

# Trentoner Donauschwaben

Volume 3 Issue 1



January-March 2003

- Although many German Palatine families came to America in the early 1700s, 172 surnames also settled in Ireland in 1710.
- In Chicago, the American Aid Society of German Descendants rescued 1000s of Donauschwaben from starvation & death after WW II by bringing them to the U.S.
- Did you know the Chinese first fermented cabbage into sauerkraut over 6,000 years ago? Way before the Germans! Oh well. (Der Blumenbaum, Vol.19, No.4).
- Wiener Schnitzel was brought to Vienna from Italy in 1848 by Field Marshal Josef Radetzky.
- Our Continental Army was made up of 12% Germans or those of German ancestry.

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## Letter from our Club President

December 8, 2002

*Dear Members and friends of the Donauschwaben;*

*It is at this time of the year that we can truly say thanks for all that we have been blessed with throughout the year.*

*So, let me begin by saying thank you! Thanks to all of you that gave so much of yourselves to keep our organization functioning, healthy and making forward progress. It takes commitment and a belief in the purposes and goals of our organization to give up some of your valuable quality time that you may otherwise be spending with your family and friends to help out at our club.*

*This past year has been filled with many great events for us, the Schlachtfests, Spiessbratens, Millwaukee Treffen, the Arts Center, Stiftungsfest and now St. Nikolaus. As we look back at these times we are fortunate to have friends that we can share them with. Some of those friendships were made here at the club and have become lifelong and close. You can join us here at the club and make some new friends at some upcoming events like, Silvester, where we will celebrate New Years with close friends. Our goal here, is to continue the ideals of the Donauschwaben, to promote the German language and to serve as a focal point in the greater Trenton area German community.*

*As we look forward at our calendar of events we see that we have a full year's worth of work ahead. The Schlachtfest is just around the corner and before we know it the summer Spiessbraten will be here. We look forward to seeing everyone at these and our other events throughout the year. I will say that it is a pleasure to see the children and adults German language classes filled up and the interest in the German folk dancing with our sister club in Philadelphia taking off at this point. We again look forward to being at the Treffen on Labor Day weekend, promoting ourselves and our Trenton youth.*

*We are constantly looking for new ways to serve our members and to maintain and promote our Donauschwaben heritage.*

*Thanks again for all of your support. Enjoy the holidays and hope to see you in the coming year.*

*Joseph Brandecker, President*

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## CLUB PRESIDENT TRACES HIS ROOTS TO 1702 GERMANY

Club President Joseph Brandecker has been researching his family ancestry for several years now. With the help of our Club member Dennis Bauer and Donauschwaben researcher Michael Hutfluss of Germany, Joe recently was able to trace the Brandecker line from Yugoslavia back to Johann Brandecker, born 1702 in Weilheim, Baden-Württemberg, Germany.

Joe is also researching wife Caroline's family ancestry in the Philadelphia and Bucks County areas.

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## DONAUSCHWABEN HISTORY TALK

Look for a flyer this year announcing an upcoming talk on our Donauschwaben history. The presentation will be given, possibly this Spring, at the Club by Dennis J. Bauer, our club Genealogist and Corresponding Secretary Hans Martini.

All members and guest are invited to hear our two members offer an enlightening look at our ancestors original roots in Germany/ Austria/Alsace-Lorraine, their migration to the Hungary in the 1700s, the building of their ancestral homes in this new frontier, their struggles, successes and final expulsion/ flight from their homeland during 1944-48.

We hope you will show up and support our two "historians" and learn more about our Donauschwaben ancestry.

## Club Matters

### St. Nikolausfeier a Big Success

Someone mentioned the fact that if our December St. Nikolausfeier gets any more popular, we'll have to rent the Arbeiter Hall again! That's great to hear. Well, dear readers, our St. Nikolausfeier was just about the best to be held at our club in many years. We had a sizable crowd on hand including a large number of wonderful children. The hall was nicely decorated by the club's first family (Caroline, Joe, Brittaney and young Joe Brandecker) and the atmosphere had "Christmas" written all over it. Members, young and old, participated in a decidedly informal program that infused everyone with the spirit of the season.

Let's go through some of the details: President Joe Brandecker read the Christmas story as told by St. Luke in the Gospel. Reading some very nice poems were our veteran poem reading expert, Eva Martini, and a fine new addition, Miss Katie Tindall. Since we're mentioning her daughter, let us add that Liz Tindall has just been wonderful in her support of this event. She has been instrumental in its success (okay, okay, "pun intended" as she also plays an instrument - the organ - for our sing-along) and we are most grateful to her.

Our students from the German school, lead so nicely by Frau Brigitte Kleinmann, were also on hand to recite a poem and lead us in a couple of Christmas songs. What a fine group of students we have! We also enjoyed some instrumental music played for us by Lyla Lenyo on violin and Anna Martini on piano.

One of the things we like to do for the St. Nikolausfeier is sing lots of Christmas carols. It's everyone's chance to sing "just like Pavorotti" and, boy, does it sound great! We already mentioned Liz Tindall, so let's also mention another fine member, Tony Walter, and his playing the zither for us. That Zither seems to have just the right "Christmas sound" to it, doesn't it? Thanks Tony. Mention has to be made of Nicole Lenyo, one of our fine, young active members, for coming up and giving the grizzled, old guy at the microphone a hand with leading some of the carols! All and all the caroling was super - "Danke" to everyone!

As anyone who is still reading this article can see, we had a great show! Wait, wait, there's still one more thing to mention: St. Nikolaus and.... Rattle, rattle, rattle, went the chain. Stomp, stomp, stomp, went the feet down the steps. And into the hall appeared KRAMPUS. Yes, Krampus, in all of his unhappy and foul looking splendor. Played very convincingly by ..... (shhh, it was President Joe), Krampus delighted the crowd with his small bag of charcoal briquettes. Coal as many know, was the "prize" given to all bad children. Of course, one of them had to be given to Herr Jakob, who would have been disappointed otherwise ("Herr J", our designated fall guy, always has a high tolerance for embarrassment and a great sense of humor). The other was given to Krampus's cousin, Joe Dlubak, who is now suing the club for defamation of character (We're just joking... right Joe? Joe? ...) All kidding aside, it was great fun enjoyed by everyone. Let us add that Bob Walter, who's played the role so well in

year's past, had all of our kids guessing when it was apparent he wasn't this year's Krampus.

Of course, all of these events have a happy ending so it wasn't long before good 'ol St. Nick took to the floor, driving the evil one away. Played by Steve Brandecker, St. Nick was a media star, having his picture taken with just about every one of the children. The goodie bags handed out by the bearded one contained some traditional German treats and we are happy to report that all of the children were well behaved enough to receive one! St. Nick's appearance was a fitting end to a wonderful event. Thanks to everyone who helped make the day a success (including the food and refreshment crew) and to all who attended. Planning for the next St. Nikolausfeier is already in the works!

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### WE HONOR OUR MEMBERS WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY

The following Club member names have died and appear on the memorial plaque hung in the side dining room at the clubhouse. We honor and remember those dear departed members.

#### Trenton Donauschwaben Memorial Wall Plaque

List of Deceased Members, 1956 - 2002

*Zur Ehre der Toten*

Peter Rehlinger	Edmund Geisler	Josef Märzweiler
Wilhelm Schmidt	Anton Hollendonner, Jr.	Eva Schmidt
Jakob Fleith	Anna Nitschmann	Otto Cremer
Anna Mayer	Anna Pentz	Josef Wolf
Jakob Pentz	Maria Peterson	Josef Schmidt
Jakob Eppli	Imre Stanics	Oskar Loeffler
Victor Knott	Anna Fleith	Heinrich Pfann
Eleanore Basler	Maria Walter	Josef Basler
Maria Spildener	Frank Helleis	Frank Dienes
Karl Paul	Konrad Schmidt	Willi Michel
Maria Teuschler	Nikolaus Mayer	Eva Michel
Adam Hoenisch	Anton Hollendonner, Sr.	Katharina Stiller
Jakob Walter	Anna Baumgartner	Anne Mayer
Sebastian Gauss	Peter Stumpf	Josef Schintzler
Katharina Neuburger	Ludwig Jakober	Eva Mayer
Ulrike DeVictoria	Franz Hollendonner	Johann Bretträger
Stephan Vigh	Edith Kraus	Maria Märzweiler
Johann Baumgartner	George Lanier	Markus Mayer
Elizabeth Vigh	Adeline Knott	Josef Schmidt
Katharina Schmidt	Anna Mayer	Marie Hollendonner
Bernard Reusch	John Nitzsche	Peter Kiss
Georg Pollich	Bernard Reusch	Josef Spildener
Georg Neuburger	Helen Pasichny	Theresa Bretträger
Karl Loeffler	Heinrich Neuburger	Werner Wedam
Katharina Neuburger	Josef Stiller	Hildegard Kusenko
Rosalia Matthes	Frieda Loeffler	Franz Herdt
Albert Sawadski	Katharina Brandecker	Hans Kornfeld
Erich Boese	Michael Schen	Eugene Petty
Lidia Perkins	Johann Klettlinger	Anton Hahn
Adrian Kusenko	Luisa Jakober	Johann Fahr
Katharina Reger	Gerald Moore	Katharina Schneider
Magdalena Herdt	Robert Brand	Nikolaus Marx
John Kiss	Philip Perkins	
Dorothea Michel	Josef Mayer	

*"Den Verstorbenen Zur Erinnerung Den Lebenden Zur Ermahnung"*

## Genealogy & History Section

### PALANKAERS FROM OUR AREA

Dennis J. Bauer, our Club Genealogist, is about to publish "Abstracts of Palankaer-American Obituaries from the Morrisville, PA/Trenton, NJ Area". The works will be sponsored by the Club. Obituaries from 1918-2002 were collected by our late Peter Kiss and Dennis. Dennis then abstracted this collection and will put the list together in a book. The works will also include a brief history of Palanka, Batschka and our Club. A copy of the book will be donated to the Club for our library.

If anyone wishes to share any information with him on Palanka, our Club or has obituaries for any Palankaers, please contact him at 215-945-9089 so he may include this information in the book. In addition, if you have copies of obituaries for other Donauschwaben not from Palanka contact him likewise. He would like to work on another list of Donauschwaben from other areas once the Palanka book is complete.

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### THE ARCHIVES IN SERBIA-MONTENEGRO

Though all the Archives on the territory of Serbia & Montenegro and their personnel are true enthusiasts and experts in their efforts to preserve the contents of their respective archives in an appropriate manner, keeping up with expenses and modern technology has been extremely difficult in the last decade or so. Many records were destroyed, in one way or another, over the last century. However, all surviving records still exist in the several archives, town halls and community halls in Serbia and Montenegro. The first question many researchers have is: "Where do I begin looking for records?" In Serbia and Montenegro the answer to this question may be a little more complex.

**First**, any foreign researchers, regardless of what or why they are researching, **MUST** obtain written permission from the Ministry of Culture in Belgrade to conduct research in any of the country's archives. Yes, this is the more difficult way of conducting research for most foreigners, but it will certainly prove to be more interesting and fertile! A researcher never knows what he or she might run into while searching for something completely different! Also, one has the chance to see the places, villages, even homes one's ancestors' came from long ago!

**Second**, the central Archive of Yugoslavia, Archive of Serbia and Archive of Vojvodina contain mostly records that are not civil, but have to do with government, ministries, the Chamber of Commerce, and other matters regarding the economic, political and social structure of Yugoslavia, Serbia and Vojvodina. Civil records can be found at the following levels: district/region, municipality (city), and community archives. Next, finding records - now, this will prove to be the most difficult part of your research. First you must pinpoint the town or village where your ancestor was born. For example: For U.S. immigrants that came from Serbia, obtaining records from your ancestors' point of entry into the U.S. would be of great help. With that information, you must find out which Municipality (opstina/town hall) this town would belong to today. With that information, you would proceed to find out what region or larger city that Municipality belongs to.

Each of those larger cities in Serbia and Montenegro contain an Archive. You would then contact the Archive that would be of interest to your research. One must keep in mind that the civil records that one is searching for could be at any of the three levels. We would recommend beginning a search from the larger archives (regional/district) as they will most probably know where records are even if they are not holding such records themselves.

**Most** archives will not allow photocopying or scanning of any records as their preservation is of the utmost importance and photocopying or scanning may damage old records. However, a researcher may request an "extract" (*izvod, as it is called in Serbia & Montenegro*) or, to put it in other words, a copy of the record, where all information from the original record would be transcribed to a new record. Such copies are validated by the archives and can serve as originals if necessary.

If any researcher is unable to conduct their research from within Serbia and Montenegro, they can either contact the Archives (*it is rare, but some are able to send copies of records*), any private researcher in Serbia and Montenegro or contact the **SGF** for more help and information on private researchers we have confidence in.

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( www.serbia-today.com)*

## Genealogy & History Section (Continued)

### The German-Hungarian (Donauschwaben) Family Calendar Magazine

Subscriber List for Mercer County, NJ 1951-54 (*Deutsch-Ungarischer Familien Kalender*, National Weeklies, Inc., Winona, MN, 1951, 1953 & 1954 Issues) . This is a list of C-F surnames from the Trenton area only. Additional surnames will follow in future issues.

Transcribed by Dennis J. Bauer, 17 December 2002. Surnames appear exactly as spelled in the original text and may not be the actual spelling. The list shows the individual's place of origin and their address in the Trenton area at the time of subscription to the magazine. Some translations of town, county and country names were done. As with any secondary source, you may wish to consult the original magazine.

The magazines, written in German, were published in the U.S. from 1932-1954. They contained stories from the German-Hungarian regions of Hungary, Yugoslavia and Romania, pictures of "home", jokes, poems and best of all a list of American and Canadian subscribers, their spouses, their place of origin and their present addresses in the U.S. and Canada. Subscribers listed were from the United States and Canada. During its publication, the magazines listed between 10-15 thousand Donauschwaben.

#### Trenton, NJ

CHERRY, Victor and Oberradling, Burgenland., and Anna ESSERT, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 107 Liberty Ave.  
 CHRISTOF, John P. and Theresia LECHNER, from Erdewik, Slavonia, 173 Brown St.  
 COAS, Josef, from Peterwardein, Srem, 134 Ashmore Ave.  
 DIENES, Jakob and Maria ENGEL, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 228 Fulton St.  
 DIENES, Karl, from Csalma, Srem, and Barbara ALTER, from Nagy Butyin, Kom. Arad, Hungary, 1725 S. Clinton Ave.  
 DIESLER, Blasius and Elisabeth MATZER, from Segenthau, Banat, Romania, 1535 S. Clinton Ave.  
 DITTRICH, Johann, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, and Elisabeth MUSCAL, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 52 Poplar St.  
 DOERNER, Josef, from Obrowatz, Batschka, Yugoslavia, and Anna ZIMMER, from Segenthau, Banat, Romania, 31 Kearney Ave.  
 DORNSTAUDER, Julius, from Perlasz, Banat, Yugoslavia, and Anna ENGELBERGER, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1811 S. Clinton St.  
 DROBNEK, Anton, from Gajdobra, Batschka, Yugoslavia, and Magdalena ROHRBACHER, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1405 Nottingham Way.  
 DUACHECH, Franz, and Magdalena SCHMIDT, from Tovarnik, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 167 Ashmore Ave.  
 DUACHECK/DUACHER, Georg, from Wekerlefalva, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Theresia HARACH, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1143 Chambers St.  
 EICHINGER, Johann, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1058 Franklin St.  
 ENDRES/ENTRES, Albert, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, and Eva BORICS, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 69 Reed Ave.  
 ENGELBERGER, John, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, and Hermine PUM, from Ehrendorf, Banat, 111 Liberty St.  
 ESCHBACH, Karl and Anna EISEMANN, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1838 S. Clinton Ave.  
 ESSERT, widow Anna, nee ZENTNER, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 9 Heisser Ave.  
 FABRITZ, Anton and Katharina IZEMANN, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 949 Park Ave.  
 FEIST, widow, Franzi, nee FABRITZ, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1412 Liberty St.  
 FELDENZER, Jacob, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 908 Chestnut Ave.  
 FELDENZER, John, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Maria FUCHS, from Torontal Sziget, Banat, Yugoslavia, 339 Woodland Ave.  
 FELDENZER, Josef, from Palanka, and Frances MÄRZLUFT, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 18 Ashmore Ave.  
 FELLINGER, Josef, from Csalma, Srem, and Anna KLEES, from Cseb, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 250 Jersey St.  
 FISCHER, widow Eva, nee KRÄMER, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 215 Hewitt St.  
 FISCHER, Josef Nikolaus, from Bacs/Batsch, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Rosa KEJ, from Opova, Torontal, Banat, Rumania, 1110 Genesee St.  
 FISCHER, Alois, and Rosalia HISBERGER, from Lukatsch, Slavonia, 549 Emory Ave.  
 FLESCH, Pongratz, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 148 Ashmore Ave..  
 FLOCK, widow, Eva TAUBNER, from Obrowatz, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 22 West St.  
 FREDERICK, widow, Elisabeth WELSCH, from Dreispitz, Banat, 1606 Liberty St.  
 FREY, Karl, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Eva HARTMANN, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 105 Redfern Ave.  
 FRIEDRICH, Franz, from Indija, Srem, and Maria REGER, from Filipowa, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 362 Morris Ave.  
 FRITZ, Adam and Rosina OSWALD, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 230 Rusling St.  
 FRITZ, Katharina, nee SCHMIDT, from Tschalma, Srem, Yugoslavia, 320 Rusling Ave.  
 FRITZ, Paul, from Brestowatz, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Maria MERGER, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1457 Cedar Lane.

# Membership News

## 2003 Club Officers & Staff

*Joseph Brandecker*— President                      *Robert Walter*— V.P. for Facilities  
*Kim Walter*— V.P. for Human Resources      *Hans Martini*— Corresponding Secretary  
*Eva Martini*— Recording Secretary              *Ludwig Jakober*— Treasurer  
*Josefa Brandecker*— President Ladies' Auxiliary  
*Harold Parr*— President of German Language School  
*Dennis J. Bauer*— V.P. for Cultural Affairs, Genealogist, Newspaper Editor  
*Dana Miles*— Web Master                              *Adam Martini*— Newspaper Staff Writer



## Club German Language School Advertised in Church Newsletter

The December 2002 issue of the *Resurrection Life* newsletter contained a nice promotional advertising the Club's German Language School. The newsletter is published by the Resurrection Lutheran Church on Nottingham Way, Trenton, NJ. Several of our Club members belong to this church. The article was submitted by our member Harold Parr. Thank you Resurrection Lutheran Church members for the nice promotion! As a result, several new children have enrolled in the children's language school.

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

**Wilkommen:** Welcome new members, **Stefan, Kellianne, Markus & Abby Mayer** of Mount Holly, NJ. Stefan and father, Stefan, Sr. operate Mayer's Heating and Cooling.

**Geburt:** A very belated congratulations members, **Andrew LaRue** and his wife, **Barbara**, on the birth of their first child, **Daniel**. Son Daniel was born July, 2002, and is managing to deal with his new parents quite well, thank you!

**Hallo:** Many of our more veteran members will recall that **Andrew LaRue** was an important part of our once glorious dance group during the 1980's. Some may even recall his friendly salutation during the Cleveland Donauschwabentreffen so many Labor Day Weekends ago: "Andrew LaRue, Trenton, New Jersey, darn glad to meet you". (Hey, embarrassing people is part of our job here at the newsletter!) All the best to the LaRue family!

**Gute Besserung:** We wish a speedy recovery and all the best to two of our club's wonderful members: **Frau Katharina Pfann** and **Herr Peter Kernast, Sr.** Both are doing better these days and we hope they know they are in our thoughts and prayers.

**Afghan Raffle:** Recently, chances were sold at the Fall Schlachtfest for three handmade afghans, crocheted by member Maria Petty. The drawing was held at the 19 January, 2003, Winteressen. The three winners were **Ron Jakober, Bruno Spych** and **Dennis Bauer**. Congratulations to all of our winners and thanks to everyone for supporting this fundraiser.

**Danke: Frau Maria Petty** is one of our more active members on whom we've relied for many years. She can be spotted at the monthly dinners in our club's kitchen, helping to make what are arguably the finest dinners in the world! She also has a great talent for crocheting fabulous looking afghans, some of which she donates to be raffled off at our dinners. We are most fortunate to have such a fine member and thank her most sincerely for her generosity. Vielen Dank!

### Membership Dues Now Payable:

Reminders have gone out to all of our members regarding payment of annual dues. Checks can be sent to the club or paid in person to any club officer who will pass it along to the membership secretary. Thanks to all of our members for your continued support of the Donauschwaben! Do not forget to stop by any of our functions and offer your help.

# Deutsche Ecke, Seite 1



## NEU JAHR By Adam Martini

Im Alltagsleben der Donauschwaben waren die Wintermonate immer von grosser Bedeutung. Das kalte Wetter, die kurzen Tage und lange Nächte waren ideal für den langsameren Rhythmus des Dorflebens, ganz im Gegenteil zur Sommerszeit, wo es von früh morgens bis spät abends gearbeitet wurde. Die Ruhetage kamen immer im Winter. Jetzt wurden die fetten Schweine geschlachtet, Wurstsuppe gegessen und auch der neue Wein konnte jetzt getrunken werden, aber das Wichtigste war, man hatte jetzt Zeit zum ausschnaufen. Das Leben war gut und die Leute waren meist zufrieden.

Die Männer trafen sich nun des öfters in den Wirtshäusern und spielten Karten, wie zum Beispiel, Ziechmariasch und Ramscheln. Die Frauen gingen "maja" zu Freundinnen und Verwandten. Da wurden alle Dorfneugigkeiten besprochen, während man nähte oder strickte. In dieser ruhigen Zeit gab es Feste bei denen wir Kinder mitfeiern konnten. Eines davon war Neu Jahr. Der Brauch, den Verwandten und Freunden ein gutes neues Jahr zu wünschen, wurde auch in Österreich sowie im süddeutschen Raum gefeiert, wenn ich mich nicht irre.

So wir Kinder hatten unsere Liste von Leuten denen wir wünschen wollten, denn für diese Aufmerksamkeit gab es Geld und manchmal auch andere Sachen. Ja, das Geld war uns das Wichtigste. Die Münzen endeten in unserem Geldsäckel, es klirrte nur so wenn jemand eine hinein warf und es machte uns Kinder selig, denn Geld kam damals nur selten bis zu uns Kinder runter, es wurde gespart und nur für wichtige Sachen ausgegeben. Darum war Neu Jahr für uns Kinder von so grosser Bedeutung. Natürlich musste man sich messen mit den anderen Kindern um zu sehen, wer am meisten bekommen hat. Was für eine wunderbare Zeit es doch war damals. Im Rückblick

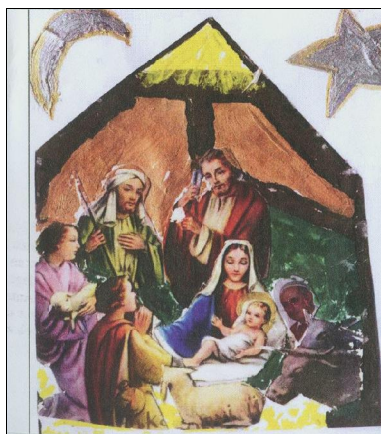
sehe ich viel wichtigere Gründe für diese Neu Jahres Begegnungen zwischen Kinder und Erwachsenen. Es war nicht nur das Geld, obwohl für uns Junge es damals das Wichtigste zu sein scheint, es war mehr die Begegnungen zwischen Alt und Jung, Kontakte die sich sonst im normalen Alltag nicht so direkt abspielen würden. Das Handschütteln eines Erwachsenen, ihm in die Augen schauen und ein Sprüchlein nur für ihn aufzusagen, das war ein wirkliches und lebendiges Erlebnis. So war es damals. Heute aber, so kommt es mir vor, hat dem Geld seine Anziehungskraft stark nachgelassen. Das kommt wahrscheinlich davon weil heutzutage soviel Geld im Umlauf ist und fast jede Person, sogar auch Kinder, ohne Schwierigkeiten zu Geld kommen können. Man spricht nicht mehr so viel vom Sparen, Zufriedensein und Dankbarkeit, sondern von mehr und schneller, weniger Arbeit, aber mehr Geld. Das führt oft zu einer einseitigen Anschauung die sich meist in eine ungesunde Lebensweise ausartet.

Die Vereinigung der Donauschwaben, Ortsgruppe, Trenton, versucht noch immer, wie vor langer Zeit, das Geld als Notwendigkeit zu betrachten und nicht als Belohnung. Das Kochen, Servieren und Leiten unserer monatlichen Festessen, wird immer von freiwilligen Vereinsmitglieder durchgeführt. Eine höchst lobenswerte Leistung dieser selbstlosen Mitarbeiter. Obwohl das Essen nur für einen Preis erhältlich ist, so kann jeder Gast sicher sein, dass sein finanzieller Beitrag durch diesen Eintrittspreis mithilft die Unkosten der Mahlzeit, sowie die Erhaltungskosten, Reparaturen und Erneuerungen der Gebäude sowie des Hofes zu decken.

Vielleicht ist es auch der Grund warum man sich so wohl fühlt im Vereinshaus, das Essen immer sehr gut schmeckt, die Stimmung gemütlich und im allgemeinen sehr freundlich ist.

Unterstützt diese alten und jungen Donauschwaben, kommt zu den Essen und macht mit, die Türen sind offen für Alle, die in unsere deutsche-donauschwäbische Art interessiert sind. Es ist eine Alternative zu den heutigen modernen, oft geldhungrigen Anbietungen.

Auf Wiedersehen im Verein der Donauschwaben, Ortsgruppe Trenton.



Als die Engel sie verlassen hatten und in den Himmel zurückgekehrt waren sagten die Hirten zueinander:

"Kommt wir gehen nach Betlehem, um die Ereignisse zu sehen, die uns der Herr verkünden ließ".

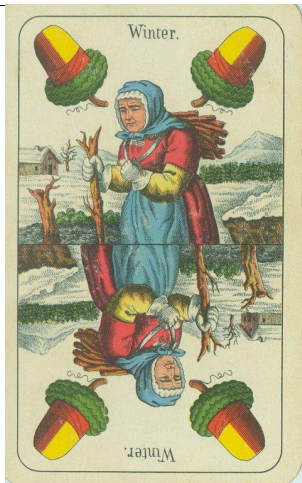
So eilten sie hin und fanden Maria und Josef und das Kind, das in einer Krippe lag.

(Lk 2, 15 - 16)



Antoniuskapelle im Batscher Wald (Zeichnung v. Josef de Ponte)

## Deutsche Ecke, Seite 2



### NEW YEAR By Adam Martini, translation by Hans Martini

In the everyday life of the Donauschwaben, the winter months were always full of meaning. The short days and long nights were ideal for the slow rhythms of village life. This was in stark contrast to the summer season, where work consumed practically all of one's

waking hours. Winter was a time for reflection, a time where one could breathe freely again. Among other things, the cold season meant it was time for butchering fatted pigs; partaking of culinary favorites like sausage soup; even the newly made wine could now be sampled. Life was good and most everyone was content.

Men would often find their way to the local tavern where cards were played. Some of their favorite games were "Ziehmariash" and "Ramscheln". The women would visit with friends and relatives. Such socializing was called "maja" in our town and one could be sure that all of the local news would be exchanged – and all while sewing or knitting. There were also many opportunities for children to be part of the action. One of these I best remember was the New Year's celebration.

The New Year's tradition of visiting relatives and friends to extend best wishes was the same in Austria as it was in our area of southeastern Europe, if I am not mistaken. We children had a list of people whom we would call on to wish the best for the New Year. For this, we would get money and sometimes a gift as well. Of course, for us the money was a huge plus! The coins would be thrown into our "money bag" with a noisy jingle, bringing the person good luck. Money was such a rarity for children back then that it was only spent with the greatest care and was always treated with the utmost respect. Of course, we would also enjoy seeing who could collect the most!

New Year's was such a wonderful time for all of us back then. In retrospect, I see so many good reasons to have this type of interaction between young and old. It was not just the money although for us it seemed so at the time. Direct contact between young and old just was not part of normal everyday life. The New Year's handshake with an adult, looking them in the eye and reciting a verse or two was an important and life-affirming experience. And so it was back then...

Today, however, money seems to mean far less than it did for children back then. Surely it is because there is so much more of it and that even children have little trouble get-

ting a hold of it. One does not speak of saving, or of gratitude and contentment as much as one speaks of more and faster, all with the least amount of effort. This lack of appreciation often insinuates itself into a life style that is often less than healthy.

With this in mind, let me take this opportunity to segue from the Donauschwaben of yesteryear to our Donauschwaben club here in Trenton. Our organization has always considered the making of money as a necessity, not as a way to obtain profit. That is why our active members are not paid although they do the work that allows our club to exist. It is a completely unselfish and most generous thing they do. All of our guests should know that the dollars they spend for their dinners are dollars that are for the upkeep of the club only. Maybe that is why our club continues to enjoy that "just like home" feeling, where the food is good and the atmosphere is cordial and relaxed.

Please continue to support your club. Come to the dinners and participate whenever and wherever possible. The doors are open to anyone interested in our German/Donauschwabens culture. We continue to be a refreshing alternative to an otherwise money-centered and overly materialistic world. See you at the Donauschwaben!

\*\*\*\*\*

### JOHNNY WEISSMULLER — FAMOUS DONAUSCHWABE

Peter Johann Weissmüller (Johnny Weissmuller), U.S. Olympic swimmer and movie Tarzan, was born 2 June 1904 in Freidorf, Banat of Peter Weissmüller and Elisabeth Kersch. Peter was from Varjas, Banat and Elisabeth from Freidorf.

The Weissmuller family immigrated to the U.S. from the Banat in Austria-Hungary around 1907. An excellent athlete, he joined the U.S. Olympic swim team and won a total of five Gold Metals during the Summer Olympics of 1924 and 1928.

He went on to play various parts in the movies and on TV from 1930-70. His most famous roles were that of Tarzan in the movies and Jungle Jim on television. Johnny died 20 January 1984.

\*\*\*\*\*

### AKuFF HOMEPAGE

The Arbeitskreis ungarndeutscher Familienforscher (AKuFF) has a new homepage address: <http://www.akuff.org>. This organization is another Donauschwaben related genealogical research group in addition to others like the Arbeitskreis donauschwäbischer Familienforscher (AKdFF) found at <http://akdff.genealogy.net>.

\*\*\*\*\*

### DONAUSCHWABEN HELPING HAND WEB SITE

This brand new web site just went on line. Check it out at <http://www.milleker.org/dvhh>.

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\*\*\*\*\*

*Please visit member John Feldenzer's new PALANKA WEBSITE at: [www.feldenzer.com](http://www.feldenzer.com)*

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Phone: 215-945-9089  
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## New Year's 2003 at the Donauschwaben

Wow! This writer counted at least 50 members in attendance at the New Year's Eve celebration. That's more than we've had at this particular event in many years. In fact, we've canceled this activity in the past because too few were interested in participating. So, what was different this year?

Undoubtedly, it was, in a word, the children. No, no, I don't mean one of the 30 to 40 something year olds you would normally think of when the word "children" is spoken. In fact, it was the children being there, some as young as 4 months and as old as 13 years, that probably caused so many to attend this year's festivities. They brought their parents and everyone had a great time. Indeed, some three generations of Donauschwaben members were on hand bringing in 2003 in a most enjoyable fashion. Truly, this is what our organization is all about!

Also present this year was "Diamond Dave" from Detroit, Michigan and his wife, Penny. Guests of members Chuck and Tess Pinkerton, Diamond Dave goes waaaay back with our "younger" crowd, back to a wonderful time of youthful merry-making. Now, of course, times have changed and Dave's a responsible managing partner in a large machine shop where he, no doubt, walks around the production floor most authoritatively, bald shaven head and all! We hope they'll come back east to visit us again soon.

Music for everyone's dancing and listening pleasure was ably taken care of by our own Bob Walter, who spun a great selection of CD's featuring everything from Frank Sinatra to the latest Um-pah from Germany. Keeping everyone well-fed was no problem either as our Josefa, Kaethe, Eva and Sepp rolled out a tasty buffet that insured no one stood a chance of getting a head start on their "I want to lose 25 lbs" resolution. Come to think of it, has our club ever been a place to start such a well-intentioned, yet usually futile resolution? It's like going to our Schlachtfest and saying "I'm going to stick to the mashed potatoes and ignore the sausage and stuffed cabbage" – it just doesn't happen.

Anyway, the event turned out to be a great success. Thanks to everyone who helped make it happen and to all who attended! Prosit, Hans Martini

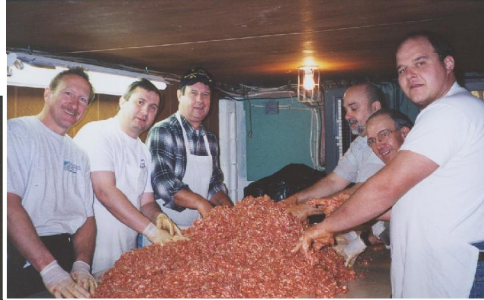
2003!



# Recent Club



Steve, Joe, Greta Brandecker & Bob Walter



The Bratwurst Boys & Cooks

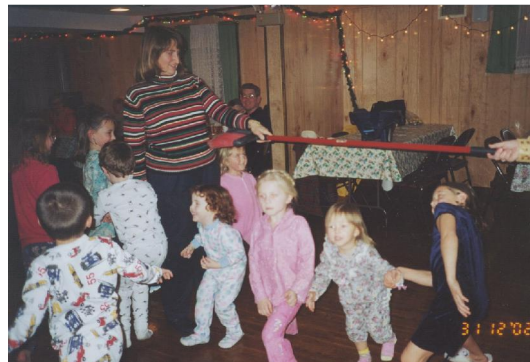
# Activity Pictures



Susan Jakober, Anna Hahn, Renee Tyira & Rosa Kernast



Our 2002 Christmas Tree



Kim Walter & Club Kids



Santa (Mike Lenyo)



Lyla Lenyo



St. Nikolaus (Steve Brandecker)



Mary Lenyo, Christina Martini & Greta

# Club Events for the Winter 2003

## EVENTS— DATES & TIMES

*Come out and join us!*

- Winteressen, Sunday 19 January 2003, 1pm
- Jahresauptversammlung (Member meeting), Sunday 26 January 2003, 1pm
- Schlachtfest, Sunday, 9 February 2003, 1 & 3pm
- Donauschwabenessen, Sunday 23 March 2003, 1pm
- Osteressen, Sunday 13 April 2003, 1pm
- Muttertagessen, Sunday 4 May 2003, 1pm
- Donauschwaben Ausflug in the Pine Barrens of NJ, Sunday 18 May, 2003, 8am

Please call Frau Josefa Brandecker (609) 585-8460 or Eva Martini (609) 586-6109 for meal reservations.

VEREINIGUNG DER DONAUSCHWABEN  
127 ROUTE 156, YARDVILLE, NJ 08620  
609-585-1932  
DSATRENTON@YAHOO.COM

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

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## 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 !



Though certainly not necessary, feel free to tip our young servers. Young, hard workers are hard to come by. They appreciate it!

## *Kindheit*

Von Helene Singler

Wenn ich die Augen schliesse  
Ist die Heimat mir ganz nah,  
Vertraute Menschen, Hof und Spiele,  
S'ist alles so wie einst ich's sah.

Ich hör' die Kinderlieder,  
Das Herz wird mir ganz weit.  
Die Erinnerung geht wieder  
Zurück in ferne Zeit.

Dann klingt das Lied der Heimat mir  
Strömt in mein Herz hinein.  
Dem Herrgott danke ich dafür,  
Dass dort ich Kind durft' sein.