

Trentoner Donauschwaben Nachrichten

Volume 4 Issue 3



July-September 2004

Points of Interest

- Eight million Germans have settled in the U.S. over the last 300 years of our history.
- Germantown, in Philadelphia, was settled by Germans from the Rhine valley in 1683.
- Germans were present at the 1608 Jamestown, VA settlement.
- Rhinelander, Peter Minuit, was director of the Dutch colony on Manhattan Island in 1626.
- The first German settlers to America were farmers, followed by craftsman and then cottage industry workers.
- These settlers were first from Southwest Germany, then from the Northwest & West and finally from the Northeast regions of Germany.
- The search for religious freedom brought the first German settlers.
- Source: Carpathia Nachrichten, Spring 2004. Sterling Heights, MI.

Philadelphia Pilgrimage

Lead by the indefatigable Frau Käthe Marx and Philly club president, Fred Gauss, the area Donauschwaben community made its 26th pilgrimage to St. Peter's Church in Philadelphia to commemorate the events of 1944-48. Our club was represented by almost 20 members and was lead by our own president, Joe Brandecker. As always, the Trenton contingent played an important role in this undertaking with our trade-mark white crosses being the most recognizable contribution. The crosses bear the names of the various camps and locations where so many Donauschwaben suffered and perished.

This year's service was attended by around 180 people including a large number from three Philadelphia choral groups. They sang a wonderful rendition of the Franz Schubert mass, filling the grand looking cathedral with a most inspiring sound. Thanks to Father Englebert Michel for doing another good job with the service. He's definitely been a huge supporter of the German community over the years and can always be counted on to be there when needed.

Special mention should be made of two of our fine young members, Brittany Brandecker and Anna Martini, who wore the traditional white Trachts. They joined two of Philly's young ladies as the carriers of the statue of Mary, the mother of Jesus. Unfortunately, not only can't they sit down the entire time, they can't even walk down the church steps without going backwards! But the effect of their outfits never fails to impress and we are all most appreciative for their participation. Thanks to everyone who came from our club and especially to those who came in Tracht.

After the service, 18 of our club members converged on the Philadelphia Donauschwaben Club for refreshments and a tasty lunch. The joint Philly-Trenton Dance Group performed to everyone's delight, with Fred Gauss's son, Matt, leading the way. The Trenton contingent consisted of Lyla Lenyo, Brittany and Joe Brandecker and Anna and Luisa Martini. So, with their respective sisters, Mary, Greta and Christina looking on,

the gang did a great job whirling and twirling their way through the folks-dances. It was a very nice way to end the day. Hans Martini.

Farewell President Reagan 1911-2004 "Tear down this wall!"

The year was 1987 and the place was Berlin, West Germany - right in front of the famous Brandenburg Gate. Reagan's "tear down this wall" speech resounded around the world as yet another challenge to the Soviets to loosen their grip on Europe. President Reagan's words were prophetic as within a few short years the wall came tumbling down and East and West Germany were united as one.

Just recently we witnessed this president's funeral and reflected on his time in office. Although Alzheimer's sadly claimed his memory years ago, Reagan (president from 1980 - 1988) remained an icon for many and earned at least the grudging respect from those across the political isle for his abilities. As we watched his family and so many Americans mourn his passing at the age of 93, we recall that the world was a very different place in the 1980's. For Americans of German descent, Reagan helped create a dramatic and electrifying series of changes that lead to the eventual re-unification of Germany just a year and a half after he left office. It was a dream come true for Germans everywhere.

Historians will forever argue the precise influence Ronald Reagan had on the course of events in Europe. There can be no denying, however, that he was in the right place at the right time to push along the process of German reunification and the end of communism. Remember the issue of putting missiles into Germany to counter the threat from the "Evil Empire"? How about the whole brouhaha over honoring the war dead at Bitburg cemetery in 1985? By all accounts, Reagan also had a good relationship with then German Chancellor Kohl that undoubtedly helped both countries' self-interest. There can be no doubt that by the end of the 1980's, Germany's importance and influence in Europe and the world was growing and growing fast.

And so, the Donauschwaben Club notes the passing of President Ronald Reagan. May he rest in Peace. Dennis & Hans

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Club Matters & Members



SERVICE IN THE BALKANS

Donauschwabener Club member Markus Novosel (right) and Sgt. Weil take time out during a mission somewhere in Bosnia. Markus, a major in a Michigan National Guard Artillery unit (and

the son of Frau Marlene Novosel and grandson of Frau Theresia Bohn), is deployed in Bosnia as part of the US peace keeping force in that country. He'll be there for a nine month stint and we wish him "God Speed" and all the best as he serves our country.

Tales From a Men's Ski Trip – by Mike Lenyo

The long European tradition of downhill skiing drew me to the mountains of Park City Utah in February this year. It was a rare 'men-only' trip to meet my brother and some friends and experience those male-bonding moments only men can appreciate (Just ask Herr J and the gang about their trips to Mt. Tremblant!). These trips usually involve alcohol, crude humor, and macho stories of the day's perilous runs down the mountain. Not that the mountains are particularly perilous. On the contrary, I was referring to my skiing ability which can transform a trip down a bunny hill into a treacherous undertaking.

We landed in Salt Lake City. A beautiful place surrounded by 10,000 ft mountain ranges on three sides. After a short trip into the hills the excitement was building in anticipation of three great days of skiing ahead. We immediately took care of our first priority – a trip to the pub. My older brother John and I enjoyed the Park City micro-brew, several in fact, and even sampled the local fare of buffalo burgers. As the first long day of travel and drinking came to an end, I knew this would be a special trip.

Tuesday morning we prepped for the first big day. Loading enough boots, poles, skis, hats, gloves, and sweaters to scale Everest, we were off to the big mountains of Utah. Our friends chose to hit the biggest, fastest mountain, known as Alta (Pronounced 'Alta', as in 'Altitude', we were told). This is the same city that hosted the winter Olympics in 2000, so challenging hills were certainly available. Plus, on a men-only trip, you have to push the envelope. For my brother and me, pushing the envelope consisted of going to the closest, easiest mountain, Park City. On this beautiful sunny day in the mid-twenties I was surprised to see no lines and only a few skiers milling around the base, unlike the Poconos, where you elbow your way through a 10 minute lift line for a 90-second run. Yes, it was wide open with large, sweeping runs and miles of snow...what could go wrong?

As the day progressed, brother John the (gasp!) snowboarder and I did the best skiing of our lives. I counted about 20 great runs throughout the day. In the late afternoon, we decided to work our way back to the top for some great photos. I meandered down a lazy slope on the top ridge, adjusting my gloves and goggles in preparation for an upcoming steep intermediate slope to the left. John was already ripping his board down the mountain ahead of me. Approaching the end of the trail, I quickly made the left turn. I headed down the trail. Unfortunately, my left leg didn't come with me. As my body made the turn, my left leg twisted underneath as I awkwardly flopped onto the snow. Looking up at the sky I thought of two things: "What a beautiful day", and "Wow, my

leg really hurts!"

I have fallen many times over the years and my skinny rubbery limbs always seemed to right themselves. So, I figured it was time to get up and head back down the hill. My left leg, lying limp on ground, scoffed at my command to move. I swear I heard it say "You've gotta be kidding!", and it was at this point I realized I was in trouble. So I waited. And waited. And after 10 minutes, during which no one came by (did I mention it was not crowded?), I managed to stand. All hopes of skiing down the mountain were dashed when I tried to move and only scuttled across the trail to the other side, unable to turn or put any weight on my leg.

Finally a Good Samaritan came by uttering those three magic words: "Are you okay?". She notified the ski patrol and the rescue began. The Park City Ski Patrol were the nicest folks you could ever meet. As they entombed my body in the toboggan

(picture to the right) and guided me down the hill, I snapped a great picture of the Ski Patrol with mountains in the background. At the bottom I was hooked onto the back of a snowmobile that



headed off through the woods. I peeked through the wrapping and was immediately pelted in the face with snow from the back of the snowmobile. Choking on the exhaust and wiping the snow from my face, I recalled the valuable advice from the driver, who said "Dude, Keep your head down, and watch the fumes". Wise words indeed. A few minutes later I was transferred again, this time into the back of a Chevy Suburban. Flawlessly, they slid me into the back like a coordinated group of pall-bearers.

At the Urgent Care Center it was interesting to watch medical students wiggle my leg and ask the same questions repeatedly; "Is this loose? Did you hear a 'pop'? Does this hurt?". Then the doctor came in, wiggled my leg, and asked the same exact questions. The difference was that he actually came to a conclusion. "Your ACL's gone". At the time I wasn't sure what that meant, but I thought "That must be bad". Turns out, it is bad. The Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL) is a ligament that connects the tibia to the femur and now mine wasn't connected.

Later that night at dinner, the male-bonding was in full force. Our friends talked about tearing up the black diamond runs in Alta, those same runs that Hans Meier and Bode Miller raced down in the Olympics. Pretty macho stuff I must say, but they couldn't top my story: "Hey guys, did I mention my ACL's gone?". They all continued skiing the next few days while I hobbled up and down main street in Park City testing, and ultimately proving my theory that the micro-brews would also act as excellent painkillers.

After my ACL reconstruction on March 30, I am currently in physical therapy and I anticipate a full recovery. So I ask you club members, what do you think about a trip to Whistler next February? I'll meet you on the bunny hill.

Genealogy & History Section

Austrian newspaper "Die Presse", Mai-22-2004 CELEBRATION FOR DANUBE SWABIA.

Donauschwaben refugees from WWII erected a memorial cross in the cemetery at Gakowa in Serbia, site of the murder of many ethnic Germans. It will be dedicated today, Saturday, in the presence of Serbian government representatives. When combined with neighboring concentration camps, the death toll numbered some 64,000 Donauschwaben between 1944-48.

“FEIER FÜR DONAUSCHWABEN”

Die vertriebenen Donauschwaben haben auf dem Friedhof von Gakovo/Gakowa (Wojwodina) ein Gedenkkreuz zur Erinnerung an die ermordeten Deutschen errichtet. Es wird heute, Samstag, im Beisein serbischer Regierungvertreter geweiht. In den benachbarten Straflagern sind 1945 bis 1948 64.000 Donauschwaben umgebracht worden."



Johnny Weissmuller—Banater

The Banat List may be interested to know that a display honouring all emigrants from the Banat and featuring Johnny Weissmuller as an example of an immigrant to the USA in the early 1900's, will open on June 2nd. at the Donauschwäbisches Zentralmuseum in Ulm. June 2nd is the 100th anniversary of his birth and the opening ceremony will be attended by his son, Johnny Weissmuller, Jr. , members of his family as well as members of the Weissmüller family living in Germany. Information about the display may be seen on the Museum website at: www.dzm-museum.de

Scroll down to Ausstellungen then Sonderausstellungen, June 2nd. On June 5th, the Weissmuller's will be in Timisoara and there will receive a scroll honouring Johnny Weissmuller as an "honorable citizen" of the city. And on the morning of June 6th Johnny Weissmuller, Jr. will start the first Johnny Weissmuller Triathlon which includes swimming the Bega Canal. This seems like a fitting part of the race since our people dug this waterway. In the afternoon, the family will visit Freidorf, where Johnny Weissmuller was born on 2 June 1904.

I hope that all of us who are descendants of emigrants from the Banat will take a moment on June 2nd. to honour our ancestors who had the courage to leave their homes in search of a better life for their families.

Shirley Gibbard—Banat List (a Donauschwaben genealogical internet help list) May 2004.

A NEW DONAUSCHWABEN EXPERIENCE BOOK TO BE RELEASED THIS SUMMER

Having been born in Gakowa over sixty years ago and having experienced three years in the concentration camp there, I am happy to see that a fitting memorial has been placed on the field of the mass graves in Gakowa where thousands of Donauschwaben lie buried. The old cemetery in Gakowa, where my mother is buried, has also been cleared of all the high thornbushes and grasses that have kept everyone from finding the graves of their loved ones. My husband and I were there last year and found it to be impossible to find any graves of my family members. This was very sad.

I am very proud to announce that this summer, the book I have written about my life as a child in the concentration camp, the escape to Germany and the emigration to America, will be released. It is a hard cover book with pictures from many years ago. Not only do I describe my ordeals in detail, but also my husband's. He and his family left their hometown of Bezdan (a short distance from Gakowa) in 1944 before the concentration camp began. His life on the road was no picnic and the years after the war and their final journey to America is a heart warming story of survival.

If anyone might want to pre-order this book, please just email me and I will give you more information. I would be honored to have my book in your bookshelves -- it is history coming from a survivor.

The book is called: "A PEBBLE IN MY SHOE" - A Memoir by Katherine Hoeger Flotz. It is a hard cover book, almost 200 pages with many pictures from our families. The cost is \$29.95 INCLUDING SHIPPING AND HANDLING. If your club would order a number of copies, I would naturally give you a discount depending on the orders. If you wish, you can take them on assignment. The book should be ready for distribution by July. I will inform you then of the date. Thanks for all your help in my behalf.

Katherine Flotz

DONAUSCHWABEN ORAL HISTORY

Philly Club President and Trenton Club member, Fred Gauss, is heading up a Donauschwaben oral history project this year. He hopes to do interviews this summer and asks that senior members of both clubs search for pictures and documents that can give anyone a good idea of what life was like in the "old country". If you have any ideas or suggestions for this project or wish to help, please contact Fred at 215-722-4253 or Dennis Bauer at 215-945-9089. We would like to make a permanent record of our ethnic homeland and the good old days.

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 T-Z 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

TEMMER, Anton, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Magdalena HARTMANN, from Sidski, Banovzi, Srem, Yugoslavia, 71 West St.

TESLENKO, Harry, from Krasnograd, Ukraine and Barbara CRUSINS, from Munchen, Germany, 326 Jersey St.

TIEFENBACH, Frank and Anna FLESS, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 701 Schiller Ave.

TIEFENACH, Franz, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Elisabeth KOHL, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 233 Virginia Ave.

TIFFERT, Peter, from Kreustätten and Anna BAUER, from Segenthau, Banat, Romania, 1442 Liberty St.

TILGER, Josef, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Helen ZINDL, from Wekerlefalva, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 732 Franklin St.

TILGER, Karl, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Helen KIRCHNER, from Opova, Banat, Yugoslavia, 117 William St.

TRISCHLER, Martin, from Obrowatz, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Anna KAMRAD, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 235 Howell St.

VOGL, Stefan and Eva HOFFMANN, from Brestowatz, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1342 Deutz Ave.

VOLK, Nikolaus, from Perjamos and Elisabeth KIEFER, from Engelsbrunn, Banat, Romania, 1335 Genesee St.

WALTER, Franz and Apollonia KLER, from Bukin, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 218 Dickenson St.

WALTER, Jakob and Maria STOPPER, from Bukin, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 331 Cummings Ave.

WEBER, Johann, from Torontal Csene and Magdalena KLEMANN, from Klein Jecsa, Banat, Romania, 741 Franklin St.

WEBER, Peter P., from Ujbecenyö, Temes, Banat, Romania, 716 River Ave.

WELKER, Johann, from Neu Verbas, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Magdalena FLEITH, from Tschalma, Srem, 551 Emory Ave.

WENDL, Moritz, from Paraput, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Katharina FLOCK, from Tovariz, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 838 Franklin St.

WILDMANN, Stefan, from Semlin, Srem and Josefine MUSILER, from Vienna, Austria, 1501 Genesee St.

WEST, Nikolaus, from Engelsbrunn, Banat, 111 Dayton St.

WIENER, Jakob and Susan FRANK from Tschalma, Srem, 312 Roebbling Ave.

WIENER, Paul and Magdalena MÜLLER, from Tschalma, Srem, 312 Roebbling Ave.

WILDMANN, FrI. Katharina, from Semlin, Srem, 1011 Division St.

WILDMANN, Mathias and Magdalena SANTO, from Semlin, Srem, 103 Samuel St.

WILDMANN, Stefan, from Semlin, Srem, and Josefine Müller, from Vienna, Austria, 1507 Genesee St.

WILHELM, Widow Eva, nee OFNER, from Gajdobra, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 108 Hatley Ave.

WINKLER, Anton and Theresia DÖRNER, from Obrowatz, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 702 Cedar Lane

WINKLER, Georg, from Obrowatz, Batschka, Yugoslavia, and Magdalena ROHRBACHER, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 303 Ashmore Ave.

WIRTH, Johann, from Wiesenhald and Anna HAMANN, from Segenthau, Banat, Romania, 505 Emmett Ave.

WOLF, Jakob, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Francis FUCHS, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 112 Reed Ave.

WOLF, Josef and Katharina KLEIN, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 203 Forrest Ave.

WOLF, Michael, from Obrowatz, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Katharina GARTNER, from Obrowatz, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 8 Watson Ave.

YÄGER, John, from Wiesenhaid and Barbara DISZLER, from Segenthau, Banat, Romania, 1610 Chestnut Ave.

YUNGER, Michael, from Temesvar, Banat, Romania and Elisabeth RAUCH, from Ilok, Srem, 938 Franklin St.

ZAUNER, Fred, from Engelsbrunn and Anna DINGER, from Dreispitz, Banat, Romania, 50 Elm St.

ZENTNER, Jakob, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, and Maria ISEMANN, from Paraput, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 625 Adeline St.

ZINDL, Johann, from Gajdobra, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Maria BÜCHLER, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 219 Rusling St.

Membership News

2004 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' Auxilliary
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



60th ANNIVERSARY of D-DAY

As we all know, 6 June 2004 marked the 60th Anniversary of D-Day, the Allied invasion to liberate Europe from the Axis Powers. It was the largest amphibian assault in history. Many, many lives were lost on both sides. However it was the beginning of the end of World War II. The major forces included; the British, Americans, Canadians and Aussies.

It was nice to see the memorial services that took place in Normandy the weekend of the anniversary. World leaders from all over Europe were present, including Schroeder from Germany. The Banat email list received this note from Charles Amann from Lorraine, France (a fellow Donauschwaben researcher and distant Spieldenner cousin): “ *Hi, Just one word for all the people of America. Thank you for 6/6/1944!! Thanks for the D-Day! Thank you for the freedom we got!* ”

Many Americans, Canadians and Australians were products of our Pre-World War II immigrant Donauschwaben forefathers and mothers!!
Dennis J. Bauer

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

Congratulations: Christina Martini on her first Holy communion in April 2004 (picture to the right).

Anna Martini from St. Gregory the Great School & **Brittany Brandecker** from Reynolds Middle School in June. Both are 8th grade graduates.

Sean Jakober on graduation from Northern Burlington Regional High School. Sean will attend Burlington County Community College in the Fall.

Ashley Huff on graduation from Neshaminy High School and being the new owner of a 1997 VW Cabrio (convertible).

Jordan Poole, high school graduate, son of member Kathi Walter Poole and grandson of member **Tony Walter**. Jordan will attend Penn State this fall. Go Nittany Lions!!!!!!

Kirsten Lanning, high school graduate, daughter of members Karin and Rich Lanning and part of the extended Mikkelsen and Herdt families. Kirsten will attend the US Coast Guard Academy in Connecticut this fall after passing the required examinations and receiving recommendations from two members of Congress. Wow!

Congratulations also: Member **Jim LieBlang** was recently promoted from Controller to CFO (Chief Financial Officer) of the Community Blood Council of New Jersey, Inc. They furnish blood to 26 area hospitals. The CBCNJ has been in business in the area for 36 years.

Member **Mike Lenyo** was recently promoted to Associate Director of Sales Planning & Execution at Bristol Meyers, Squibb Pharmaceutical Company.



Gute Besserung: Jacob A. Bauer, recent illness & **Mike Lenyo, Wilma Schmidt, Kathi Schmidt**, recent surgeries and Helgard Thiel, a(Familie Thiel Kapelle), a broken foot.

We wish a speedy recovery to all of our members and friends who may not be feeling well or are recovering from illness, surgery or injury.

Passing: Frau Magdalena Annasenz: We sadly note the passing of a club member who spent many, many hours in our club's kitchen as an important part of our volunteer staff. **Magdalena Schoen Annasenz**, 84, died 29 May 2004. Her quiet demeanor and willingness to help is something we will all long remember. Like quite a few of our club members, Frau Annasenz was born in the Donauschwaben town of Palanka in what is today Serbia. She was the daughter of late Peter & Eva Ams Schoen and wife of late Nikolaus Annasenz. She is survived by family and friends, including her son, Hans. We wish them all our sincerest condolences.

Member **Anton Geck**, 93, of Dunnellon, FL, died 17 June 2004. He was born in Arad, Romania. Anton, Sr. is survived by son, Anton, Jr. of Barnegat, NJ; brother, Jakob of Germany and grandchildren & great-grandchildren. We wish them all our sincerest condolences.

Geburt: Congratulations to **Susi (geb. Franz) and Bob Murphy** on the birth of Anna and Jacob.... TWINS! Susi is a former student of our 1970's era German School and her dad, **Andy Franz**, our German Language Teacher. All the best to the entire family.

Member **Jason J. Bauer** was born 30 years ago this June! Happy Birthday Jason.

Deutsche Ecke, Seite 1

Warum Deutsche Vereine ?



Diese Frage wird immer deutlicher und aktueller. Wir sind ja freiwillig eingewandert. Wir haben unsere alte Heimat zurückgelassen. Wir suchten einen neuen Anfang. Unsere Wahlheimat hat uns aufgenommen und die neuen Möglichkeiten wurden ausgenutzt. Wir, die mit der deutschen Herkunft und Art bewaffnet sind, haben fast keine Probleme sich hierzulande anzupassen. Besonders wir Donauschwaben, ein Volk das viel mit Ackerbau und Viehzucht zu tun hatte und vieles ohne Bargeld erledigte, wie zum Beispiel Tausch, Arbeitszeit für Notwendigkeiten wie Weizen, Kartoffel, u.s.w.. Wir habe uns sehr schnell an das neue System angepasst. Keine Probleme. Leider hat das liebe Geld der neuen Ordnung auch viele negative Effekte hervorgerufen. Auf einmal hat der Nikolsvetter Geld im Sack und mehr wie jemals und noch mehr wird dazukommen. Das kann für einen Donauschwaben zu überwaltigend werden. Man fängt an zu denken wir sind schlauer und besser und brauchen niemand mehr. Das, meine lieben Landsleute, ist ein grosser Fehler. Ich bin überzeugt, dass auch die Einwanderer der früheren Zeiten, die selben Fehler machten, darum haben wir Gefängnisse voller Insassen. Natürlich gibt es immer Ausnahmen, aber im Durchschnitt erwarten uns viele Probleme.

Unsere Wahlheimat ist zur Zeit die stärkste Nation in der Welt. Vieles wurde hier ermöglicht durch die Einwanderer. Da werden immer neue Immigranten sein, aber wir sowie unsere Nachkommen wollen hier weitermachen. Wir wollen Familien gründen, einen Lebensunterhalt aufbauen und in einer soliden und stabilen Stadt oder Dorfgemeinde wohnen - ein universaler Traum. Um das alles zu verwirklichen, ja, da könnten wir von unseren Vorahnen vieles lernen, besonders in Hinsicht des Familienlebens. Sie waren bescheiden und religios. Das Kennzeichen eines Dorfes war die Kirche, dann die Schule und der Friedhof. Sport wurde betrieben, Gesangsguppen wurden gegründet. Sogar Theater gab es schon und natürlich die Blasmusik. Trachten waren verschieden von Dorf zu Dorf. Feste wurden gefeiert, wie Hochzeit, Taufe, Kirchweih, u.s.w..

So, wie steht es heute mit uns Donauschwaben? Die meisten von uns sind finanziell in Ordnung. Die erste Generation nach der Einwanderung spricht noch ein wenig deutsch. Die zweite ist schon eine andere Sache. Die dritte haben nur noch deutsche Namen und wissen nicht mehr wo ihre Vorahnen herkommen und warum. Tradition wie die Wallfahrt, die Messe am Sonntag, Deutsch als zweite Sprache, sowie Mitgliedschaft in Donauschwäbisch-Deutsche Vereinen, das ist immer weniger im Rennen. So verlieren wir unseren von Geburt aus gegebenen Vorteil. Fernsehen und Hollywood Filme ersetzen Religion und Gemeinschaft, ein leeres und negatives Ersatzleben.

Doch gibt es noch Leute, die Vereine aufrecht erhalten, Wallfahrten organisieren, Chore unterstützen, Fussball und andere Sporte betreiben, man muss nur mitmachen. Jeder Einzelene ist ein Endprodukt von tausenden von Vorfahren. Jedes Leben hat einen Grund, niemand soll sich in einer Ecke verstecken oder denken, dass alles sinnlos ist. So kommt zu den Donauschwaben hier in Yardville. Es ist ein gemütliches Heim.

Wir unternehmen so manches, macht mit. Unsere Gemeinschaft kann nur besser werden mit Ihrem Erscheinen und Beitrag. Die Anlage ist ideal für Kinder, sowie Erwachsene. Wir unterstützen Programme die die Deutsche Sprache lehren, ein Programm für Kinder und eins für Erwachsene. Auch werden Volkstänze eingelernt, die dann überall vorgeführt werden. Wir machen mit, mit den grossen Deutsch-Amerikanischen und auch Donauschwäbischen Treffen und Feste. Finde Deine Herkunft und unterstütze die deutsche Art.

Mit landsmännischem Grüss, Euer Adam Martini

Note: The English version will appear in next months issue.



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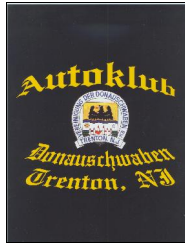
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Fax: (609) 588-8896
Mike Mikkelsen

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. It contains a variety of Donauschwaben information, pictures and resources.



Our Autoklub Travels

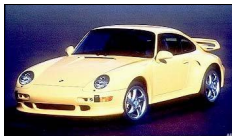


SAUERWAGEN?

We have all heard of a Volkswagen, but how about a Sauerwagen? Our family recently attended a First Holy Communion party. It was such a great occasion for a get together and celebration. The fellowship and marvelous food (including, my favorite, Sarma (stuffed cabbage)) were great.

Our hosts graciously gave me some leftover Sarma to take home. Wrong move I guess. On the way home in our 1999 Olds Alero, the cabbage juice from the plate spilled and ran down behind the rear seat. I thought that I had cleaned up all the spillage when we got home. WRONG! The next day it was hot and humid and the Alero sat all day in the sun with the windows up all day. It was obvious that night that I did not get up all the cabbage juice. Have you even smelled fermented cabbage juice, WOW!!!!. Ach du Lieber! L

Needless to say, we spent that night removing the rear seat and floor insulation, cleaning, and sanitizing these items and airing out the poor Alero! I do not know if Terry Huff has a tip for this one. The smell has finally decreased to tolerable level. I guess it is time to trade in the Alero on a Non-Sauerwagen model, Ja?
Dennis J. Bauer



TERRY'S AUTO TIPS Summer Heat!

With summer comes heat, an enemy to your car. Keep these tips in mind as the temperature rises this summer:

- ☀ Change the engine oil prior to the summer season. Air conditioning and turbo-charging (if applicable) add to engine heat. Change the oil at least every 4,000 miles for conventional oil and 8,000 for synthetic oil. ALWAYS change the oil filter.
- ☀ If your belts make noise, they are worn and need changing. DO NOT use belt dressing to try to quiet the noise.
- ☀ Make sure your tires are not bald or dry rotted which can cause a blow out. Inflate them to the manufacturers specs.
- ☀ If those wiper blades chatter or streak, put on new ones (at least once per year).

HAPPY SUMMER CRUISING -from TERRY HUFF

NEW TOY?



Congratulations to Steve Brandecker for his recent purchase of a 1996 Chevy Corvette!!! Now Mike Lenyo has a partner. NO Hans, Terry & Jim, it is no Porsche, but it is a great American sports car! Steve can now join us motor heads at car shows and cruises. Good luck with it from your fellow AutoKlub members.

NEW TOY #2?

Our Frank Herdt just finished putting together another classic VW Bug. This one is for wife Arlene. This time it is a convertible and just in time for



summer. Kool Dude! Happy Buggin' ☺

PIG ROAST & MEMBER CAR SHOW

Do not forget to join us for a great day of food, fun and AUTOs on 18 July 2004. This year we have added something special to our annual pig roast (Spiessbrattensessen), CARS!

Members of our AutoKlub will display their cars at the cookout for all to admire. You can pickup a ballot and cast your vote for your favorite car. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place People's Choice awards will be given out to the top vote getters. Please plan to attend and support our Club members who have a passion for their mechanical machines!

Also join us at the Philly Cannstatter Car Show on 14 August 2004 (see flyer at right).

Car Show

Kendall MOTOR OIL **PWD**
1044 Polaris Road, Warrimour, PA 18374

Saturday, August 14th

9 A.M. - 3 P.M.
Rain Date: 08/15/04

at CANNSTATTER V.V.
9130 Academy Road, Philadelphia, PA

1st, 2nd & 3rd Place Trophies
 will be awarded for each class

Sponsor Choice Trophy -
- Most Participation Club Trophy -
(plus \$100 Cash to Club)

- Best of Show Trophy -
Awarded by the Owner - Classic Car Club

- Personal Choice Trophy -
Awarded by Spectator

8. Sports Car
 9. Import/Compact
 10. Special Interest
 11. Truck
 12. Covered Car/Truck
 13. All Car/Rep/Prod./Cop
 14. Corvette

Participants will vote on the Classes!

- Dash Plaques to the First 100 Cars - Hot Foods, Dinners & Beverages
 - Shade Trees, Picnic Tables - Playground for Children

Car Registration: \$12 (pre-registered \$12)
 Info: Registered \$12 (pre-registered \$12)
 Children under 12 Free with Paying Adult

Information - George Haller 215-988-6622 Show Chairmen
 Vehicles needing more than one space must purchase a second space for \$30.00 occupancy fee.
 No food or beverages may be brought into park.
 Please: No pets, alcoholic beverages, death/battle, bikes, scooters, strollers or radios.

Vendors Welcome! **Spaces Available**
10' x 10' - \$25. - No Tables Supplied

Newsletter Advertisers and Sponsors

Membership Sponsors:

- * *Familie 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* *



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TAG DER DONAUSCHWABEN CANADA & USA

Mark your calendars for 3-6 September 2004. This year's get together will be in Windsor, Canada and marks the 60th anniversary of the Donauschwaben flight and genocide. The sponsoring club will be The Society Teutonia Windsor. **A passport is now recommended.**

Over 1000 visitors from across North America are expected. About 30 of the Trenton Club plan on attending the event this year. It is truly a cultural experience and a lot of fun. You can show your support by placing an ad in the "Festbuch" (souvenir booklet 5 1/2" x 8 1/2"). Prices range from a full page at \$80, quarter page at \$24, business card at \$16 and single line at \$8. Checks payable to "Teutonia 2004" and mailed to: Teutonia 2004, c/o 1728 Drouillard Road, Windsor, Canada, ON. N8Y 2S5 Canada. If you have any questions, call Richard Slama 519-945-3807 or email at riclslama@mnsi.net.

DONAUSCHWABEN CONSCRIPTS

Years ago, I was sitting with my cousin, Josef (Josie) Branitsch, in his kitchen near Stuttgart. Ironically, Josie and my Dad (first cousins and both only 19 years old in 1944) had fought on different sides of the world during World War 2 -- my Dad in the Pacific with the US Navy Seabees and Josie in France with the German infantry as a conscript. Now, as we sat there, Josie said to me "I was in Trenton (New Jersey) once!" Startled, I re-translated what he had said back and forth in my head. At that time I didn't think that Josie had ever been in the United States. Grinning, he repeated it. He then told me what none of the rest of the our US family knew. He had been captured by US Forces in France during 1944 and spent the rest of the war in one of our POW camps in Texas.

As he was being repatriated after the war, the train stopped in Trenton, NJ. He said that he could have made a phone call to his aunt (my grandmother, Lena Rohrbacher Drobnek from Palanka & for many years the caterer for the Arbeiter). However, two things stopped him: his lack of English (!) and his fear of "causing trouble" for my grandmother. He continued by saying to me that two things really impressed him -- he was never mistreated by the Americans and he always had enough to eat. His treatment was far different from that of his brother-in-law, who had been captured by the Soviets. **Pat Drobnek** (Dschwab1902@aol.com in her email to the Banat list, permission granted to print).

Club Activity Pictures this Past Spring



Monthly Business Meeting (April 2004)



Relaxing after Wednesday Night German Class



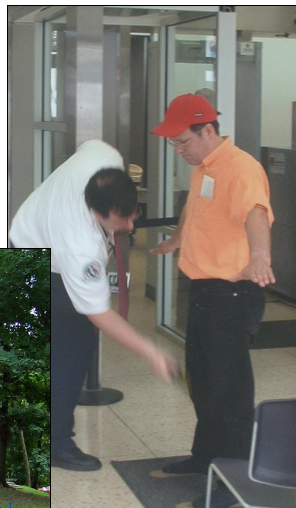
Club Members

"Rockin-On" to music by Mike Lenyo & Roger Mauro at a local Trenton tavern!

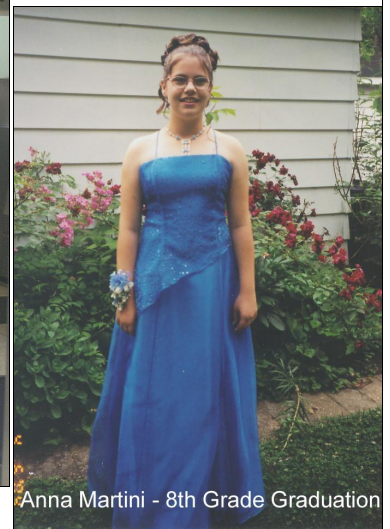


Brittany Brandecker
8th Grade Graduation

Terrorist? (picture to the right)
Not really, only our Hans Martini
at the Chicago Airport after the
Donauschwabern Verband Meeting
in April!



June Pig roast



Anna Martini - 8th Grade Graduation

Club Pictures from the Past & Present



The TRADEWINDS,1981 (Frank Herdt, Charlie Swope, Barbie Galati, Mike Galati & Robt. Klein)

Cousins, Hans Martini, Steve Mayer, Dennis Bauer & Ray Martini, 2004



Ted Hierl, 1983, his German show, at WTTM, now 1540 AM, 10-12 Sunday mornings

1981 Pilgrimage to Philly



Trip back to Palanka after 60 years, June 2004 (our Steve Mayer at the left)

1957 Trachenfest in Trenton (Kathi Eppli Metzger, Andy Franz & Maria Schapp Prummer)



Palanka, Serbia as it is today, June 2004. Photo by Steve Mayer.

Club Events for the Summer 2004

EVENTS— DATES & TIMES

Come out and join us!

- Donauschwaben Kanufahrt/Zelten (Canoe Trip), 4th of July Weekend.
- Spiessbratenessen/Autoausstellung (Pig Roast & Car Show), Sunday, 18 July 2004, 1pm.
- Bus Trip to Yuengling Brewery & Pioneer Coal Mine, Schuylkill County, PA, Saturday, 7 August 2004 (tentative or in the Fall).
- Cannstatter Car Show, Saturday, 14 August 2004, Phila., PA. Our *AutoKlub* will be present!
- Donauschwabentreffen, Windsor, Canada, Labor Day Weekend.
- German Heritage Fest, Sunday, 12 September 2004.
- Erntedankfest (Sauerbraten), Sunday, 26 September, 2004, 1pm.

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

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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 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!



(Adult class students
Mike Colacello,
JoAnn Martini, Anna
Martini & Brittany
Brandecker listen in-
tently to our new
teacher Andy Franz.
Also in the class but
not shown are; Den-
nis Bauer, Pepi Bath
and Frank and Re-
gina Schoelkopf)

NEW ADULT GERMAN CLASS TEACHER

Those of us in the Adult German Language Class were sad to see our teacher, Kurt Müller, leave this spring for a college position in Maryland.

Enter Andy Franz to the rescue!!! Andy volunteered to help out this Spring and take over the class after Kurt's departure. Andy has done an excellent job filling in. In addition to a knowledge of the German language, he brings with him Donauschwaben life experiences (born in Palanka), which he passionately shares with the class members. He is a great resource for Donauschwaben history to the younger members of the class.

I can speak for the other students in thanking Andy for a "Job Well Done!" Danke Schön, Herr Lehrer! ☺ Dennis J. Bauer

FRAU KLEINMANN, DANKE!

Let's not forget to mention the great job Frau Brigitte Kleinmann did for the children's school this year also. She taught her class with dedication and enthusiasm for which we are all appreciative. Herzlichen Dank, Frau Kleinmann!