



Deutsche Zeitung

of the German-American Society of Central New York

Februar 2019

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David A. Gunter, *President* B. Bruce Barnes, *Vice President*
Vacant, *Treasurer*
June Pardue, *Secretary*
Austin Westphal, *Financial Secretary*

Klaus Raith, *Honorary President*

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2 yrs: Sally Frenza, Eric Gang, Helen Kline,
Robert Kline, Brigitte Niebuhr
1 yr: Kenneth Blechl, Carl Bloss, Susan
Foster, Monika Loerzel, Bill Nurk

Please note: Please call either the Syracuse Turners at 315-471-9851 or President Dave Gunter at 315-289-8145 if you are not sure whether there will be a meeting due to inclement weather.

President's Report

I hope all our members survived the last few bitter cold weeks. Having survived this cold means that the good weather is just ahead. Along with the good weather comes much to be done.

I would like to thank **June Pardue** for accepting the position of Secretary so **Sally Frenza** can concentrate on the *Zeitung*, the Scholarship Program and her health. The organization is still in need of a Treasurer, so please, if you would like to help out, please contact me at 315-289-8145. It would be greatly appreciated.

Please remember that input from members of the German American Society is needed to continue and build on the success of our organization. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at the number listed above.

I hope to see you all at our February 21 Monthly Membership meeting.

In the meantime stay warm and well.

DAVID A. GUNTER, *President*

Vice-President/Okttoberfest Report

*G*in Prosit!

As mentioned at our January 17 General Membership Meeting the hot kitchen at our 2019 Oktoberfest will be handled by **Mr. Roy Waddell of Wursthau III**. A contract laying out how things will be handled has been signed. The menu and prices have been agreed upon, and we will have **potato pancakes this year!**

To help offset the Oktoberfest expenses, there will be a raffle for a Weekend Getaway for 2 at Crystal Brook German Resort at Round Top near Hunter Mountain in the Catskills. The individual who sells the winning ticket will also receive a prize.

We now have business cards with our name and address. There is a spot on the back to put the name, address, and phone number of anyone who is interested in becoming a member of the German American Society. The Oktoberfest flyers will be ready for the February 21 Monthly Membership Meeting.

As mentioned in the January *Zeitung*, the Oktoberfest bands

are: **The Enzian Bavarian Band, Fritz's Polka Band, and Dirt Road Ruckus Southern Country Rock Band.**

An Oktoberfest Organizational Meeting is scheduled for March 19 at the Syracuse Turners. Please bring your ideas and comments to the meeting as well as information on where you would like to volunteer. Help will be needed in many areas, including selling mugs, providing wrist bands, and so on. Even though we will be making some adjustments to our Bakery and Hospitality areas, help will still be needed.

Please note: Any and all ideas and suggestions are appreciated and will be considered for our 2019 Oktoberfest. Just either contact me at 315-635-5174 between 6 and 8 P.M. or bring your ideas to the March 19 Oktoberfest Organizational Meeting or any Monthly Membership Meeting.

Danke schön!

B. BRUCE BARNES, *Vice President and 2019 Oktoberfest Chair*

Treasurer's Report

Just a reminder that all bills and financial communication should be sent to: The German American Society of CNY, PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548.

Please attend the General Membership Meeting on March 17 for a complete report on our financial status.

If you have any questions about our financial status, or if you would like to be considered for the open position of Treasurer, please contact President Dave Gunter at 315-289-8145.

CLUB MEETING

- Feb 21 Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6
Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7
- Mar 19 Oktoberfest Planning Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7
- Mar 21 Board Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 6
Monthly Membership Meeting, Syracuse Turners, 7

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

- Apr 29 Scholarship Night, Syracuse Turners, 5-9
- Mai 18 May Dance, Syracuse Turners
- Jul 7 Annual Picnic at Camp Brockway
- Okt 4&5 Oktoberfest

Financial Secretary's Report

At the January 17 General Membership Meeting **Asa P. Forbes, Jr.** was voted in as the newest member of the German American Society. A warm welcome is extended to him and an invitation to participate in our activities and monthly meetings.

Please remember: We are always looking to expand our membership. If you have anyone to propose for membership, just 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: The German American Society of CNY, PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548.

Applications can be obtained at any Monthly Membership Meeting or any of our events, or on our website at www.germanamericanscnyc.com. Or, just contact me. My contact information is found below.

Reminder: The 2019 membership dues were due by January 31. If you have not yet paid your dues, please forward them as soon as possible to the address noted above. The dues for renewing members remain at \$15 a year. In addition to sending your dues, they can also pay in person at the February Monthly Membership Meeting on February 21. Checks need to be made payable to the German American Society of CNY (please add annual dues in the message portion of your check). If the dues were not paid by January 31, 2019, an invoice will be sent reminding any unpaid member that his or her membership dues are past due, and that the dues must be paid by March 15 in order to remain a member in good standing. After March 15, any member who has not paid his or her dues will be automatically dropped from membership without further notice. If any prior member wants to rejoin The German American Society of CNY, he or she must come in as a new member.

Another reminder: If you will be away for an extended period of time this winter the *Zeitung* can be forwarded to you. Please contact the Editor to arrange for this complimentary service of the German American Society. Also, if you change your address, please contact me at 315-289-6568 with the new information to ensure that the membership list is kept current and that the *Zeitung* reaches you.

To discuss any of the above areas, or if you have any questions regarding your dues or membership, please contact me at the above phone number.

Thank you.

AUSTIN WESTPHAL, *Financial Secretary*

From the House Committee

This will be my last article as I have resigned as House Committee Chair due to health reasons. Thank you to everyone who has supported me over the years.

If anyone would like to take over as the House Chair, please contact our President, Dave Gunter, at 315-289-8145.

For more information about what the House Chair does, just call or text me at 315-491-2573.

Thank you.

BRIGITTE NIEBUHR, *Former House Committee Chair*

Sunshine Lady

Last month we lost a former member, **Gloria Venditti**. She had been active in the German American Society, serving as Secretary, member of the House Committee, and Oktoberfest volunteer. Gloria was also a member of the Stein Club.

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

Thank you.

MARGARETHA MICHIO, *Sunshine Lady*

2019 Scholarship Program

Heading for Our 17th Year

It's hard to believe that we are now heading into our 17th year of awarding scholarships to graduating high school seniors in Onondaga and Oswego counties. It seems like only a short time ago when I handed out the first scholarships on a snowy evening in April, 2003.

The date for Scholarship Night is set for April 29 at the Syracuse Turners, from 5 to 9, so mark this day on your 2019 calendar. There will be more information in the March and April *Zeitungs*.

If you have never attended this wonderful event, please try for 2019. It is a night that honors not only the scholarship recipients, but all students of the German language and their teachers. The applications have gone out to the schools. The Committee is looking forward to another year of great applicants.

Just a reminder: I have a limited amount of children's German clothing left for sale, as well as a couple pair of adult *Lederhosen*. There are also the German American flag pins for sale at \$3 each. The pins can be purchased at any meeting or event. Proceeds from the sale of the clothing and pins go to help the Scholarship Program.

If you have any questions about the scholarship program, or if you would like to help out or purchase clothing or pins, please feel free to call/text me at 315-345-6253 or by email at sallyzf@aol.com.

Thank you for your support of the Scholarship Program. Also, thank you to our members **Tammy Gondeck** and **Mark Schumacher** who will once again work with me on the Scholarship Committee.

SALLY FRENZA, *Scholarship Chair*

From the Editor

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 *Welberfastnach* 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! 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). 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, have a great time, and nobody cares! (I think I would really like that!)

Munich also features donuts (*Fastnachts*) during Fasching. They can be found everywhere! (see a recipe for *Fastnachts* at the end of this article). 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 donuts. Thank God, as I don’t think we would want to sacrifice any kings around here!

Below is a recipe for *Fastnachts* 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 tablespoons sugar
- 6 eggs
- 6 cups flour
- 2 teaspoons salt

If you’d like to become a Patron of the *Zeitung* or if you are currently a patron and need to renew for 2019, please send your check for \$15 to the attention of the Editor at The German American Society of CNY, PO Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548. Please note on the message line that it is for Patron. Thank you to those Patrons who have already renewed.

PATRONS

Jack Bligh In Memory of Eric Doell Sally Frenza
 Eric Gang Tina L. Higgins Udo John
 Fritz Kucinski Eric Lorenz Robert Oberst
 Barbara Omicinski Willi Rohrbach
 The Schaack Family Richard & Dianna Schoeck

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). Let the donuts rise for about 20–30 minutes. Fry in deep fat till light brown. Drain on paper towels, Then while hot, roll in sugar. Enjoy! Remember, if you have a German, Swiss or Austrian holiday, tradition, or any topic that you would like me to write about, or if you have an article you have written and would like to see in print, just let me know.

SALLY FRENZA, *Editor*

Members and Friends

If you are looking for somewhere to have a nice friendly Friday night dinner, why not try the Syracuse Turners? They have great fish and other offerings on the menu, and all at a reasonable price. Dinner is served from 5:30 to 7:30. They are now once again operating on their regular Friday-night schedule, except when there are special events. If you would like more information on the Friday night dinners please give the Syracuse Turners a call at 315-471-9851.

Please try to support our friends at the Turners.

Events at the Utica Männerchor

For information about the Friday-night fish fry and upcoming events, just contact the clubhouse at 315-735-5882. Please try to support our friends in Utica by attending their events.

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Deutsche Zeitung

VOLUME XVI, ISSUE 2

Published monthly by the

German-American Society of Central New York
 P.O. Box 5548, Syracuse, NY 13220-5548



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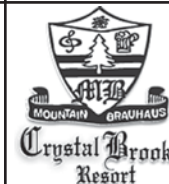
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