



Deutsche Zeitung

of the German-American Society of Central New York

www.germanamericanscny.com

April 2021

Officers

David A. Gunter, *President* Vacant, *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

Hope everyone is staying safe and healthy! Spring is here and with it new hope!

It looks like the Governor is loosening up some of the restrictions on gatherings and events as the infection rate remains low and more people are getting vaccinated. We might be seeing a little flicker at the end of the tunnel.

Just a reminder that the German American Society of CNY is here to support its members. If you need anything that we may be able to help you with, please give me a call at 315-289-8145.

I know I say every month that Monthly Meetings and events will start back up again soon, but it is looking like it's going to happen very soon. The meetings are held at the Syracuse Turners, and they have the room arranged to meet the state guidelines for social distancing. A mask will be required.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 15, at 6 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners. We will be setting a date for our Monthly Membership Meeting, as well as further discussing future activities to get everyone together again. We need to have a picnic and have some fun!

As noted in the March 2021 *Zeitung*, the office of Vice President is vacant, as well as a position on the Board of Directors. So please consider filling one of these vacancies if at all possible. Just contact me at the number above or Sally Frenza at 315-345-6253.

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

As noted above, we currently have an opening for Vice President. If any member in good standing would like more information on this office, or would like to be considered for this position, please contact either

President Dave Gunter or Secretary Sally Frenza at the numbers found in the President's Report.

Treasurer's Report

At this point, we're still collecting dues and paying bills as they come in.

At our prior meetings we discussed some good ideas for social events, but it's really premature to start any real planning until we know when we'll be able to safely get people together again, but it is getting closer. More information will be coming soon.

Thank you to all our members for your ongoing support of our organization.

JAMES HECKATHORNE, *Treasurer*

Financial Secretary's Report

Thank you to the members who have sent in their 2021 dues. If you have not yet sent in your dues payment please do so ASAP. We need you all! If you are unsure about the status of your dues payment you can reach out to me for an update. As previously reported, the Board voted to update the yearly membership dues for 2021. Current dues are \$25 for an individual and \$40 for a couple (two adults living in the same house). 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 hope to schedule throughout the year. As previously mentioned, the Board continues to discuss the possibility of resuming

CLUB MEETINGS

Apr 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 very soon. Detailed information regarding events to follow in the next issue of the *Zeitung*.

meetings and scheduling events and will provide updates as they become available.

At this time, we have no new-paid applicants. We are always looking to expand our membership and even more so now as our membership numbers continue to decrease. 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.

Thank you to everyone who follows our Facebook page. You can find us 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.

For any member who 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*

From the House Committee

No specific date yet, but we are planning to have a picnic this summer. Also, we will be having a Monthly Meeting very soon. That will be the beginning of some fun events for our organization. We will discuss where we stand with social activities at the April 15, 2021, Board Meeting and hopefully set some dates. The information will be in the *May Zeitung*.

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 Brigitte Niebuhr at 315-491-2573. We can use your help and suggestions.

Thank you.

BRIGITTE NIEBUHR & SALLY FRENZA, *House Committee*

Sunshine Lady

Get-well card has been sent to our former President Willi Kreuzer, who has been ill.

A card has also been sent to our member Joseph Frenza, who is in physical rehab and working toward coming home soon.

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

Thank you.

MARGARETHA MICH0, *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 completed applications have been received and the names of the recipients will be in the next *Zeitung*.

Unfortunately, due to the ongoing pandemic, it does not look like a German Student Scholarship Night will be possible this year. However, the scholarship recipients will still receive some "surprises" in the mail with their check.

Just a reminder: There are still flag pins for sale for anyone who would like to purchase one for \$3. Great add-on gift for any occasion. 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

Would love to hear how you are managing during these unprecedented times. Is there something newsworthy that you would like me to publish? Please just send me a text or call me at the number above.

Belated *Frohe Ostern!* Even though Easter has gone by, I wanted to just put in a few words about the German celebration. *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*.

Homes in Germany are filled with clay bunnies, spring flowers, and Easter eggs hung from branches. The tradition of using eggs and bunnies for Easter originates from pagan worshipping where they were symbols of fertility and new birth and used to celebrate the coming of spring.

Children have egg and bunny games that they play. They blow out eggs and paint them with different colors and designs on Good Friday. They 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. It is then off to church to celebrate the true meaning of Easter. Sounds a lot like here!

But how did the Easter Bunny get to America? Bet you

As noted in the March 2021 *Zeitung*, due to the increased expenses related to publishing the *Zeitung* and getting it out to each of you, it is necessary to raise 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 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. Unfortunately, if your check is not received by April 15, your name will need to be removed from the Patron listing in the *Zeitung*. Please don't let this happen. We need you! Please contact the Editor at the contact information in this *Zeitung* if you have questions.

PATRONS

Bruce Barnes Henry Beck Cheryle & Michael Bockheim *in Memory of Joseph Bockheim & Joseph & Katherine Evertz-Dillmann In Memory of Eric Doell*
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guessed it! Like a lot of other traditions that we celebrate, it was reportedly first introduced by the Germans who settled in Pennsylvania in the 1700s. They brought over the tradition of an *Osterhase* who laid eggs for good boys and girls. The children would make nests so the bunny could leave his eggs. Sometimes they would even leave out carrots in case the *Osterhase* needed a snack during his long night of leaving eggs. Over the years the tradition spread across America and even grew to include chocolate and toys! In Switzerland it is an Easter Cuckoo who brings eggs, and even in some parts of German it's an Easter Fox or even an Easter Rooster!

Another unique custom in some villages of Germany is 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 (like there needs to be an excuse!).

Springtime has begun in Germany. The temperatures are rising and flowers are beginning to greet people as they walk along the many beautiful hiking trails. We are also starting to see glimpses of spring in our area; daffodils and crocuses are blooming; the snow has melted and temperatures are rising. With more and more people getting vaccinated and our infection numbers holding low, we look forward to soon being able to be outside and hopefully start to once again see our friends and family in the open air, following whatever guidelines are needed.

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 are currently operating on a limited activity schedule due to the pandemic. If you would like information regarding joining the Turners or their activities, 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 XVIII, ISSUE 4

Published monthly by the

German-American Society of Central New York

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



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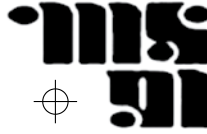
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—Sally Frenza

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