



Deutsche Zeitung

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of the German-American Society of Central New York

Februar 2023

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David A. Gunter, *President* Bob Kraus, *Vice President*
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 Nadja Allmann, *Financial Secretary*

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2 yrs: Austin Westphal, Susan Foster,
 Frank Heine, Tina Higgins, Bill Nurk
1 yr: Eric Gang, Helen Kline, Robert Kline,
 Brigitte Niebuhr, Derrick Pratt

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

President's Report

We are now at the start of a New Year and a great opportunity to enter into many new adventures. Please plan to attend the February 16 Membership Meeting at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners, 619 N. Salina St., to share your ideas for future events and how you can help. This month we will take some time to listen to **Sally Frenza** present information and history on German-made automobiles. After our Monthly Membership Meeting there is time to socialize with your friends in the German American Society as you enjoy refreshments.

As the January meeting was canceled due to the horrid weather forecast, the installation of the 2023 Officers and Board Members will be at the February 16 Membership Meeting.

If you have any questions or suggestions or need anything that I can help you with, please feel free to contact me. The German American Society of CNY is here to support its members. I hope to see everyone at the February 16 meeting.

DAVID A. GUNTER, *President*

Vice-President's Report

So sorry to be missing the frigid temperatures and snow up north, but Corrine and I are enjoying the Florida sunshine. While I'm away, please continue to bring in those new members and we will meet our membership goal!

I know we can do this! If you have any questions or ideas, please contact me at chk1205@centurylink.net. Thank you for helping to increase our membership! See you when I return in the spring!

BOB KRAUS, *Vice President*

Treasurer's Report

Please plan to attend the February 16 Membership Meeting at 7 P.M. at the Turners. I will have a financial report available for review.

Also, please bring your ideas on what you would like to see our organization do in 2023. Our club can only be as good as you want to make it. Please feel free to ask me any questions about our club finances at our monthly meetings, or by email at cnygermansociety@gmail.com. Thank you!

JAMES HECKATHORNE, *Treasurer*

Financial Secretary's Report

Reminder: Please submit your 2023 annual dues payment ASAP. Dues are \$25 for an individual and \$40 for a household couple where both individuals are active members. If you were planning on submitting your dues payment at the January Meeting that was canceled, please pay at the February Meeting or send your payment in the mail. See below for mailing information.

Final reminder letters will be sent after the February Meeting to anyone whose dues payments have not been received. I will report on the updated membership count once this dues payment cycle is complete.

I would like to correct an oversight. Three new-member applications were presented and voted on in December that were not announced in the January *Zeitung*. Please join me in welcoming new members **Wendy Heine, Sharon DeVita, and Giovanna Perry**. We look forward to getting to know you! We have one new member application from the Christmas Party that will be presented at the next meeting. Thank you to everyone who continues to promote the Society and recruit new members.

If you have anyone to propose for membership, 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: PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548. Applications can be obtained at any meeting or event, on our website at www.germanamericanscnyc.com or by emailing us at cnygermansociety@gmail.com.

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!

Reminders: If you will be away for an extended period of time, the *Zeitung* can be forwarded to you. Please contact the

CLUB MEETINGS

Feb 16	Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6 Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, and Installation of 2023 Officers and Board Members, 7
Mär 16	Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6 Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7
Apr 19	Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6 Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7

UPCOMING EVENTS

Apr 24	German Student Scholarship Night, Syracuse Turners, 5-9
May 21	Maitanz, Syracuse Turners, 1-6

Editor at 315-345-6253 or sallyzf@aol.com to arrange for this complimentary service. If you change your address, please 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

NADJA E. ALLMANN, *Financial Secretary*

House Committee

Now that the Christmas Party is over and we are looking forward to a new year, we are in the planning stages for the *Maitanz*. The date has been set for May 21 from 1 to 6. The social hour from 1 to 2 seemed to work out well at the Christmas Party and gave people an opportunity to mingle and find a seat, as well as have some snacks. There will be further details as plans are finalized.

If you would like to be on the House Committee, please let us know at the February 16 Membership Meeting held at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners. Or if you would like more information, just give a call or text to Sally at 315-345-6253. We can use your help and suggestions. Thank you.

SALLY FRENZA & BRIGITTE NIEBUHR

Proposed Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws

As the January meetings were canceled due to the horrible weather forecast, the following proposed amendments to our Constitution and By-Laws will be presented and voted on at the February 16 Membership Meeting at the Syracuse Turners at 7 P.M. **Please attend this very important meeting to vote on whether to accept these amendments.**

Under Article 5—Membership, Sec. 5—Expulsion, Sub. (1)—Motion to expel:

Delete: “Members whose dues are in arrears for twelve consecutive months after previous demand by the Secretary to pay shall lose their membership automatically.”

Rationale: Article 6—Officers, Sec. 1—Duties of Officers, Sub. (4) Finance Secretary already says that “Members who do not pay their dues by March 15 will automatically be terminated without further notice.” So, the sentence in Article 5 that is proposed to be deleted is contradictory and redundant.

Under Article 8-Elections:

In the fourth paragraph **delete** “All officers and directors are exempt from dues and may succeed themselves in following elections” and **substitute** “Therefore all officers and directors may succeed themselves in following elections, if nominated in accordance with this article.”

Rationale: This was discussed when the dues structure was modified in 2020. Most officers and directors already pay dues voluntarily, and given the financial status of the organization, it doesn't make sense to exempt 15 of our approximately 160+ members from paying dues.

February Presentation

At the February 16 Membership Meeting, we will have a short presentation on the history of some of German-made cars that we still see on the market today. We will be also be discussing topics of interest that you, the members, would like to have presented at our Monthly Membership Meetings. Anyone is invited to do a presentation, so don't hesitate to volunteer.

Sunshine Lady

A sympathy card was sent to **Barbara Omicinski** on the passing of her dear companion and our member **Fritz Kuchinski**. Barb and Fritz could be seen at many Oktoberfests working alongside **John Ott and his wife Janet** making those great sandwiches, especially Limburger cheese and Blutwurst! Sincere condolences to Barb and Fritz's family and friends.

A get-well card was sent to **Joe Frenza** on his recent hospitalization. He is home and doing well.

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

MARGARETHA MICHIO, *Sunshine Lady*

Scholarship Committee

The applications and criteria for the 2023 German Student Scholarship Program have been sent to the four schools in Onondaga and Oswego County that teach German. **Scholarship Night** is planned for April 24 at the Syracuse Turners, so please mark your calendar. If you have never attended this wonderful event, why not make this the year? This is our 21st year of awarding scholarships! I am currently working on getting the entertainment together. It promises to be another fun-filled night that highlights our great students of German and their wonderful teachers.

If you would like to help support our Scholarship Program, please feel free to 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. Anyone who donates to the Scholarship Program will have her or his name added to the Scholarship Night Program as a donor. 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.

The German clothing has been sold, but there are still German-American flag pins for sale at \$3 each and I will have these items at our meetings and events. The proceeds go toward the Scholarship program. Thank you!

SALLY FRENZA, *Scholarship Chair*

Installation of Officers and Board Members

Due to the cancelation of the January Meeting, the Installation of Officers and Board Members needed to be postponed until the February 16, 7 P.M. Membership Meeting. At that time Lifetime Member **Willi Rohrbach** will conduct the installation of the following Officers and Board Members for 2023: **Officers:** *President*, David Gunter; *Vice President*, Bob Kraus; *Treasurer*, Jim Heckathorne; *Secretary*, Sally Frenza; *Financial Secretary*, Nadja Allmann. **Board Members:** Austin Westphal, Susan Foster, Tina Higgins, Bill Nurk, and Frank Heine.

Thank you, Willi, for once again handling the nomination, election, and installation of officers and board members for our organization.

From the Editor

Many people continue to ask about *Fasching*, so below is a repeat article about the “German Mardi Gras.”

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. This 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 seven 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.

Munich also features donuts during *Fasching*. They can be found everywhere! The story goes that in pre-Christian Europe it was customary to choose a man to be the "sacred king" of the tribe for a year. When his year in office was up he would be sacrificed and his blood returned to the soil to ensure a successful harvest. The method of choosing the sacred king was the King's Cake. A coin or bean would be placed in the cake before baking

and whoever got the slice with the coin was the chosen one. In recent times the King's Cake idea has evolved into donuts.

Below is a recipe for *Fastnachts* (German donuts) which was given to me by a German friend who is no longer with us. These donuts are usually made on Shrove Tuesday to use up the lard before Lent.

- 1 cup lukewarm milk
- 1 fresh yeast cake
- ¾ cup soft butter
- 2 tbsps sugar
- 6 eggs
- 6 cups flour
- 2 tsps salt

Dissolve yeast in lukewarm milk and set aside. Sift flour and salt into a large bowl. Make a hole in the center and pour the dissolved yeast and all other ingredients into the hole. Mix till no longer sticky. Cover and let rise in a warm place till doubled. Punch down and let rest for 10 minutes. Roll out about ¼-inch thick and cut out the donuts with a round cutter (not usually the regular donut cutter with the hole in the middle) or cut in the traditional diamond shape with a slit down the middle. Let the donuts rise for about 20 to 30 minutes. Fry in deep fat till light brown. Drain on paper towels, then, while hot, roll in sugar. Enjoy!

Next month I will include a recipe for German Apple Cake that has been given to me by one of our members.

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? A poem? Just let me know. My contact information is in this *Zeitung*. Thank you!

SALLY FRENZA, *Editor*

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 for a year in the *Zeitung*. Become a Patron now, and the \$20 will carry you through 2023. Please note Patron on the message line of your check. For current Patrons, please forward your check by March 1 to the address noted above. Please add Patron on the message line of your check. We look forward to your continued patronage. You can also pay at the February 16 Membership Meeting.

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.

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The Syracuse Turners is now operating on their winter schedule. Please contact them at 315-471-9851 if you would like information regarding joining the Turners, their activities, or their hours and Friday-night dinners.

Contact the *Zeitung*!

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