, or contact the Editor 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 questions regarding your dues, membership, or our Holiday Fundraiser, please contact me in your preferred method. Please be advised that email or text are the most effective way to reach me. If you call, please leave a message and I will return your call as soon as 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. Also, we will not be having

a gettogether by the end of the year. There will be further information for the future as plans progress.

If you would like to be on the House Committee or have any questions or suggestions, just give either 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

During October I sent a birthday card to **Anna Bultjer** in celebration of her 90th Birthday. Happy Birthday, Anna, and many more!

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

Thank you.

MARGARETHA MICHO, *Sunshine Lady*

19th Year of the German Student Scholarship Program

Thank you to the German American Society of CNY for their ongoing support of this wonderful program. Hopefully there will be more information soon on how the program will be handled in 2021.

Just a reminder: There are still flag pins for sale for anyone who would like to purchase one for \$3. Great stocking stuffers. 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

This has certainly been an unprecedented year. A year in which we all have missed so many special events that have had to be canceled—not just seeing our German American Society friends, but so many others who may live out of state and not able to come and visit over the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday due to the pandemic. We will get through this and meet and be stronger than ever! In the meantime, Happy Thanksgiving, and remember all the things we have to be thankful for!

November is upon us. The fall leaves are a thing of yesterday as we head into the start of the holiday season. With the coming of November, we are provided with an opportunity to thank our Armed Forces members both past and present for helping to maintain peace in our unsettled world and preserve our freedom. Please take

advantage of Veteran's Day, November 11, to say "Thank You" to a veteran or an active service member and thank him or her for their service. Actually, any time is a good time to thank those who help preserve our freedom. You don't need to wait for a special day.

November also brings us Thanksgiving. Large family gatherings may be on hold for this year due to the recommendations set forth by our governor on gathering size due to the pandemic. But we still have much to be thankful for. At the family gatherings that can take place, many families request that each person, before the blessing is said, or one morsel of food is touched, tell one thing that happened over the past year they are thankful for. It really puts a positive spin on the day, and makes us all think about our many blessings, even in these dark times. We live in a free country; we have a roof over our heads and food to eat, friends and family. This time of year also reminds us that while we are giving thanks for what we have, there are many people who are less fortunate. Why not donate to the food pantry either through food, money, or labor, so that others can have a good Thanksgiving meal? Or take a Thanksgiving meal to someone you may know who is housebound. These deeds are real blessings not only to those who need them, but to those who are the givers.

Also, please remember in your thoughts and prayers the many service men and women, police officers, firemen, nurses, healthcare workers, and all other essential workers who are separated from their families during Thanksgiving. Ask that they are protected from harm as they protect and serve us. In addition, please remember the people who are separated from families due to illness or debilitating conditions and are in hospitals, nursing homes, or some other type of facility. Right now we all need each other more than ever!

Now for a few words about a typical Thanksgiving

across the pond. This Thanksgiving in Germany may be somewhat altered due to the pandemic that has affected every country in the world. The following description tells of the festivities in "normal" times. First of all, the Germanic *Erntedankfest* ("harvest festival of thanks") is primarily a rural and religious celebration. When it is celebrated in larger cities, it is usually part of a church service and not anything like the big traditional family holiday in America. Although it is celebrated locally and regionally, none of the German-speaking countries observes an official national Thanksgiving holiday on a particular day as in the U.S. However, during harvest time, visitors to German churches will find a large amount of fruits, vegetables, sheaves of grain, and also baked goods, as decorations around the altars. Visitors to market places and fairgrounds will oftentimes find *Erntedankfest* and other festivities to celebrate this occasion.

In the wine regions, *Winzer* (vintners) will present their new wines and allow for a public wine-tasting. (Yum!). A *Bauernmarkt* (farmers' market) will allow visitors to purchase the freshest produce available, while the more immediate culinary needs are attended to in a *Festzelt* (party tent), where various breads and sweet confections, as well as various *Wursts* and other foods, and maybe some great German beers, would be available. For, after all, what is a German celebration without beer?

Hopefully, the world will come out of this pandemic soon, and people will be able to get together and the celebrations and fun can start again.

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

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—Sally Frenza

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