



# Deutsche Zeitung

of the German-American Society of Central New York

## März 2014

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## President's Report

February's Monthly Meeting was short and sweet. However, even though it was brief, we did share a lot of information.

The weather was not the best, but we still had a decent turnout. Please check the *Zeitung* for our upcoming events and interesting news tidbits. I will be on vacation the month of March, so I am going to miss the **Bockbierfest** on March 22. This is a great opportunity to have a good time, think about spring coming, and enjoy the company of our members and friends.

Even though I won't be there, please attend our next monthly meeting on March 20 at 7 P.M., hear firsthand what's going on in our organization, and enjoy a little *Gemütlichkeit* with your fellow members.

WILLI KREUZER, *President*

## Vice President's Report

I am happy to report that preparation for our **Oktoberfest** is really going well. I have firmed up the entertainment schedule, and it will be posted in an upcoming *Zeitung*.

It's not too early to start thinking about where you can help out. We will be setting up on Friday, August 15 and Oktoberfest will be Saturday and Sunday, August 16 and 17. We'll tear down on Monday the 18th. More on the times, etc., will be coming in the next *Zeitung*.

Even though things are moving along, there's still plenty of planning and work to be done. So, if you are interested in serving on the Oktoberfest Committee, the first meeting will be March 18 at 7 P.M. at the Syracuse Turners.

If you have any questions about Oktoberfest that I can help you with, please just give me a call at 675-8321 or attend the March 18 Committee Meeting.

KLAUS RAITH, *Vice President*

## Treasurer's Report

Please attend the next Monthly Meeting on March 20 for a complete report on our financial status. In

the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact me at 622-2658.

Thanks and see you at the meeting.

JIM KOZLOWSKI, *Treasurer*

## Financial Secretary's Report

Don't forget: it's time to pay your 2014 dues. Dues are still just \$15 for renewing members. If you have not paid your dues as yet, they are now overdue. If not paid by March 15, you will no longer be a member in good standing of the German American Society of CNY and you will need to rejoin as a new member at a cost of \$25.

So, please get those dues in. The checks need to be made out to The German American Society of CNY. Please send all checks and applications to: The German American Society, c/o June Pardue, 692 Idlewood Blvd., Baldwinsville, NY 13027.

Please attend the March 20 Monthly Meeting for a rundown on our current membership numbers and any new applications. If you have any questions regarding your dues or membership, please contact me at 412-1761.

See you at the meeting.

JUNE PARDUE, *Financial Secretary*

### CLUB MEETINGS

- |        |                                                          |
|--------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Mär 18 | Oktoberfest Committee Meeting, Turners, 7                |
| Mär 20 | Board Meeting, Turners, 6<br>Monthly Meeting, Turners, 7 |
| Apr 15 | Oktoberfest Committee Meeting, Turners, 7                |
| Apr 17 | Board Meeting, Turners 6<br>Monthly Meeting, Turners, 7  |

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- |        |                                         |
|--------|-----------------------------------------|
| Mär 22 | Bockbierfest, Liverpool Fire Hall, 6-10 |
| Apr 28 | Scholarship Night, Turners, 5-9         |

## From the House Committee

**T**he **Bockbierfest** will be Saturday, March 22, from 6–10 P.M. at the Liverpool Fire Hall. I am asking the House Committee to please be there by 5.

The **Enzian Bavarian Quartet** will be playing for your listening and dancing pleasure. Admission will be \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door. Kids under age 10 are free, and kids ages 10–18 are \$5. The menu will be Bockwurst, hot dogs, potatoes, salad, vegetables, and dessert. Beer, wine, soda, and bottled water will be available for a small donation.

Please make checks out to The German American Society of CNY. No cash in the mail! Send to Brigitte Niebuhr, 319 W. Ostrander Ave., Syracuse, NY 13205. You can contact me at 469-5304 (home) or 491-3573 (cell). The cut-off day is the March 18.

If you'd like more information on the House Committee, or if you would like to help out, please let me know.

BRIGITTE NIEBUHR, *House Committee Chair*

## Sunshine Lady

**A** get-well card went out in February to **June Pardue**, who has been laid up with pneumonia. Hopefully when this *Zeitung* arrives, you'll be feeling much better.

Please contact me at 468-4541 to report any illnesses, surgeries, deaths, anniversaries, monumental birthdays, or other events that are deserving of a card.

MARGARETHA MICH0, *Sunshine Lady*

## Goethe and Schiller Monument

**B**elieve it or not, spring is just around the corner! I want to make everyone aware that there is still an opportunity to purchase a brick at the Goethe and Schiller Monument. A single brick is \$50, 2 bricks are \$75, and 3 bricks are \$100, with each additional brick being \$30. These bricks can be purchased to honor or memorialize a loved one, friend, organization, etc. Please call me at 451-1848 for further details or to get a form. Forms can also be obtained at any German American Society event or online at [www.germanamericanscny.com](http://www.germanamericanscny.com).

As you may recall, bricks have been sold to help offset the cost of the Goethe and Schiller Monument Restoration Project that was a joint venture between the German American Society and the City of Syracuse a few years ago.

BOB DOMACHOWSKI, *Goethe and Schiller Monument Chair*

## Scholarship Committee

**T**he Scholarship Applications and Criteria have gone out to the area German teachers to distribute to their students. This will be our 12th Scholarship year, and I am honored and pleased to remain active in this cherished event. It hardly seems possible that so much

time has gone by and so many wonderful students have been honored over the years.

Please mark April 28 on your 2014 calendar for Scholarship Night at the Syracuse Turners from 5–9. If you have never attended, why not make this the year to start?

There will be a dinner as usual, as well as entertainment and the awards ceremony. It is always a great time and a wonderful way to honor our students and their teachers. There will be more information in the April *Zeitung*. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact me by cell or text at 345-6253 or e-mail at [sallyzf@aol.com](mailto:sallyzf@aol.com).

I am looking forward to seeing you all on April 28 at the Syracuse Turners for our 12th Annual German Student Scholarship Night!

SALLY FRENZA, *Scholarship Chair*

## From the Editor

**I** want to start with a reminder to anyone who has not paid for their 2014 PATRON listing in the *Zeitung* to please send the \$15 check made out to the German American Society of CNY to me at my address as noted in the *Zeitung*. Or, you can pay at the Bockbierfest or the March Monthly Meeting. If I do not hear from you before the end of March, I will assume you no longer wish to be a Patron and I will remove your name. Thanks to the Patrons who have already paid for 2014.

Now, moving on, I thought I would resurrect a couple articles that I used in the past. I have received questions about **Fasching** and **Bockbier**, and hopefully the information below will help provide some answers.

### **Fasching is Germany's Biggest Bash!**

Most people would probably say that the Munich Oktoberfest is the biggest bash in Germany. However, the greatest Fest 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 7 weeks before Easter.

The Thursday before Ash Wednesday is known as *Welberfastnacht* or Women's Carnival Night. On this day, 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 of or kiss (or both) any man within their reach! My son happened to be going to Germany one year during Fasching, and he was advised to remove his tie before he exited the plane or one of the ladies would take care of it! During Fasching 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), a day of 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 2–5 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, have a great time, and nobody cares! (I think I would really like that!)

Munich also features doughnuts 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. (I think that would have been a good time to go on a diet of no cake!) In recent times, the King’s Cake idea has evolved into doughnuts. Thank God! as I don’t think we would want to sacrifice any kings around here!

### **How Bockbier Got to Bavaria**

Although we now associate Bockbier with Bavaria, it had its origins in the middle of the 13th century in Einbeck, a town in Northern Germany. Over the centuries, it ended up in Bavaria to help bolster the economy, as Bockbier was so good that the Bavarians were the greatest consumers. However, they could not seem to master the brewing of the beer. After Duke Maximilian enticed an Einbeck brewmaster, Elias Pichler, to come to Munich in 1612 to work in the famous Wittelbach brewery, they began to brew a beer closer to the Bockbier we know today. The first strong Munich lager brewed the “Einbeck way” was dispensed

at the Hofbräuhaus in 1614. The Bavarian dialect soon changed the name “Einbeck” to “ayn Pock” and eventually “ein Bock.” And that’s how the Bock got to Bavaria.

Bockbiers rank among the heaviest and maltiest—yet smoothest—brews in the world. They are made to be sipped, not guzzled. The Bockbier alcohol level ranges between 6 and 8%.

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 you would like to see in print, please let me know.

SALLY FRENZA, *Editor*

## **Members and Friends**

### **Syracuse Liederverein Chorus**

We need your help and participation! **Sängerfest** is coming up next year and we would like to compete, but we can’t do it without new members.

Some members asked why there have been no concerts over the past year. The answer is that we need you to sing with us to help our chorus to take its place again among the award winners!

The Syracuse Liederverein Chorus is always looking for new singers of all ages. You don’t need to be able to speak or understand German to join our group. All you need is a love of singing and the desire to preserve a very important part of German culture: singing. The chorus sings not only German songs, but also songs in English, and sometimes other languages. It’s really fun!

We are currently regrouping and hope to start rehearsals again soon. If you would like more information on joining the only German chorus in our area, please contact George at 475-0282. Rehearsals are typically held on Monday evenings at 7 P.M.

### **Events at the Utica Männerchor**

Located at 5535 Flanagan Rd in Marcy, NY. For more information, contact the clubhouse at 735-5882. Please try to support our friends in Utica by attending their events.

Your name could be here! \$15 for Patrons, \$10 for Sponsors, for one year. Send your check made payable to the German-American Society of CNY, attn. Sally Frenza, 4 Commodore Circle, Baldwinsville, NY 13027

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