



# Deutsche Zeitung

of the German-American Society of Central New York

www.germanamericanscnyc.com

April 2025

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## President's Report

I want to once again thank the members who continue to support our great organization by attending our monthly meetings and participating in our events.

Please plan to attend the April 17 **Monthly Membership Meeting** at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners to obtain the latest information on our upcoming events and to share your ideas on activities, fundraisers, etc. We will have our usual refreshments afterward for you to enjoy while socializing with your friends. Hopefully we will finally hear the presentation on *Fasching!*

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. Hope to see you all on April 17!

DAVID A. GUNTER, *President*

## Vice-President's Report

Well, our winter as snowbirds is quickly coming to an end. We should be back up north next month. We have missed seeing you all and participating in our membership meetings.

While Corrine and I have been down here in Florida, I understand that some of our members have passed away. Also, I am saddened to hear that several members have not paid their 2025 dues. The German American Society needs you all! We have events coming up in 2025 that could use your help and ideas. So if you are one of the members who may have forgotten to pay your dues, please send them in or pay at the April 17 **Monthly Membership Meeting**.

I would also like to ask that you—our members—set a goal for yourselves 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! We need new members to keep us going strong.

If you have any questions or ideas of how to increase our membership, please contact me at kraus193701@gmail.com. Thank you for helping to increase our membership! See you in May!

BOB KRAUS, *Vice President*

## Treasurer's Report

We are now looking forward to our spring and summer events. Just a reminder that we'll be selling treats at the **International Taste Festival** on April 12 from 11 A.M. to 8 P.M. to raise funds for our **Scholarship Program**. It's a great event with lots of delicious food and fun entertainment, so plan to stop by and say hello. Even better if you come in *Lederhosen* or *Dirndl!*

**German Student Scholarship Night** is coming up on April 28. Please see the Scholarship article and flyer in this *Zeitung* for all the details. Scholarship is our main focus for fundraising and giving back to the community.

As always, if you have any questions at all regarding our club's fi-

nances, come to our April 17 meeting or email me at cnygermansociety@gmail.com.

JAMES HECKATHORNE, *Treasurer*

## Financial Secretary's Report

As we wrap up this year's dues cycle we unfortunately currently have over 25 members who have not renewed. If these members do not renew it will have a very negative impact on our membership. Also, this will be the final *Zeitung* for anyone whose dues have not been received for 2025. Please email cnygermansociety@gmail.com if you have questions about your dues status. Send in your dues payments to The German American Society of CNY PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548, or pay at the April 17 **Monthly Membership Meeting**. Please do not let your membership lapse as we need your participation and your ideas!

At the March **Membership Meeting** we voted in two new members: **Danielle Kepler** and **Peter Andres**. Please join me in welcoming Danielle and Peter into our great organization! We look forward to getting to know them. 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!

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.germanamericanscnyc.com or by email. Checks can be made out to The German American Society of CNY.

Thanks!

NADJA E. ALLMANN, *Financial Secretary*

## CLUB MEETINGS

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| Apr 17 | Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6<br>Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7<br>Meeting Presentation: <i>Fasching</i> |
| Mai 15 | Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6<br>Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7  |
| Jun 19 | Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6<br>Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7  |

## UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| Apr 12 | International Taste Fest, New York State Fairgrounds, 11-8 |
| Apr 28 | German Student Scholarship Night, 5-9, Syracuse Turners    |
| Aug 3  | Annual Picnic at Long Branch Park                          |

## House Committee

As mentioned in the March *Zeitung*, there will be no *Maitanz* this year. Please keep it in mind for 2026. Let's not let this fun event go by the wayside.

Thank you 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. The picnic will be here before we know it. There will be more information on the picnic as the date gets closer.

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** is being held April 28 from 5 to 9 at the Syracuse Turners. This is a great evening spent honoring the Scholarship recipients for 2025, as well as all students of German and their teachers. More information is in the Scholarship Committee Report in this *Zeitung*.

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

## April Meeting Presentation

Well, hopefully the presentation on *Fasching* will take place at the April 17 **Monthly Meeting**. **Sally Frenza** regretfully had to cancel for the March meeting. This will be the third time the presentation has been scheduled. They say the third time is a charm. Keep your fingers crossed!

## Sunshine Lady

During the past month we had one of our members, **Henry Beck**, pass away. Henry was well known in the CNY area as the owner of Tessa Plastics. He was an avid skier for several years. He and **Helga** attended many of our events and could be found enjoying dinner and a beverage and on the dance floor. Thoughts and condolences to Henry's family and many friends.

**Brigitte Niebuhr** is currently in rehab. She had an accident at home and injured her left shoulder and arm. A card has been sent wishing her a speedy recovery.

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

It's hard to believe that **Scholarship Night** is almost here. The Committee recently met and, after hours of carefully reviewing each application that met the criteria, the following students will each be a recipient of one of this year's \$1000 scholarships: **Keri Lambert**—Baker High School; **Hiro Havey**—Fayetteville-Manlius High School; **Andrew Hoehner**—Fayetteville-Manlius High School; **Sarah Marsden**—Mexico High School; and **Hannah Schultz**—Onondaga Central High School.

The German Student Scholarship Night celebration will be held on April 28 at the Syracuse Turners, 619 North Salina Street, and is open to all, with any student of German, regardless of what grade they attend in school, 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-third 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,

# German Student Scholarship Night

April 28 • 5 to 9 p.m.

Our  
25th  
Year!

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

Social Hour from 5 to 6  
Buffet Dinner from 6 to 7

Entertainment at 7  
featuring

**Syracuse Oktoberfest Dancers  
and Gracie and Her Cowbells**

*Award Presentations to Follow*

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

**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 22 to Sally Frenza, 4 Commodore Circle, Baldwinsville, NY 13027-2105. Questions: contact Sally Frenza at 315-345-6253 or sallyzf@aol.com.

except as mentioned above. If at all possible, reservations with checks made out to the German American Society of CNY with the number of guests and names need to be mailed to Sally Frenza, 4 Commodore Circle, Baldwinsville, NY 13027-2105 by April 22.

The evening celebration will consist of a social hour with snacks from 5 to 6 with music by **John and Ray**, who are members of the **Syracuse Oktoberfest Band**, a buffet dinner from 6 to 7, entertainment at 7 featuring 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! This year we will also have **Gracie** and her cowbells, who will entertain everyone with her music, but also lead a cowbell chorus made up of volunteers, who will have an opportunity to show off their bell-ringing skills. What fun!

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 and gives the recipients an opportunity to demonstrate their command of the German language. A flyer is printed in this *Zeitung* with all the details.

Please add April 28 from 5 to 9 to your calendar for a fun-filled night! 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 made out to The German American Society of CNY and mail it 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.

Thank you to the individuals who have already shown their support of this very important program with a personal donation. People who donate will be noted in the Scholarship Night Program. 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! Our next event will be selling treats at the **International Taste Festival** being held at the New York State Fairgrounds on April 12 from 11 A.M. to 8 P.M.

As always, here's my sales pitch: I still have a few articles of gently used German clothing left for sale. There are a couple pairs of *Lederhosen* and a few articles of ladies' clothing. 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 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

**T**rohe Ostern! 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* (Easter bunnies).

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 worship, 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. Sounds a lot like here!

But how did the Easter Bunny get to America? Bet you guessed it! Like a lot of other traditions that we celebrate, it was reportedly first introduced by the Germans who settled in Pennsylvania in the 1700s. They brought over the tradition of an *Osterhase*, who left eggs for good boys and girls. The children would make nests so the bunny could leave his eggs. Sometimes they would even leave out carrots in case the *Osterhase* needed a snack during his long night of leaving eggs. Over the years the tradition spread across America and even grew to include chocolate and toys! In Switzerland it is an Easter Cuckoo who brings eggs and even in some parts of Germany it's an Easter Fox or even an Easter Rooster!

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!).

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 their many events planned for 2025. 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. If you have not already done so, please send your checks for \$20 to the address noted above. We need your continued support to keep the *Zeitung* going. If the \$20 donation for Patron isn't received by April 18, your Patron ad may be taken out of the *Zeitung*. Please don't let this happen.

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

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