

Trentoner Donauschwaben Nachrichten

Volume 3 Issue 3



July-September 2003

Points of Interest

- Christian Friedrich Martin (1796-1873), originally from Saxony, started his world famous guitar business in NYC in 1833.
- Bismarck, capital of ND, was founded in 1872 & named after German Chancellor Prince Otto von Bismarck. It was known as the wildest town in the West during the late 1800s.
- The Austrian-Hungarian crepes, Palatschinken, trace their origin to Egypt to ancient Rome and then Romania.
- The Mormon's Family History Library has over 2 million microfilm rolls of German church records for public genealogy research use.



DONAUSCHWABEN HISTORY TALK

Club members Dennis Bauer and Hans Martini were well received as guest speakers at the recent Kolping Society of Philadelphia communion breakfast held on 4 May 2003. The event was held at the Philadelphia Donauschwaben Club facilities.

Dennis and Hans offered the group of about 75 attendees a computer generated power point overview of our Donauschwaben history from the 1700s to the present.

A number of Trenton and Philadelphia Donauschwaben Club members are also members of the Kolping Society.

Hans and Dennis plan on giving the talk here at the Club in the Fall. Look for a date and time in the next issue.

2003 DONAUSCHWABEN LANDESTREFFEN



This year's *Landestreffen der Donauschwaben USA/Kanada* will be held over the Labor Day Weekend, August 30-September 2 at the Mansfield Liederkrans in Mansfield, OH.

We have a group of over 30 members who plan to attend this fun and cultural event.

As was last year, youth from the Philly/Trenton Donauschwaben will perform during the weekend gathering.

The events will include; a Friday night Freundschaftsabend (casual evening of camaraderie), Saturday Kindergruppe/Jugendgruppe workshops, brass band, parade, opening ceremonies and performances, Sunday Mass/dedication, Presidents meeting and more performances.

We plan to have new summer color Club hats and new black Club shirts by then in order to display our Club spirit.

THE DONAUSCHWABEN DANCE GROUP

Greetings, good people! Many of you remember the great times our Dance Group had during the 70s, 80s, and 90's. The group went all over the place, had a wonderful time, and were truly ambassadors for the Club in the best sense. Under the able leadership of Frau Marlena Novosel, the "Tanzgruppe" performed numerous times in numerous locations. We had a great time dancing everything from Minuets to Polkas to Waltzes to Folks Dances. We owe a big debt of gratitude to not only Frau Novosel (and Herr Jakober among others), but to the dozens of dancers who participated through all those years. They helped put Trenton "on the map"!

Now we are in the 2000s and a new era has begun. Some of our new "young people" are already involved in a dance group partnership with our sister club in Philadelphia. By combining with our friends in Philly, the group always seems to have enough participants, making it well suited for today's busy schedules. The mostly teenaged group has danced a few times here at our club and elsewhere and has been received most enthusiastically. Trenton is again involved in dancing!. (See photo on page 11).

***Members, keep those articles
coming for future issues!***

Inside this issue:

Club Matters 2

Genealogy & History 3-4

Deutsche Ecke 6-9

Newsletter Advertisers & Sponsors 10

Pictures of Club Events—Past/Present 11

Club Events 12

Club Matters

SEE YOU AT THE CANNSTATTER CAR SHOW

This year's 2nd Annual Cruisin' Classics Car ClubCar Show will again be held at the Cannstatter V.V., 9130 Academy Road, Philadelphia, PA. The date and time are 16 August 2003, 9am—3pm. The rain date is 17 August 2003.

We have a number of car enthusiasts in our Club who plan on entering their cars. They include; Dennis Bauer (Volkswagen New Beetle), Melanie Bauer (Olds Aero), Frank Herdt (Volkswagen old Beetle), Terry Huff & sons, Colin and Pat, (Volkswagen old Beetles & a dune buggy), Mike Lenyo (Corvette), Sean Jakober (Nissan 240SX) and Hans Martini (Porsche). If any other members are interested contact Dennis Bauer for an application. These Club members have formed an informal auto group and plan to display their new Trenton Donauschwaben "Autoklub" logo.

Dennis and Melanie entered last year and Club members; Frank Herdt and children, Hans Martini and children, Steve Brandecker and Joe Brandecker, Jr. stopped by to show their support.

In addition to the car show, there will be vendors, food and beverages (Warsteiner on tap!) available at the Cannstatter Biergarten. So feel free to stop by this wonderful facility and show your support. What a great way to spend a day!



VOLKSWAGEN BEETLES PAST & PRESENT

Club members: Frank Herdt, Dennis Bauer, Harold Huff and Terry Huff have been Volkswagen Beetle enthusiasts for years. The first prototype Beetle was produced by Dr. Ferdinand Porsche in 1935. It was first imported into the U.S. in 1949 and by 1972 over 15 million of these autos had been produced.

1974 saw the last German manufactured Bug. Production of the cute little autos continued in Brazil and Mexico. The original Beetles were only produced at the VWM plant in Puebla, Mexico after 1996. Although not generally imported into the U.S., there are several Mexican produced original bugs in our area. July 30, 2003 will see the last production of the original Bug. VWM will produce 3000 "Last Edition" Bugs this month. The last car will be sent to it's birth place, Wolfsburg, Germany.

Only the re-designed "New Beetle" is imported to the U. S. now. The latest models being the Turbo S and now the convertible.

Frank Herdt has been restoring his two 1973

VW Super Beetles (one shown above left) that he bought in 2001. One is still under restoration, the other is complete on the outside and on the way to completion on the inside.

Dennis has owned a 1965, 1971 and a 1972 original Bug. He recently purchased a 2003 Volkswagen New Beetle Turbo-S (above right). Although the new Beetles look like those of old, they are built on a completely new chassis and have a front mounted, water-cooled engine with front wheel drive.

New member Terry Huff of Terry's VW Service Center of Levittown, PA has naturally been a VW enthusiast for years also. He and family members own a number of old VW Bugs, a VW dune buggy, a VW Microbus and a Porsche. He offers a complete line of VW, Audi and Porsche repairs. Terry has among his customers members; Ruth Woelfl, Dennis Bauer, Frank Herdt and Hans Martini.

As they say, "Old beetles never die, they are either converted into dune buggies or classics!"



ANOTHER REQUEST FROM GERMANY FOR OUR NEWSLETTER

We recently received a letter from Katrin Selbmann, Librarian for the "Die Deutsche Bibliothek" located in Leipzig, Germany. This institution was founded by the booktrade of German-speaking countries over 90 years ago. It publishes the German National Bibliography and sends this publication to countries throughout the world.

In her letter to the Club she asked for copies of our past and future Trentoner Donauschwaben Nachrichten (the Club newsletter) for their library and inclusion in their bibliography. Needless to say, this is quite an honor.

The Club already sends a copy of our newsletter to the Arbeitskreis donauschwäbischer Familienforscher (AKdFF) in Sindelfingen, Germany for their library.

CANNSTATTER TO PUBLISH LANGEN KERL ARTICLE

Our Club member Helmut Lingohr is also a member and editor of the Cannstatter V.V. of Philadelphia newsletter. He recently asked and received permission to publish a copy of Steve Brandecker's article about the Langen Kerl that appeared in our last newsletter.

Thank you Helmut for your interest in our Club newsletter and it's articles. Good going Steve! Sehr Gut!

TAILORING ANYONE?

Contact any Club officer if you know of any local tailor that can make our Club men's vests. The vests are now in short supply.

Genealogy & History Section

TWO NEW DONAUSCHWABEN ANCESTOR RESOURCES NOW AVAILABLE

There are two new Donauschwaben references now available to aid you in your Donauschwaben family research ; *Ortssippenbuch Obrovac-Boroc-Oberndorf 1806-1956, Teil 1-2* and the *Familienbuch Tscheb an der Donau*.

The Ortssippenbuch Obrovac, a CD-Rom, is available from the author, Wilhelm Busch, for 45 Euros (includes postage) at 1239, Chemin De La Gaude, F-06140 Vence, France.

The Familienbuch Tscheb book is available from the AKdFF, Goldmuehle Str. 30, D-71065, Sindelfingen, Germany, for 40 Euros (includes postage).

If you have ancestors from either Obrovac/Obrowatz or Tscheb/Cseb in the Batschka obtaining copies of these references may aid you in your quest. If you want me to do a quick lookup for your possilbe ancestors contact me.

In addition my friend Josef Stefan in Germany has been working on the *Ortssippenbuch Batsch* for many years. He hopes to have this work complete some time this year. I will let you know when this book is available.

Dennis J. Bauer

LOCAL FAMILY RESEARCH AVAILABLE IN THE TRENTON AREA

We are extremely fortunate here in the Trenton area that we have both the NJ State Archives and the NJ State Library nearby. Both are great repositories for vital records, Federal censuses, NJ State censuses, city directories, newspaper research (obituaries, death notices, birth notices, divorce notices, marriage notices, etc.). You can also find the National Archives (NARA) Region Branch in nearby Philadelphia. Here you can find all of the Federal census records and ship passenger lists for the port of Philadelphia. We also have two Mormon Family History Centers nearby in Princeton, NJ and Morrisville, PA.

Here are the addresses, phone numbers and web sites for these useful repositories:

NJ State Archives, 225 W. State Street, Level 2, Trenton, NJ 08625, (609) 292-6260. www.state.nj.us/state/darm/links/archives.html

NJ State Library, 225 W. State Street, Trenton, NJ 08625, (609) 292-6220. www.njstatelib.org

National Regional Archives, 9th & Chestnuts St., Philadelphia, PA 19107, (215) 597-3000

Princeton Family history Center, Canal Pointe Blvd., Princeton, NJ , (609) 452-0802

Morrisville Family History Center, 1204 Pine Grove Road, Morrisville, PA 19076, (215) 295-9628

If you have any questions either contact Dennis Bauer or our President Joe Brandecker. They both have spent many hours using some of these facilities for family research.

LOCAL DONAUSCHWABEN CEMETERIES

Many of our Club dearly departed members are buried in either Our Lady of Lourdes or the adjacent Holy Sepulchre Cemeteries in Hamilton Township, Mercer County, NJ., just outside Trenton proper.

Our Lady of Lourdes Cemetery, northwest of Cedar Lane on Woolsey Street, predates the 1900s with over 4,000 tombstones. It is operated by the Conventual Franciscans and covers over 32 acres. Death dates as early as 1861 can be found and many of those buried here are Italian, Slovak, Hungarian and Yugoslavian immigrants. Many of these were Donauschwaben.

Nearby Holy Sepulchre Cemetery on Cedar Lane contains up to 4,000 headstones. Also known as St. Francis Cemetery, it dates back to the early 20th century. It covers about 8 acres and is the burial site for many of our Donauschwaben also.

Other local cemeteries in the area where local Donauschwaben are buried include; Greenwood Cemetery, Riverside Cemetery, and St. Mary's Cemeteries in Trenton, NJ and the Morrisville Cemetery in Morrisville, PA and the Holy Trinity Cemetery in Yardley, PA.

Genealogy & History Section (Continued)

The German-Hungarian 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 K-I 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. This complete list can also be found on the Club web site under genealogy.

The magazine, written in German, was 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. During its publication, the magazines listed between 10-15 thousand North American Donauschwaben.

Trenton, NJ

KAMRAT, Georg and Maria NEUGSCHWENDER, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1224 Genesee St.
 KAMRAT, Josef and Barbara WIST, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 355 Cummings Ave.
 KAMRAT, widow, Anna, nee EPPLI, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 103 Marshall Ave.
 KAMRATH, Jakob, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, and Anna ABEL, from Gajdobra, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 250 Howell St.
 KAPP, Florian and Elisabeth OFFENBECHER, from Brestowatz, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1471 Cedar Ln.
 KELLER, Franz, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, and Katharina BAUER, from Segenthau, Banat, Romania, 864 Centre St.
 KELLER, Johann, and Eva WEBER, from Paraput, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 721 Adeline St.
 KELLER, John, from Paraput, Batschka, Yugoslavia, and Mary SCHUMACHER, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 216 Hewitt St.
 KELLER, Josef, from Paraput, Batschka, Yugoslavia, and Eva WOLF, from Palanka, Princeton Road.
 KELLER, Valentin, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, and Anna FELDENZER, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 120 Hewitt St.
 KEMPF, Phillip, from Paraput, Batschka, Yugoslavia, and Katharina HEIM, from Brestowatz, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 221 Rusling St.
 KERSCH, widow, Anna, nee PURR, from Paraput, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 194 Grand Ave.
 KIRCHHOFER, Martin, from Filipowa, Batschka, Yugoslavia, Eva MAYER, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 349 Morris Ave.
 KIRSCH, Sebastian, from Paraput, Batschka, Yugoslavia, and Katharina SÜSZ, from Kreuzstätten, Banat, 1712 S. Broad St.
 KISS, Peter, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1202 Chestnut Ave.
 KISS, widow, Magdalena, nee STETTNER, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1202 Chestnut Ave.
 KLEER, Martin, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 227 Howell St.
 KLEIN, widow, Elisabeth SCHENDLINGER, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1137 Chambers St.
 KLEIN, Lorenz and Elizabeth BÜCHLER, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 10 West St.
 KLEIN, widow, Maria, nee HEIM, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 301 Cummings Ave.
 KLEIN, Mathias, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, and Katharina KAMP, from Csene, Banat, Romania, 285 Ashmore Ave.
 KLESPIES, Franz, and Anna SCHWEDEMANN, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 510 Liberty St.
 KOENIG, Franz and Eva RESCH, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 94 West St.
 KOHL, Johann, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, and Maria HAUS, from Hodschag, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 326 Rusling St.
 KOHL, widow, Mary, nee HAUS, from Hodschag, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 326 Rusling St.
 KORNFELD, Johann, and Elisabeth BURG, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 5 Howell St.
 KRÁMER, Philip, from Tovaros and Elisabeth MILLA, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 907 Hamilton Ave.
 KREILING, Nikolaus, from Klein-Betschkerek, Banat, and Anna BERG, from Dreispitz, Banat, 20 Kearney Ave.
 KRON, Jakob, from Kisteremia, Banat, and Maria HEIM, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 301 Anderson St.
 KUHN, Josef, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, and Pauline HEINZL, from Neusatz, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 204 Howell St.
 KUNTER, Mathias and Anna WELSCH, from Bukin, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1706 S. Clinton Ave.
 KUNTZ, widow Regina, nee WÜRTZ, from Ernestinova, Slavonia, 227 Hewitt St.
 LAGYIK, widow Elisabeth KELLER, from Rudolfsnad, Banat, Yugoslavia, 14 West St.
 LANG, Barbara, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 31 Hewitt St.
 LAUDENBACH, Andreas, from Ernestinovo, Slavonia, and Eva SCHANTZ, from Filipowa, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 379 Hewitt.
 LEH, Josef, from Filipowa, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Anna KUHN, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1840 S. Clinton Ave.
 LEPOLD, Martin, from Filipowa, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Anna MAROSOVITZ, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, Quakerbridge Rd.
 LEPOLD, Michael, and Theresa BOFTSCHEK, from Filipowa, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 61 LaFayette Ave.
 LEPOLD, widow Magdalena, from Filipowa, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 61 LaFayette Ave.
 LEROTH, John, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, and Rosa Singler, from Bukin, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 226 Rustling St.
 LIEBLANG, Jakob, from Orolik, Srem and Katharina ROHRBACHER, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 153 Ashmore Ave.
 LINK, Andreas, from Brestowatz, Batschka, Yugoslavia, and Maria WILHELM, from Deta, Temesch, 706 William St.
 LOIDL, Rosalia LOLDL, from Hodschag, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1046 Franklin St.
 LOTSPEICH, Adam, and Maria BUSCH, from Gajdobra, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 72 LaFayette Ave.

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, Newsletter Editor
Dana Miles/Edward Soden— Web Masters *Adam Martini*— Newsletter Staff Writer



CLUB'S NEW WEB SITE DOMAIN NAME & LOCATION

With the help of member Ed Soden, we now have our own domain name and location. It is now **www.trentondonauschwabem.com**. There is an automatic link to the new address from that of our old **www.geocities.com/~donauschwabem**.

We will be updating and making a few changes to the Club web site this summer, but the excellent layout and format will pretty much stay the same as originally designed by member and web master, Dana Miles.

The Club wants to take this opportunity to thank Dana and Ed for their fine efforts. We are truly proud of our web site and have received many fine compliments on it.

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

Addition to last newsletter: **Heidi & Lori Kornfeld** were inadvertently left out of Liz Tindall's article "Memories of Christmas Past at the Club". They were both part of past Christmas pageants. Heidi currently lives in Florida and Lori in Newtown, PA. Sorry for the error.

Geburtstag: **Josef "Sepp" Brandecker** celebrated his 75th Birthday in June. Happy Birthday & many, many more!

Gute Besserung: A "Get Well Soon" to any and all members who have been ill since our last newsletter.

Willkommen: A heartfelt welcome the following new members; **Harold and Pat Huff** from Levittown, PA.

Terry, Mary Beth, Patrick, Colin and Ashley Huff from Langhorne, PA. Terry and his father, Harold, have been supporters of the Club's events for some time. Terry (Terry's VW Service Center) has also been a kind sponsor of our Club newsletter.

Ruth Woelfl of Morrisville, PA.

Johann and Maria Wiegand of Jackson, NJ.

We are glad to have you among our ranks.

Passing: Member **Elisabeth Fritz Mueller** died 4 June 2003. Born in Yugoslavia, Elisabeth was also a member of the German American Club. She was the wife of the late Nicholas Mueller. Frau Mueller was a long time active supporter of our Club. Those of us that knew her will miss her kind hearted nature and good humor.

Herr **Stefan Reger**, a founding member of the Club, died in May 2003 in Germany (see related article on page 10). A memorial service was held 26 June 2003 at Knott Funeral Home here in Trenton.

Danke: A special thanks to member **Ed Soden** for acquiring our new web site domain address, importing the old format to the new site. He also gave members Dennis Bauer, Steve Brandecker and Joe Brandecker a crash course in Microsoft Front Page (a web site management program) on Tuesday night 25 June 2003. We hope we can remember all that you showed us. Sincerely, Dennis, Steve and Joe.

Geburt: **Rosa & Joe Wildmann** became great-grandparents! News reports from the North Carolina branch of the Trenton Donauschwaben herald the arrival of **Lydia Marie Chale**, just a few weeks ago. Congrats & best wishes to the whole extended Wildmann family.

Deutsche Ecke, Seite 1



Fortsetzung von Adam Martini's „Bau und Möbeltischler“ aus unserer letzten Rundschreibung...

Der Klassenunterricht bestand aus fünf Fächern und Werkstattarbeit. Man lernte über Schriftverkehr und Gewerbekunde, über Wirtschaftsrechnen, Fachzeichnen, Fachrechnen und Fachkunde. Im dritten Jahr hatten wir noch zwei Fächer, eines war Staatsbürgerkunde und das andere die Buchführung. Am Ende des Kurses gab es ein Zeugnis, dieses war auch wichtig bei der Gesellenprüfung. Diese Kurse waren sehr wichtig für unseren Beruf, man lernte viel was dann die Arbeit sowie das allgemeine Berufsleben leichter machte. Wir alle mussten uns den strengen Regeln beugen, den wen einer aus der Reihe tanzte, dann wurde er einfach entlassen und das war dann auch das Ende der Tischlerlaufbahn.

So nach drei Jahren Arbeit in der Werkstatt in Ostermiething und drei mal sieben Wochen in der Berufsschule in Mattighofen kam der grosse Tag, eigentlich die grosse Woche der Gesellenprüfung.

Die Prüfung zu meiner Zeit wurde von der Tischlerinnung geleitet, es ist ein Verband der Bau und Möbeltischlermeister im Bezirk Braunau am Inn. Für die Prüfung musste ich nach Braunau fahren. In einer, mir fremden Tischlerei, einen Bücherschrank bauen unter dem Meister der Tischlerei und dann zu einem Sammelplatz in Braunau bringen mit all den anderen Prüflingen. Für das Gesellenstück, also in meinem Falle, ein kleiner Bücherschrank aus Kirschbaum, hatte man eine Woche Zeit. Dort wurden unsere Arbeiten in einem Gasthaus aufgestellt und von drei bis fünf Meistern begutachtet. Die Lehrer von Mattighofen waren auch dort und gaben uns schriftliche Prüfungen im Fachrechnen, Fachkunde, Schriftverkehr, Buchführung, Fachzeichnen und Planlesen und Übungen in der Preissetzung und dem Verlust Erlaubnis des Materials, also Preisvoranschläge. Diese schriftliche Prüfung dauerte fast den ganzen Tag. So zirka drei oder vier Uhr Nachmittags trafen wir uns dann in einem Nebenraum und bekamen den lang ersehnten Gesellenbrief, sowie das Lehrzeugnis und das Gesellenprüfungszeugnis. Leider haben nicht alle die Prüfung bestanden. Die die durchgefallen sind mussten innerhalb eines Jahres wieder eine ähnliche Prüfung ablegen.

Jedenfalls ich war jetzt ein Bau und Möbeltischler wie mein Vater, Grossvater und Urgrossvater. Es machte mich sehr stolz an diesem Tag und ich war froh das die Lehrzeit vorbei war. Ich war jetzt gut vorbereitet in der Holzverarbeitung sowie allen damit verbundenen technischen und schriftlichen Belange.

Ich muss gestehen dass die Holzverarbeitung mich auch heute noch total interessiert, ich bin 66 Jahre alt und arbeite weiter mit unserem älteren Sohn Hans, der sich auch für die Holzarbeit entschieden hat und seine eigene Firma leitet.

Vielleicht ist es von Interesse was man so verdiente als Lehrling in Österreich in den Jahren 1952 bis 1955.

Im ersten Lehrjahr, wochentlich 48 Stunden oder auch mehr – 37.- Schilling.

Im zweiten Jahr – 52.- Schilling und im dritten Jahr waren es 110.- Schilling. Damals war der Dollar 26.- Schilling zu einem Dollar.

Ein typischer Brauch in der Batschka und vielleicht auch anderswo, war die Wanderung der Gesellen. Nach der Gesellenprüfung nahm man damals seinen Bündel und wanderte von Dorf zu Dorf in der Suche nach Arbeit. Da gab es ein ungeschriebenes Gesetz, dass, wenn ein Geselle, sagen wir ein Tischler, bei einer Tischlerei um einen Arbeitsplatz fragte, durfte er dort eine Nacht als Gast schlafen, um dann am nächsten Tag wieder weiter zuwandern. Hatte aber der Meister genug Arbeit, dann liess er den Gesellen bei ihm arbeiten. Auf diese Art lernten die Gesellen viele neue Methoden die sie in ihrem Beruf anwenden konnten.

Wie so Vieles was früher selbstverständlich war, ist auch dieser Brauch der Gesellenwanderung, heute nicht mehr denkbar. Es ist ein grosser Verlust. Die moderne Welt hat für so etwas nichts mehr übrig. Heute ist fast jeder ein Spezialist, mit dem Computer als sein nächster Mitarbeiter, also isoliert und abgeschnitten von allen menschlichen Beziehungen.

Wir Donauschwaben erinnern uns aber noch auf die Zeiten, wenn die Arbeit nur von Menschen verrichtet wurden und nicht von Maschinen und Computers.

Die Vereinigung der Donauschwaben, Ortsgruppe Trenton, versucht immer das Alte mit dem Neuen zu verbinden. Helft mit, macht mit, ihr werdet es nicht bereuen. Auf wiedersehen bei den Donauschwaben.



Deutsche Ecke, Seite 2



“A Donauschwaben Refugee’s Story“. Translation of Adam Martini’s German Article by Hans Martini (Continuation of last newsletter’s)

Our time at school found us studying five different subjects along with instruction time in the workshop. One learned how to conduct proper correspondence and client relations; cost analysis and drafting; pricing and advertising. In the third year, an extra two subjects were added: citizenship and accounting. At the end of the class work, a report card was issued which also had relevance for the journeyman’s examination. This course of study was very important for our profession, we learned ways to make the work easier and everyday life easier. We students had to go by the rules of the school and could not deviate from them. To do so meant expulsion and an abrupt end to one’s woodworking ambitions.

So, after three years as an apprentice in Ostermiething and three seven-week courses at the school in Mattighofen the big day finally arrived. Actually, the big week finally arrived: the weeklong journeyman examination. In my time, the journeyman’s exam was conducted by a committee of mastercraftsmen from the area of Braunau on the river Inn. For my exam, I had to build a bookcase in an unfamiliar workshop under the watchful eye of the mastercraftsman. From there, we would go to an assembly area with all the other journeyman candidates. I had a week’s time to make the cherry bookcase and was then to place the piece on display along with everyone else’s. A five-member panel of mastercraftsmen then judged the items.

At the same time, my teachers from Mattighofen were on hand to give exams in all of the aforementioned subject matter: drafting, accounting, etc. This written part of the examination process lasted almost the entire day. Around three or four in the afternoon all of the journeyman candidates gathered for the results to be announced. Unfortunately, not everyone passed the rigorous examination and those who did not would have to repeat the whole process within a year’s time. In any event, I was now a fully trained woodworker just like my father, grandfather, and great grandfather before me. I was a proud guy on that day and was relieved my education was at an end. I was now well prepared for a career in woodworking.

I am pleased to say that I still enjoy woodworking tremendously

and now, at the age of 66, am working with my son, Hans. He also opted for a career in woodworking and has been in business for quite some time.

It may interest our readers to know that as an apprentice from 1952-55 I earned 37 Schilling for a 48 hour workweek during the first year. During the second, I earned 52 Schilling per week and by the third year, it was 110 Schilling per week. In those days, a Schilling was worth just about 4 cents!

One other item of interest: Back when I was growing up, an institution in the Donauschwaben towns of the Batschka (and elsewhere) was the journeyman taken by the journeyman craftsman. Right after his examination, the journeyman would grab his bag and go from town to town in search of work. There was an unwritten rule, that when a journeyman came knocking at the door of a mastercraftsman’s shop, he could always stay over night free. The next day the journeyman would then go on his way in search of work. Of course, if the master of the shop had enough work, he would then employ the journeyman for a while. In this way, the journeyman would learn a variety of methods and techniques from which he would benefit throughout his professional life

You know, the journeyman tradition was an accepted and integral part of everyday life back then. Today, such an idea is unthinkable. It’s a shame that our modern society has no room for something so valuable and worthwhile. Especially with the advent of the computer age, people are becoming increasingly isolated from each other. We Donauschwaben remember well those wonderful times, when work could only be performed by people and not high-tech machines and computers!

The Danube Swabian Association of Trenton is always striving to tie old traditions together with the new. Be a part of our activities and undertakings, we’re sure you’ll find it most worthwhile. See you at the Donauschwaben.



Deutsche Ecke, Seite 3

SIND WIR DIE LETZTEN SCHWOWE

Am ersten Juni war ich wieder auf der Wallfahrt in Philadelphia. (see photos on page 11). Die Donauschwaben – Verein Philadelphia, New York und Trenton gedenken zu dieser Zeit (mit einer deutschen Messe) an alle die in den kommunistischen Lagern ihr Leben verloren haben. Während der Messe sass ich auf der zweiten Stufe des Altares, mit dem Blick auf die Anwesende. Viele von ihnen waren im hohen Alter, mit grauen oder weissen Haaren (sowie meine eigene). In der ersten Bank sassen ein dutzend Kinder in farbenfrohen Trachten. Auch eine gut Anzahl von jungen Leute gab es und wie ich es vorher betonte, der Rest und der Grossteil der Anwesenden waren alte Schwowe. Man sah es in ihnen, dass sie Schwowe sind. Ist es im Gesicht oder ist es ein Blick, ich weiss es nicht, aber ich spüre wer sie sind. Vielleicht ist es darum, weil ich auch ein Schwob bin.

Ich bin 1935 in Batschka Palanka geboren. Besuchte dort die erste Klasse im Kloster und dann kam für mich der Krieg daheim. Ich durfte nicht auf's Feld, es gab keine Schule mehr und viele von meinen Freunden waren nicht mehr da. Es kam ein Tag in 1944 wo uns die Pistole von Partisaner aus unserem Haus zwang und wir die Ersten waren, im Lager Jareck. Ich war 18 Monate dort und erlebte was Hunger und Grausamkeit ist. Vom Lager wurde ich als Schafhirte an einen Bauernhof verkauft und zuletzt ging es nach Sombor wieder in ein Lager. Von dort flüchteten wir nach Österreich. April 1947 kam ich nach Graz, musste drei Jahre Schulzeit einholen und dann nach der Hauptschule wurde ich Tischler. In 1956 kam ich nach Trenton und bin noch immer da. Während all dieser Zeit wurde ich oft nach meiner Herkunft und Nationalität gefragt. Die Antwort war oft: „I was born in Jugoslavia, but I am an Austrian.“ Später war es „I am from Austria, but I am an American.“ Aha, what are you really? „Well I am a Schwob“. „What's that?“

Ja ich bin a Schwob, aber wieso? Ich war 8½ Jahre alt als ich von daheim weg musste. Ich habe gewisse Erinnerungen von Palanka (der alten Heimat) aber sah die Leute, die Stadt und das Leben mit den Augen eines Kindes. Dann das Lager, wo das Wichtigste war es zu überleben. In Österreich war ich anfangs ein gehasster Ausländer und in Amerika ein Greenhorn. Was alles diese Einflüsse von anderen Ländern und Kulturen überlebte und in mir geblieben ist, ist das Bewusstsein und auch der Stolz, ein Schwob zu sein.

Ich kenne die alte Heimat nicht so gut wie die meisten der Anwesenden die ich in der Kirche sah, oder die viele alte Freunde die mir in meinem Leben begegneten. Es waren meine Eltern, Grosseltern und die Landsleute die mich zu einem Schwob erzogen haben.

Sie lehrten mich, was gute Arbeit ist, der Begriff von Ehre, Fleiss und Glauben. Oft war es für mich eine harte Lehre (besonderst in meinen jungen Jahren), aber jetzt wo ich einer von den letzten Schwowe bin der sich noch an daheim erinnern kann, war es die beste Lehre die mir gegeben wurde. Nach vielem Nachdenken und manchen Diskussionen mit meinem Freund Adam Martini, kam ich zum Beschluss, dass wir die

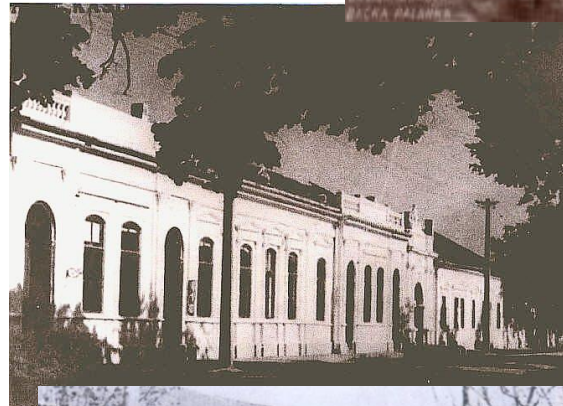
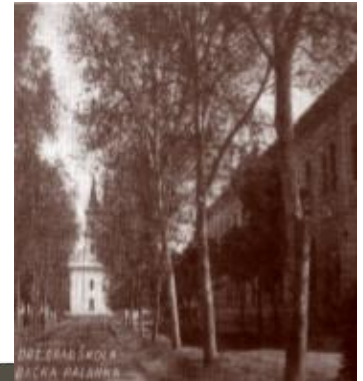
Jüngste von daheim, nicht the letzte richtige Schwowe sind. In unseren Kindern und oft in Enkelkinder, sehe und merke ich vieles was uns gelehrt wurde. Manche von uns übertragen noch die alte Muttersprache und Gebräuche aber auch diese, die sich vollkommen Amerika angeschlossen haben, geben ihren Kindern vieles vom „Schowischem“ mit. Wenn ihr (Leser) mir das nicht glaubt, so schaut's euch eure und unsere Kinder an.

Nein ich bin nicht einer von den letzten richtigen Schwowe, es gibt noch viele mehr, die nach mir kommen.

Andreas Franz

Herr Andy Franz ist ein treues Mitglied der Vereinigung der Trentoner Donauschwaben. Er ist jetzt im Ruhestand und man sieht ihn oft im Verein der Donauschwaben und bei vielen unserer Unternehmungen.

Scenes from around Palanka



Deutsche Ecke, Seite 4

“ARE WE THE LAST DONAUSCHWABEN?” a translation of Andy Franz’s article by Hans Martini

On the 1st of June, I was again part of the group making the annual pilgrimage to the Shrine of St. John Neumann in Philadelphia (see photos on page 11). Each year, the Donauschwaben clubs of Philadelphia, New York and Trenton lead a commemorative mass in honor of those who perished in the communist death camps, 1944-48. During the mass, I sat just in front of the altar, facing the congregation. Many of assembled participants were of the older generation, with hair of gray or white – just like mine. Yet, in the first row of pews I saw a dozen youngsters in colorful traditional garb. Young people were also well represented but, as mentioned before, I’m convinced most were older Donauschwaben. How I know they were Donauschwaben, I’m not really sure. Perhaps it was in their faces, possibly it was just a feeling I had. Maybe it’s just because I, like them, am a Schwob.

I was born in the Donauschwaben town of Batschka Palanka in 1935. It was home for me until the first grade. It was then that WWII came crashing home to our town. I wasn’t allowed to go anywhere, school was closed and my friends were mostly gone. Along came that day in 1944 when a communist partisan, brandishing a pistol, forced us from our house and into the “internment” camp called Jarek. I spent some 18 unhappy months there, finding out first hand what hunger and cruelty were really like. I was then made an “indentured servant”, serving as a shepherd for some farmer. Eventually, I ended up in another camp at Sombor: from where I would finally escape to freedom in Austria.

April 1947 found me in the historic city of Graz, Austria, where I caught up with the three school years I missed. Then it was on to high school and training for a career as a woodworker. In 1956, I arrived in Trenton and have lived in this area ever since. Over the many years since leaving Palanka, I’ve been often asked about my ethnicity and nationality. At first I said: “I was born in Yugoslavia, but I’m an Austrian.” Then I said: “I’m from Austria, but I’m an American.” “Ahhh,” it would be said: “but what are you *really*?” “Well, I’m a Schwob.” To which it was replied: “What’s that?”

Yes, I’m a Schwob, but why? After all, I was just 8 ½ when I had to leave my home. I certainly have memories of Palanka, but I saw the people, the town and the everyday life there through the eyes of a child. Then came the camps, where the most important thing was survival. In Austria I was resented as a burdensome refugee/foreigner and in America I was called a “greenhorn.” Believe it or not, what all of these experiences taught me was a pride in my Donauschwaben identity!

You know, I really don’t know the town of my birth as well as many of those present in the church that day. It was, in fact, my parents, grandparents and countrymen (Landsleute) who gave me a Donauschwaben identity over the years.

They taught me the value of hard work, the concept of honorable behavior, diligence, and belief in God. Often it was a hard lesson to learn (especially when I was younger). Now that I’m slowly becoming one of the last Donauschwaben who re-

members what our home was like, it can be said that it was one of the best lessons I could have learned. After much reflection and considerable discussion, especially with my friend, Adam Martini, I’ve concluded that while we are the last of those from the Donauschwaben towns, we aren’t the last Donauschwaben. I see much of what was taught to me in the way our children and grandchildren behave and believe. Many of us carry over the mother tongue and traditions to our children, but even those who have “Americanized” seem to pass something Donauschwaben along to their children. If you don’t believe, just check out our children!

No, I’m not the last of the real Donauschwaben, there are still many to come long after me.

Andreas Franz

Note: Mr. Franz is a loyal member of the Trenton Donauschwaben. He is a retired woodworker and teacher who supports many of the undertakings of our organization.

Scenes from around Palanka




Newsletter Advertisers and Sponsors

Membership Sponsors:

- * *Familie Theresia u. Josef Bohn und Marlene Novosel* *
- * *Frau Anna Hahn in memory of husband Anton* *
- * *Frau Katie Helleis* *
- * *Frau Käthe Marx* *
- * *Herr Otto Kraus* *
- * *Familie James & Kathleen Lieblang*
- * *Herr Harold Million* *
- * *Familie Szmuto in memory of Carl & Eva Frey* *
- * *Familie Rosa & Peter Kernast* *
- Familie Hilda & Francis Szmuto* *

Please visit member John Feldenzer's PALANKA WEBSITE at: www.feldenzer.com

John posts articles from our newsletter and has a link to our web page.



Martini's Woodwork
Made to Order Furniture & Cabinetry

HANS & ADAM MARTINI
112 Smith Avenue
Hamilton, NJ 08619-3424

(609) 586-6109
FAX (609) 586-8713




Terry's Service Center
PA State Inspection
Service & Parts For Volkswagens & Other Foreign Makes

9198 New Falls Road
Levittown, PA 19054
(215) 736-1915

Established 1978
Celebrating Our 20th Anniversary

STEVE MAYER



MAYER'S
Heating and Cooling
Est. 1958
Sales • Service • Installation
Residential • Commercial

1465 Klockner Road
Hamilton, NJ 08619
Email: mayershvac@netzero.net


Ph: 609-586-6674
Fax: 609-586-1309

Chain - Link - Wire

HERDT FENCING

123 Crosswicks - Bordentown Road
Crosswicks, N.J. 08515


298-3183 **298-2201**



KNOTT'S
Colonial Funeral Home

Robert V. Knott - Manager

2946 South Broad Street
Hamilton, New Jersey 08610
Tel. (609) 888-4723
Fax (609) 888-0775
knottfuneralhome@aol.com



Dennis Jacob Bauer, M.S.
49 Conifer Road
Levittown, PA
19057-1718
Genealogy & Family History

Member: Association of Professional Genealogists, National Genealogical Society, Bucks County Genealogical Society, Arbeitskreis donauschwäbischer Familienforscher (AKdFF), Historical Society of Schuylkill County, PA
Phone: 215-945-9089
d.bauer@juno.com d.bauer@worldnet.att.net

MEMBER OF NJ & NY BARS

EDWARD J. BUTRYM
ATTORNEY AT LAW

RUHLMAN & BUTRYM, P.A.

1 WASHINGTON CROSSING ROAD, P.O. BOX 146, PENNINGTON, NJ 08534
PHONE: (609) 737-9300 FAX: (609) 737-0992
email: edbutrym@msn.com

Remembering Stefan Reger by Hans Martini

It is with sadness that we must report on the death of one of our founders, Herr Stefan Reger, some four weeks ago. It's an unhappy coincidence that we had just listed him as one of two surviving club founders in our last newsletter. Active in the Donauschwaben/German community for many years, Herr Reger also served as Club President at the neighboring German American Society. We note with gratitude his many contributions and would like to convey our sincere condolences to his family and friends.

Herr Reger, a Donauschwabe from Filipowa, lived in Germany at the end of his life after decades spent in this country as a loyal and hardworking American citizen. The reason for his return to Germany is arguably a black mark on this otherwise wonderful country of ours. Like so many youngsters, Herr Reger was a member of the German Armed Forces toward the end of the war. As a seventeen year old conscript, Reger was neither guilty of committing any war crimes nor was he ever accused of doing anything wrong during his time as a lowly private. It bears repeating that no one ever said he did anything wrong during his military service. It was in fact an omission on his visa application when he came to this country after the war that tripped him up. He was told by the authorities in Austria to keep information on his whereabouts during the war to a minimum in order to speed his visa application along. For decades, this was never a problem for anyone in our government and Reger went about his life as a successful masonry contractor, family man and citizen.

Sadly, in the late 1980s, a unit of our country's Justice Department called the "Office of Special Investigations" went after Stefan Reger with the full weight and backing of the US government. It was thought by many in our community that politics trumped the rights of the individual in this particular case. The OSI, as it was known, seemed intent on prosecuting anyone with ties to any of the military organizations of their watch list. They used this visa application omission, a seemingly insignificant technicality, in order to overturn his citizenship. There was no presumption of innocence and no court-provided legal defense. Had he chosen to stay, he would have gone broke defending himself - and probably ended up loosing against such tremendous odds. He chose, instead, to sell his home, say goodbye to family and friends and start another life in Germany.

Nothing could be done to change the inevitable. A couple of our club members, including the late Peter Kiss, along with the presidents of the other Trenton clubs met with a local state representative over the matter. Unfortunately, nothing could be done by the well intentioned politician. Even Bishop Reiss of Trenton sent an impassioned letter to the Justice Department asking for a reconsideration of the case. In the mean time, the media sensationalized the story in what many considered a wholly unobjective fashion. The resulting feeling of helplessness and injustice left many in our community angry and frustrated. It was a most unfortunate and unhappy incident, one we felt compelled to recall on the occasion of Herr Reger's passing.

Club Activity Pictures –Past & Present



June 2003 Pine Barrens Canoe Trip

Left to right, top: Joe Brandecker, Joe Brandecker Jr., Markus Mayer, Alex Jakober, Ludwig Jakober, Steve Brandecker & Brittany Brandecker. Bottom row: Abaigael Mayer, Steve Mayer & Kelli Mayer.



Club Apartment prior to the Spring 2003 re-siding



Club Apartment the after the Spring 2003 re-siding



Philly-Trenton Dance Group 2003 at Philly Club



Genocide Memorial Service at St. Peter’s Church in Philly June 2003



**Genocide Memorial Service at St. Peter’s Church in Philly
(Our “New” Donauschwaben)**



Left to right: Sepp Brandecker, Andy Franz, Ludwig Jakober, Harold Parr, Adam Mattes, Christian Matico and Joseph Brandecker

Genocide Memorial Service at St. Peter’s Church in Philly June 2003

Club Events for the Summer 2003

EVENTS— DATES & TIMES

Come out and join us!

- Kanufahr/Zelteln (Canoe/Camping Trip)
4th of July Weekend at Red Barn Campgrounds, Hankins, NY.
- Sommerspiessbratenessen (Pig Roast),
Sunday, 20 July, 1pm.
- National Donauschwaben Treffen,
Mansfield, OH, Labor Day Weekend.
- German Heritage Fest, Hormel, NJ,
Sunday, 14 September., 10am on.
- Steuben Day Parade, Philadelphia, PA,
Saturday, 27 September, 1pm.
- Erntedankfestessen, (Sauerbraten)
Sunday, 28 September, 1pm.

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

www.
trentondonauschwaben.com

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. We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you again soon.



Auf Wiedersehen bei den Donauschwaben!

Vereinigung der Donauschwaben Trenton, New Jersey gegründet 1956

Wir danken dem Mitglied

Josef "Sepp" Brandecker

für seine selbstlosen Leistungen und für seine Treue zu
Familie, Heimat und Freunde.

With gratitude and admiration do the members of the
Donauschwabern recognize the many years of extraordinary ser-
vice by Josef Brandecker on the occasion of his 75th birthday.
His kindness, personal integrity and dedication to the club serve
as a fine example to all.

We wish our good friend happiness and health in the years
ahead.

Herr Josef Brandecker wir danken Ihnen!

Josef Brandecker, Jr., Präsident
Dennis Bauer, 1. Vizepräsident
Harold Parr, Direktor
Josefa Brandecker, Frauenschaftsleiterin
Ludwig Jakober, Schatzmeister
Hans Martini, Sekretär

Juni, 2003

(This was the inscription on a plaque presented to Herr Bran-
decke at his 75th Birthday Party for his dedicated service to
the Club).