



Deutsche Zeitung

of the German-American Society of Central New York

Dezember 2020

Officers

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

Board of Directors

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 all had a safe and happy Thanksgiving. We are now entering the Christmas season. I realize that this is going to be a hard season for many people. So, let me just emphasize that if anyone needs **anything** that our organization may be able to help you with, please give me a call at 315-289-8145.

It is also time to renew your membership. Please see the Financial Secretary's report regarding dues. At this time it is so important for us to all stick together.

The Board met in November and it was decided that, due to the uptick in Covid-19 cases, we will put any future membership meetings on hold until things level out. 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. It looks like a vaccine is not too far off and hopefully activities and lives can resume.

At the Board Meeting we also discussed the **Holiday Fundraiser for the CNY Food Bank and the Shriners**. Please see the article in this *Zeitung* for further details. You can also find additional information on our Facebook page.

The next **Board Meeting** is scheduled for Thursday, March 18, 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!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

DAVID A. GUNTER, *President*

Vice President's Report

We want to thank **Bruce Barnes** for his participation and hard work as Vice President. At this time, Bruce has decided not to continue as Vice President when his current term expires, although he will remain a member of the German American Society of CNY.

This leaves an opening for Vice President. If any member in good standing would like more information on this office, please contact President Dave Gunter at 315-289-8145.

Again, thank you, Bruce, for all you have done for our organization.

Treasurer's Report

Ws I have noted in the past, we continue to meet our financial obligations, and we look forward to participating in fun activities in the future to once again bring us together as the strong organization that we are. I will have a complete financial report when we are able to have a Monthly Membership Meeting, hopefully in the spring.

I have been working with **Nadja Allman** on the fundraiser that was mentioned in the November *Zeitung*.

Please see the fundraising article in this *Zeitung* for further details.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

JAMES HECKATHORNE, *Treasurer*

Financial Secretary's Report

PLEASE READ FOR IMPORTANT UPDATE ON DUES FOR 2021.

The cost of dues have been the same for many, many years. At the November Board Meeting, the Board members reviewed the financial status of our organization, including the cost of printing and mailing the *Zeitung*, renting the meeting space, as well as other expenditures such as our Scholarship Program. **In order to keep up with general price increases over the years the Board has agreed to an increase in the yearly membership dues to \$25 for an individual beginning in 2021. We have added a Couples Dues option of \$40 for two adults living in the same household.** In addition to the *Zeitung* and meetings, dues-paying members will receive discounts to upcoming events as well as access to special member events that we will schedule throughout the year. We will begin holding member meetings and planning events as soon as we feel

CLUB MEETINGS

Mär 18 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*.

that it is safe to gather and the current pandemic is no longer a safety concern.

Dues payments postmarked by January 31, 2020, will be accepted at the 2020 dues cost of \$15 per person for this one time only. Starting on February 1, 2021, the dues will be \$25, whether an existing member or a new applicant.

Thank you to everyone who follows our Facebook page. I hope you have had a chance to read the information about the fundraiser we are doing for **Food Bank of CNY and Shriner's Hospitals for Children** this holiday season. I thank you in advance for your support.

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

At this time we have no new-paid applicants. We are always looking to expand our membership, especially at this very difficult time. 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 if 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 or membership, 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*

Holiday Fundraiser

Dear Members and Friends: The German American Society of CNY is raising money this holiday season to benefit the **Food Bank of CNY and Shriner's Hospitals for Children**. We know this has been a difficult year for our country and our communities. Many families have been struggling with food, bills, and medical needs. We would like to take time this holiday season to support these charitable organizations who give so much to those in need.

Please consider giving, in any amount you are able, so that together we can make donations to these two wonderful charities. The Food Bank of CNY provides meal sites and food boxes for our local children and families. Let's support them so that all our CNY families in need have food for this holiday season. Shriner's Hospitals for Children provides quality care to children with neuromusculoskeletal conditions, burn injuries, and other special healthcare needs. Several of our members are involved with Shriner's Hospitals and we know how much your support will mean to the families that the Shriners serve.

The German American Society of CNY is a not for profit 501(c)3 organization, which means your donation is tax-deductible. Even for people who don't itemize deductions, new for 2020 under the CARES Act you can deduct up to \$300 of qualifying charitable donations. Also, for every \$25 donation you make, you will get an entry into a drawing to win one of two Syracuse Oktoberfest baseball caps!

We will be collecting donations until December 15, 2020. All donations will be divided equally between the two charities. Donation checks should be made out to The German American Society of CNY and mailed to The German American Society of CNY, PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548. Please note on the memo section of your check that it is for the Holiday Fundraiser. If you prefer to make your donation electronically through PayPal or Venmo, please reach out by sending us a message or by emailing us at cnygermansociety@gmail.com

Thank you for your support. We wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season!!

From the House Committee

No plans yet, but 2021 will hopefully see a return to fun activities for our organization.

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.

Thank you.

BRIGITTE NIEBUHR & SALLY FRENZA, *House Committee*

Sunshine Lady

Our thoughts and well wishes go out to **Sally Frenza**, who is recuperating from a total reverse left shoulder replacement.

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

Thank you.

MARGARETHA MICHIO, *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. The Board agreed at the November meeting to allow the 2021 Scholarship Program to continue as it has in the past. At this point it is not certain if the Scholarship Night can be held, but the scholarships will be awarded. The German teachers will be contacted very shortly to discuss the 2021 program. The applications will go out in early January 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. Any money received for the sale of these items will be used for the Scholarship Program.

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 Christmas will be like no other due to the ongoing pandemic. The size of the gatherings is cut back, and many of us will be unable to see our loved ones on this most wonderful day. This is also a time of year to reflect on

Due to the increased expenses related to publishing the *Zeitung* and getting it out to each of you, it is necessary to raise the cost of being a Patron from \$15 to \$20 per year. So, if you would like to become a Patron of the *Zeitung*, or if you are renewing your Patron ad, please send your check for \$20 to: 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.

PATRONS

Bruce Barnes Henry Beck *in Memory of Eric Doell*
Sally Frenza Tina L. Higgins Udo John Fritz Kucinski
John LaLande *in Memory of Ludwig Müller*
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John Ott & Janet Hamley-Ott *in Memory of*
Their Parents Charles & Margaret Ott & Wally &
Allyene Hamley Willi Rohrbach The Schaack Family
Richard Schoeck The Von Knoblauch Family
Jack Bligh, *In Memory of Helga Bligh*

what Christmas really means and why we celebrate. So, as we prepare to celebrate, let's take a minute or two to reflect on what we are really celebrating.

I have often told the story of how "Silent Night" came about, and I thought it would be a very fitting addition to my comments. Assistant Pastor Josef Mohr had written a poem about the night when angels announced the birth of the long-awaited Messiah to shepherds on a hillside. He decided those words he had written would make a good carol for his congregation the following evening at their Christmas Eve service. The problem was that he didn't have any music to which that poem could be sung, or a working church organ to play the music. So, the next day Mohr went to see the church organist, Franz Xaver Gruber. Gruber only had a few hours to compose the music for the poem. On Christmas Eve in 1818, in Oberndorf, a village near Salzburg, in the small Church of St. Nicholas, "Silent Night" was first sung accompanied by a guitar. That carol has become one of the most sung and most meaningful carols of the Christmas season. Many churches light individual candles and turn off the lights on Christmas Eve and for the ending of the service sing "Silent Night" as it was written, in German:

*Stille Nacht! Heilige Nacht!
Alles schläft; einsam wacht
Nur das traute hoch heilige Paar.
Holder Knab' im lockigen Haar*

*Schlaf' in himmlischer Ruh!
Schlaf' in himmlischer Ruh!*

I want to wish everyone Fröhliche Weihnachten und ein Glückliches Neues Jahr!

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*

Members and Friends

The Syracuse Turners is 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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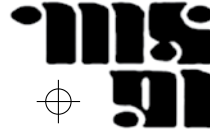
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—Sally Frenza

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