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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 (mpierc@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

Let me begin by thanking both those members who have submitted essays for consideration as well as the members of the *Yearbook's* Editorial Board who tirelessly offer their critiques of those submissions and whose recommendations form the basis for the publication decision for each essay. SGAS members are very much encouraged to submit their research for consideration by our *Yearbook*. With the support of the membership, your scholarly yearbook will regularly appear in the first half of each calendar year.

With this issue of the *Yearbook*, we welcome several new members to our Editorial Board: Cora Lee Kluge, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Michael Rice, Middle Tennessee State University; Bärbel Such, Ohio University; as well as Karen Rösch and Claudia Grossmann, both of Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. We look forward to many years of collaboration in producing the *Yearbook*. We also mourn the death earlier this year of C. Richard Beam, who was long-time and much valued member of the Editorial Board (see *In Memoriam* on page 1 of this volume). As we mentioned in the last issue, Marc Pierce of the University of Texas-Austin has taken the helm as our new Book Review Editor with this volume. 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) continues to provide her much-valued technical expertise in formatting our journal for publication, for which we are most grateful.

Following the essays which touch on a number of significant facets of our multidisciplinary field from biography to linguistics and a set of impressive book reviews, the editor has again added a list of theses and dissertations in German-American studies that appeared during the year 2017. 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 several recent amendments adopted by the Executive Committee in October 2017 at the Fall Meeting of the SGAS Executive Committee in Indianapolis.

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 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 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 11-14, 2019, in Madison, Wisconsin. The theme of our 43rd Annual Symposium will be “German in America: Words, Sounds, and Images.” 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
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