

Trentoner Donauschwaben

Volume 1, Issue 1



January - February 2001

Special points of interest:

- Did you know the Club has a great internet web site? It went online in 1999. The address is on the last page.
- Did you know the Club was started in 1956? Over 44 years ago!
- Did you know the members first met at St. Stephen's Church hall in Trenton?
- Did you know the Club's German language school for children started in 1959?

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A New Editor and Look to the Newsletter

Grüß Gott!

My name is Dennis Jacob Bauer. Hans Martini recently asked me to help the Club by being the new editor of the newsletter. I was honored. He and others will still help with the newsletter, submit articles and contribute news items.

I feel a short introduction is in order. I am the grandson of past Arbeiter members, the late Jacob Bauer (Palanka) and Theresa Helleis (Batsch). I am also the nephew of Trenton Donauschwaben Club member, Katie Maas Helleis and the late Frank Helleis.

Jacob came to Trenton in 1901 and Theresa in 1913. They married and moved to lower Bucks County, PA in 1925. I have been doing family research for close to 20 years. Most of my emphasis was on my mother's line which hailed from upstate PA and included Irish miners and PA German farmers.

It was not until I met our late Club member, Peter Kiss in the early 1990s, that I started to do research on my father's Donauschwaben lines. Peter was my mentor and teacher. He taught me much of what I presently know about Donauschwaben research and history. I also recently enrolled in the Club's beginners German class since it's been over 30+ years since I had German in high school.

I hope to include not only schedules of upcoming Club events, but also genealogy, Donauschwaben history items and membership news. Please feel free to comment on the new format and content of this first issue. Feel free to submit articles, news or subject matter for future issues. I would like to be able to publish an issue bi-monthly. But I can only do this with your help and support.

Bukin Researcher visits the Club 17 May 2000

On 17 May 2000, the Club was honored to have Andreas Pfuhl of Lappersdorf, Germany visit us and give a talk to our members regarding the work it takes to publish an Ortssippenbuch. Andreas researched and contributed to the 1999 *Ortssippenbuch Bukin in der Batschka 1749-1945*. Several of our members are from or can traced ancestors to Bukin.

His lecture in German gave everyone a chance to practice their Deutsch. He also autographed several books that he



sold. After he departed Trenton, he was planning to visit other Donauschwaben groups here in the States and possibly Canada. We wished Andreas a safe trip. (Andreas 2nd from the right above).

Genealogy & History Section

Palankaer Obituary Collection

Dennis J. Bauer is in the process of collecting and abstracting obituaries of Palankaers from the Mercer/Bucks County areas. The late Peter Kiss had also been collecting and cataloging Palankaer obituaries from the area. Peter left Dennis his collection after his passing.

As a genealogist, this collection represents a valuable resource for those individuals doing Palankaer-American research. So he decided to continue Peter's effort and abstract, categorize the collection and publish the works.

To this end, anyone who has any obituaries from fellow Palankaers and would like to share them with Dennis for incorporation in the book, please drop him a line. He will photocopy them and return them to you. Dennis plans to dedicate the book to Peter and his Palanka ancestors.

Your time and consideration are appreciated in advance of your donation. The Club will be given a copy also.



The Roman Catholic Chapel in Palanka

Beginners Genealogy Course to be offered at the Club

Dennis J. Bauer, Club Genealogist, is organizing a 5 week course, "Genealogy for Beginners". The class will be held at the Clubhouse once a week for two hours. The class will start April 19th and run for 5 Thursdays from 7:00-9:00 pm. No class April 26.

He is donating his time so there will be no class fee. A \$15 per student materials fee will be required in order to

*"Genealogy for Beginners" Class
to start this spring!*

cover the cost of the informational handout packet every student will receive the first night. It will include genealogy forms, reference materials and research guides.

Those that are interested in attending the course should contact Hans Martini or Dennis so arrangements can be made and the size of the class can be calculated..

Their phone numbers and email addresses can be found on the last page of this newsletter. See you in Class!

Membership Genealogical Survey

All members recently received a "Genealogical Survey of the Vereinigung Der Donauschwaben" in the December 2000 mailing.

The Club is developing a voluntary data base of it's members and a brief section on their ancestral roots. For those interested, we are interested in



Prince Eugene liberates the Banat-Batschka area

supplying you with information about how to research your family history and a link to others that may be researching your ancestral town or village. This information will also be used to "tag" these villages on the Donauschwaben county maps that will be hung in the Club's Cultural Room. It will be of interest to see what villages and areas are represented by our membership.

Please return the surveys to any Club officer.

Membership News

2001 Club Officers & Staff

Joseph Brandecker— President

Robert Walter— Vice President

Hans Martini— Secretary

Eva Martini— Recording Secretary

Ludwig Jakober— Treasurer

Dennis J. Bauer— Genealogist, Newspaper Editor

Dana Miles— Web Master



2000 Membership

Family Membership is \$ 20 per year and Single Membership is \$15 per year.

The Club presently has 155 Family memberships. Although most members are from NJ and PA, we also have members from as far away as NC, SC, GA and FL.

Our Club business meetings are held 7:00 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month at the Clubhouse.

*"There are presently 155
Family memberships"*

Our German School presently has 8 students enrolled in the beginners class and 7 students enrolled in the advanced class. Both classes meet Wednesday nights from 7:30-9:30 pm.

We have events throughout the year including many fine Sunday dinners, memorial services, parade marching, parties and activities outside the Club such as canoe and ski trips. Please join us for these fine events!

Membership Happenings (births, engagements, weddings, deaths, anniversaries, vacation trips, graduations, etc.)

Congratulations: Jason J. Bauer, son of our newsletter editor, and Pamela Wilson, member and student in our German School, are planning a 31 March 2001 wedding. Both are from Levittown, PA. Our best wishes go out to the couple.

Lenyo Family Returns: After working "abroad" in Calif. for over a year, member Mike Lenyo was offered & accepted a new position with his employer back home in NJ. Mike, Denese & their three daughters will again reside in the Hamilton area & we're pleased to welcome them back.

With Sympathy We Note: Member Helga Kusenko suffered a tremendous loss with the recent death of her fiancée, Mr. Karl Heinz Keller. Mr. Keller's untimely passing shocked us all. We wish Helga and the family all the best during this most difficult time and ask God's Blessing on the repose of his soul.

Member Josef Schintzler died 17 February 2001 at age 71. A longtime member and mason who contributed many hours of work during the Club's remodeling in the 1970s. To his wife, Theresa, brother, Franz & all his family, we extend our deepest sympathy.

Deutsche Ecke

Articles by Adam Martini

Kleiner Rückblick

So MitteMai, 2000, hatte Frau Klara Berner Besuch aus der Regenburger Gegend. Es war Herr Andreas Pfuhl, der heuer im Fruehjahr seine erste USA Reise verwirklichte und auch fuer einig Tage hier in Trenton halt machte. Er wurde in Bukin, Batschka, geboren, aber machte in Deutschland seine neue Heimat. Herr Andreas Pfuhl ist nicht nur ein Mitglied der AForschungsgemeinschaft Mittelbatschka@ sondern auch der Herausgeber des Ortssippenbuches ABukin in der Batschka 1749-1945@. Er kam auch waehrend seines Aufenthaltes hier, zu unserem Vereinshaus und gab einen kleinen Vortrag

ueber sein Schaffen im Rahmen der Forschungsgemeinschaft. Leider waren nur wenige Mitglieder anwesend an diesem Abend, aber die kleine Gruppe die ihm zuhoerte war sichtlich begeistert von seinen Abenteuern und bunten Ausfuehrungen die Herr Andreas Pfuhl selbst erlebte in Jugoslawien. Die Ahnenforschung war schon immer eine heikle Sache in der Batschka, oder dem Suedostraum Europas ueberhaupt. Es dauerte Jahre bis all das Material fuer die Ortssippenbuecher gesammelt werden konnte. Er hat es aber fertig gebracht, denn heute haben wir zwei Baende, die alle Daten und Namen enthalten, zumindest im Falle von Bukin, sodass man unsere

Herkunft bis zu den ersten Einwanderern der Batschka oder vielmehr Bunkin=s nachschlagen kann. Wir danken Herrn Andreas Pfuhl fuer seinen Besuch hier und hoffen, sollte er wiederkommen, dass mehr Landsleute und Mitglieder sich frei machen um mit ihm einen schoenen, lehrreichen sowie interessanten Abend zu verbringen. Er schenkte uns ein Buch mit dem Titel AHeitere Geschichten aus der Heimat der Donauschwaben@. Der Herausgeber dieses Buches ist Herr Georg Weiner sowie die Donauschwaebische Kulturstiftung Muenchen. Adresse: Andreas Pfuhl
Gartenstrasse 23
D - 93138 Lappersdorf
Germany / Europe

Aktuell aus den Vereinsleben

Zwei wahre Begebenheiten aus Filipowa:

Der Zigeuner als Tagloehner

Ein Zigeuner kam mal zu einem Bauern in Taglohn. Vor der Arbeit wurde Agveschprt@. Der Bauer fragte: AWer will a Worscht? Wer will a

Brot? Wer will was zum trink?@ Und jedesmal hat der Zigeuner zuerst gerufen: AIch!@ Wie dann der Bauer gefragt hat: AWer braucht a Schaufel? @, da meint der Zigeuner: ABis jetzt hab ich mich zersch gmeldt. Jetz selle sich nar die andre melde!@

Dr Kaschte

Das Brautpaar ist zum Einschreiben in die Gemeinde gegangen. Der Richter fragt den Braeutigam nach seinem Geburtstag. Der wird verlegen und bekommt einen roten Kopf, schliesslich

sagt er: AIch waass s net. Ich muss erscht den Kaschte hole@. Bei manchen Landsleuten war es frueher ueblich, die Geburtstage und alles Wichtige auf die Innenseite des Schrankes zu schreiben. Die Schranktuer haette also der Braeutigam gebraucht, um nachzusehen, wann er geboren ist. Etwas umstaendlich, aber tatsaechlich passiert.

Diamantene Hochzeit!!

In diesem Jahr, also 2000, feierte Herr Joseph und Frau Theresia Bohn das 75. Ehejubilaeum. Frau Bohn ist 92 Jahre jung und Herr Bohn ist 95 Jhre alt. Beide sind noch in guter Fassung, obwohl das gehen schon etwas schwerer faellt und Frau Bohn mit den Augen einige Probleme hat.

Sie wohnen auf ihrem Landsitz, mit

ihrer Tochter Marlene Novosel und ihrem Sohn Josef.

Der "Bohn Hof" mit den verschiedenen Farmgebaeuden und Anlagen, den schoenen Baeumen und gepflegten Garten und Rasenflaechen erinnert was frueher sicher mal ein gut ausgelegter und aktiver Bauernhof gewesen war, aber jetzt wie ein schoener Park aussieht. Man fuehlt sich einfach wohl bei den Bohn's auf dem Lande.

An einem schoenen Samstag nachmittag im Juni auf dem schoenen Rasen und unter den alten Baeumen feierte eine kleine Gruppe, bei Kuchen und Tee, mit Herrn und Frau Josef Bohn die Diamantene Hochzeit dieses Paares. Sie sind beide Mitglieder unserer Vereinigung und wir hoffen sie werden es auch noch lange bleiben. Wir gratulieren und wuenschen Ihnen das Beste vom Besten

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Member— Otto Kraus from Trenton, NJ

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Family Historian

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You too can have your business advertisement or sponsorship placed here in future issues of our newsletter. Only \$50 per year. Contact Hans Martini for details.



2000 Donauschwaben
Heritage Festival
Philadelphia Donauschwaben

Club Events for the Winter of 2001

EVENTS— Times/Dates

Winteressen— Sunday, 1PM
28 January 2001

Generalversammlung— Sunday, 1PM
4 February 2001

Schlachtfest— Sunday, 1 & 3 PM
18 February 2001

Donauschwabenessen— Sunday, 1 PM
18 March 2001

Vielen Dank !

A special thanks goes out to our wonderful food preparers, cooks, dishwashers, servers and bartenders. Without their hard work, our dinners would not be the success that they are. Danke schön !



**Feel free to tip our servers.
They appreciate it!**

VEREINIGUNG DER DONAUSCHWABEN
127 ROUTE 156, YARDVILLE, NJ 08620
609-585-1932

PRESIDENT—JOSEPH BRANDECKER
609-585-9001

Dennis J. Bauer, Editor & Club Genealogist
49 Conifer Road
Levittown, PA 19057-1718
Email: donauschwaben@mail.com
215-945-9089

Hans Martini, Secretary
1822 Orchard Ave.
Hamilton, NJ 08610
Email: DSATrenton@aol.com
609-888-2762

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Trenton Donauschwaben Clubhouse