

Trentoner Donauschwaben Nachrichten

Volume 24 Issue 3

July-September 2024



Points of Interest



- Neuschwanstein, Germany, extensive palace complex. is a main site seeing location in all of Germany.
- King Ludwig II of Bavaria started it's construction in 1869. It was never fully completed as he died in 1886 and never lived in it.
- It is located at the foothills of the Alps near the Austrian border. The palace is located above the town of Hohenschwangau.
- Over 61 million people have visited the complex since 1869.
- Lakes Alpee and Schwansee are nearby and are visible from the castle.
- The castle served as the inspiration for Disneyland's Sleeping Beauty Castles. Our newsletters are copyrighted © 2024. All rights reserved. Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neuschwanstein_Castle

Cleveland Youth Group Trip to Europe

By Kathleen Martini, Cleveland Donauschwaben Youth Leader and also Trenton Donauschwaben member



Every year, the Landesverband der Donauschwaben USA participates in an exchange program with the Weltdachverband whereby we send a group over to Europe to do a performance tour. This year, after delays caused by the pandemic, the Cleveland Donauschwaben Jugendgruppe was the group that got to go. We spent 18 days in Germany, Austria, and Hungary and performed seven times, and it was a life changing experience for our Jugend!

We started the trip with a full week in Germany. We flew into München and stayed at a Jugendherberge in Dinkelsbühl, though our hosts there were the members of the group in Crailsheim, who made sure we were well fed and never thirsty! It used to be the case that, on these Europa Reisen, the groups stayed with host families in almost every city they visited, but the groups in Germany are now so much smaller that it's become infeasible for them to consistently host groups of 25+ people from the United States in their homes. Nevertheless, Bianca Ungar, who some of you may know, is from this group, and she, her family, and the rest of the group were incredible hosts. We performed in the town square in Crailsheim, were given tours of Crailsheim, Dinkelsbühl, and Rothenburg ob der Tauber, and generally had a great time making and seeing friends to get our trip started. We played volleyball, soccer, and danced at a local soccer club, and we got the real Euro experience by watching Die Mannschaft play (and win!) with real Germans. We then ventured to Ulm, where we toured the city and saw the Donauschwaben USA plaque that was placed on the wall of the city in the site of the Donau. I also found the plaque from my Opa's hometown of Bukin, which was incredibly special to me and the two other Bukiner Kindeskind who were there. We spent one day venturing into the München Stadtmitte, where we met up with my cousin Konstantine and watched the Euros at the Augustiner Biergarten with the München Banater Schwaben. We had our second performance at the Haus der Donauschwaben in München, and the next day took off for our eight-hour bus ride to Hungary.

Our week in Hungary started with a visit to Taksony, which anyone who has been on a Donauschwaben-sponsored trip to Hungary, knows to be one of the most hospitable cities you could visit. We were greeted with a fabulous dinner of the best chicken paprikas I've ever had before meeting our host families. Hungary doesn't have the same problem as Germany, as the villages are all so integrated into the German-Hungarian culture that there are numerous families who can take in performers for the few nights that we visit. That night, we enjoyed a welcome celebration with a live rock band and a late night DJ, and I was reminded how wonderful it is to pay \$1.80 for a large beer! The next day we rode Trabant, the East German era car, around the city for a scavenger hunt, which was a highlight for all. We had a performance in Taksony in front of the church there the following day. The day after, we went on a tour of Budapest with great friends of mine that I met in Los Angeles in 2015 and finished with a trip to the famous Budapest thermal baths, which was a welcome few hours of relaxation to break up our busy trip. (Continued on page 8).

Inside this issue:

Club Matters	2
DS History/Culture	3
Membership News	5
Deutsche Ecke	5
More DS News	8
Newsletter Sponsors	10
Club Events	14

Club Matters, Members, Friends & Stuff



Many Thanks to Our Patio Donors thus far.....

Our club's backyard has seen at least 100 pig roasts along with many other events since we purchased our clubhouse in 1973. In the early

years we had an elevated stage for student, dance and music performances, as well as presentations memorial services. More recently, big tents, camaraderie and good food have taken center stage. Clearly, the club's backyard is as important as ever.

Some time back we received a donation of patio blocks from one of our members. So far, nothing has been done with them largely because of the very considerable physical effort that would take. So, at this point we are kindly asking for donations to have the work done professionally. It will be a great way to spruce things up!

Those wishing to donate can mail a check to the club indicating as much. Donations will be publicly recognized and you can choose to memorialize a loved one if you like. More details will be forthcoming. Please send your checks made out to Danube Swabian Association to 127 Route 156 Yardville, NJ 08620. Please indicate that the money is intended for the patio. Thank you! Vielen Dank!

Present donors are:

- *Peppy Bath
- *Eric & Geri Fahr: In Memory of *John and Hermina Fahr
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- *Ernie and Cynthia Schirmer
- *Hermann and Erika Volltrauer
- *Patrick and Anna Walls
- *Walter Heim
- *Peter, Jr. & Ron Kernast (in memory of their parents... Peter & Rosa Kernast)
- *Eva Buchler (in memory of Barbara Mathes)
- *Nicholas Pfann (in memory of my parents Heinz & Kaethe Pfann)
- *Walter Family (in memory of Anton "Tony" Walter)
- *Frank and Mary Verrona
- *Joe Brandecker, Jr.
- *Dennis Bauer (in memory of the Bauer and Helleis Families)
- *Alexander Hepp (in memory of his wife Elfriede Hepp)
- *Alan & Laurie Schauer (in memory of their daughter, Allison)
- *Hans & JoAnn Martini
- *Eva Martini



Please support our Auto Show
sponsors:

2024 Award Plaques

- *Bauer Genealogy – Levittown, PA
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- *German-American Society – Yardville, NJ
- *Heavener's Garage – Fallsington, PA
- *Innovative Awards – Hamilton, NJ
- *JM3 Screen Printing – Pennel, PA
- *K & M Auto Body – Bristol, PA
- *Knott's Colonial Funeral Home – Hamilton, NJ
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- *Marussia Beverages USA – Cedar Knolls, NJ
- *Newportville Inn – Newportville, PA
- *Old School Euros Car Club – Levittown, PA
- *Piazza VW of Langhorne – Langhorne, PA
- *Terry's VW Service Center - Fallsington, PA
- *Trenton Donauschwaben – Yardville, NJ
- *John McGovern & Sons Contractors—Levittown, PA
- *Hans & JoAnn Martini—Hamilton, NJ
- *Ray & Marie Martini—GA
- *Liz & Al Tindall—Allentown, NJ

Gifts & Donations (items for the grab bags, door prizes and/or our scholarship raffle)

- *Barenjager Honey & Bourbon – Germany
- *Bauer Genealogy – Levittown, PA
- *Beer-A-Rama - Levittown, PA
- *Imperial 500 Motel - Wildwood Crest, NJ
- *Innovative Awards – Hamilton, NJ
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- *Lucas Auto Group – Burlington, NJ
- *Marussia Beverages USA – Cedar Knolls, NJ
- *Newportville Inn - Newportville, PA
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- *Piazza VW of Langhorne, PA
- *Salvatore's Cucina Restaurant – Levittown, PA
- *Stoner Corporation - Quarryville, PA

Note: Vielen dank to Tom of Park Avenue Printing – Hamilton, NJ for making up a new Auto Show advertisement banner this year.

Donauschwaben History & Culture

The town of Futog (Futok, Futak) and its forgotten past



By **Nikola Milivojevic**

Minor editing by Dennis J. Bauer—June 2024

Resting on the Danube in the south of Backa, opposite the slopes of Fruska Gora, Futog stands today as the gateway to Novi Sad from the West and to Backa Palanka from the East. A good position for the formation of a settlement in the area of this town has been recognized by people since prehistoric times. That is why it often changed its owners. The Futog fortress was first recorded in Hungarian sources in 1250. Historians consider it one of the most significant royal fortresses and towns in Southern Hungary. The Hungarian kings gave the town and its fortress first to the Futaky family in the 14th century. A century later, it was owned by the Garai family. From historiography we know that in 1456, during the siege of Belgrade, the Hungarian king Ladislaus the Fifth with his guardian Ulrich II, Count of Celje and a small army camped around Futog. Its surroundings were not spared during the Peasants' War in 1514 when it was ravaged by the peasant army on their way to Syrmia. It was in this period (1525) that historical sources also record that the overwhelming majority of the 1,420 peasants living in the 26 villages of the domain of Futog bore Hungarian names.

After the collapse of the Hungarian kingdom and the short-lived reign of the self-proclaimed emperor Jovan Nenad, Futog passed into the hands of the Ottoman Turks in 1529. In that period, the settlement was remodeled according to the Ottoman principle. The garrison was housed in the town, and several mosques were built for the needs of the new population.

From 1686, Futog returned to Christian hands. The Austrian army led by Field Marshal Lieutenant Eugene of Savoy penetrates to Futog in 1716. From there, they headed towards Petrovaradin, where on August 5, 1716, Austrians won a victory over the opposing army. The Count of Savoy will stay in Futog again, accompanied by his army, a year later in Juli 1717. Futog became part of the Bac-Bodrog county, and its administration was initially retained by the Royal Chamber. Town receives a new influx of Christian Serbian and Hungarian population. With the arrival of the Austrian government, a military hospital, schools and churches were built and a regular fair was established, which attracted merchants from the Ottoman Empire and the Habsburg Monarchy. In 1769, Futog was acquired by Count András Hadik (1710-1790). It was awarded to him for his military merits and service to the Austrian crown. Earlier, he was in the imperial post of the administrator of Lodermaria and Galicia, royal commissioner and administrator of Transylvania and commissioner of the Illyrian National Congress in Sremski Karlovci. He gained his fame during the Seven Years' War by capturing the Prussian capital Berlin in October 1760. During his administration, Futog experienced its first renaissance. He had a baroque cassistic castle built for himself according to the project of Fancischus de Paolo Maneth on the site of today's Agricultural School. He helped with the construction of the Serbian Orthodox Church of Saints Cosmas and Damian in 1776 and the Church of the Annunciation in 1781. He built the Roman Catholic church dedicated to the Holy Trinity in 1776. A year later, through Pope Pius VI, he received the relic of the holy martyr Eugene for the needs of the church and built a rectory for the church. He was remembered by Futog people as a benefactor. It is important to note that during his mandate in Futog the German population was colonized with the intention of strengthening their social and economic position in this part of Hungary.

After the death of Count András Hadik's son, Count Karl Joseph Hadik von Futog (1756-1800), the town passed into the ownership of the Brunswik family in 1801 and in 1852 into the hands of the Chotek family. It was during the administration of this family that Futog experienced its second renaissance. Count Rudolf Otto Hermann Maria Chotek decided to demolish the old church and build a new church on the same site according to Ferenc Veninger's project. It was built in neo-Gothic style with two domes. The decision was made to build the new temple from concrete according to the latest fashion. Roman Catholic churches in Vrsac, Backa Palanka and Backa Topla were also built in the same way. Work on the temple lasted from 1906 to 1908. The new church was dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. During Rudolf administration of Futog in 1893 and 1894 Marianum and Rudolfum (Students' dormitory) was built and in 1909 town got its Firehouse.

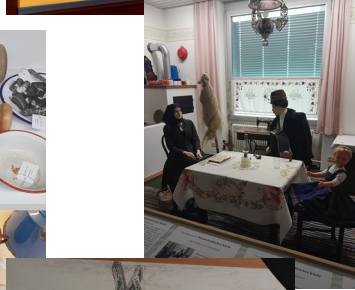
It is a well-known fact that the couple Franz Ferdinand and Sofia Chotek stayed in Hadik's palace six days before their death in Sarajevo in 1914. Futog became part of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes in November 1918. The ownership of the town in 1921 was taken over by Franz Schönborn, and after him by Count Aleksandar Palavicini.

In the interwar period, Futog, divided into Old (Altfutok) and New (Neufutok) Futog, continued to develop. The fact that it is located close to the new administrative center of the Danube Banovina of Novi Sad contributed to this. The German population before and after the First World War made up the majority of the population in Neufutok, but also a significant part of the population of Altfutok. They had their own cultural and educational organizations and with their work contributed to the betterment of the country before and after the WWI. The majority of this population left both municipalities during the period 1944-48, fleeing ahead of the Russian and Partisans or having been sent to Tito's communist labor camps. Today Futog is administratively located within the city of Novi Sad. It has 18,582 inhabitants and is famous for its Secondary agricultural school, sports activities, and for the cabbage that bears his name and has been grown here for more than five centuries.

Editors note: several of our club members had ancestors from this town, including our Club Past President, Franz Herdt, Jr.

*The Club wishes to thank friend, **Nikola Milivojevic**, from Serbia for his numerous articles he has written for our newsletters about our Heimat (Homeland). DJB.*

The Donauschwaben Museum in Haar, Germany—August 2024



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 Germany

**Kulturzentrum Haus der Donauschwaben
 Bayern E.V.**



Cleveland Youth Group Pictures from Hungary & Germany—July 2024 (see article on page 1 & 8)



Membership News



Club Officers & Staff

Joseph Brandecker, Jr. President. Dennis J. Bauer, Vice President/Newsletter Editor
Bob Walter, Vice President. Kim Walter, Club Photographer
Kitchen Leader: Hubert Pinkerton
Alfred Tindall, Treasurer & Mike Lenyo, Vice-Treasurer
Secretary: Hans Martini, and Recording Secretary: Brittany Brandecker
Staff Writers: Dennis J. Bauer, Liz Tindall, Hans Martini, Christa Tindall Pullion & others
Melanie Brandecker, Newsletter Copy Editor
AutoKlub Leader and staff: Terry Huff, Pat Huff & Colin Huff
Web Master and Facebook Editor: Christina Malofiy
Genealogical & Historical Researcher: Dennis J. Bauer
Mail Room Coordinator: Hans Martini
Facebook: Dennis J. Bauer & Joe Brandecker, Jr.



Get Well/Thinking of you to members:

Helga Kusenko, Ludwig Jakober, Maria Kuhn, Marlene Novosel, Eva Martini, Donna Gruzlovic, Hilde Schintzler, Richard West, Terry Huff and Erika Volltrauer, and those members that we were not aware of.

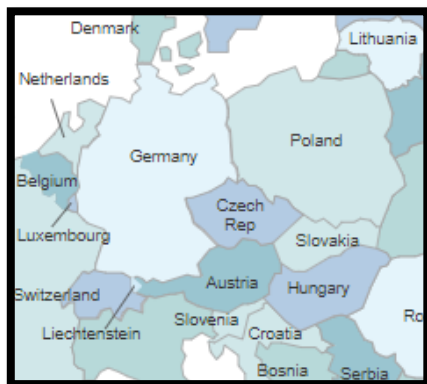
Willkommen new members; Paul & Susan Lobecker of Levittown, PA, and Robert Bach of Levittown, PA.

Membership Happenings (births, engagements, weddings, deaths, anniversaries, graduations)

Congratulations—Happy 75th Birthday to member and V.P. Dennis J. Bauer.



Congrats—Three Donauschwaben Groups from our Club (and Cleveland) made a trip to Europe this Summer. See articles in this edition.



Congrats—to Club members Brittany Brandecker, daughter of Club President Joe and Caroline Brandecker and Shayne Protonentis on their marriage and reception on July 26, 2024 at Spring Lake, NJ.

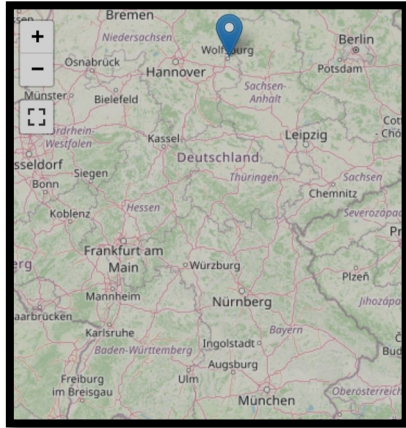
A “Beach Party” was held the following day at the beach in the town.



Schwobs at the Shore 2024

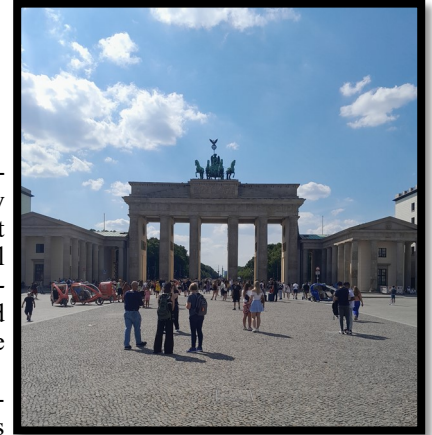
Club members take a dip at the Spring Lake Beach, NJ after the Brandecker-Protonentis wedding in July.

Deutsche Ecke



TRIP to GERMANY—"WUNDERBAR"

31 July—7 August 2024
By Dennis J. Bauer



A number of the *Old School Euros Car Club* members; Paul Lobecker, Erich Lobecker, Jim Potts, Jack Hendry and Dennis J. Bauer decided to take a trip to Germany last Spring. Several of the car club members, Dennis Bauer, Paul Lobecker, and Jim Potts are also members of our *Trenton Donauschwaben Club*. New Club member Rob Bach and Lea and Tom Hepler (Dennis' sister and brother-in-law), also joined the group.

Naturally, Wolfsburg, home of the Volkswagen Museum and Plant, was on the planned list to visit. Additional sites to visit included, Berlin, Munich, Regensburg, Oberammergau,

Linderhof, Neuschwanstein and of course the Donauschwaben Museum in Haar, a Munich suburb. It was a very busy schedule. We flew out of Newark, NJ to Berlin and then home from Munich to Newark (Red eyes). It was my first trip to Germany and it was wonderful!

We arrived around 7:30 am in the morning in Berlin and after hotel check-in we toured the city via a bus tour, walked around a bit and then had dinner at a local biergarten.

We then took a train to Wolfsburg the next day for a tour of the VW Autostadt and VW Historical Museum (see picture to left), then back to Berlin and off to the biergarten....

The next day we boarded the I.C.E. train for a five and half hour trip to Munich for the remainder of our stay. WOW, 160+ miles an hour....We traveled through the Germany countryside passing through Leipzig, Nuremburg and other cities along the way. Germany has many wind mills and solar panels throughout the countryside. Erich had planned our trip in advance and had made all the reservations...Vielen dank to him. After check in at our hotel, it was off to Marienplatz (see picture to right) for a walk around and dinner at one of many biergartens in Munich. The public train system in Germany is amazing and can take you any where around the city in minutes.



Using Munich as our home base, we took several side trips. Sunday we went to Regensburg on the Danube, where our ancestors passed from Ulm to Hungary in the 1700-1800s. Monday Jim and Jack went to the Eagles Nest in Berchtesgaden, while the rest of us went to the Donauschwaben Museum in Haar. Curator Gabriele Schilcher gave us a personal tour of this wonderful museum. Tuesday, Rob, Dennis, Lea and Tom went to King Ludwig II's Palace in Linderhof, Oberammergau, site of the Passion Play and famous wood working and then to King Ludwig II's castle in Neuschwanstein. Upon return to Munich we changed it up from a *German* menu for dinner and went *Italian* our last night.



The next evening we flew home with many, many great memories and pictures....

Note: OSECC member Will Santana and family made the trip two weeks before, so we received advise as to which VW sites in Wolfsburg to visit. DS member Kathleen Martini with the Cleveland Youth Group also visited Germany and Hungary several weeks before that, including the Donauschwaben Museum in Haar (see her article on page 1).

As a result of the trip, we welcome new Trenton Donauschwaben members; Paul & Susan Lobecker and Robert Bach. It turns out Susan has Donauschwaben ancestors (Stoss and Schön) from Hungary and Romania. They have all been club supporters in the past.



NEWS UPDATES



Get Your Trenton Treffen Commemoratives (still available)

Trenton Treffen Commemoratives still available for purchase. Please reply this email if interested!

Pins: \$5.00 each

Tee-Shirts: sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL : \$10 each

Flags: \$25.00 each



Photos below. (Tee-shirt shows front and back). Designed by our own Sofi Walter!

A FAMILY VISIT TO AUSTRIA

Club members Al and Liz (Hepp) Tindall, together with their children and grandchildren, recently returned from an alpine adventure in Austria in August. The beauty of the countryside, great weather, delicious food and drink, amazing hospitality, made for a perfect getaway! Liz is the daughter of Alexander Hepp from Palanka!



More Donauschwaben News

Cleveland Youth Group Trip to Europe (Continued from page 1)

By Kathleen Martini, Youth Leader and also Trenton Donauschwaben member

(Continued from page 1) The next day we said goodbye to our host families in Taksony and traveled on to Szár, where many of us have friends from the last time their dance group visited us in 2019. After meeting our host families and having dinner, we had a performance at their cultural house and an evening with a Blaskapelle that ended at the local bar (as it so often does). We generally just had a great time seeing our friends again and catching up. The next day we traveled to Puztavám, a town that had never hosted a group before. We had a full cultural day, trying on their Tracht, getting our hair braided, playing games, and learning dances with the whole group. That night, we had a house party at one of the dance group members' newly constructed home, where we got to see even more old friends. The following day was a mercifully light one hosted by our friends in Biatorbágy, where we toured the city, their church, and a historical viaduct, learned some dances including a Csárdás, and relaxed before our performance that night. Our last night in Hungary was a beautiful one, with a performance festival that included our group, the Fűzes Tanzgruppe from Biatorbágy, and a dance group from Németskér. Both of the groups were just incredible and so much fun to watch. We danced after our performance to the Blaskapelle and had a great time before sadly saying goodbye and preparing for our trip to Austria. We spent one night in Salzburg, where we explored the city and met up with our friends from Akron, who were also on a Europa Reise. Normally we only send one group every year, but because of the pandemic and everyone getting readjusted, we had two groups on the schedule for this year. The next day we toured the famous salt mines, where we got to pass between an international border between Germany and Austria underground. Then we proceeded on back to Ulm, where we spent the day buying dirndls (of course) and attending a Donaufest, where all sorts of groups from across Europe were selling food, drink, and crafts. It was a nice night off to just enjoy ourselves before heading to our last stops.

With two performances left on the schedule, we traveled to Sindelfingen to perform at the Haus der Donauschwaben. There we met Stefan Ihas, Ehrenpräsident of the Weltdachverband, Sandra Peric, Jugendstellvertreterin of the Weltdachverband, and Raimund Haser, the Vorsitzender who is also a member of the Landtag of Baden-Württemberg. We spent some time in front of the memorial they have there of the Vertreibung, where stones with villages and numbers represent the numbers of people who were expelled from their homeland and lost. It was extremely emotional for all of us and really brought home for the Jugend why they were on the trip. The Haus der Donauschwaben has a wonderful library with books from all of the Donauschwaben villages, and we spent hours in there looking at pictures of our ancestors and family members. After the performance, our Jugend even asked for more time in the library, which made my heart nearly burst with pride. Seriously, what more proof do you need that our cultural heritage is in good hands going forward than that? After Sindelfingen, we continued on to Spaichingen, where we met with our host families, including surprise guest Cheyenne Kertes of Canada whose husband is from there. The next day we saw the Donauquelle, or the source of the Donau river, and toured the Schwarzwald with a visit to Triberg, which was idyllic to say the least. Our final performance, hilariously, was at what appeared to be an American/Western festival, where the musicians were playing country music and one group hung a Texas flag! It was funny to me that, although I left Nashville behind, Nashville had found me in Europe. We performed our sets for the last time and packed up our sweaty, sweaty Tracht before spending a night dancing with the Banater Tanzgruppe from Spaichingen, including Patrick Polling who is the Leiter of the Deutsche Banater Jugend und Trachtengruppe.

Unfortunately the next day was our last, and we had a cookout and some free time at the public pool with our Spaichingen friends. We watched the finals of the Euros with our host families and settled down to an early night, since our travel day started at 3 AM the following day. We were all so sad to be leaving, but grateful to return home to our beds and get some sleep after a jam-packed trip. Personally, every time I go on one of these trips, whether for the Welttreffen as I have in the past or trips like this one, it puts my whole life back into perspective for me, and I feel more like myself. I'm grateful for the opportunities we're given as Donauschwaben in the USA to participate in things like this. **See some pictures on page 4.**

DONAUSCHWABEN MUSEUM IN MUNICH (Haar) - OUR HISTORY ON-LINE

<https://www.donauschwaben.bayern/geschichte>



The museum's web site has a wonderful 4 part on-line video of the Donauschwaben in multiple languages.

They make the moving history of the Danube Swabians over a period of around 250 years clear and understandable. Their four short explanatory videos tell the story of the most important historical milestones of the Danube Swabians in 100 seconds each:

From the beginning of the settlement movement in the 18th century to the Kingdom of Hungary (Film 1: Departure), the construction of a new homeland and culture of the Danube Swabians in the Danube Basin (Film 2: A New Home) to the violent expulsion from their homeland (Film 3: Nationalism, War, Expulsion) to their arrival and new beginning in Bavaria (Film 4: New Start and Remembrance). The animated explanatory videos are also available in German, English and Serbian. To start, simply click on "Play video"! On their "Story" page under "Explanatory videos".

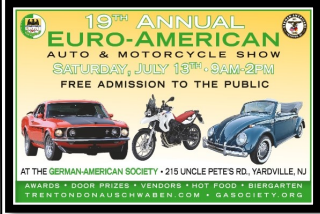
Their web site is loaded with wonderful information overview of the museum's resources. It even now contains a link to our Club's website thanks to our V.P., Dennis Bauer and Curator Gabriele Schilcher during his August visit to the Museum in August 2024.



Our AutoKlub News

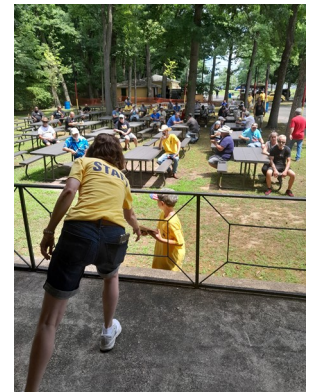


2024 Euro-American Auto & Motorcycle Show



The show was moved from Saturday to Sunday the 14th of July this year due to rain. This always has an affect on the car/cycle turnout. However, with over 50 vehicles, we still had a great day and event. We were able again to donate monies to our Scholarship Fund.

We want to thank all that turned out for the show, our sponsors and as always our Club volunteers and the Old School Euros Car Club for their continued sponsorship and their volunteers that made the event a success.



2024 Annual Dubs in the Shrubs Campout and Car Show—Old School Euros Car Club

Our friends of the Old School Euros Car Club had to postpone their May event until June 29-30 of this year due to rain. However, it was a success and they donated a large percentage of their proceeds to St. Judes Children's Cancer Research Hospital as in the past. They wish to thank all that showed up for the two-day event and offer a big thanks to the Trenton Donauschwaben for their support and continued sponsorship.



Newsletter Sponsors and Advertisers

Printed Quarterly Newsletter Sponsors 2024:

- * Frau Marlene Novosel & Familie *
- * Familie Bauer & Penrith in memory of Jacob & Theresa Helleis Bauer, Jacob & Carol Bauer and Frank & Katie Maas Helleis *
- * Herr Scott Balyer*
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- * Herr James Potts*
- * Familie Herrmann Volltrauer *
- * Frau Priscilla Perkins Bath *
- * Frau Klara Andirchuk*
- * Eva Martini in memory of husband Adam Martini*
- * Familie Carl & Sue Conrad*
- * Herr Frank Varone*
- * Familie Chris & Karen Carson*
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- * Herr Ernest Schirmer*
- * Herr Robert Knott*
- * Familie Terry Huff in memory of wife Mary Beth Huff and parents Harold & Patricia Huff*
- * Dave's Jewelers*

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- * Robert Knott*
- * Al & Liz Tindall*
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CLUB EVENTS FOR 2024***Calendar of Events 2024 Donauschwaben of Trenton***

Please note that reservations should be made at least one week in advance.

Thank you!



January 7th, Sunday First Taste of the New Year!

January 28th , Sunday Annual Business Meeting

February 18th, Sunday SCHLACHTFEST (2 seatings)

March 24th, Sunday Easter Luncheon Dinner

April 14th, Sunday Back to the Old Country

April 27th and 28th National Donauschwaben Meeting

May 5th , Sunday Mother's Day Dinner

June 9th, Sunday Father's Day Picnic

4th through the 7th of July Canoe & Camping Trip (reserve soon) in N.E. PA

July 13th, Saturday (rain date July 14 th) 19th Annual Car Show at the German American Society

July 21st , Sunday Summer Picnic

Aug 31st & Sept 1st St. Louis Treffen

September 15th, Sunday Harvest Festival Dinner

October 13th, Sunday Club's 69 th Anniversary Banquet

November 3rd, Sunday Memorial Service at Our Lady of Lourdes, Hamilton, NJ

November 17 th, Sunday SCHLACHTFEST (2 seatings)

December 1st, Sunday St. Nikolaus/Christmas Party

Please make reservations at least a week in advance for every event if at all possible. Thanks!

Reservations/Information:

Liz Tindall at ltindall.llc@gmail.com

Verband News

BIG NEWS OUT OF CLEVELAND—VERBAND BUSINESS MEETING!



As many of you know, the 14 organizations that comprise the Dachverband der Donauschwaben USA gather for meetings each year on the last weekend in April. It's a great time to interact with folks doing the same things we do. We talk about common problems, we look at new ideas and solutions, and we organize and plan Verband supported activities. Indeed, astute readers might recall a small party we threw back in 2022 called the Trenton Treffen. Well, that event was sanctioned by the Verband and it brought member clubs from across the continent to our doorstep.

This year's meetings held in Cleveland produced a really big surprise for all of us "back east". We are delighted to announce that Trenton's very own Ray Martini has been elected President of the Verband. This is an unprecedented first time for the Trenton organization and you have to go back more than 50 years to find the last president who came from the eastern region of these United States!

Ray is the son of club members Eva Martini (from Palanka) and the late Adam Martini (from Bukin), both native Donauschwaben from the Vojvodina region. Like many of his generation, Ray "grew up in the club". He was a shepherd or one of the three kings in who knows how many Christmas plays "back in the day" and attended the club's German School from roughly age two right into his teenaged years. He be-

came a mainstay in our Jugendtanzgruppe and Tanzgruppe for many years too.

It's fair to say that Ray's connection and belief in the importance of the Verband grew out of his love of the Treffen, an event he, his wife Marie and their children, Kathleen and Adam, embraced with great enthusiasm and affection. In more recent years Ray served as 2nd Vice President of the Verband and assisted wherever he could. With his election to the Presidency this past April, he completes a long journey from the one-line poems he once recited at St. Stephen's Hall in Trenton where our Christmas plays were once held, to heading up one of the most important institutions in our Donauschwaben community. Congratulations and best of luck, Ray!

Ray succeeds Robert Filipi, from the Cleveland club, who joins a long line of presidents who have served the U.S. Donauschwaben community most honorably. The Trenton Donauschwaben thanks Robert for his many years of service and valued contributions. Vergelt's Gott, Robert!

The Trenton Donauschwaben commends club member Anna Walls (Martini) for her service as Assistant Youth Leader of the Verband. As part of her responsibilities, Anna had to arrange a very complicated three-week multi-state, multi-club visit by a large dance group from Hungary last year and she did it with great professionalism and an exceptional measure of patience! Vielen danke, Anna!

Re-elected this year was club member Kathleen Martini to another two-year term as National Youth Leader. Kathleen helps organize dance group performances by the member clubs among many other activities and contributions. Kudos and best wishes Kathleen!

The weekend also included a meeting of the financial, charitable side of the national organization called the Stiftung, or Foundation. The meeting centers around how we get donations, how we grow the donations, and how we give those donations away to best support our cultural heritage now and in the future. Our very own club president, Joe Brandecker, has been one of the key people in the Stiftung for several years now and he was re-elected Treasurer for another two-year term. Wir gratulieren, Joe!

Final note: From our sister clubs in the Philadelphia area, the United German Hungarians, Werner Fricker III was elected National Sport Leader and his brother Michael Fricker was re-elected as Press Secretary. Fred Gauss of the Philadelphia Donauschwaben was named Eastern Region President. *Congratulations and best wishes to all.*

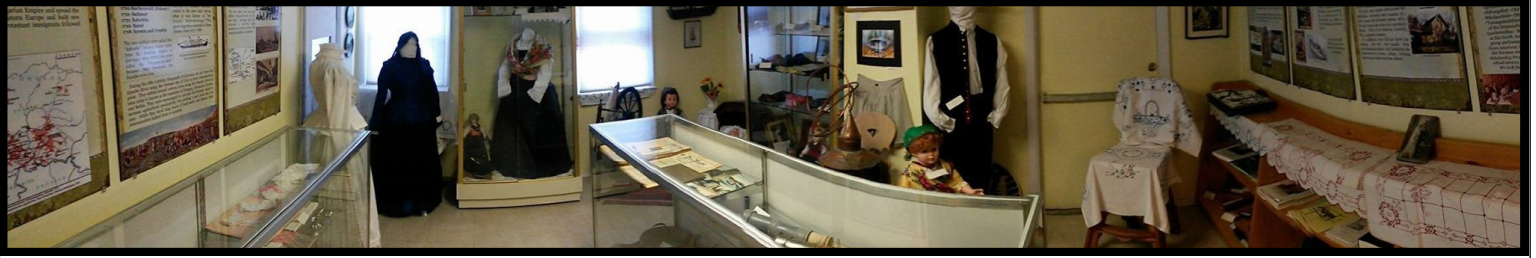
Note: The year 2024 marks the sad 80th anniversary of the Donauschwaben's expulsion from their homelands in Croatia, Hungary, Romania and Serbia at the close of World War II.

Landestreffen der Donauschwaben 2024. in St. Louis, MI

The 2024 Treffen was held this Labor Day weekend in St. Louis. Pictured below are representatives from the Trenton and Philadelphia Donauschwaben as well as the United German Hungarians. A detailed account of the gathering will be in the next issue of the newsletter.



Scholarships & Culture & Staff



Second Floor of our Clubhouse!

When attending one of our many wonderful dinners, take a moment to stop by the second floor of our Clubhouse to tour our museum. Donations were given by many of our members from the "old country"..... original "Tracht", among other things, and a history board detailing the plight of the Donauschwaben people and the founding of our beloved Club back in 1956 (See photo above).

In 2025 we will award several more student scholarships in the amount of \$500 each. Thank you to those that donated to the fund and to our *AutoKlub* for their donation from the 2024 Euro-American Auto and Cycle Show. *****



From 2024 to 2026, this Club is entrusted to following...

President: Joseph Brandecker

Vice Presidents: Dennis J. Bauer, Christa Pullion & Robert Walter

Treasurer: Al Tindall

Assistant Treasurer: Chris Pullion

Financial Trustees: Chris Carson, Sasha Malofiy & Katie James

Secretary: Hans Martini

Membership Secretary: Anna Walls

Recording Secretary: Brittaney Brandecker

Keucheleiter: Hubert Pinkerton

Kuechekomitee: Kim Walter, JoAnn Martini and all regular dinner volunteers

Kulturreferentinnen (Culture Advocates): Christa Pullion & Luise Scheideler

Jugendreferentinnen (Youth Advocates): Christina Malofiy & Emma Walter

Scholarship Program Director: Liz Tindall

Assistant Scholarship Program Directors: Christa Pullion & Katie James

Memorial Committee: Christa Pullion & Hans Martini

Newsletter Editor: Dennis J. Bauer

Assistant Newsletter Copy Editor: Melanie Brandecker

Publicity Chair/eNews Editor: Liz Tindall

Webmaster/Facebook Editor: Christina Malofiy

AutoKlub Chairman: Terry Huff , Vice Chairs: Patrick & Colin Huff

Artistic Directors: Ron Kernast & Sofi Walter

Hausmeister: Ernie Schirmer

Wirtschaftsmeister: Robert Walter

Board of Directors:

Chair: Liz Tindall 2021 – 2027

Mark Gruzlovic 2021 – 2027

Joseph Brandecker, Jr. 2019 – 2025

Eva Martini 2019 - 2025

Kim Walter 2019 – 2025

Anna Walls 2023 – 2029

Secretary: Katie James 2023 – 2029

Dachverband der Donauschwaben, USA Officers and Representatives:

Ray Martini, Landespräsident

Joseph Brandecker, Treasurer, Stiftung

Kathleen Martini, Landesjugendleiterin

Steve Brandecker, Club Representative, Stiftung

Hans Martini, Club Representative, Verband



2024 Summer— DATES & TIMES—Come out and join us!

◆July 4th Weekend— Annual
Club Camping and Canoe
Trip, Upper Delaware Riv-
er, PA.

◆July 14th, —the 19th An-
nual Auto & Cycle Show, German-American Pic-
nic Grove, Yardville, NJ, Sunday, 9am-2pm

◆July 21st-Club Summer Picnic, Sunday, 1pm.

◆September 15th— Harvest Fest Dinner, Sunday,
1pm

Please call (609) 585-1932 for all meal
reservations (advisable and required for both
Schlachtfests) or email at dsatrenton@aol.com.

Trenton Donauschwaben
on

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Hans Martini, Club Secretary
Email: dsatrenton@aol.com

www.Trentondonau.com

Vielen Dank !

To all of our members who do the work that al-
ways needs doing, THANKS!! Whether it's in the kitchen
or out by the tables; serving refreshments or baking pas-
tries; selling tickets or cleaning up; it takes many fine peo-
ple 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 sponsor our news-
letters. We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you again
soon.



*Auf Wiedersehen bei den
Donauschwaben!*

TRENTON DONAUSCHWABEN CLUB COOKBOOK IS SOLD OUT

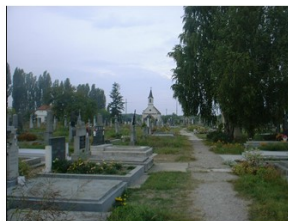
Attention All Cooks/Bakers— The cook books have been sold out! The
book contained over 95 recipes (breakfast, main dishes, appetizers,
sides, desserts, etc.). A big thanks to all of the many members and
friends who contributed their treasured recipes for this past edi-
tion. Also a special thanks to Christa Tindall Pullion & Kim Walter
and their helpers for all their hard work putting this book together.
Vielen Dank!

However, we are now collecting additional recipes to include
in a new edition. So get those recipes to Liz Tindall.



Please consider sponsoring our quarterly printed newsletter. Cost is
\$35 annually. Have any news or milestone events to share? Please send
them to Dennis Bauer, our newsletter publisher at donauschwaben5@gmail.com. He has been our Club Newsletter Editor for
over 25 years, Wow! ***

*A Collection of Genealogical Information
of Palankaer-Americans and Related
Family Members - 1895 to 2008
(Includes a history of the Donauschwaben in Palanka,
Batschka, Austria-Hungary and the Trenton, NJ Area)*



The Roman Catholic cemetery and chapel in German Palanka taken in the 1990s.

Compiled by Dennis J. Bauer and the late Peter Kiss
Genealogical Information abstracted by Dennis J. Bauer

In 2008, Club member, Dennis
J. Bauer published a book about the Pal-
ankaer-Americans. (Volume 1) . He in-
corporated information that our late Club
member Peter Kiss had collected over the
years. Dennis distributed his book to in-
terested Palankaers around the globe and
libraries in the U.S., Germany and Serbia
following the completion of the book.

If you would like a copy of the
book in pdf digital format, please contact
him. at donauschwaben5@gmail.com. A
copy is also on file at the NJ State Li-
brary.

He is now working on Volume 2
for printing in 2024. This issue will in-
clude information on Palankaer-

Canadians too.