



Deutsche Zeitung

of the German-American Society of Central New York

www.germanamericanscny.com

Februar 2025

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

President's Report

Thank you to the members who continue to support our great organization by attending our Monthly Meetings! It's a great time to catch up on what's happening and being planned, and spend time after the meeting sharing some *Gemütlichkeit!* This month's presentation will be on *Fasching*. Enjoy the presentation as you have a sandwich and an adult beverage.

Please remember: 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.

See everyone at the February 20 Monthly Membership Meeting!

DAVID A. GUNTER, *President*

Vice President's Report

Well, parts of Florida are now snow country. Difference is it doesn't last down here!

We miss seeing you all and participating in our membership meetings, but I don't miss the winter weather the north is getting this year! Our time in Florida is flying by and it will only be a few months till we are back with you all.

While Corrine and I are down here in Florida, I would like to ask that you try to bring in new members. If each member brings in just one person, what a great boost that would be to our membership! New members bring new ideas and more people to help out at our events!

If you have any questions or ideas on how to increase our membership, please contact me at kraus193701@gmail.com.

Thank you for helping to increase our membership! See you in the Spring!

BOB KRAUS, *Vice President*

Treasurer's Report

Here's my wish list for 2025:

- Please pay your dues (it's the beginning of February and many of our members have yet to submit their dues); it will be greatly appreciated.

- Come to a Club Meeting (the next one is February 20), get involved, share your ideas, have a sandwich and a beer, and ask how you can help out!
- If you can, consider making a donation to our Scholarship Program so we can keep it going, or to the Club in general to help keep our finances stable. Every amount helps!

If you have any questions at all regarding our finances, please come to our February 20 meeting or send an email to cnygermansociety@gmail.com.

JAMES HECKATHORNE, *Treasurer*

Financial Secretary's Report

I hope everyone is staying warm and safe so far this winter. **Reminder:** It's time for 2025 dues payments. Dues are \$25 per individual and \$40 for a household couple that are both established members. Payments can be made by check or cash, in person at upcoming meetings and events, or by mail. Payments can also be made by Venmo or PayPal upon request. Please email cnygermansociety@gmail.com with questions.

As always, members whose dues have not been received by January 31 will be sent a reminder letter and/or email. Per the Society Bylaws, individuals that do not pay dues by March 15 will be removed from membership. If there are extenuating circumstances as to why your dues have not been paid, please contact me to discuss any issues.

We currently have 142 members in good standing. Please continue to encourage your circles to join the society! The strength

CLUB MEETINGS

| | |
|--------|--|
| Feb 20 | Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6 Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7 Meeting Presentation: <i>Fasching</i> |
| Mär 20 | Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6 Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7 |
| Apr 17 | Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6 Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7 |

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

| | |
|--------|---|
| Apr 12 | International Taste Fest, Center of Progress Building, New York State Fairgrounds |
| Apr 28 | German Student Scholarship Night, 5-9 at the Syracuse Turners |
| Aug 3 | Annual Picnic at Long Branch Park |

of our society depends on the participation of all our members, so we hope to see everyone at upcoming meetings and events!

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

Thanks!

NADJA E. ALLMANN, *Financial Secretary*

House Committee

The House Committee would like to plan a May Dance. However, last year after planning and making arrangements the dance needed to be canceled as there were very few reservations, and a dance cannot be held with only a handful of people. If you're able, please come to the **February 20 Monthly Membership Meeting** and let the House Committee know how you feel about a having a *Maitanz* and if you can make a commitment. If there are enough commitments we may go forward. You can also contact Sally Frenza at the number below and give her your opinion on the May Dance and if you can commit. It's important that the information be received by the February 20 meeting.

A thank-you goes out to **Jim Heckathorne**, who has once again reserved a spot for our **Annual Picnic** at Long Branch Park in Liverpool. Please add Sunday, August 3, to your calendar to spend a fun-filled afternoon with your fellow members, family, and friends.

If you would like more information about being on the House Committee, or how you can help out at our events, please contact Sally at 315-345-6253. We need all the help we can get!

Just a reminder: German Student Scholarship Night will be held on April 28 at the Syracuse Turners.

SALLY FRENZA, BRIGITTE NIEBUHR, and JACKIE SCHNEIDER-RIVETTE, *House Committee*

February Meeting Presentation

For the month of January we had a group discussion on highlights of events in our own lives that happened in 2024. It was really interesting and fun to hear about 2024 from the members who attended the Monthly Meeting. It gave us an opportunity to see each as more than German American Society members.

Sally Frenza has volunteered to do a presentation on *Fasching* at the February 20 Monthly Meeting. Hopefully there may even be some *Fastnachts* (German donuts) to share during the presentation, along with our usual sandwiches and beer/soda, so please plan to attend.

Sunshine Lady

Get-well card was sent to **Brigitte Niebuhr**, who was recently in the hospital. A card was also sent to **Susan Foster** to let her know we are thinking about her while she deals with health issues. May they each feel better soon!

A birthday card was sent to member **Ken Blechl** in celebration of his 85th birthday in February and to let him know we are thinking about him.

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

Thank you!

MARGARETHA MICH0, *Sunshine Lady*

23rd German Student Scholarship Program

We are now looking forward to the 23rd year of our Scholarship Program in 2025. The applications and information on criteria have gone out to the schools with a return date of March 19. The Scholarship Committee will then meet and review the wonderful applications and choose the recipients, who will be notified by April 1.

Doesn't seem possible that it's Scholarship time already! German Student Scholarship Night is April 28 this year. So please add this date to your calendar. If you have never attended this wonderful event, why not make this the year? There will be more information in the March and April *Zeitungs*.

As I have mentioned several times in the past, the Scholarship Program is a costly undertaking for the German American Society. If you are able, a donation in any amount would be appreciated to help keep the Scholarship Program going strong. If you would like to help through a personal donation, 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. 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.

We also have fundraising events throughout the year to help fund the program. You can learn more about these events by attending the Monthly Meetings, following the event information in the *Zeitung*, and following our Facebook page at German American Society of CNY. Please consider volunteering at our events. Not only is it fun, but it will be helping to make our fundraising events successful!

As always, here's my sales pitch. I still have a few articles of gently used German clothing left for sale. Also, the German-American flag pins are always available at our meetings and events for \$3. If you're interested in purchasing any of the items, please just call or text me at the above number or speak with me at any of our Monthly Meetings. All proceeds will benefit the Scholarship Program.

Thank you for your continued support!

SALLY FRENZA, *Scholarship Chair*

From the Editor

Many people continue to ask about *Fasching*, “Germany’s Mardi Gras.” To hear more, please attend the February 20 Monthly Membership Meeting as *Fasching* is the topic of this month’s presentation.

It’s almost Valentine’s Day, so let’s get a look at how Germans celebrate. *Valentinstag* has only been celebrated in Germany since World War II. In Germany it is an adults-only holiday, so you won’t see any of those cute little pink or red “Be Mine” cards that the American children exchange in school. The German cards are strictly meant for adults, and the chocolates that accompany them can be quite provocative.

The Germans also put a little twist on Valentine’s Day by adding a pig on their cards. These little pigs are a symbol of luck, but also lust. So for extra luck with the loved one or would-be valentine, some cards have little pigs holding a four-leaf clover while climbing a ladder on a heart.

Another important item of Valentine’s Day in Germany is the big ginger cookies, made in the shape of a heart and decorated with frosting. They usually have a few words written on them such as *meine Shatzi*, *Ich liebe dich*, or a few words about the lover’s intentions.

So whatever your intent, I hope that Valentine’s Day is romantic and filled with love as you express your feelings to your loved one.

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*

Members and Friends

Call the Syracuse Turners at 315-471-9851 to get details about their hours of operation, menu, and events. You can also get information on how to join their organization, as well as how to rent their dining room or bowling alley for a special occasion.

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, the yearly cost is \$30 for a single ad and \$60 for a double. Please send a check made out to the German American Society of CNY and include a copy of how you would like your ad to appear to the attention of the Editor at The German American Society of CNY, PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548. Put “ad” on the message line of your check. Advertising helps offset some of the cost of the *Zeitung*.

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. 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. Thank you to our current Patrons. It is now time to renew for 2025. Please send your checks for \$20 to the address noted above. We need your continued support to keep the *Zeitung* going.

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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