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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 Chicago Manual of Style*, 17th edition, 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](mailto:wkeel@ku.edu)). Inquiries regarding book reviews for the *Yearbook* should be addressed to Marc Pierce ([mpierc@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:mpierc@austin.utexas.edu)). The *Newsletter* appears three times a year. Items for the *Newsletter* should be submitted to the editor Joshua Brown ([brownjo@uvec.edu](mailto:brownjo@uvec.edu)). New inquiries regarding the SGAS website should be addressed to Antje Petty ([apetty@wisc.edu](mailto:apetty@wisc.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](http://sgas.org).

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## FROM THE EDITOR

Despite the continuing restrictions under the conditions of the Covid-19 pandemic this year, our YGAS-team has again been hard at work to produce the current volume of the *Yearbook of German-American Studies*, however delays have occurred and we apologize to all. The members of the *Yearbook's* Editorial Board continue to offer their critiques of new and revised essays. Their valued comments and recommendations form the basis for the publication decision for each essay and underpin our efforts to maintain the high quality of this publication. The editor cannot thank them enough. One of these valued reviewers of essays, Leo Schelbert (University of Illinois-Chicago), who has served on the Editorial Board since its inception in 1981, announced his retirement from the board in January 2021. Please read the editor's "A Personal Homage to Leo Schelbert" published in the *SGAS Newsletter* 42.1 (Spring 2021): 2, which ends with: "My personal thanks to Leo for forty years of collaboration on our *Yearbook* and best wishes and good health!"

On a very sad note, we must mark the death on October 3, 2021, of a long-time member of the Editorial Board, Alexander Ritter of Itzehoe, Germany. Alexander was a member of our editorial team since 1984—thirty-seven years. He also contributed a number of his own essays on literary topics in German-American Studies, often concerning the enigmatic nineteenth-century author Charles Sealsfield, which were published in the *Yearbook*. We also recently lost former Editorial Board member and noted historian Frederick Luebke (University of Nebraska-Lincoln). Fred's critical comments and suggestions for improvement on essays over the course of his 22 years on the board contributed to the outstanding reputation the *Yearbook* has enjoyed.

The editor's special thanks again go to Marc Pierce of the University of Texas-Austin, who as our Book Review Editor continues to produce an excellent set of reviews of the latest book publications in German-American Studies. Pam LeRow (Institute for Digital Research in the Humanities of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences at the University of Kansas) retired

at the end of 2020 and deserves our gratitude for her much-valued technical expertise in formatting our journal for publication for nearly a decade. The editor can already state that working with Pam's replacement, Eric Bader, has been a smooth transition. Eric is equally professional and is an incredible asset regarding the technical aspects of our publication. For all who work together as a team in the publication of the Society's scholarly journal, the editor is most grateful.

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. The current SGAS Bylaws are followed by a section entitled "Society for German-American Studies: Miscellaneous Items." Here you will find information on the Society's support for scholarly research and publication: The Albert Bernhardt Faust Fund for the support of research projects of our members and the Karl J. R. Arndt Fund for publication subsidies for book-length publications of our members. Members may avail themselves of the opportunities for scholarly support from SGAS by contacting the respective committee chair or the president of the Society.

Symposium Grants for Graduate Students provide a \$750 stipend for a graduate student to present a paper at the Annual Symposium and then submit the essay for consideration by the *Yearbook*. The SGAS Student Membership Fund provides new student members with a one-year free membership and is supported by our life members (who are listed following a description of the fund). The final item is a description of the SGAS Outstanding Achievement Award followed by a list of the recipients of this award.

On the Society's website, [sgas.org](http://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 for 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, 2012 and 2019. 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](mailto:wkeel@ku.edu) for further information or assistance.

The editor anticipates that we will be able to get together again at our next Annual Symposium scheduled to be held in April 2022, at the University of Iowa. Presenters as well as all members are encouraged to submit their essays for consideration by the Editorial Board for possible publication in

a forthcoming *Yearbook*. We request electronic submission only of your manuscript ([wkeel@ku.edu](mailto:wkeel@ku.edu)). Please follow the guidelines in the *The Chicago Manual of Style* (17th edition) for all technical matters of your essay including citations, notes and bibliography. Please contact Marc Pierce at the University of Texas for possible book reviews ([mpierce@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:mpierce@austin.utexas.edu)).

*The Department of German Studies*  
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*December 2021*

