



Deutsche Zeitung

of the German-American Society of Central New York

www.germanamericanscny.com

Oktober 2023

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1 yr: Eric Gang, Helen Kline, Robert Kline,
Brigitte Niebuhr, Derrick Pratt

President's Report

Thanks to everyone who attended the September 10 **Picnic** at Camp Brockway. It was loads of fun and gave everyone a chance to mingle and catch up with members they may not see too often.

Also, the plans for our partnership with Freight Yard Brewing in Clay for the October 14 **Oktoberfest** are being finalized. See the article in this *Zeitung* for more information.

Please plan to attend the October 19 Monthly Membership Meeting at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners for more details on the Oktoberfest. Volunteers are needed for this great event, so please sign up for one of the time slots noted in this *Zeitung*. We also have refreshments after the Monthly Meeting, which gives everyone an opportunity to enjoy the company of their fellow members.

We always welcome any suggestions that you may have for future activities, fundraising ideas, or Monthly Meeting presentations.

If you 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 at the October 19 Monthly Membership Meeting.
DAVID A. GUNTER, *President*

Vice President's Report

We are now working with Freight Yard Brewing for an Oktoberfest. This will take a lot of volunteers. And where do they come from? Our membership! So please, if you are able, volunteer for this event. Also, continue to get those applications coming in!

If you have any questions or ideas, please contact me at chk1205@centurylink.net.

Thank you for helping to increase our membership! See you all at the October 19 Monthly Meeting.

BOB KRAUS, *Vice President*

Treasurer's Report

We are getting ready for the **Oktoberfest** scheduled for October 14. This event will help raise awareness of and funds for our **Scholarship Program**. It is very important to have a successful Oktoberfest as it is a fundraising event. You will make this happen by volunteering. Please see the article on the Freight Yard Brewing Oktoberfest in this *Zeitung*.

As always, please feel free to offer suggestions or ask questions about our club finances at our Monthly Meetings, or by email at cnygermansociety@gmail.com. Thank you!

Please plan to attend the October 19 Monthly Membership Meeting for a full report on our financial status.

JAMES HECKATHORNE, *Treasurer*

Financial Secretary's Report

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to put together another great **Picnic**. We received four new-member applications from guests who attended the Picnic that were voted in as members at the September meeting. Please join me in welcoming new members **Emily Ezzo**, **Jeff Gibbs**, **Devon Keeney**, and **Gerald Pietsch**. We look forward to meeting you!

We hope everyone will join us at **Oktoberfest** with Freight Yard

Brewing on October 14. Please contact **Jackie Schneider-Rivette** at 315-885-4517 or email cnygermansociety@gmail.com if you can volunteer your time at Oktoberfest to help us make it a great event and raise money for our student Scholarship Fund. We will need people to help direct parking, sell merchandise and snacks, promote 50/50 raffle tickets, and coordinate Stein hoisting and the Bier puppet! The volunteer times and other information can be found in the Oktoberfest article in this *Zeitung*.

Please continue to encourage your circles to join the society! The strength of our society depends on the participation of all our members, so we hope to see everyone at upcoming meetings and events! We also want to hear from you about activities and events you would be interested in attending with the club! Don't forget to follow our CNY German American Society Facebook page and let us know what kinds of information and content you would like to see posted!

If you have anyone to propose for membership, have the person complete a membership application and forward it along with their \$25 check for a single membership or \$40 for a household couple made out to The German American Society of CNY to: PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220- 5548. Applications can be obtained at any meeting or event, on our website at www.germanamericanscny.com or by emailing us at cnygermansociety@gmail.com. Thanks!

NADJA E. ALLMANN, *Financial Secretary*

House Committee

Thanks to everyone who attended the **Picnic** at Camp Brockway. The weather was dreary but it didn't dampen the spirits of those inside where it was nice and dry! A great time was had by all. There was plenty of delicious food, especially desserts. Thank you to everyone who contributed a dessert or dish to pass. Thanks to **Dave Gunter** for heading things up, and all those who pitched in and helped. A special thanks goes to **Karl Wuerstin** who manned the grills in the kitchen and **Nancy Skye**, who stood at the sink and washed the pots, pans, grills, bowls, etc. What a team!!!

CLUB MEETINGS

Please note that the December Board and Monthly Membership Meetings are the 2nd Thursday. This only happens in December due to the closeness of Christmas.

- Okt 19 Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6
Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7
Nomination Night
- Nov 16 Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6
Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7
Election Night
- Dec 14 Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6
Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7
Installation of Officers and Board Members

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Okt 14 Freight Yard Oktoberfest, 2-8
- Dec 10 Christmas Party, Syracuse Turners, 1-6



Gracie leading the cowbell chorus at the September 10 Picnic.

A huge thanks to **Gracie Schell**, **Nancy Skye**, and **Karl Wuerslin**, who entertained with some Bavarian dance numbers and also engaged happy volunteers in a few dance steps. Gracie then brought out the cowbells and her playing really added to the fun, especially when she formed the cowbell chorus. So many laughs as people tried to follow her direction and ring those bells! Please see picture above.

Our next event is the **Christmas Party** scheduled for Sunday, December 10, from 1 to 6 at the Syracuse Turners. There will be a social hour from 1 to 2 with music and dinner starting at 2. There will be more information in the November *Zeitung*.

If you would like to be on the House Committee, please let us know at the October 19 Monthly Membership Meeting held at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners. Or if you would like more information about being on the committee, or would like to volunteer at our events, just give a call or text to Sally at the above number. We can use your help and suggestions. Thank you.

SALLY FRENZA & BRIGITTE NIEBUHR, *House Committee*

Meeting Presentations

Do you have an interesting hobby or recent event or did you just get back from an adventure in Germany that you would like to highlight at one of our meetings? All you need to do is just volunteer at a Monthly Meeting, give the topic, and what month you would like to do your presentation. No experience necessary as we are an informal, friendly group. Or if you have a topic you would like to know more about, please bring it up and someone will do a presentation on it. Anyone is invited to do a presentation or suggest a topic, so don't hesitate to volunteer.

Sunshine Lady

Word was sent to **Eric ("Ricky") Lorenz**, who is in Upstate Hospital. **Just a reminder:** Please report any illnesses, deaths, monumental birthdays, anniversaries, etc. to me at 315-468-4541. Thank you.

MARGARETHA MICHIO, *Sunshine Lady*

Our Scholarship Program

I am once again reminding everyone about our wonderful **Scholarship Program** that will be entering its twenty-second year in 2024! We typically not only provide scholarships, but a wonderful, fun-filled evening for not just the scholarship recipients, but all students of German and their teachers at no cost to them. Guests, families, and German American Society members who attend pay a small fee. Your attendance and volunteer participation in the October 14 **Oktoberfest** we are doing in partnership with Freight Yard Brewing will help raise funds for the Scholarship Program.

To continue to administer our Scholarship Program is a costly undertaking for the German American Society. The Oktoberfest is one

way to help make the community aware of our organization and to raise funds to help with the Scholarship Program. However, our Scholarship Program could also use your financial support to keep it going strong. If you would like to **help**, please send a check or money order to: The German American Society of CNY, PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548, with a notation that it is for the Scholarship Program. Any amount would be helpful. Since we are a 501(c)3 not-for-profit, donations are tax deductible. If you would like to know more about the Scholarship Program and how you can help, please call or text me at 315-345-6253 or email me at sallyzf@aol.com. I look forward to the opportunity to answer any questions you may have.

Okay, here comes the sales pitch! I have a donation of a man's *Tracht* jacket. Also, the most adorable size-3 girl's dress. Additional German items have recently been added. There are two size-14, beautiful embroidered *Dirndls*, a lovely skirt and blouse, size 10, with a matching sweater, and several blouses, sizes 12-16, as well as a white, lace-trimmed apron. Prices are very reasonable and negotiable. German-American flag pins are available for \$3. If you're interested in purchasing any of these items, please just call or text me at the above number. The clothing and pins will also be available for purchase at the Oktoberfest. All proceeds from the sale of the clothing and pins goes to help fund our Scholarship Program.

Thank you for your support!

SALLY FRENZA, *Scholarship Chair*

Oktoberfest at Freight Yard Brewing

It's all in the air, and **Oktoberfest** will be here before you know it! As noted above, we are planning the Oktoberfest in partnership with Freight Yard Brewing on Route 31 in Clay for Saturday, October 14, from noon to 8 P.M. The Oktoberfest Committee is moving forward with

what will be a fun time for all ages. **The Syracuse Oktoberfest Band and Dancers** will be performing from 12:30 to 4:30; **Lihs and Steigerwald's** food truck will be serving German specialties; there will be T-shirts and other merchandise for sale; the *Bier Puppen* will be there to challenge all takers; *Stein* hoisting; a raffle; children's activities; games; a balloon man; face painting; and, of course, Freight Yard's great beer, including a special Oktoberfest beer. There will also be pastries, big soft pretzels, pretzel necklaces, popcorn, and more.

For a successful Oktoberfest volunteers will be needed. Volunteer times are 11 A.M. to 3 P.M. and 3 to 8 P.M. Contact **Jackie Schneider-Revette** at 315-885-4517 to sign up for a time slot. Times are negotiable if you cannot volunteer the listed hours. Assistance will also be needed to help pack up that evening after Oktoberfest is over, which is why the second shift is extended to 8, if you can stay. Volunteering helps to form a bond with other volunteers that cannot be described!

Several volunteers will be needed to make this a successful venture, so please consider spending some time at the event as a festival volunteer. It will be fun! Also, tell all your family and friends to please attend this great event! See you all there for some fun-filled *Gemütlichkeit*!

Reminder About Nomination Night

It's time to start thinking about running for an Officer or Board Member position for 2024. All offices are up for nomination, as well as five Board Member positions. To run for office, you must be a member in good standing of the German American Society of CNY for one year at the time of the election. Nominations will take place at the October 19 Monthly Membership Meeting. The slate will then be posted in the November *Zeitung*.

From the Editor

In the October/November issue of *German Life Magazine*, I read a very interesting article about *Heuriger*, a festival that is an important social affair in Vienna. This festival highlights the newly vinted wine made in the region and drank in the year it is made.

When the Viennese decide to go to the *Heuriger*, they are patronizing a very traditional place with a small gathering of family and friends. This is quite in contrast to the well-known Bavarian Oktoberfest which is full of lively music and many people. At *Heuriger* one is looking for a

It's easy to get your name in print in the *Zeitung*. All you need to do is send in the \$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 and your name will appear in the *Zeitung* through 12/31. If you would like your patron ad to be in honor of or memory of someone, please note that. Also, please note "Patron" on the message line of your check. For current paid-up Patrons, thank you for your continued support.

For anyone who takes out and pays for a new business or patron ad after Oktober 1, the ad will run through December 31, 2024.

Please contact the Editor at 315-345-6253 or email at sallyzf@aol.com if you have any questions about advertising in the *Zeitung*, or becoming a Patron. Thank you.

PATRONS

Bruce Barnes Henry Beck in Memory of Virginia Bechteler Jack Bligh in Memory of Helga Bligh Cheryle & Michael Bockheim in Memory of Joseph Bockheim & Joseph & Katherine Evertz-Dillmann In Memory of Eric Doell Sally Frenza Holly & Bob Gang in Memory of Jack Gang Dave Gunter Tina L. Higgins Udo John Fritz Kucinski John LaLande in Memory of My Oma, Ursala Müller Eric Lorenz Robert Oberst Barbara Omicinski Nicholas Pirro Willi Rohrbach In Memory of Richard Schoeck

few hours of recreation and relaxation in a small vineyard where good food and unique wine of the area is enjoyed, while participating in warm conversation. Normally a patron orders two pints of golden grape and asks for some small glasses to be handed out among guests. Food always partners with the wine so that the danger of getting drunk is slight, although after drinking a half pint of the good wine one may get a little buzz on, as we would say here in America. The Viennese refer to this good feeling as an *Achterl* or a *Vierterl* (an eighth or a quarter of a liter). Understandably, anybody situated around a rustic table with wooden benches will shed any form of shyness and enjoy a carefree conversation about "God and the world," as the German expression goes.

Adults most often go to the *Heuriger* after work, although on weekends they take their children, who play while their parents relax at the table. People alternate venues as the year goes on as the winegrowers serve their wine only as long as it lasts, usually two to four weeks. To indicate what they are serving, the winemakers hang a pine wreath above the farm's entrance. It shows red light for red wine and white light for white wine, or in some instances both lights. More white wine is produced in the area of Vienna, the *Grüner Veltliner* being the grape of choice. It is not sweet like *Riesling*, but more acidic and very pleasing to the taste buds.

The *Heurigen* tradition was introduced by Franconian and Bavarian peasants who settled in the area from the 12th century forward, when the Danube Valley was occupied by the Germans. The Germans defended it against the Slavic and Hungarian adversaries. Over the years, enemies became friends and continued the traditions, and even started growing grapes. Some people conclude that the wineries contributed to the region's peaceful atmosphere of good food, great regional wine, and traditional music, usually played by a quartet, with an occasional female vocalist.

Since the end of World War II, the region has become a tourist destination, with people wanting to feel the intimate, family-oriented experience. When busloads of tourists converge on these regions, the intimate mood for family and friends may no longer be present. However, if German *Gemütlichkeit* is properly applied, the *Heurigen* experience may still be there.

Historically, Vienna developed the *Heuriger* tradition due to being the center during the Holy Roman Empire and forward. Over the centuries the government ensured that diplomatic guests could destress at one of these peaceful venues. After the war, when members of various allied troops, American, British, French, or Soviet were invited to the *Heurigen*, after one or two glasses of wine differences were almost eliminated. For more information, see the October/November *German Life Magazine*.

Remember, if you have a German, Swiss, or Austrian holiday, tradition, or anything German, Swiss, or Austrian that you would like me to write about, or if you have an article, recipe, or poem you would like to see in print, please let me know.

See you all at the **Oktoberfest** at Freight Yard Brewing on October 14 from 2 to 8!

SALLY FRENZA, *Editor*

Members and Friends

Call the Turners at 315-471-9851 to get details on their Friday-night dinners and special events. You can also get information on how to join their great organization.

Please try to support our *Zeitung* advertisers when you need the types of services they can provide. If you would like to advertise your business, it is \$30 for a single ad and \$60 for a double. Please include a copy of how you would like your ad to appear to the attention of the Editor at The German American Society, PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548.

Contact the *Zeitung*!

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