



Deutsche Zeitung

of the German-American Society of Central New York

www.germanamericanscnycny.com

April 2023

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President's Report

After an unusual winter, it looks like spring is finally getting here. I don't know about you, but I'm ready! With the nicer weather also comes the start of our events. **The German Student Scholarship Night** being held on April 24 at the Syracuse Turners is the first. The article found in this *Zeitung* will provide all the details.

Please plan to attend the April 20 **Monthly Membership Meeting** at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners, 619 N. Salina St., to keep up to date on what's happening in our great organization, share your ideas for future events, and how you can help. After our Monthly Membership Meeting there will be time to socialize with your friends in the German American Society as you enjoy refreshments.

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 April 20 Meeting!

DAVID A. GUNTER, *President*

Vice-President's Report

I heard that spring has hit in Upstate NY. We'll be back very soon to check that out. Our time in sunny Florida went by way too quickly and it won't be long before we see you all again.

When we return I hope to see some new members. I realize that the winter is a difficult time to recruit people, but the warmer weather is upon us now and our events are starting up, including the **German Student Scholarship Night**, the **Maitanz** and a possible **Oktoberfest** in the fall. So let's get together and push those applications! 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 all soon!

BOB KRAUS, *Vice President*

Treasurer's Report

At our **March Monthly Meeting**, the Club's Board agreed to initiate the process of holding an **Oktoberfest** celebration in October 2023, most likely at the site of the Lakeview Amphitheater next to the State Fair parking lots. This festival would be a good opportunity to raise funds for the club's major charitable endeavor—our annual **Scholarship** program. However, putting on a quality event will require lots and lots of help with planning, coordination, and execution. Keep an eye on the *Zeitung* in the coming months and when you see requests for assistance, please answer the call and be willing to share your time and talents for this good cause. Unless we work hard to raise funds, the future of

this 127-year-old organization is questionable. As always, 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

Thank you to all who submitted their dues payments. The strength of our society depends on the participation of all our members. We hope to see you at upcoming meetings and events and we welcome your suggestions and ideas! As noted above, we are working on an **Oktoberfest** in the fall. There are other opportunities in the talking stages to get our organization out there in the public eye.

We have no new members to present this month. 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.germanamericanscnycny.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 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. Thank you.

NADJA E. ALLMANN, *Financial Secretary*

CLUB MEETINGS

Apr 20	Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6 Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7
Mai 18	Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6 Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7
Jun 15	Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6 Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7

UPCOMING EVENTS

Apr 24	German Student Scholarship Night, Syracuse Turners, 5-9
Mai 21	<i>Maitanz</i> , Syracuse Turners, 1-6

House Committee

The date for the *Maitanz* has been set for May 21 from 1 to 6 at the Syracuse Turners. The Social Hour from 1 to 2 seemed to work out well at the Christmas Party, so we will continue that format as it gives people a chance to find a seat, have some snacks, mingle with friends, and maybe even purchase an adult beverage from the bar at a very reasonable price.

The **Syracuse Oktoberfest Band** will be playing for your listening and dancing pleasure. It will be a lot of fun!

The menu will be ham and all the fixings, soda, coffee, tea, and desserts. The cost will be \$20 for members and \$25 for nonmembers. Children ages 6 to 15 are \$10 and under 6 are free. Final information will be in the *May Zeitung*.

If you would like to be on the House Committee, please let us know at the April 20 **Membership Meeting** held at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners. If you'd like more information about being on the Committee or would like to volunteer, 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, *House Committee*

March Meeting Presentation

At the March 16 **Monthly Membership Meeting** Sally Frenza gave a presentation related to St. Patrick's Day. Many unknown facts were presented, including the history of green beer. Sally said that she always thought that it started at Coleman's Irish Pub! Wrong! It was started in 1914 in New York City by an Irish-American coroner named Dr. Thomas Hayes Curtin who colored the beer green by adding a drop of "wash blue" to the beer. The "wash blue" was actually a poison used to whiten clothes! There were no reports of anyone dying from the green beer and a tradition was started. Now green food coloring is added to the beer to achieve that beautiful green color. There is a little-known tradition of "drowning your shamrock." At the end of the night, everyone who had been celebrating St. Patrick's Day dunks a shamrock into their last glass of whiskey, toasts St. Patrick, and then tosses the shamrock over their left shoulder for good luck!

At the April 20 **Monthly Membership Meeting** we would really appreciate your participation in discussing topics of interest that you, the members, would like to have presented at our meetings. Anyone is invited to give a presentation, so don't hesitate to volunteer.

Sunshine Lady

Get-well card was sent to **Anna Bultjer**, who recent had eye surgery. Heal fast Anna!

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

MARGARETHA MICH0, *Sunshine Lady*

Scholarship Committee

First, I want to thank the German American Society Board of Directors for approving an increase in the scholarships to be awarded from \$800 to \$1,000 each.

The **Scholarship Committee** comprised of **John Besten**, **Tammy Gondeck**, and I met and reviewed all the wonderful scholarship applications that met the criteria. After much review and discussion, the following students were selected as recipients of the 2023 scholarships: **Elizabeth Conklin**, Baker High School; **Tucker Donath**, Mexico High School; **Clara Lear**, Fayetteville-Manlius High School; **Ruthie Taber**, Fayetteville-Manlius High School; and **Alexa von Holtz**, Mexico High School.

The German Student Scholarship Night celebration will be held

German Student Scholarship Night

April 24 · 5 to 9 p.m.

Our
21st
Year!

Syracuse Turners
619 N. Salina St. · Syracuse, NY
315-471-9851

Social Hour from 5 to 6

Dinner from 6 to 7

Entertainment at 7

featuring

Syracuse Oktoberfest Dancers

John Besten and Ray Sturge Instrumental,
and the **Syracuse Liederverein Quartet**

Award Presentations to Follow

Please attend to honor the wonderful students and to support the future of our German language, heritage, and culture.

*Menu: tossed salad, Bratwurst,
franks, Sauerkraut, German potato
salad, dessert, coffee, and tea*

Cost: \$15

(No charge for students of German or their teachers.)

Reservations and checks made out to the German-American Society of CNY
by April 18 to Sally Frenza, 4 Commodore Circle, Baldwinsville, NY 13027-2105.
Questions: contact Sally Frenza at 315-345-6253 or sallyzf@aol.com.

on April 24 at the Syracuse Turners and is open to all, with any student of German, regardless of what grade they are in, and their teacher attending at no cost to them. I know I have said it before, but it doesn't seem possible that this will be our twenty-first year of awarding scholarships, and I have been fortunate enough to be involved in them all! German Student Scholarship Night is an evening that showcases our wonderful students of German and is a lot of fun!

The cost for German Student Scholarship Night remains at \$15, except as mentioned above with students of German and their teachers attending at no cost. There will be a social hour with snacks from 5 to 6, a buffet dinner from 6 to 7, entertainment at 7 featuring the **Syracuse Liederverein Quartet** singing German songs, and the **Syracuse Oktoberfest Dancers**, who will not only do some traditional Bavarian folk dances, but also entice some of the attendees to do the Pretzel Dance with them. It is always a lot of laughs! **John Besten** and **Ray Sturge**, members of the Oktoberfest Band, will play during dinner. The Scholarship Awards follow the entertainment. Each Scholarship recipient will give a short acceptance speech in German and English. This is always a highlight of the evening. A flyer is printed in this *Zeitung* with all the details.

If you would like to **help support our Scholarship Program**, 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. 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.

Now my sales pitch: 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! See you all on April 24!

SALLY FRENZA, *Scholarship Chair*

Goethe and Schiller Monument

As spring evolves around us, it is once again time to do a clean-up at the Goethe and Schiller Monument. Please attend the April 20 Meeting to obtain additional information on the monument clean-up date.

As you may recall, the Goethe and Schiller Monument Restoration Project was a joint venture between the German American Society of CNY and the City of Syracuse a few years ago. The area around the monument is paved with bricks that were purchased to commemorate family members, events, organizations, and other areas. The monument is located in Schiller Park on the north side of Syracuse.

From the Editor

The robins are out and the crocuses are blooming. Let's look at spring in Germany. Spring provides abundant sunshine and beautiful flowers. Cherry and apple blossoms line the historic German roads. People drive along the roads or sail down the rivers and canals to enjoy the wonderful castles, palaces, and medieval towns.

Seats and tables begin to appear outside cafés, bistros, and ice cream parlors. And, of course, the beer gardens are set to go.

The cities, towns and villages begin their spring celebrations, which range from music to wine and cheese, and a lot more merry-making. *Frühjahrs müdigkeit* (spring tiredness) is

banned. As usual, the Germans know how to get things rolling! Happy spring!

Even though this *Zeitung* will probably arrive after Easter, let's take a look at Easter in Germany anyway.

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 *Osterhase*.

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.

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!).

The German people also have a big Easter dinner either on Easter Sunday or Monday. Easter lamb, chicken, and eggs are just a few of the dishes served to not only celebrate Easter but also the end of Lenten fasting.

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*. If you would like your patron 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 Patrons, please forward your check by April 15 to the address noted above. We look forward to your continued patronage. You can also pay at the April 20 Membership Meeting. If your patron payment is not received by the April 20 meeting, your name will be removed from the Patron list in the *Zeitung*. Please don't let this happen.

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 continue to serve dinners and tavern food on Friday nights from 5:30 to 7:30. Please contact them if you would like information regarding joining the Turners, their activities, or their hours and Friday-night dinners. Their number is 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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