



Deutsche Zeitung

of the German-American Society of Central New York

März 2020

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

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Monika Loerzel, Bill Nurk
1 yr: [Vacant], Eric Gang, Helen Kline,
Robert Kline, Brigitte Niebuhr

Please note: If we have inclement weather on the day of any of our scheduled meetings, please either call President Dave Gunter at 315-289-8145 or the Syracuse Turners at 315-471-9851 to see if the meeting has been cancelled.

President's Report

At the February Monthly Board Meeting, with approval of the Board, I appointed **Nadja Allman** to the position of Financial Secretary, and **Sally Frenza** to the position of Secretary. Thank you to both members for taking on these positions!

Because Sally vacated her Board position to be appointed Secretary, I now need to appoint a member to fill the vacant spot on the Board. To be appointed, the person must be a member in good standing for at least one year. If you would like to join the Board, please give me a call at the number listed below.

We now need to move forward with efforts to make our organization the best it can be. But to reach this goal everyone really needs to help. It can be through bringing in new members, volunteering on one of the committees, or any other way that your talents can be put to good use. We need you!

We still have not had anyone step forward to take on the responsibility of heading up the **2020 Oktoberfest**. Please contact me if you would like more information on this most important task.

The next Monthly Membership Meeting is scheduled for March 19 at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners. Please try to attend to offer your suggestions and to obtain the latest information on our wonderful organization.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or suggestions that I can help you with, please feel free to contact me at 315-289-8145.

Danke!

DAVID A. GUNTER, *President*

Vice-President

Please mark your calendar for July 25 for our **2020 German American Society Picnic** from 1 to 5 P.M. Our very good friends from the **Bavarian Club Almenrausch** have invited us to join them again this year to enjoy an afternoon of *Gemütlichkeit* with friendship, positive conversation, and outstanding food, along with German beer, soda, and water.

The location will be the same as last year, at their clubhouse

on Morgan Place off Morgan Road in Liverpool. Please make a note to bring your own chairs. There will be more information in future issues of the *Zeitung*.

B. BRUCE BARNES, *Vice President*

Treasurer's Report

Please send all dues payments, invoices, patron, advertising, or financial communication to: The German-American Society of CNY, PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548, or give them to me at the next Monthly Meeting.

The last couple of meetings have included some good discussions about how we can best sustain the organization through possible future fundraisers, membership drives, and other ideas, and I'd like to encourage all members to get involved and offer their own thoughts. At any time if you have questions or suggestions please feel free to email me at heckatjr@gmail.com, or text to 315-200-5209.

JAMES HECKATHORNE, *Treasurer*

Financial Secretary's Report

At the February 20 Monthly Membership Meeting the following applicants were voted in as new members of the society: **Michael and Cheryle Bockheim**, Syracuse, sponsored by **Sally Frenza**, and **Edward N. Karl**, Bridgeport, who received his application as a result of the **2019 Oktoberfest**. New applicants that were presented at the meeting are: **Jane Neer**, Baldwinsville, proposed by **Jim Heckathorne**; **Kristine Capria**, Syracuse, sponsored by **Dave Gunter**; and

CLUB MEETINGS

- | | |
|--------|---|
| Mär 19 | Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6:30
Monthly Membership Meeting,
Syracuse Turners, 7 |
| Apr 16 | Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6:30
Monthly Membership Meeting,
Syracuse Turners, 7 |

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Apr 27 | German Student Scholarship Night,
Syracuse Turners 5-9 |
| Mai 17 | May Dance, Syracuse Turners 4-8 |
| Jul 25 | German American Society Picnic with
the Bavarian Club Almenrausch |

Derrick Pratt, Chittenango, sponsored by **Sally Frenza**. These applicants will be voted on at the March 19 Monthly 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, at any of our events, or on our website at www.germanamericanscny.com. Or just contact me and I can send one to you. My contact information is found below.

Final reminders were mailed on February 21 to all remaining members whose dues had not been received as of February 20. Keep in mind that if you mailed in your payment during the week of the meeting it may not have been received and processed prior to the letters being mailed. If you receive a letter and have any questions please feel free to reach out to me. My contact number is 315-450-4655 for call or text, or email nallmann@gmail.com.

Checks need to be made payable to the German American Society of CNY (please add "Annual Dues" in the message portion of your check). In order to remain a member in good standing your dues payment in the amount of \$15 must be received by March 15. At that time, anyone who has not paid dues for 2020 will be dropped from the membership without further notice. If any prior member wants to rejoin The German American Society of CNY, her or she must come in as a new member.

Once the 2020 membership list is finalized this month, continuing members can expect to receive a 2020 sticker to update their membership cards attached to their April *Zeitung*. Thank you for your patience.

I would like to start using email more often as a method of communication with members about dues payments, as well as to be able to share information about events and meetings. 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.

Another 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.

Please remember: If you change your address, please call or text me at 315-450-4655 or email me at cnygermansociety@gmail.com and the Editor at 315-345-6253 or email at sallyzf@aol.com 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 above phone number or email address. Please be advised that email or text are the most effective way to reach me 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 as soon as I am able.

Thank you.

NADJA ALLMANN, *Financial Secretary*

From the House Committee

The May Dance has been scheduled for May 17 from 4 to 8 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners. Please reserve the date. There will be more information in the next *Zeitung*.

If you would like to be on the House Committee, 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, *House Committee*

Sunshine Lady

During the month of February, a card was sent to the family of **Johannes (Hans) Schilling**, who recently passed away. Hans was a Lifetime Member of the German American Society.

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

Thank you.

MARGARETHA MICHO, *Sunshine Lady*

18th Year of the German Student Scholarship Program

The date for **Scholarship Night** is set for April 27 at the Syracuse Turners, from 5 to 9. So mark this day on your 2020 calendar. The students of German who are graduating seniors in the high schools in Onondaga and Oswego Counties will be sending in their completed applications very soon for the Committee to review for the awarding of the scholarships. The applications must be postmarked by Thursday, March 12, to be considered.

Any student of German, regardless of their year in school, and any of the German teachers are guests of the German American Society. For others, the cost is \$12 for the dinner. The menu and other information will be in the April *Zeitung*.

If you have never attended this wonderful event, please try for 2020. It is a night that honors not only the scholarship recipients, but all students of the German language and their teachers.

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

Although Ash Wednesday has passed and put an end to *Fasching* in Germany for this year, let's take a look at

Fasching, especially since many people have asked what it's all about and how it's celebrated.

Most people would probably say that the Munich Oktoberfest is the biggest bash in Germany. However, it is none other than *Fasching* or *Fastnacht*, Germany's Mardi Gras, that takes the prize. *Fasching* is often referred to as Germany's foolish or silly season. There are thousands of costume balls or dances all over Germany. All events start at 11 minutes past the 11th hour on November 11th. Although it remains low key for the first few weeks, the action really gets started 7 weeks before Easter.

The Thursday before Ash Wednesday is known as *Welberfastnacht* or Women's Carnival Night. On this day, the women dress up like old ladies and go door to door pulling jokes on people, especially politicians. (Way to go girls!!!) The women are allowed to cut off the tie or kiss (or both) any man within their reach! It is also tradition in many areas for the women to capture the local *Rathaus* (city hall) and take over the city key. The following Monday is known as *Rosenmontag* (Rose Monday). During this day there are parades and carnival floats. *Faschingdienstag* (Carnival Tuesday) is the last day of *Fasching* and when most of the festivities happen. Usually workers get the afternoon off to celebrate.

In Munich from 2 to 5 P.M. on *Faschingdienstag*, the *Viktualienmarkt* pedestrian area is turned into a party zone. At night there are gala balls, the biggest held at the Bayerischer Hof. The Bavarians refer to *Fasching* as the "season of fools." Some people dress in costumes and ski down hills. It is a great time of the year to be able to dress up in costumes, act like a fool, and have a great time.

Also, we will soon be welcoming St. Patrick's Day, an Irish tradition. What about Germany on this festive day? Well, it is not celebrated to the extent that it is in Ireland or the U.S., but the Irish living in Germany do celebrate *Sankt Patrickstag* with their German friends. After all, isn't everyone Irish on St. Patrick's Day? Just go to Syracuse's famous Coleman's Irish

Pub and you will see tons of people enjoying their green beer! Many German pubs take advantage of the celebration to sell more beer and whiskey. (I'm sure there's no problem with that!)

March is special in Switzerland where the first Sunday in March is *Tag der Kranken* (Day of the Ill). The Swiss observation started in 1939 when Dr. Marthe Nicati, who specialized in tuberculosis cases, felt that a day needed to be created to further better relations between the ill and the healthy. She also wanted to create a better understanding of the needs of the sick. This "Day of the Ill" is celebrated on the first Sunday in March with visits to hospitals, media awareness campaigns, and a speech by the Swiss Federal President. Each year has a theme to raise awareness and get people out to visit ill friends and family members.

Why don't we all observe this, not just for one day, but whenever we hear about a sick friend or family member? A card, phone call, or visit really cheers up an ill or recuperating person.

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

If you have any questions about hours, events, dinners, etc. at the Syracuse Turners, or if you would like information on joining this great organization, just call 315-471-9851. Please try to support our friends at the Syracuse Turners.

Just a Reminder: If you have not yet sent in your 2020 Patron payment please send it in asap so that it is received by March 25. If not received by then, you will no longer see your name in print as a Patron. 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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