

Trentoner Donauschwaben Nachrichten

Volume 11 Issue 1

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Points of Interest

- In 1854 over 215,000 Germans entered the USA.
- Not all that left Germany for the States arrived alive
- The ship "New Era" left Bremen, Germany for NYC in September 1854 with over 374 Germans aboard.
- The ship was caught in a storm off Asbury, NJ on November 13th and wrecked on a sand bar 1/4 quarter mile off shore.
- Due to the storm, it took 3 days to complete the rescue.
- Over 240 lost their lives, most of them German immigrants. Most of them are buried in the West Long Branch Cemetery, where a monument to their death was erected.
- Source: *Der Ahnenforscher*, February 2011 issue, German Genealogy Group, Inc. Our newsletter is copyrighted ©. All rights reserved. Contact the Club for permission to reprint the newsletter or any article.

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President's Christmas Message for the coming 2011 New Year

Dear Members and Friends of the Donauschwaben,

I would like to welcome you to our annual St. Nikolausfeier. We are glad you are here with us this afternoon as we celebrate the start of the Christmas season with great food, singing, poems and lots of *Gemütlichkeit*.

While we all love the decorations, gift-giving and rituals that make this time of year so special, we shouldn't forget that Christmas is really about giving thanks. We give thanks for the birth of Jesus, for our family and friends, and for all the many blessings God bestows upon us. As a club, we are thankful for the many fine members who made 2010 another good year for the club. A great big "Danke!" to everyone for their hard work and support. We really could not have done it without each and every one of you.

We've had some terrific events this past year, including our 5th Annual Euro-American Auto Show (a joint venture with our friends at the GAK); our canoe and ski trips; the family weekend in the Catskills; the 31st annual memorial service at Our Lady of Lourdes cemetery; and the pilgrimage to St. Peter's in Philadelphia. The biggest event of the year, however, was undoubtedly the wonderful 2010 Landestreffen held here on the east coast for the first time and hosted by our friends at the UGH. What a great time we had! Let's not forget to mention our consistently well-attended monthly dinners either, like the Schlachtfests, pig roasts, and today's St. Nikolausfeier. Finally, we can all be proud of our fine quarterly newsletter, full-featured website, scholarship program, German language school, and the youth and adult dance groups, all of which remain fundamental to our club's reason for existing year after year after year. No doubt about it, ladies and gentlemen, it's been another successful 12 months for the Donauschwaben.

Yet, while the good times were many, we remember with fondness all those members and friends who passed away this year. Some-

times it's easy to forget just how many lives we come in contact with through the club. It really is like one big family and when someone passes away and all of us feel the loss in some way. We can all take some solace in the fact that while these members are no longer with us they will remain a part of the wonderful memories all of us share through our experiences here at the Donauschwaben.

And so, on behalf of the Donauschwaben, I would like to wish all of you a very merry and blessed Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. Frohe Weihnachten und alles Gute im neuen Jahr. Prosit, 2011!

Sincerely,
Joseph Brandecker
President



PORK & SAUERKRAUT

Why is Pork & Sauerkraut a PA German New Years tradition? Well, PA ranks 13th in USA hog production and the reason is for good luck.

Various sources have it that pork from a "fat" pig, means an abundant year ahead and that the kraut, being green, means money. "Ich habe Schwein gehabt" or "I have had pig". In other words "I have had good luck". Another interpretation is that since the pig roots forward to look for it's food, it thus looks to the future. And cabbage means money.

So..... **GOOD LUCK & HAVE A PROSPE-
RIOUS YEAR!**

Club Matters & Members—1

MY OMA

By Christian Matico of the
Philadelphia Donauschwaben

There are many women in the world who sometimes inspire men. For me that's my Oma also referred to as my grandmother. She went through horrible things when she was a child in Yugoslavia after World War II. She makes me proud of my culture as a Schwob. She taught me and my mom the value of money and shows as an example how hard some people work for their money. She helped raised me like her own child in her own special way, with out her I would not exist.

Her life as a child was horrific under the rule of Tito. In history there was a time in her home land when the Serbians only wanted their culture in Yugoslavia. This was after WWII. She was born in Filipowa which was a German speaking town in Yugoslavia. When they were asked to leave her grandmother said no. Their punishment was to be sent to a concentration camp. There she lost her mother, two brothers, and one sister in eight days from starvation. Her and my great aunt, Tante Kathi were the only ones who survived. They fed you almost nothing, just little pieces of bread. They didn't care about when you died, they didn't give them to the earth, they stacked them up which passed around sickness. Luckily her father saved them from that hellhole and death. That is why she taught my mother that wasting food was a sin, because what you see in Haiti right now is similar to what she went through.

When she was an adult she bore two children named Rose and Jack. Next to that she worked with my Ota also known as grandfather at the bakery they owned. She would work as the manager while my Ota baked. Most of my family worked at that bakery like my mom, Uncle Jack, and other family members. I remember my mom telling me that she used what she called a "love tap" any time her children misbehaved. She also was a member of the Donauschwaben German Club working as a cook. She is also wife of one of the founders. We have Donauschwaben Clubs world wide. She has taught me about the culture of the Donauschwaben. She told me stories about the relatives she lost and the times she lived through in Yugoslavia. Every thing I learn today was brought down from my Oma.

Today she is a tailor that works at Earl's Cleaners near Newtown. She has made clothes, costumes for Halloween, and stuffed animals when I was little. During these times she taught me how to make my own things like stuffed animals. If my cloths are to short or to long she will fix them for me. She has taught me German and shows me old pictures sometimes. She tells me stories of what it was like at the Gakova camp she was in. If she had the fate of her brothers my mother and I would not be here today. She also suffers from arthritis in her hips but she still pulls through it by gardening. Her strength shows me I am able to do anything if I put enough effort into it. Her past affects my present because of what she went through. So Oma thank you for everything. Oma you are a hero among heroes.

Permission to reprint granted, Philadelphia Donauschwaben Newsletter, November 2010

Club Donauschwaben Museum Moves Forward



Under the direction of members, Hans Martini, Joseph Brandecker, Eva Martini, Dennis Bauer, Andy Franz, Liz Tindall and Christa Tindall Pullion, the club's historical and cultural museum is moving forward towards completion. We thank Andy Franz for designing and constructing a wooden display shelf for the room, located upstairs. We also want to thank those members that also helped renovate & paint the room.

The museum will help tell our ancestral and club histories through artifacts, documents, pictures, maps, furniture and books. We also hope to have a PC in place as an aid in telling our story.

You are not to late to donate items for display in the museum. Please contact one of the committee members for details. See related article on page 6.



Club Member Completes MERT Tactical Training

Our own Bob Walter (5th from left back row) was a member of a team from the Mercer County Correction Center who recently completed an intensive eight-day program in tactical training for corrections officers.

The course will enable the Mercer Emergency Response Team, or MERT, to now train additional officers at the Correction Center.

The Mercer County Correction Center is located in Hopewell Township and houses approximately 800 inmates on any given day. Correction officers maintain order within the institution and enforce rules and regulations.

Kudos to Bob and the other officers. Great job.

Source: 12 December 2010, *Trentonian*

Genealogy, Culture & History Section

Totengedenkfeier Reflection

By Christa Tindall Pullion

Die Heimat. In the German culture, this term is usually attached to fond memories of a family's hometown. For over 200 years, since the Hapsburgs establishment of the Donauschwaben settlements in Yugoslavia, the German people peacefully coexisted with their Slavic neighbors. While the main battles of WWII took place in other parts of the European continent, other people endured suffering that was generally overlooked. Few people know of the events that changed the lives of hundreds of thousands of Donauschwaben families as well as their perspective and memories of this beloved "Heimat."

As the granddaughter and grandniece of Neusatz and Jarek concentration camp survivors, I will never fully understand the pain and suffering that several survivors here with us today endured. I never had to live in fear of murder, torture or starvation as a child. I never had to live under Tito's cruel regime and cannot even imagine putting myself in your shoes. My perspectives are from the outside looking in.

While war times are never pleasant, the genocide of the Donauschwaben was a wartime event that did not need to happen. As WWII came to an end, the Russian troops entered Yugoslavia and the Serbian Partisans quickly installed their Military Government. This was not good news for the German population who had lived in peace and harmony with their Slavic neighbors for over two hundred years. Many did not foresee the atrocities that were to come and found it difficult to leave their beloved "Heimat."

The Donauschwaben who stayed home soon learned that life would not be easy under Tito's Partisans. Effective almost immediately after the transition of power took place, Germans were no longer considered to be citizens and anything that happened to them was outside the law. Everything belonged to the state, including their lives and bodies. A classic example of Communism, the Partisans took it to the extreme. Many Donauschwaben, living without rights and possessions, were, in effect, reduced to slavery.

The next three years proved to be difficult for our Donauschwaben. From hard labor in the camps and little food or water, to orphaned children and rampant disease, nothing was easy. In some cases, like my grandfathers, the contraction of typhoid fever proved to be lifesaving, as he was too ill to go to Siberia. Who knows what his fate would have been.

I have read many firsthand experiences published in books and have listened to countless stories from family who survived the camps. The detailed descriptions of the inhumane treatment by the guards on our people were appalling. The Donauschwaben fate might have been worse, had locals not stepped in to help. Luckily, many of the Slavic folk assisted the surviving Donauschwaben in escaping the brutal camps. After several years of living in constant fear, they had taken risks to escape in order to start new lives in other countries. While it is comforting to know that we were aided by many caring people, it is difficult to forget how many of our family members are still unaccounted for.

The main issue behind the liquidation was racism. Had this happened in the world today, we would hope and expect that other countries would have come to the aid of our people. I often wonder how different the world would be, had 32% or 175,000 Donauschwaben not lost their lives as victims of mass shootings, starvation, diseases and work camps. Imagine if the young victims had survived and raised their own families in the world today. Imagine how many more good Donauschwaben families would be living among us. It is tragic that this population was persecuted and lives and families were destroyed for no reason other than barbaric desires.

I feel very fortunate that my immediate family survived and fled to Austria. It is sad to think that not everyone in the family shared the same fate as several never returned home to the town of Palanka. I am sure this is true for every family here today. After all the families had to live through, I would be wrong not to educate myself on the plight of our Donauschwaben. I still listen to the many stories shared at the Sunday dinner table about how things were and how lucky we are that we are all together as a family today. Family. This is something that the Partisans took from many of our parents and grandparents. It reminds me of how important family is- how many of the people living peacefully in Yugoslavia would have loved to see their parents or siblings or children one last time. Never being able to say good bye, never giving one last hug... I couldn't imagine this.

In closing, I am thankful that we keep our traditions strong and stick together as a club. While many people worldwide may not be familiar with the stories of our people, it is good to know that the connections we, and Donauschwaben worldwide, have to the club are still strong. The annual Landestreffen demonstrates that the surviving people who have immigrated to America and Canada are still proud of their Donauschwaben roots—the atrocity in the mid 1940's has not affected their pride and has not caused a loss of identity, one that started in the Heimat and grew through Europe, North America and South America. This subject is very important to me and I feel that it is essential to keep the memory alive. I hope we can continue to remember those who are not with us today and never forget the atrocities that they had to endure. They are no longer able to have a voice, so it is up to us, the children and grandchildren, to keep their stories alive.

Ed.Note: this narrative was presented by Christa during our 21 October 2010 Totengedenkfeier at Our Lady of Lourdes Cemetery, Hamilton, NJ.

Membership News

2011 Newsletter Staff



Joseph Brandecker, Jr. President. Dennis J. Bauer, Vice President/Newsletter Editor. Kim Walter, Vice President/Club Photographer. Melanie Brandecker, Newsletter Copy Editor. Ludwig Jakober, Treasurer . Hans Martini, Secretary.
Staff Writers: Hans & Adam Martini, Andy Franz, Brittaney Brandecker & Michael Lenyo
AutoKlub Leader: Terry Huff
Website Committee: Tom Rubino, Dennis J. Bauer & Terri Penrith
Genealogical & Historical Researcher: Dennis J. Bauer
Mail Room Coordinator: Eva Martini



Donauschwäbische Familienkundliche Forschungsblätter

Donauschwaben Research Newsletter Available

The club receives a copy of the AKdFF quarterly newsletter. It is posted on the club's bulletin board for members to look at. The newsletter contains Donauschwaben family history news, articles about the towns of our ancestors and information on recently published books (Heimatbuch, Familiebuch & Ortssippenbuch). These books are printed in limited numbers, so it is a "first come, first serve" opportunity. Many are never re-printed.

See a club officer if you wish to have a copy of a particular newsletter issue. I have a large collection of these town lineage books in my personal library and will publish a list of them in the next club newsletter in case any members wishes a family "lookup". A couple of these town books will also be on display in our new museum when it is complete for viewing.

Dennis J. Bauer, AKdFF member & Club Genealogist

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

Gute Besserung!
 Nim müß sich alles, alles wenden
 Die Welt wird schöner mit jedem Tag.
 Man weiß nicht, was noch werden mag.
 (aus dem "Frühlingstanz")

Get Well to Tom Rubino, Jim Brunner, Dave Goodwin, Helga Kusenko, Joe Brandecker, Kevin Nakashima, Irmgard Brand, Maria Venessa, JoAnn Martini and Hans Martini.



Congratulations to Ron Kernast who celebrated his 50th birthday in October and to **Britaney Brandecker** who celebrated her 21st birthday in November. Happy belated birthdays to them both .

Welcome to new members; Chris, Karen and Heather Carter of Beach Haven, NJ and to Keith Carter of Long Beach Township, NJ.



Congratulations to the Mullers on the arrival of another Schwob descendant. Father, John James, grandfather, John, Jr. and great-grandfather John (Hans) Muller, Sr. sit with baby Jacob Muller. "Jake" arrival in November. Member, **John, Sr.** is from Backa Palanka.



Condolences It is with sadness that the Donauschwaben notes the passing of Mr. **Marian Dlubak** (December 3, 2010). He was born in Poland and husband of the late Katharina Metternek Dlubak.

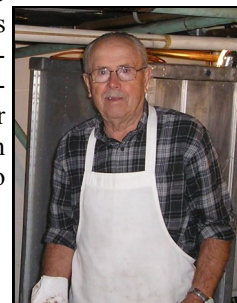
Mr. Dlubak was a valued part of our organization for many years. He served as our live-in caretaker for almost a decade, carefully tending our grounds and clubhouse as if they were his own. Marian would always help at our club events too and was an important part of our kitchen staff.

Above all, however, Mr. Dlubak was that special kind of club member whose friendly nature, ready smile and willingness to help are what form the backbone of any successful organization, ours included.

And so it is with gratitude that we remember Mr. Marian Dlubak. To his son, Joe, as well as to his entire family the Donauschwaben extends its sincerest condolences. A good man, dear members and friends, has passed from our midst. It was a privilege indeed to have known him.

May he Rest in Peace, Amen.

Der Vorstand.



Deutsche Ecke, Seite 1



A look back at the 2010 Landestreffen der Donauschwaben By Adam Martini (an English version of the article from the last newsletter)

Once again it was time for friends and countrymen from the Donauschwaben community in the USA and Canada to gather together. This time around it was to be in our backyard right here on the east coast. For the very first time the big "Treffen" weekend would be held in the Philadelphia region at the United German Hungarians. And what a gathering it was! Three wonderful days of dancing, eating, memory making and merrymaking under clear summer skies and comfortable conditions. Wow!

UGH president Bill Galgon, his wife Marlene Fricker, and Joe Reiter lead a fine group of United German Hungarian club members in making the event a reality. Not to be forgotten were the many club members from the Trenton Donauschwaben as well as those from the Philadelphia Donauschwaben who pitched in too. Together we showed that the eastern region was capable of hosting this annual event in grand style.

Festivities got under way on Friday night, August 6th. Most clubs chose to arrive that evening but it didn't seem that way at first. In fact, President Galgon began to worry around 6 PM that the 900 servings of Schnitzel they anticipated needing would be far more than necessary. Then came the buses. Bus after bus after bus rolled in and soon the place was full. The atmosphere turned festive and the house band "Heimatklaenge" began playing old favorites for everyone's listening and dancing pleasure. By the end of the night over 1100 portions of Schnitzel would be needed, a new club record!

The big parade of clubs the next day served as the official start of the event.

In fact, some fifteen different organizations were on hand that Saturday afternoon to provide a colorful spectacle all enjoyed. They came from Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Akron, Mansfield, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Canada, New York, Philadelphia and Trenton. This is truly remarkable when you consider that three generations gather by the thousands like this each and every year. Not many groups can pull something like this off, that's for sure. Yet there they were in beautiful ethnic costume listening to the national anthems while the various club flags were dipped low out of respect. A moment of silence was then initiated as the many who had gone before us were remembered appropriately. Speeches by the various dignitaries were few and brief but also thoughtful and appreciated nonetheless.

As is the tradition, the many dance groups began dancing with each other in a big display of friendship and solidarity. It was good for the soul to see these young people, most of them now second or third generation Americans, enjoy their cultural heritage to such an extent. It makes one optimistic about the future.

All told there were 31 dance groups in attendance. These would perform ten-minute presentations both indoors and out until late into the evening. German bands performed in between the dance group presentations so the entertainment was non-stop. So passed a wonderful Saturday!

The final day of the event, Sunday, began with a mass held mostly in the German language. The well-liked Father Rettig from Los Angeles was the chief celebrant and, as he's done so often before, he turned the service into something most memorable. This very talented American born orator speaks the language of our ancestors better than most native-born Germans. His mother comes from the Batschka (one of the Donauschwaben areas) and he identifies with his heritage in a way that makes him a powerful and inspiring advocate for our people. His homily dealt with subject matter near and dear to the hearts of our Donauschwaben that brought tears to

the eyes of his audience. Father Rettig never fails to deliver!

After the service there would be more eating and drinking, dance group presentations and music from any one of 544 seven German bands lined up for the weekend. The weather remained perfect and everything went according to plan. The kitchen served up some outstanding food, from Schnitzel to Weisswurst, Bratwurst, Gulasch, Sarma, Leberkaese and even pizza! Of course, there were some delicious desserts available too. Let's not forget to mention the beer-serving kiosk. This was as busy a place as you can imagine as folks lined up in every direction to get a "cold one."

A very nice museum was set up in one of the large clubhouse side rooms. The display featured all manner of artifacts from the old country. Pictures, books, handicrafts, costume clad dolls and manikins, tools and things used around the house made for a must-see for those interested in what it was like back then.

The big treffen weekend shows that our treasured culture lives on. It binds native-born Donauschwaben together and binds our descendants together too. Our ancestral home towns were special places whose history goes back over 200 years. We remain proud sons and daughters of the Batschka, Banat, and all the other areas. What remains in all of us is more than just a dream, it's the strength that comes from a rich heritage we can never forget. It's something that lives on in all of us.

And so the Treffen 2010 weekend came to a close. Goodbyes would be said as folks returned to their homes around the continent. With them went the fond memories and good feelings created by three glorious days in Oakford, Pennsylvania. Not to worry, though, we'll do it all again in 2011 when we gather for the next great, big, wonderful Treffen. Auf Wiedersehen!



Deutsche Ecke, Seite 2

Neujahrswunsch von Wilhelm Busch

Will das Glück nach seinem Sinn
dir was Gutes schenken,
sage Dank und nimm es hin
ohne viel Bedenken.
Jede Gabe sei begrüsst,
doch vor allen Dingen:
Das, warum du dich bemüest,
möge dir gelingen.
Die Namenstage

Die Geburtstage wurden in der früheren Heimat so gut wie gar nicht gefeiert. Man vergass zwar nicht, den Geburtstag eines Kindes mit freundlichen und aufmerksamen Worten zu erwähnen und ihm auch Glück zu wünschen, es wurde aber kein Aufhebens daraus gemacht. Und wenn die Kinder einmal grösser und älter waren, verging auch ihr Geburtstag ohne besondere Beachtung. Bei Erwachsenen wurde kaum noch darüber gesprochen.

Das scheint in unserer Zeit, die jedem Einzelnen die volle Berücksichtigung verspricht und damit schon bei der Erziehung der Kinder beginnt, recht rückständig zu sein. Unsere heutige Zeit könnte es gar nicht verstehen, dass unsere Eltern und Ureltern für die Nichtbeachtung ihres Geburtstages reichlich entschädigt wurden durch die Namenstagsfeiern. Ich will den Sinn eines Geburtstagsfestes nicht bestreiten, es dünkt mich aber, als seien unsere Namenstagsfeiern in der alten Heimat sinnvoller gewesen. Dass sie unterhaltsamer und lustiger waren, das brauche ich nicht weiter auszuführen. Wie soll ich aber einem Menschen von heute den Unterschied klarmachen? Etwa so? Ist es für einen erwachsenen Menschen nicht doch immer ein wenig bedrückend, wieder ein Jahr älter geworden zu sein, ist es ihm nicht irgendwie unangenehm, auch mit Pauken und Trompeten, schriftlich, mündlich, telefonisch und mit allen Raffinessen der Nachrichtenübermittlung daran erinnert zu werden? Und dann sitzt er allein da mit seinen Gedanken, macht eine säuerliche Miene inmitten der freudig aufgeregten Gesellschaft und mag sich

dabei denken: „Warum sind die eigentlich so ausgelassen?“

Die Namenstagsfeiern sind keine Feste für den Einzelnen, sondern Gelegenheiten, wo sich die Verwandtschaft, die „Freundschaft“, wie wir so schön in unserer Mundart sagen, zu einem gemeinsamen Feste trifft. Es ist auch nicht von ungefähr, dass fast alle Namenstage ins Frühjahr, in den Spätherbst und in den Winter fielen, in Zeiten also, wo die Arbeit eine kleine Schnaufpause noch gut vertrug, wo man reichlich Musse für Feierstunden und Besuche hatte. Denkt einmal an den Kathrein= oder den Josefstag! Das ganze Dorf war an diesen Tagen auf den Beinen, auf den Gassen wünschten sich Bekannte und Nachbarn zum Namenstag alles Gute, die Kinder liefen aus einem Haus in das andere, um ja keine Tante, um ja keinen Onkel zu vergessen. Und um den Tisch sass die Runde der grossen Familie und der Gratulanten, ass und trank und plauderte und lachte und erzählte zwischendurch von dem und jenem. Und niemand brauchte zu denken oder zu sagen: „Ach ja, schon wieder ein Jahr älter!“

So ungefähr, denke ich, müsste man den Menschen von hier und heute den Unterschied zwischen den Namens= und den Geburtstagen verdeutlichen. Damit soll beileibe nicht gesagt werden, dass man es vor anderen verheimlichen soll, wie alt man eigentlich sei, dass man sich gar schämen müsse, schon so alt zu sein – im Gegenteil. Vor dem Alter Respekt haben, war seit eh und je eine Tugend unseres Volkes und wurde der heranwachsenden Generation immer wieder vor Augen geführt.

Es liegt also ein tieferer Grund vor, dass man die Namenstage nicht mehr so recht feiern will: Weil wir alle schon viel zu sehr Individualisten geworden sind, weil die Bande der Sippen= und Dorfgemeinschaft entweder gewaltsam zerrissen wurden oder durch die Zeitläufte gelockert werden. Mit dem **Wiedererstarcken** des Gemeinschaftsgefühls, nach dem sich heute immer mehr Menschen sehnen,

sollten wir deshalb die Namenstage nicht vergessen!

von *Heimatbuch der Donauschwaben*,
submitted by Eva Martini



OUR MUSEUM UPDATE

If you or your parents were born in the Donauschwaben communities in Hungary, Romania or the former Yugoslavia, we need your help! We would like to capture your stories and memories so these firsthand accounts can be part of our museum. What are we looking for? Many members share their stories at our monthly dinners and meetings about life in Europe.

We would like these memories to live on in our museum, allowing us to educate our future generations and guests. We would appreciate any memories of everyday life, you childhood, celebrations, family, school, work, internment, flight, etc. These stories can be short or long, written or typed in German or English. Basically, anything submitted is greatly appreciated!

We plan to make a book with stories from all of our members, so your contributions are essential in our mission to keep our memories alive! You can either email or mail your thoughts to Christa:

Email: Tindalle@gmail.com

Or

Mail to:
The Danube Swabian Association
c/o Christa
127 Route 156
Yardville, NJ 08620

Please submit your stories by March 31.
Vielen Dank!



Our AutoKlub Travels



Windshield and Wiper Maintenance Tips

Keep a clear view of the road by taking care of these two important items.

A chipped and scratched windshield can wreak havoc on your ability to see clearly while driving, especially when the sun is low on the horizon and the light illuminates every imperfection in the glass. Even more bothersome are chips that have the potential to develop into windshield cracks. While many chips appear harmless at first, exposure to temperature changes and road vibrations can cause them to expand into actual cracks in the glass.

Windshield cracks are serious, not only because they can obstruct your vision, but also because of the structural role a windshield plays in an automobile's design. The American Automobile Association has been at the forefront of explaining to its members and other drivers that in the event of a rollover, a vehicle's windshield offers important support for the roof and A-pillars to prevent passengers from being crushed. A windshield is composed of two sheets of safety glass held together by a transparent, laminated center membrane that helps strengthen the windshield and prevents shattering. The glass is also a crucial barrier for keeping passengers from being ejected during an accident.

If a windshield is cracked, pitted or otherwise damaged, visit your dealership and talk with a qualified technician about your options for repairing or replacing it. Small cracks and chips can often be repaired, restoring the structural integrity of the windshield and keeping you from having to replace it. Fortunately, comprehensive insurance policies often include coverage that provides for low- or no-cost windshield repair or replacement.

Windshield wipers can make a big difference in visibility when driving in bad weather. Wipers are inexpensive wear items, but they are often overlooked. A damaged or worn out wiper can leave streaks and smears across the windshield, and wiper arms that are no longer strong enough to effectively hold the blade against the windshield can also contribute to ineffective cleaning of rain, snow and slush. Replacing blades once per season is a good way to ensure consistent windshield wiper performance. If you suspect that your wiper arms are not up to spec, a quick trip to the dealership can help you determine if they need to be replaced.

Whether your winter season includes snow or simply the occasional rain shower, taking care of windshield and wiper maintenance is an essential part of safe driving year round.

Published by Volkswagen Of Langhorne, Permission granted to re-print.

Congratulations to AutoKlub member, Jim Lieblang, on his new 1987 Mercedes-Benz 560 SL ride. SWEET!

GERMAN AUTO NEWS

Small surprise that Germany has two of the fastest pro-



duction cars available, if you have the GELD!

The fastest is the 2011 Bugatti Veyron 16.4 Super Sport at 268 mph (company owned by Volkswagen, yes VW). You can own this beautiful 1,200 hp auto for only \$2.7. million.

OR for a mere \$245,000, you can purchase the 620hp 2011 Porsche 911 GT2 RS. Rumor has it that Hans Martini is trading in his older Porsche for this newer, faster edition?

**

VW unveiled it's remodeled Passat at the 2010 Paris Auto Show. Also VW plans to bring back the VW Phaeton luxury sedan to the U.S. market in order to compete with the Hyundai Equus.

BMW announced that it plans to build it's Megacity vehicle (see picture) in China with sales beginning in 2013. The Megacity will be a zero emissions city car, just right for the Chinese market. In addition, U.S. dealers are taking orders for the new 2012 BMW 1M series coupe.





Audi is on pace to break it's U.S. sales record with sales over 100,000 vehicles per year. A first. Audi's A8 (see picture) also won the European auto body design award in 2010.

Mercedes-Benz USA delivers America's first zero emissions F-cell vehicle. It uses a rechargeable lithium battery that only takes 3 minutes to recharge. NEAT.



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- * Familie James & Kathleen Lieblang
- * Herr Harold Million *
- * Familie Szmuto in memory of Carl & Eva Frey *
- * Familie Rosa Kernast *
- * Familie Hilda & Francis Szmuto *
- * In memory of Joe & Wilma L. Schmidt *
- * Stefan Mayer in memory of his parents, Eva & Markus Mayer *
- * In memory of Frank & Viola Dienes *
- * Frau Martha A. Sawadski-Bartlog in memory of Albert Sawadski, Anton Geck & Helmut Bartlog *
- * Herr Edward J. Butrym *
- * Edward T. Woodrow, Jr & Magdelene Drobek Woodrow in memory of Anton & Magdalena Rohrbacher Drobnek*



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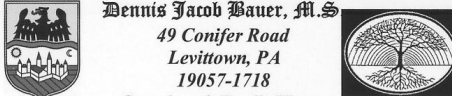
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GERMANY HONORS AMERICAN HEROS WITH THE GOLD CROSS METAL



The German Armed Forces recently awarded 14 American soldiers one of Germany's highest military honors for valor, the Gold Cross of Honor of the German Armed Forces. This is the first time non-Germans have even received this award.

They received the honor for risking their own lives in the rescue of wounded German soldiers in northern Afghanistan. Lt. General Bruno Kasdorf of Germany presented the Americans with the award at Kunduz on May 12, 2010. The U.S. Army also honored them in Katterbach, Germany on December 13, 2010.

The Americans were members of a helicopter MedEvac unit who came to the aid of the Bundeswehr soldiers. The Germans were ambushed by more than 200 Taiban fighters while on patrol on April 2nd in Kunduz. The Black Hawk copters had to make multiple trips to evacuate the German from the battle zone, as U.S. Apache copters provided defense. Eleven wounded Germans were extracted, three later died from their injuries.

Those awarded were; Capt. Robert McDonough, Chief Warrant Officers, Jason LaCrosse, Steven Husted & Nelson Visaya, Jason Brown, Sean Johnson & Eric Wells, Staff Sgt. Travis Brown, Sgt.s. William Ebel, Antonio Gattis & Steven Shumaker and Specialists, Matthew Baker, Todd Marchese & Gregory Martinez. All are from the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade, based out of Germany. What a great honor for these fine American heros.

Source: *Germany.info*, 12/10/2010.

Club Pictures Winter 2010 (Memorial Service, November Schlachtfest, Christmas Party)



Wir wünschen Ihnen
ein gesegnetes
Weihnachtsfest
und
alles Gute zum neuen
Jahr!





Deutsche Sprach Schule & Tanze Gruppe

Seite (Youth & Adult) & Other Items

ADULT LANGUAGE SCHOOL—NEW INSTRUCTOR TO THE TEAM



We welcome Christa Tindall Pullion to the Adult Language School teaching staff. Both Frau Christa Pullion & Herr Andy Franz invite adults to join them for a lively hour of instruction every other Wednesday night at 7pm at the clubhouse resuming February 9th. There is no registration required for members and a small fee for non-members. Stop by and check it out! Christa started her first session December 8, 2010 and it was well received. We now have a “Dynamic Duo” of instructors for the adult school.

YOUTH LANGUAGE SCHOOL—NEW NIGHT

The youth and adult German classes have resumed. We are currently recruiting students to join us! Please pass along this information to anyone who may be interested in practicing the German language and discussing our culture! Everyone is welcome, from beginner through advanced levels. We currently meet every other Wednesday at 7pm in the clubhouse starting February 9th. Feel free to join us! Please email Christa at tindallc@gmail.com for the adult school questions and Eva Martini at mar-tinisww@aol.com for youth school questions.

Remember, both tuitions are free for all members and their families in good standing. Small fee for non-members. Please reply to this e-mail for further information.

SPECIAL THANKS TO CHRISTA TINDALL PULLION

The club would like to thank Christa for her work in putting together a new Trenton Danube Swabian Association tri-fold handout that was given out to the German language students from Steinert High School at our recent Schlachtfest. The handout includes pages on, “Who Are We?”, “Donauschwabens Facts”, “Annual Events” and “Scholarship Information”. Great job!

PASSING OF MARTIN KLEER

Marty Kleer was well known in our Donauschwaben community and also held a membership card for many years, even after moving to Florida in 1983. We all remember him, his wife, Anna Mae, and his daughter Joann. They would come back every year to Trenton for a visit in their mobile home. They parked it in one of their friend’s yard, but often in the club's parking lot, and visited the German clubs of Trenton and many of their friends. Often you could see them working at our club's bakery stand at the German American Heritage Day in Holmdale, NJ.

We will miss Marty, a native son of Trenton, New Jersey, with roots in Bukin and Palanka, Batschka. His unique loyalty to friends, the German clubs and his place of birth was outstanding, it was the reason for the many tracks north that he and his family took.

May God grant him his well deserved rest and reward him with a happy after life.

So long Marty, we will miss you and we keep you in our prayers. Our deepest sympathy to his family, Members of the Trenton Donauschwaben

Obituary:

Martin L. Kleer ST. PETERSBURG, FL - Martin L. Kleer, 84, of St. Petersburg, FL passed away on Friday, Jan. 14, 2011, in Hospice House Woodside. Born in Trenton, N.J., Mr. Kleer came here in 1983 from Bordentown, NJ. He was a retired General Motors employee of 30 years and was a member of the UAW Local 731. Mr. Kleer was a Navy veteran of World War II, a parishioner of the Holy Cross Catholic Church and a member of the Knights of Columbus Council No. 11226 of Largo, FL. He is survived by his wife, Anna Mae Kleer; son, Martin J. Kleer and his wife, Marianne Martin, of Clearwater, FL; a daughter, Joann Kleer of St. Petersburg, FL.; a grandson, Brian Kleer; great-grandson, Justin Turek; a sister, Ann Marie Backes of Clearwater, FL., and several nieces and nephews. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Suncoast Hospice. There will be a funeral service at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 17, at 7820 38th Ave. North, St. Petersburg, Fla. Visit the family's personalized online guestbook at www.AndersonMcQueen.com, Anderson-McQueen Funeral Home, Tyrone Chapel, (727) 347-6636.

A TRIBUTE TO OUR HARD WORKING LADIES—PAST & FUTURE

The Club would like to take this time to honor the hard working women of our club. Without their tireless efforts and hard work this club would not exist and would cease to function. The club would certainly have not lasted these 50+ years.

Whether it is cooking for the dinners, waiting on tables during dinners, making dresses/alterations, holding office, teaching, German classes, dancing, cleaning up after dinners, making posters and signs for our functions, and on and on... We cannot list them all for fear of leaving someone out. But we all know their names and faces. Some have since passed away or relocated. However, we honor all of them. We have the privilege that there are many youth in the wings that hopefully will try and fill in any void. Many of our fine youth are already actively involved in the club functions.

These ladies had certainly wonderful good mentors, as were their mothers and grandmothers (Omas). KUDOS TO THEM ALL and God Bless them for their hard work over these many years. **We are also thinking of starting a “cooking school” so that those great recipes can be passed on!**

German-American History 101 St. John Neumann



Today we remember St. Johannes Nepomuk Neumann, or more widely known as St. John Neumann. This great man and German-American Saint was born in Bohemia in 1811. John was very kind and generous boy, he lived his life like any other child of his time with his four sisters and a brother. His father Philip, a native of Bavaria, Germany, owned a small stocking mill. He was also an official in their small village. His mother Agnes was a Czech, and a devout Catholic woman who attended Mass daily. Young John Neumann was a fantastic student who loved to read and truly enjoyed learning. His schooling began in Prachatitz and continued after he was twelve in the town of Budweis, where he attended high school and a philosophical institute. John went on to spend two years at the Catholic Seminary in Budweis before transferring to the University of Prague, where in 1835 he completed his studies. His academic record was excellent, and he had an amazing talent for mastering languages. In addition to his native German, he spoke Bohemian, Italian, Spanish, Greek and Latin. In Prague he continued his language studies and became fluent in English and French. It didn't stop there. In later life, he even taught himself Gaelic in order to minister to Irish-American immigrants. In 1835 John was ready to become a priest, but was informed by the Bishop that there would be no further ordinations for quite some time. It seemed that Bohemia was overstocked with priests. John wrote to bishops all over Europe but the story was the same everywhere he applied, no one wanted any more priests. John was sure he was called to be a priest but all the doors to follow that vocation seemed to be closed. John didn't give up, after much correspondence, he finally found opportunity in America.

John arrived in Manhattan, New York in June of 1836 where John Dubois the Bishop of New York warmly welcomed him and soon ordained him into the priesthood. The Bishop immediately sent him to minister to the German-speaking immigrants who were clearing forests up north near Niagara Falls. Twelve years later, John Neumann was naturalized as a citizen of the U.S and was soon appointed with high honor of Bishop of Philadelphia. Bishop John Neumann chose the motto of “Passion of Christ strengthen me” in his Coat of Arms. As bishop, he was the first to organize a diocesan Catholic school system in America. As founder of Catholic education in the U.S.A, he increased the number of Catholic schools in his diocese from 2 to 100, and the number of parochial school students in his diocese grew from 500 to 9,000. He also introduced the School Sisters of Notre Dame to North America to assist in religious instruction and staffing the orphanage. He also established the first Italian National Church and preached to them in their native language at a time when there were no Italian priests available in America. John went on to write many important Catholic newspaper and magazine articles in German and English. He also published two catechisms and a Bible history in the German Language. John introduced many teaching orders to the United States, accomplishing so much for such a short time on earth. Sadly in 1860 John Neumann died due to a stroke at the young age of 48 while walking down a street in Philadelphia.

His hard work and devotion to Christ would not be forgotten. On June 19, 1977 he was canonized by Pope Paul VI, and became the first American Bishop, Male, and German-American to be honored as such. Catholics celebrate his feast day on January 5th. John's final resting place is located at the The National Shrine of St. John Neumann in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Source: United Donauschwaben of Milwaukee – *Donausquelle*, February 2011 *****

CONGRATULATIONS—GOOD JOB

Member Mrs. Kaethe Marx says “ President, V.President, Secretary & all the Committees, Sie machen eine sehr gute arbeit! Congratulations.”

Also: Under the direction of Marlene Fricker, the United German Hungarian Youth Dance Group will perform at the 2nd Annual “Forgotten Genocide Conference” in St. Louis on April 28-29—Congratulations to our friends at the UGH and our friend, Ann Morrison, the conference organizer.

Club Events for the Winter 2011

EVENTS— DATES & TIMES

Come out and join us!

- ◆ German Language Schools resume—Wednesdays, starting January 5, 7pm
- ◆ Winteressen —Sunday, January 9, 1pm
- ◆ Annual Membership Meeting - Sunday, January 23, 1pm. Complimentary lunch.
- ◆ Family Fun Weekend at the Catskills, NY—January 28 to 30th
- ◆ Schlachtfest— Sunday, February 20, 12:30pm & 3pm seatings
- ◆ Frühlingsessen—Sunday, March 20, 1pm

Please call Frau Eva Martini (609) 586-6109 or Frau Kim Walter (609) 585-8752 for all meal reservations. Chicken is always available as an alternative to the featured dish (except at the Schlachtfest). Please let us know your preference in advance.

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Vielen Dank !

To all of our members who do the work that always needs doing, THANKS!! Whether it's in the kitchen or out by the tables; serving refreshments or baking pastries; selling tickets or cleaning up; it takes many fine people a good many hours to make dinner events a success. We truly have some of the finest club members anywhere. Danke Schön!!

A great big THANKS!! also goes to all of our members and friends who attend the club's activities and purchase our Club jackets, shirts, hats, etc. We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you again soon.



Auf Wiedersehen bei den Donauschwaben!

KUDOS TO BILL GALGON OF THE UGH



In December the Central Bucks School District announced it was considering the elimination of their German language program in its middle schools.

Our friend, and President of the United German-Hungarians, Bill Galgon, wrote a letter to the Editor of the *Bucks County Courier Times* expressing his concerns about the cancellation of the German language program in this school district. The letter appeared in the December 20th issue of the paper. He highlighted the importance the Germans played in our American history and their major influence in the Delaware Valley. Bill invited all to learn more about German-American culture by contacting the UGH (via phone or web).

We applaud Bill for his out reach and his cause in promoting our German Culture. Vielen Dank! DJB

Club Supporter Passes

The Donauschwaben sadly notes the passing of Julius Schneider on Monday 20 December 2010 at home in Pennington, NJ.. Mr. Schneider, a native of the Donauschwaben town of Perles, Yugoslavia, was a devoted supporter of the club's memorial at Our Lady of Lourdes cemetery. In fact, it was Mr. and Mrs. Schneider who initiated and financed the professional remodeling of the memorial just a few years ago. To Herr Schneider's wife, Rosina, and to his family and friends we extend our sincere condolences. May he rest in Peace, Amen.

Der Vorstand

WEB SITE POPULAR

Our club web site (www.trentondonauschwaben.com) continues to be popular. In October we had 3091 hits, November we had 3349 hits and in December we had 2339 hits or between 1100-1200 hits per day. WOW. TR