



# Syracuse Elfun Society

## 2026 Summer Newsletter

### Chairman's Column

The 49<sup>th</sup> Saratoga Jazz Festival will be held June 27 and 28, 2026 and feature 2 days of music and 22 artists presenting on 2 stages. The music can be enjoyed with craft beer, food, and fine arts and crafts. What caught our eye is that the Saratoga Jazz Festival is presented by GE Vernova. Saratoga Performing Arts Center (SPAC) members can save 15-20%, and if they buy both days, they can save an additional 10%. For more information, go to [www.spac.org](http://www.spac.org).



This year marks the 250th anniversary of our nation. USA Today put together an Iconic Brands series showcasing companies and brands that shaped our nation's identity, economy, and culture. As part of this USA 250 series, Michael Kilian of the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle contributed the article "How GE brought good things to life and helped build modern America."

The article can be accessed at the website:

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/usa250/2026/04/15/why-general-electric-is-an-iconic-brand-in-americas-250-year-history/89063874007/>

In the article, Mr. Kilian discusses the archives in the basement of the Museum of

Innovation and Science, 15 Museum Drive, Schenectady, NY 12308 (formerly known as the Schenectady Museum), which contain a wealth of photographs, televisions and radios, patents, books, advertising publications, audio recordings and films related to the history of Schenectady and the General Electric Company.

The archives at the Museum of Innovation and Science are open to the public by appointment. Their contact information is as follows:

Website: [miSci.org](http://miSci.org)

Phone: (518)382-7890

It's been a long time since I last visited the Schenectady Museum, and I look forward to making an appointment soon. Maybe I'll do so the week of the Saratoga Jazz Fest.



Fortunately we have not been advised of the passing of any current or former members of the Syracuse Elfun Society since our last newsletter.

Note: Since it is not possible for the board of directors to keep tabs on all member passings, especially when the notices weren't in the local Syracuse Post Standard, we request that, if you are aware of a member passing, please notify a board member so we can include the announcement in our newsletter. Thanks.

# Annual Meeting

The Syracuse Elfun Society's Annual Meeting was held at Vito's Ristorante on Thursday, May 7, 2026, with Chairman Carl Chermak presiding. A moment of silence honored members who passed away over the past year. Carl reviewed the society's financial status. We started the 2025-2026 fiscal year with \$2,240 in our treasury, mainly funded by dues and event deposits, while major expenses included the PO box, liability insurance, and printing and mailing.

## Income

Dues	\$2,760
Event Deposits	\$5,020
Misc. Income	\$ 100
Total Income	\$7,880

## Expenses

Event Costs	\$4,559
PO Box	\$ 296
Postage and Newsletter Costs	\$1,379
Liability Insurance	\$ 886
Prepaid Event Deposits '25-'26	\$ 300
Total Expenses	\$7,420
Assets at year-end '25-'26	\$2,700

The Board elected to keep dues at \$25 per member to maintain sufficient operating funds.

Congratulations to Steve Auyer, who was re-elected unanimously for a three-year term on the Board of Directors via mail-in ballot. The chapter is currently seeking volunteers for the Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Senior Representative roles.

The society has 118 members, 103 regular and 15 surviving spouses, an 11% decline from last year. Thanks to Ron Panetta for leading membership efforts and managing the website at [www.syracuseelfunsociety.org](http://www.syracuseelfunsociety.org). This year,

four newsletters and two special mailings were distributed. Activities already scheduled for 2026-2027 include the Syracuse Mets game on June 7, a visit to the Merry-Go-Round Theater for "Carousel" on August 19 with lunch at the Sherwood Inn, and the Holiday Party at Tassone's Wine Garden on November 19, 2026. Cindy presented ideas for new activities that we could add to our schedule.

Thanks to everyone who made 2025-2026 a success. We look forward to a great 2026-2027.

## Annual Meeting Luncheon

We were pleased to kick off our 2026 events with a luncheon after the Annual Meeting. Vito's provided an excellent menu, with something for everyone. Our guests were Jeff Brown, Executive Director and Christina Burtis, Director of Public Affairs at OCWA. Jeff offered an overview of the history of OCWA and the scope of its operations, then presented a chronological account of the repair to the break in the major transmission line from Lake Ontario. The initial hint of the leak and its repair occurred in early December, but the break continued to worsen. We entered mandatory water conservation on December 22 while OCWA worked the situation on two fronts. One involved working with our neighbors to procure water for the eastern suburbs, while the other, more difficult task, of enacting the repair ensued. OCWA faced legal hurdles to gain access to the site, physical issues of working in swampy land, and coordination with National Grid due to the transmission line directly over the break, not to mention working during the holidays and bitter winter weather. Water conservation alerts were lifted one month later on January 22. Whew! Jeff noted that Micron is working with OCWA to strengthen our water access, including constructing some parallel lines, so perhaps, we hope, this was a one-time occurrence.

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## GE in the News

Below are a few clippings from recent press releases.

### GE Aerospace

On April 21, 2026, GE Aerospace Chairman and CEO H. Lawrence Culp, Jr., said, "GE Aerospace had a strong first quarter with orders growing 87% and revenue up 29% supporting double-digit growth in earnings and free cash flow. FLIGHT DECK keeps us focused on what our customers value: driving improvements in output and durability, while reducing cost of ownership and applying today's learnings to next-generation technologies." Culp continued, "Our young and diverse fleet coupled with a \$170 billion commercial services backlog positions us well to navigate the current operating environment. With the dynamic geopolitical landscape, we're holding our full-year guidance across the board and are trending toward the high-end of the range given our strong start to the year."

Additional information about GE Aerospace can be found at <https://www.geaerospace.com/news>

### GE Vernova

GE Vernova, split off from the former General Electric in April 2024, is now trading at more than \$1,000 per share. In the first quarter of 2026, GE Vernova:

- Repurchased approximately 1.8 million shares for \$1.3 billion at an average price of \$720.
- Paid a \$0.50 per share quarterly dividend on April 14, 2026, to stockholders of record as of March 17, 2026.
- Completed the acquisition of the remaining 50% stake of Prolec GE.
- Invested \$0.4 billion in capital expenditures.
- Funded \$0.3 billion in research and development (R&D) spending, to advance

breakthrough energy transition technologies, as part of its commitment to invest \$5 billion in R&D from 2025 through 2028.

Additional information about GE Vernova can be found at <https://www.gevernova.com/news>

### GE HealthCare

GE HealthCare President and CEO Peter Arduini said, "As we start the year, we're pleased with topline performance, which came in at the high end of our expectations. Growth was driven by strong commercial execution in Pharmaceutical Diagnostics, including Flyrcado, Advanced Visualization Solutions, and Imaging, as well as services. We are maintaining our topline growth guidance driven by healthy customer demand globally. Profitability in the first quarter was impacted by a PDx supplier issue that has since been resolved. We saw significant increases in memory chips, oil and freight costs during the first quarter that we assume will impact the rest of 2026. Given these dynamics, we are taking a prudent approach and reducing our profit outlook but expect to offset more than half of the inflation impact with price and cost actions. Importantly, we are making meaningful progress executing on our new wave of innovation to accelerate future revenue and margin growth."

Additional information about GE Healthcare can be found at <https://www.gehealthcare.com>

## Dues are Due

The upcoming Syracuse Elfun Society dues year runs from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. It's time to renew your membership again. Dues for the coming year are \$25.00. Regular members will receive a yellow supplement with this newsletter. Please fill out the questionnaire in the supplement, include your payment, and mail both to our PO Box. Surviving spouses are not required to pay dues, but you must complete the questionnaire in the pink supplement and mail it to our PO Box if you wish to continue receiving our newsletter.

## Social Events *by Cindy Chermak*

### Elfun Family Day at the Ballpark

Sunday June 7 @ 1:05 PM, Syracuse Mets vs Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders

Make your reservations by May 26 for our annual Mets outing. This remains a popular and well-attended multi-generational family event. The Mets will host us in our usual seating in the Left Field Terrace. We have scheduled a bit earlier in the year in hopes of avoiding the scorching 92 degree day we had in 2025. Gather your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and other family members to cheer on our home team.

### Broadway in the Finger Lakes

Wednesday August 19 @ 2:00 PM, "Carousel" at Merry-Go-Round Playhouse in Auburn

Here is another perennial favorite. We will attend the matinee of "Carousel". Our group ticket price is \$70, a nice saving over the least cost individual senior ticket of \$83. What a bargain! We will plan a dutch treat pre-theater lunch or post-theater dinner, likely at the Sherwood Inn.

### Holiday Luncheon

Thursday November 19 @ 11:30 AM, Tassone's Wine Garden

Mark your calendars for our mid-November luncheon and cross your fingers that we don't have another snow day this year.

### Bonus Outing

Cortland Repertory Theater at Little York Lake Theater and Pavilion  
Dutch Treat Dinner at Bob's Barbeque, Wednesday June 10 @ 2:00 PM

Let's plan a casual outing to the matinee of "Oklahoma" at the summer theater at Little York Lake. We last attended this fan favorite on June 7, 2016 at Rev Theatre, so it is time to see it again a decade later. This location is more accessible for those with mobility issues: There is ample parking and the theater is equipped with an elevator. Bob's Barbeque is 5 minutes down the road and offers a picnic setting with barbeque and all the fixings. Tickets for these matinees are \$44. This one is short notice - send a check and a self-addressed stamped envelope ASAP and we will purchase the tickets next week!

Other thoughts - don't be surprised to receive an email for other short-notice casual events, perhaps mini-golf and ice cream, a build-a-bed volunteer day, a visit to the Everson Museum with lunch on one of the 3000+ ceramic pieces from the Rosenfield Collection (each menu item is paired with a piece specifically selected to complement the food). And, we will try to be one of the first groups to visit our new Harborview Aquarium when it opens later this year.

## Syracuse Elfun Society Board of Directors

[www.syracuseelfunsociety.org](http://www.syracuseelfunsociety.org)

<u>Position</u>	<u>Individual</u>	<u>E-mail</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Chairperson	Carl Chermak	<a href="mailto:carlchermak@gmail.com">carlchermak@gmail.com</a>	315-436-8696
Vice-Chairperson	open		
Secretary	open		
Treasurer	Joe Kinzel	<a href="mailto:jakinzel@msn.com">jakinzel@msn.com</a>	315-303-7347
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Social Events	Cindy Chermak	<a href="mailto:chermak@msn.com">chermak@msn.com</a>	315-637-0380
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