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The Society for German-American Studies was founded for the purpose of encouraging and advancing the scholarly study of the history, language, literature, and culture of the German element in the Americas. This includes coverage of the immigrants and their descendants from Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and other German-speaking areas of Europe. Members of the Society include representatives from various academic disciplines and others who share a common interest in German-American studies.

The *Yearbook* is published annually. The editor welcomes contributions in English, preferably, or German on all aspects of German-Americana from members of the Society. The manuscript should be prepared following the University of Chicago Press *Manual of Style* and be submitted electronically, without the author's name in the document so that it can be reviewed anonymously by members of the Editorial Board. All correspondence regarding the *Yearbook* should be addressed to William D. Keel (wkeel@ku.edu). Inquiries regarding book reviews for the *Yearbook* should be addressed to Susan M. Schürer (schurer@sunlink.net). The *Newsletter* appears three times a year. Items for the *Newsletter* should be submitted to the co-editors (MKGAC@iupui.edu). Inquiries regarding the SGAS website should be addressed to Matthew Lange (langem@uww.edu).

The Society for German-American Studies is open to membership from individuals, societies, and libraries. Annual membership dues for individuals include subscriptions to both the *Yearbook* and all issues of the *Newsletter* published during the calendar year. Libraries, societies, and other organizations interested in obtaining the publications of the Society may subscribe to publications only. Membership and subscription applications are available online at sgas.org.

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From the Editor

Our regular readers may be pleasantly surprised to receive a second *Yearbook of German-American Studies* within a year since the publication of volume 48 (2013). Thanks to the hard work of both our member-authors who submitted their essays for consideration and that of the hard-working members of our Editorial Board, we have been able to publish volume 49 (2014) in late fall 2015. We encourage our members to continue to submit their research for publication in our SGAS *Yearbook*.

This issue offers a focus on the centenary of the First World War with three essays by Walter Kamphoefner, Rebecca Odom and Joseph Neville. Ernest Menze explores the evolution of Friedrich Ludwig Jahn's views while Thaddeus Romansky investigates Turner soldiers during the U.S. Civil War. For those with an interest in literature, Gert Niers discusses the writings of German-Jewish authors in exile and Alexander Ritter unravels another mystery in the biography of Charles Sealsfield. Cecile Zorach attempts to understand the impact of wartime memories from childhood on German-Americans. For the linguist, Derek Drake and Alexander Kramer analyze the variety of German spoken near Roxbury, Wisconsin.

Preceding the Book Review section edited by Susan Schürer, who again very much deserves our thanks, we are including a review essay by James Dow on the three-volume publication edited by Peter Hoehnle, *The Inspirationists, 1714-1932*. The compilation details the life of the Amana Colonies in Iowa until the "Great Change" in 1932 when property held in common was privatized. Following the book reviews, we again provide a list of doctoral dissertations and master's theses from the year 2014 which have some aspect of German-American Studies as a focus.

Please take some time to review the documents at the end of this volume that outline the organization and purposes of the Society, especially our Bylaws, with recent amendments adopted by the Executive Committee in October 2015 at its fall meeting in Madison, Wisconsin. The SGAS Bylaws are

followed by our policies for scholarly support—the Karl J. R. Arndt Fund for publication subsidies for monographs published by members and the Albert Bernhardt Faust Fund for the support of members' research projects. Members should avail themselves of the opportunities for scholarly support from SGAS by contacting the respective committee chair. New in this issue is the list of recipients of the SGAS Outstanding Achievement Award following information on that award. SGAS has also begun a Student Membership Fund supported by our Life members (who are listed following a description of the fund) with matching contributions by Life members Mary and William Seeger of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Marc Pierce of the University of Texas-Austin has recently been appointed to serve on our Editorial Board as a reviewer for manuscripts dealing with topics in linguistics. We also want to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to all members of the Editorial Board (see page iii) for their willingness to review and critique manuscripts and ensure the high quality of the Society's "flagship" publication. Given the larger number of submission this year, our Editorial Board members have been very busy.

May the editor reiterate that at the Society's website, *sgas.org*, you will find with one or two clicks all of the information on forthcoming publications and symposia, membership renewals, opportunities for scholarly support, the dissemination of members' research as well as making a financial contribution to the Society. In particular, you will find information on ordering back issues of the *Yearbook of German-American Studies* as well as the Supplemental Issues published in 2003, 2006, 2010 and 2012. The *Yearbook* was published as a paperback until 2003. The older paperback issues are available for a minimal charge of \$5.00 per volume; the hardbound newer issues for \$10.00. A small charge for postage will also be added to the cost. We encourage those members who wish to supplement their set of issues with missing ones to take advantage of the offer. Please contact the editor at wkeel@ku.edu for further information or assistance.

As always, the editor looks forward to seeing many of you at our next Annual Symposium to be held April 28-30, 2016, in San Antonio, Texas. Presenters are encouraged to submit their essays for consideration by the Editorial Board for possible publication in a forthcoming *Yearbook*. We now encourage electronic submission of your manuscript (see the editor's e-mail address above).

Max Kade Center for German-American Studies
The University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas
November 2015