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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 to North and South America and their descendants from 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 Society for German American Studies is open to membership from individuals, societies, and libraries. Membership applications are available online at sgas.org. Publication of the *Yearbook*, the Supplemental Series of the *Yearbook* and the *Newsletter* is digital. The *Yearbook* and earlier journals of the Society are available at journals.ku.edu and the *Newsletter* on the website of the Society sgas.org.

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YEARBOOK OF GERMAN AMERICAN STUDIES

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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* <https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/home.html> 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 Gregory Redding (redding@wabash.edu). The *Newsletter* appears three times a year. Items for the *Newsletter* should be submitted to the editor Caroline Huey (chuey@louisiana.edu). Inquiries regarding the SGAS website sgas.org should be addressed to Kathleen Condray (condray@uark.edu).

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FROM THE EDITOR

Following the recent publication of our 6th supplemental volume, *North American Varieties of German*, edited by Mark Loudon and myself, we have decided to designate this next regular volume of the *Yearbook* a double volume 58/59 for the years 2023/2024. Since its inception in 1981, the *Yearbook* has attempted to publish the research of our members in the year following the date of each volume. Over the last several years, we have fallen two years behind. This renumbering is a commitment to return to the traditional publication schedule.

Our loyal and hard-working members of the *Yearbook's* Editorial Board continue to offer their critiques of new and revised submissions. Their critical reviews and recommendations form the basis for the publication decision for each essay and continue to maintain the high quality of this publication. The editor cannot thank them enough.

The editor's special thanks go to Marc Pierce of the University of Texas at Austin, who as our Book Review Editor for the past several years has produced an excellent set of reviews of the latest book publications in German American Studies. Marc has now assumed the position of Vice President of SGAS as of July 1, 2025, and will be replaced as Book Review Editor by veteran SGAS member Gregory Redding of Wabash University. Greg as well as Marc have been long-time members of our Editorial Board.

Eric Bader (Center for Research Engagement at the University of Kansas Libraries) has again provided his much-valued technical expertise in formatting our journal for publication. He has been and continues to be an incredible asset and source of all sorts of knowledge 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.

The essays presented in this volume, span nearly two centuries in terms of their historical context and cover fields of culture, history, linguistics and art as well as biography. Please also 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 and Recent PhDs currently provide a \$1500 stipend for presentation of a paper at the Annual Symposium. Each recipient commits to 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 former life members Mary and William Seeger of Grand Rapids, Michigan. The final item in our *Yearbook* 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.

The editor looks forward to seeing many of you at our next Annual 50th Anniversary Symposium scheduled to be held in March 2026, in Columbus, Ohio. 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 of your manuscript (wkeel@ku.edu). Contact Gregory Redding for possible book reviews (reddingg@wabash.edu).

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