



# Deutsche Zeitung

of the German-American Society of Central New York

## Oktober 2021

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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

## President's Report

**W**e are moving along in returning to the great organization we were before we were halted by the pandemic! We are once again having Monthly Membership Meetings. New members are joining and we are planning more activities.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 21, at 6 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners, with the Monthly Membership Meeting to follow at 7. Please try to attend the Monthly Membership Meeting as it is **Nomination Night**. Every member is an important part of our organization. Please see the article in this *Zeitung* regarding the Nominating Committee.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or suggestions, or need anything that I can help you with, please feel free to contact me at 315-289-8145. The German American Society of CNY is here to support its members.

I hope to see everyone on October 21 for another great meeting! We need your involvement.

DAVID A. GUNTER, *President*

## Vice-President's Report

**A**t the August 22 **Picnic** I offered a challenge to all our members to bring in new members to increase our membership and bring in fresh, new ideas. We voted in five new members at our September Monthly Membership Meeting. We need to keep this going.

If you have any questions or ideas, please contact me at [chk1205@centurylink.net](mailto:chk1205@centurylink.net).

Thank you.

BOB KRAUS, *Vice President*

## Treasurer's Report

**P**lease send all dues, patron, or advertising payments, invoices, or financial communication to: German-American Society of CNY, PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548.

At the October 21 Monthly Membership Meeting, I will provide information on our financial status.

JAMES HECKATHORNE, *Treasurer*

## Financial Secretary's Report

**T**hank you to everyone who is promoting the Society to friends and family. We received four new member applications at the Picnic in July and another new member application at the September Meeting. Five new-member applications were presented and voted in at the meeting on September 16. Please help me in welcoming **Wendy and Matt Emigholz**, **Lynn Fryer**, **Chad Resch**, and **Deano Feherman**. We look forward to getting to know you! And don't forget to follow us on Facebook!

We currently have 136 members in good standing. If you would like to receive email communications with updates, changes, and reminders, please send an email to [cnygermansociety@gmail.com](mailto:cnygermansociety@gmail.com). It would be helpful also if you confirmed your current address and best contact number in case there is any outdated information on the membership list.

It's time to start thinking about dues for 2022! Current dues are \$25 for an individual and \$40 for a couple in the same household. Some of you like to get a jump start on paying dues, especially before the holidays start. You can mail your dues payment to the address below. If you would like to submit payment electronically, please feel free to email us and I will make these arrangements with you. Any time you are sending payments to the PO Box, please make sure you clarify what the payment is for (dues, patron, ads, etc.) and who the payment is for, in the case of dues or patrons.

If you have anyone to propose for membership, please 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 or event, on our website at [www.germanamericanscnyc.com](http://www.germanamericanscnyc.com), or by emailing us at [cnygermansociety@gmail.com](mailto:cnygermansociety@gmail.com).

**Remember:** 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](mailto:sallyzf@aol.com) to arrange for this complimentary service. If you change your address, please text me at 315-450-4655 or email [cnygermansociety@gmail.com](mailto:cnygermansociety@gmail.com), or contact the Editor with the new information to ensure that the membership list is kept current and that *Zeitung* reaches you.

NADJA ALLMANN, *Financial Secretary*

### CLUB MEETINGS

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| Okt 21 | Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6<br>Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7<br>Nomination Night, followed by a brief House Committee meeting  |
| Nov 18 | Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6<br>Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7<br>Election Night<br><i>(Please note that the date is November 18, not November 16 as stated in the September Zeitung.)</i> |
| Dez 9  | Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6<br>Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7   |

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| Dez 12 | Christmas Party, Syracuse Turners, 1-6 |
|--------|--|

## Beer Tasting Event at the Freight Yard

Beer tasting is scheduled for Sunday, October 24, at the Freight Yard, 4975 Route 31 in Clay. It is a joint activity between the German American Society and the Freight Yard. Sign-in and mingling will begin at 12 noon and the tasting event will begin at 12:30. The cost for the tasting is \$5 for members of the German American Society and \$10 for non-members or guests. The owner/brewer will be there to provide a short presentation about the brewery and the beer while the beers are being sampled. Please plan to attend the October 21 Monthly Membership Meeting for more details, or contact Nadja Allman via text at 315-450-4655.

## From the House Committee

The date for the **Christmas Party** needed to be rescheduled to Sunday, December 12, from 1-5, at the Syracuse Turners, due to an unforeseen scheduling conflict. **The Syracuse Oktoberfest Band** will be playing for your listening and dancing pleasure. Please mark this date on your calendar. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be bringing presents to children up to the age of 12 who are children, grandchildren, nieces, or nephews of German American Society members. Please have the names, relationships, and ages of the children who will be attending the party to Brigitte by November 8 to allow Santa's elves ample time to get the gifts together and wrapped. The information can be called or sent via text to Brigitte. The contact information is found below. There will be more details about the Christmas Party in the November *Zeitung*.

If you would like to be on the House Committee, please plan to attend a brief meeting directly after the Monthly Membership Meeting on October 21. Any questions or if you would like more information, just give a call or text to me at 315-345-6253 or Brigitte Niebuhr at 315-491-2573. We can use your help and suggestions.

Thank you.

SALLY FRENZA & BRIGITTE NIEBUHR, *House Committee*

## Presentation on German Soldiers' Contributions in the Civil War

At the October 21 Monthly Membership Meeting, our member **Derrick Pratt** will discuss German soldiers' contributions in the Civil War. This will be a very interesting and informative presentation as he discusses the important part German soldiers played. Please try to attend the October 21 Monthly Membership Meeting to hear Derrick's presentation.

## Nomination Night

Just a reminder that nominations for all Officers and five Board Members will take place at the October 21 Monthly Membership Meeting. Please give some thought to running for office and help our organization remain strong and grow!

If you are interested in any of the open positions, or if you would like to help construct the roster, please contact Willy Rohrbach at 610-972-4169. To be considered for office, the nominee must have been a member in good standing of the German American Society for one year at the time of the election. Nominations can also be made from the floor at the October Meeting only.

## Goethe und Schiller Monument

We would like to schedule a fall cleanup at the monument. If you would like to participate, please contact Dave Gunter at 315-289-8145 or Jim Heckathorne at 315-200-52069, or let them know at the October 21 Monthly Membership Meeting.

## Sunshine Lady

Sympathy card was sent to member **Frankie Feldman** on the passing of her sister. Our condolences to Frankie and her family.

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

Thank you.

MARGARETHA MICH0, *Sunshine Lady*

## German Student Scholarship Program

Before long, the 2022 Scholarship Program will be in full swing. Doesn't seem possible that this will be our twentieth year of awarding scholarships! A German Student Scholarship Night is being planned for Monday, April 25, at the Syracuse Turners, so please keep this in mind when you do your 2022 planning.

**Just a reminder:** There are still flag pins for sale for anyone who would like to purchase one for \$3. I have them at our meetings and events. Great add-on gifts for any occasion. We also have some gently used German clothing for sale at very reasonable prices. Please call me if you are interested in any of these items. The money received from the sale of the pins and clothing 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

Even though we will not be having our own Oktoberfest in 2021, here is some information about how Oktoberfest originated so many, many years ago.

When Crown Prince Ludwig of Bavaria and the Princess of Saxonia, Theresia, were married in Munich on October 12, 1810, a national holiday was declared and the citizens were invited to the five-day wedding festivities celebrated in the fields outside the city's gates. The celebration was so popular that it became an annual festival in Munich with beer stands set up for town folks to quench their thirst. The original beer stands gave way to large beer tents in 1896, and are still part of this elaborate and festive German celebration. Fourteen big tents each accommodate thousands of people seated at picnic tables inside and thousands more outside the tents.

Germany is famous for its beers and its beer-brewing purity laws. There are six breweries highlighted at Munich's Oktoberfest tents. Many revelers arrive at the beer tents in the morning to secure seats for the fun-filled days of drinking, singing, dancing, and eating.

Since the start of Oktoberfest, the dates have been changed from the original wedding date in mid-October to September to have more favorable weather to celebrate the two-week-long festival.

In Munich, Oktoberfest usually starts on the third Saturday in September, with the tapping of the first keg of beer by the mayor of the city to officially open the festivities. However, in America, the dates of Oktoberfest make up a wide spectrum from summer months through October.

Oktoberfest is not just the celebration of the famous wedding, it is a spirit and wonderful feeling between old friends, new friends, and family. Strangers become friends when the drinking, music, and dancing start. It is a warm, wonderful feeling that words cannot describe. It gives true meaning to the word *Gemütlichkeit!*

Let's also take a look at another fun time: Halloween. As we celebrate it commonly today, it is not originally German. Yet many Germans now embrace it. Others, especially those of the older generation, believe that Halloween is just American hype, but it has gained much popularity in Germany over the past few decades. In fact, this celebration now brings in an astounding 200 million euros a year, according to the *Stuttgarter Zeitung*, and it is the third most commercialized tradition after Christmas and Easter.

The evidence is all there. Walk into some of the larger German department stores and you'll easily find Halloween-themed decorations to match your gruesome tastes. Or go to a costumed Halloween party offered by many nightclubs.

So how did Germans get so excited about Halloween? Naturally, the influence of American commercialism and media is key. Furthermore, the presence of American soldiers in the post-war WWII era helped bring about a familiarity with this tradition. Also, because of the cancelation of *Fasching* in Germany during the Gulf War, the push for Halloween and its associated commercial potential was an attempt to make up for *Fasching's* financial loss, according to the *Fachgruppe Karneval im Deutschen Verband der Spielwarenindustrie*.

Trick-or-treating is the aspect of Halloween that is the least observed in Germany. Only in large, metropolitan cities of Ger-

many will you see groups of children actually going door to door. The children say either *Süßes oder Saures!* or *Süßes, sonst gibt's Saure!* (Trick or treat!) as they collect treats from their neighbors. This is partly because just eleven days later, children traditionally go door-to-door on *St. Martinstag* with their lanterns. They sing a song and then are rewarded with baked goods and sweets.

Halloween specialty stores are increasingly popular in Germany. One interesting difference between Germany and North America with regard to costumes is that the Germans tend to indulge in more scary outfits than Americans do. Even kids. Perhaps this is due to the many other opportunities throughout the year that children and adults get to dress up for different celebrations, such as *Fasching* and *St. Martinstag* that are just around the corner.

October is also the time for other spooky happenings in Germany.

**Haunted Castle:** One of the largest and most popular Halloween venues in Germany is the thousand-year-old fortress ruins in Darmstadt. Since the 1970s, it has been known as *Burg Frankenstein*, and is a popular destination for gore aficionados.

**Pumpkin Festival:** By mid-October you'll see some carved-out pumpkins on people's doorsteps in the streets of Germany and Austria, though not as much as in North America. But what you will see and hear about is the famous pumpkin festival in Retz, Austria, near Vienna. It's an entire weekend of fun, family-friendly entertainment, complete with an elaborate Halloween parade that includes floats.

**Reformationstag:** This a special day for Protestants to commemorate Martin Luther's launch of the Reformation when he nailed those ninety-five theses to the Catholic castle church in Wittenberg, Germany. In celebration of *Reformationstag*, and so that it's not completely overshadowed by Halloween, *Luther-Bonbons* (Luther candies) were created.

Do you have a German, Austrian, or Swiss topic you would like me to write about? Or do you have an article you have written or found and would like to see in print? Or even a recipe? Just let me know. My contact information is in this *Zeitung*.

SALLY FRENZA, *Editor*

**It's easy to get your name in print in the *Zeitung*. All you need to do is send in a \$20 check made out to the German American Society of CNY 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 to the Patrons who have renewed for 2021!**

**Please contact the Editor at the contact information in this *Zeitung* if you have any questions about becoming a Patron, or if you feel your name was removed from the Patron list in error. Thank you.**

## PATRONS

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The Syracuse Turners are now operating on their normal schedule. Please contact them if you would like information regarding joining the Turners or their activities by calling 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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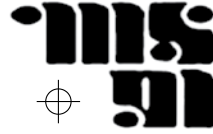
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—Sally Frenza

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