



Deutsche Zeitung

of the German-American Society of Central New York

April 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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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

Since there was no Monthly Membership or Board Meeting in March, there is not really any new activity to report.

I don't need to tell you that we are now experiencing a most difficult time, not just in the United States, but in the world. We have to social distance, stay in our homes except for essential trips to the grocery or drug store, no large group gatherings, parties, hospital visits, etc. So many events have been canceled or postponed indefinitely. The coronavirus pandemic is truly life-changing.

My wish for all of you is to stay home, stay safe, and stay well. The German American Society has made a monetary donation to each of the following: the Food Bank of CNY, the Rescue Mission, and the Assumption Food Pantry to help others at this most difficult time.

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.

The next Monthly Membership Meeting will be scheduled when we know it is safe. When this does happen, 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's Report

Due to the current state of affairs, I have nothing new on our July picnic. However, as I mentioned last month, 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* and when we know all the current restrictions on social gatherings can be lifted.

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.

Although we were not able to meet in March, prior meetings have included some good discussions about how we can best sustain the organization through possible future fundraisers, membership drives, and other ideas. When social distancing is no longer required and we can once again meet, 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

As the March Meeting was not held, the new applicants that were presented at the February meeting will be voted into the membership at the next meeting. Previously presented applicants are **Jane Neer**, Baldwinsville, proposed by Jim Heckathorne; **Kristine Capria**, Syracuse, proposed by Dave Gunter; and **Derrick Pratt**, Chittenango, proposed by Sally Frenza. Any additional applicants will be presented at the next 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

CLUB MEETINGS

Apr 16 Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6:30
CANCELED
Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse
Turners, 7 **CANCELED**

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

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

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. You can also email cnygermansociety@gmail.com and one can be emailed or mailed to you, whichever you prefer.

We are continuing to receive dues checks from our members. The membership list will be finalized soon. The 2020 stickers to update your membership cards will be coming with your next *Zeitung*. Thank you for your continued 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 cnygermansociety@gmail.com or the Editor at 315-345-6253 or sallyzf@aol.com with the new information to ensure that the membership and mailing lists are 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 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

Unfortunately, the **May Dance** that had been scheduled for May 17 will need to be canceled due to the coronavirus, which has resulted in the need to stay home as a safety measure. When the restrictions are lifted and things settle down, we plan to hold another event.

If you would like to be on the House Committee or have any questions, 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 March, a sympathy card was sent to **Brigitte and Günter Niebuhr** and family on the passing of their daughter.

A get-well card was sent to **Sally Frenza**, who continues to recuperate from left shoulder rotator cuff surgery.

And, on a happy note, a card was sent to **Henry Pfaff** in celebration of his 90th birthday! Happy Birthday Henry and many more!

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

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

If at all possible, we would like to try to hold a celebration for the students of German and their teachers at a later time.

The following students have 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. Letters have gone out to the students regarding the scholarship and the documentation needed to receive the scholarship check.

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

It is hard to write my article this month with so much stress and fear regarding the coronavirus and its devastating effects on all of us and our way of life. But we must have faith that we will get through this and emerge stronger than ever. Staying inside has brought families together and helped us to get back to the basic things in life—family, faith, and courage to face these uncertain and challenging times.

Since we can't physically go to Germany this spring, let's take an imaginary trip through beautiful Germany. The weather in Germany can be unpredictable. The weather in April may change from sun to rain or hail showers in a couple of hours. So bring those layers, waterproof shoes, a scarf, and pack wet weather gear. The average temperature is going to be between 39 and 47 degrees Fahrenheit, depending on where we go, so be prepared.

We have landed in Frankfurt, so let's attend its annual spring festival, or *Dippemess*. It is one of the largest folk festivals in the Rhine region. The fair dates back to the 14th century when it was a medieval market for pottery. We can shop for ceramic bowls and pots (called *dibbes* in the Frankfurt dialect). We can go on a roller coaster and watch fireworks at night. What a fun day!

And let's go southwest to Stuttgart's Spring Fair, or the *Stuttgarter Frühlingsfest*. Here we can go on carnival rides, visit food stalls, and drink lots of German beer (Hooray!!!). We can shop at the expansive Trader's Market, where over 50 local artisans set up stalls selling their crafts, including textiles, art, leather goods, spices, jewelry, and more. We will need a lot of euros for this.

And of course, Munich. Munich may be most famous for its fall *Oktoberfest*, but the springtime *Frühlingsfest* is a city-wide party which is lovingly known as "the little sister of Oktoberfest." The Munich Spring Fair is a two-week event that brings out the entire city to celebrate the warming weather and blossoming flowers. Just as with Oktoberfest, local beers are one of the highlights of the festival, and we can be assured that there will be plenty to enjoy. (Another hooray!!!)

We've spent enough time in Germany that we will be able to celebrate Easter with our wonderful German family and friends. Easter is one of the most popular holidays in Germany. It is celebrated over a long weekend including Friday and Easter Monday (public holidays) with school holidays for the two weeks surrounding that weekend. There is so much for us to enjoy and participate in.

Ostern auf Deutschland is not only a time to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, but also a time for fun and celebrating spring. It is a time for coloring eggs, preparing special meals, and eating chocolate *Osterhasen* (Easter bunnies).

The homes we visit in Germany are filled with clay bunnies, spring flowers and Easter eggs hung from branches. Children play egg and bunny games. Perhaps we can learn how to blow out eggs and paint them with different colors and designs on Good Friday. We'll then leave the eggs in a basket for the *Osterhase* to find and hide around the house for Easter morning. The children then hunt for the eggs and find not only the eggs, but many times chocolate bunnies and even some presents. Then we go off to church with our German family to celebrate the true meaning of Easter.

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.

PATRONS

Bruce Barnes In Memory of Eric Doell Sally Frenza

Tina L. Higgins Udo John Fritz Kucinski

John LaLande in Memory of Ludwig Müller

Eric Lorenz Robert Oberst Barbara Omicinski

Willi Rohrbach The Schaack Family

Richard Schoeck The Von Knoblauch Family

Jack Bligh, In Memory of Helga Bligh

We may even be lucky enough to watch the Easter fire, which is lit on Easter night. For the fire, all the Christmas trees are gathered and burned in a special place making a huge bonfire, clearing away the last signs of winter and preparing for the bountiful spring. The event is now more of a social gathering and an excuse to get together and celebrate over a beer (do we need an excuse???)

Now let's head to Bonn, for the Cherry Blossom Festival. Bonn's cherry trees have earned it a place on the list of Top 10 Most Beautiful Tree Tunnels in the World. The two most famous streets for their beautiful Cherry Blossom canopies are Breitestraße and Heerstraße. Can't you just smell the fragrant cherry blossoms? Life is good!

Well, all good things must come to an end. It looks like it's time to head back to Frankfurt and catch our plane home. What a wonderful trip this has been! I hope you all enjoyed yourselves. Maybe sometime we can go on another adventure!

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 temporarily closed due to the coronavirus. When they reopen, if you have any questions about hours, events, dinners, etc., 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.



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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