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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 Marc Pierce (mpierce@austin.utexas.edu). The *Newsletter* appears three times a year. Items for the *Newsletter* should be submitted to the editor Joshua Brown (brownjo@uwec.edu). Inquiries regarding the SGAS website should be addressed to Michael Rice (michael.rice@mtsu.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

Thanks to our SGAS-member-authors who submitted their essays for consideration and the indefatigable efforts of our Editorial Board we are publishing volume 51 (2016) of the SGAS *Yearbook* about six months following our last issue. We have been working for several years to bring the year of the volume more into sync with the year of publication. We apologize for any problems and confusion that may have resulted from delayed publication in the past. Members are very much encouraged to submit their research for consideration by our SGAS *Yearbook*. With the support of the membership, your scholarly yearbook will appear around the end of each calendar year.

The editor also would like to take this opportunity to express his sincere appreciation to all members of the Editorial Board (see page iii) for their continuing willingness to review and critique manuscripts and ensure the high quality of the SGAS “flagship” publication. Susan Schürer, also earns our deepest thanks for soliciting and editing our book review section since 2010. She has truly taken our book reviews to “new heights.” With this issue, Susan is stepping down as Book Review Editor. We welcome our new Book Review Editor, Marc Pierce, of the University of Texas-Austin. Please address all inquiries regarding book reviews for future issues of the *Yearbook* to Marc at mpierc@austin.utexas.edu. Pam LeRow (Institute for Digital Research in the Humanities of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences at the University of Kansas) also deserves our high praise for her untiring efforts to format our journal for publication.

Following the essays and book reviews, the editor has again added a list of theses and dissertations that appeared during the year 2016. The editor encourages the membership to send him any missed master’s theses or doctoral dissertations touching on our field for inclusion in a future list.

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 a recent amendment adopted by the Executive Committee in May 2017 following our Annual Symposium in Philadelphia.

The SGAS Bylaws are followed by a section entitled “Society for German-American Studies: Miscellaneous Items.” Here you will find information on our support for scholarly research and publication: The Albert Bernhardt Faust Fund for the support of members’ research projects 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. 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) with matching contributions by life members Mary and William Seeger of Grand Rapids, Michigan. 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*, 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.

The editor looks forward to seeing many of you at our next Annual Symposium to be held April 19-21, 2018, in Indianapolis, Indiana. The focus will be on the centennial of the impact of World War I on the German-American community. 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 mail address above).

Max Kade Center for German-American Studies
The University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas
May 2017