

Trentoner Donauschwaben Nachrichten

Volume 7 Issue 3

July-September 2007



Points of Interest

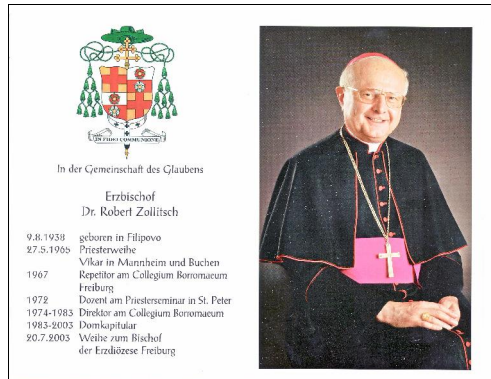
- From 1820-1980 more than 7 million German speaking people came to America.
- The first Germans to America were Quakers and settled in Germantown (Philadelphia) in 1683.
- By the mid-1700s, 1/3 of the PA population were Germans.
- Many Hessian soldiers deserted during the Revolution and joined the Colonial forces.
- Over 12,000 Hessians soldiers would stay in America after the war.
- Gold was discovered in CA in 1848 on the farm of John Sutter, a German.
- Milwaukee has a neighborhood named "Over the Rhine" by mid 19th century German immigrants.
- Because Germans "melted" into American society, they are dispersed all over the U.S.
- Source: *The German-American answer Book*, 1999.

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Donauschwaben Bishop Leads Pilgrimage



Archbishop Robert Zollitsch, a native of the Donauschwaben town of Filipova, lead this year's very well attended pilgrimage at St. Peter's church in Philadelphia. For the last 29 years, Donauschwaben and Germans of every stripe have gathered to memorialize the tragic aftermath of WWII in prayer and song at the shrine of St. John Neumann. It has often been said that the survivors of the death camps in Yugoslavia promised God they would do an annual pilgrimage if they escaped with their lives. This event, and others like it in Canada and Germany, makes good on that promise.

Organized by the Philadelphia Donauschwaben with Frau Kaethe Marx and Philadelphia President Rosalie Matico at the forefront, this year's event featured many of our own members assisting in the memorial mass and parade. We were delighted that members from the German American Society were also on hand as were many of our friends from the New York Donauschwaben and a variety of other regional clubs. It was most impressive... and very spiritually uplifting for Catholics and Protestants alike.

For those of our readers who haven't been able to attend a pilgrimage, the event begins with a parade that winds its way around the block. Flags, flowers, and the ubiquitous nine white crosses bearing names of the many camps where thousands of Donauschwaben

perished are all part of the procession. Our own Brittaney, Anna, Luisa, and Christina carried a statue of the Madonna and were all dressed in white. The entire thing was quite beautiful to behold.

Inside the soaring walls of the magnificent St. Peter's Cathedral, a combined chorus of all three Philly choral groups sang the Schubert mass in a manner that sent shivers down the spine. The main celebrant, Archbishop Zollitsch, is one of the more erudite clergymen anyone is likely to meet and his homily reflected it. He spoke about the "loaves and fishes" and how it relates to us as children of God. He is the head of the second largest diocese (Freiburg) in Germany and so is one of the church's shining stars. As expected, he included references to his being a Schwob and how his experiences in the death camps shaped his thinking (his brother was killed in the Filipova massacre at just 16 years of age).

After this most memorable service, we all returned to the Philadelphia Donauschwaben for a reception for the archbishop. The place was packed with almost 200 guests! Everyone wanted to meet and be with this very special person. One of the highlights of the event was a gathering of all the Filipova natives (roughly 25 or more) for a group shot with the archbishop. This included a 98-year-old Filipova man who traveled all the way down from Long Island, NY to participate in the event. His granddaughter said "she wanted to do this for him." Surely, this puts the importance of this event in the proper perspective.

We'd like to thank our sister organization, the Philadelphia Donauschwaben, for continuing this pilgrimage tradition so successfully over the years and we look forward to next year's 30th anniversary. Hope to see you there!



Club Matters & Members



Akron Road Trip!

Akron is famous not only for being the home of Goodyear Tire Co. but in the Donauschwaben world it's famous for having a wonderful club too. Getting to this central Ohio city was the goal of six club

members this past April to participate in the annual meeting of Donauschwaben organizations like ours from across this great country. In club-speak it was the "Jahreshauptversammlung der Verband der Donauschwaben, USA" or "big meeting" for short.

While five of the Trenton club's members (Joe, Dennis, Caroline, JoAnn and Hans) were traveling at maximum velocity in the presidential limousine (Joe B's SUV) from the Trenton area, one member was making his way up from the Peach State of Georgia. That's right, dear readers, it was Ray Martini flying in for the meeting from Atlanta. Unfortunately Ray didn't realize his frequent flyer miles only entitled him to an airplane ride in a crop duster. He described the single row plane as having a pilot, co-pilot and flight attendant... all in the same person. Despite being a veteran of more than a few short-hop commutes, Ray claims he still got a bit nervous when the pilot yelled back to no one in particular: "Is the door closed?"

Somehow Ray did arrive safely that Friday, meeting us at the hotel in time for a quick trip to a most enjoyable "camaraderie evening" held at the host club. The main meeting followed the next day with at least 200 and probably more showing up from across the country. There were Schwobs from every generation on hand with a very impressive showing of young people. The reports given by each city/club were, with just a few exceptions, entirely positive. It really is amazing how well things seem to be going in so many of the clubs. This would include our own organization of course. Trenton's reputation as the "little club that roars" is well established and was reinforced by an excellent report given by President Joe Brandecker. Of even greater value seemed to be the "break out" groups covering individual areas of club life. Here, ideas would be exchanged, solutions offered, networks established, etc.

Long distance club member Ray Martini spoke about his attempts to get a club started in Atlanta. Everyone seemed most supportive but all recognized how difficult such an undertaking is in his part of the country. He's not alone down there however, and many members of the recently formed and very successful "DVHH (Donauschwabes Villages Helping Hands)" online organization come from Ray's area. One of that group's spokespeople, Tina Leto, was on hand to report on their activities in an effort to foster closer ties with the Verband. Our own Dennis J. Bauer is a very active part of this online organization and it truly is a wonderful resource for all of us (check it out at www.dvhh.org).

Wow, what a fabulous meeting we had! It's very clear

to all that spirit and enthusiasm of our Donauschwaben movement is alive, well and moving forward. Thanks to our hosts at the Akron Donauschwaben and to the Verband for organizing things (U.S.A. President Leo Mayer from California and his staff did a good job). We look forward to seeing everyone again in Mansfield in September over Labor Day!

Scholarship Committee Seeks Donations



The Donauschwaben is delighted that its scholarship program is off to a good start. To raise funds for the scholarship awards, the club held its first raffle during the June pig roast. Thanks to prize donations by members Maria Petty (fabulous afghan lady!) and Manfred Grotzke (hand-crafted stool), our club raised \$115. Not bad at all! Our AutoK-

lub has already made a commitment to donate auto show proceeds to the fund.

While we plan other raffles to benefit the program, we would like to take this opportunity to invite readers of this newsletter to donate directly to the fund. Your donation will strengthen a growing program and make a direct and positive impact on our efforts to promote the learning of the German language. Please make checks out to "Donauschwabes Scholarship Fund" in any amount (\$5 and up) and send it to: Scholarship Fund Danube Swabian Association 127 Route 156 Yardville, NJ 08620. Herzlichen Dank!!

SEE YOU IN MANSFIELD, OHIO

The club is pleased to report that over 30 members will be making their way to Mansfield for this Labor Day's Donauschwabentreffen. That makes it several years in a row that Trenton will be present with a sizable group at what is, by all accounts, a truly enjoyable weekend. Look for a full report in the next newsletter issue.

By the way, next year's Treffen will be held at what is arguably the finest Donauschwaben club facility in North America, Cleveland, OH. President Joe Brandecker intends to advertise space on a full sized bus for this special event so that all our members will have the option of going along next time around. Please be advised that the '08 event will feature the Dr. Awender dance competition for youth groups, a highly enjoyable spectacle.

So plan now to attend the 2008 Donauschwabentreffen dear readers!

Club Matters & Members –Continued



FRANZ HERDT FAMILY COMBO!

Who from the “old timers” at the club can forget the “Tradewinds” band lead by our own Franz Herdt in the 1970s? The group got its start here at the club and was always a featured attraction at our special events. In that original band were club member Barby Galati (geb. Herdt) on key board, club member Mike Galati on drums, Bob Klein on trombone and Charlie Swope on Trumpet. What a great run that band had! Through the years, Franz continued this wonderful German-American musical tradition with a variety of members, always staying true to his roots.

It really is no surprise that Franz would bring his love for music to his fine family of two daughters, Lexi and Tori, and son, Christian. Actually the musical “thing” runs on both sides of the family as Frank’s wife, Arlene, has a father, Joe Ialacci, who’s a respected musician in this area, playing the piano and singing in a variety of venues. Anyway, Frank premiered his new band of father , daughters and son this past July to great acclaim at our club’s very well attended pig roast picnic. They were wonderful.

Those of our readers who were not able to attend the picnic will soon be able to see the group this coming October. We’ve asked them to help us celebrate the club’s 51st anniversary where they will be providing music for your listening and dancing pleasure.

Congratulations to the melodious Herdt family!

Grüss Gott!

The Trenton Donauschwaben gives a hearty welcome to three folks who joined us recently at the club from across the Atlantic. Present at the July picnic were Annaliese Engels from up north in Schleswig Holstein, Germany. She’s the sister of club member Martha Sawadski. The state of Schleswig Holstein borders Denmark and is truly a remarkable place to visit.

Quite a bit further south is the state of Bavaria from which the two other visitors hail. The Martini family welcomed 19 year old Katharina Martini from Ottenhofen (out by the “new” Munich airport) and her friend, Susanna Andres of Markt Schwa-

ben (also outside Munich). These fine young ladies were on a “tour America” made possible by their parents to celebrate their having passed the “Abitur”. Students of German academic system know that the Abitur is the exit/entrance exam for those intending to continue on to bigger and better things at the University level. Kathi and Susanna’s USA visit went from Florida to New Jersey to California.....Not bad for a graduation present!

We wish all of our visitors the very best and hope they’ll come back and visit us soon!

Jim Brunner Honored



We are happy to report that Jim Brunner (second from the left) was presented with the club's "Gedicht" award this past May. Jim's been an active and hard working club member for a number of years now and the Donauschwaben, represented by President Joe Brandecker, was very pleased to recognize his efforts in front of a full house of fellow members and friends. Actually Jim's award was a longish 8 months late in coming. He was to have received the "Gedicht" last October! We regret that a comedy of errors, bad timing and technical snafus (assuming not finding the microphone qualifies as a technical snafu!) formed something like a perfect storm of miscues, preventing the presentation from happening sooner.

Jim's been "up with the cows" on many a club pig roast morning; has thrown his hand into the Bratwurst mix during many a Schlachtfest, helps at our auto shows and is always a most supportive and friendly guy to have around. He is very much part of that indispensable group of folks who do the work that needs to be done here at the Donauschwaben. Congratulations and thank you Jim!

AutoKlub Car Show Featured in Publication

This region’s chapter of the Porsche Club of America, called Schattenbaum (or “shade tree” as in “shade tree mechanic”), reported on our car show in their most recent publication. The newsletter, “Schatten Rappen”, devoted a half page to the event, giving a brief run down of the event along with a nice photo showing two of the show’s winners. It is perhaps a sign of our event’s increasing popularity and credibility that WE are now the story! Check out their website at Schattenbaum.org .

Achtung Donauschwaben! PLEASE send us your family’s news for inclusion in our newsletter. Don’t be bashful, dear readers, we really want this newsletter to be as all-inclusive as it can possibly be. We can only print what we know or hear about so send us your information at the contact numbers listed at the back. Thanks!

Genealogy, Culture & History Section



Reed Roofed House of Northeastern Germany

Club member Manfred Grotzke just returned from a four week stay with his family in Germany. Among the many interesting sites he encountered was the “fashionable again” thatched roofs one finds near the Baltic Sea not far from the island of Ruegen.

This is the same material traditional Donauschwabern homes were roofed with! Today’s “modern” water reed roof has a most distinctive look, is far more thermally efficient than anything on the market, is eco-friendly, and lasts up to 50 years (the ridge needs maintenance every 8 to 10 years but that’s no biggie apparently). It does cost a bit more than tile or slate. However it certainly does give the house a character all its own. Good things never go out of style! **

ANCESTRY FAIR IN BUCKS COUNTY

The Bucks County tourism board will be holding an Ancestry Fair on September 29th and 30th at the visitor’s center on Street Road in Bensalem, PA. Those interested in genealogy will be delighted. There will be information on research, scrap booking and photo restoration.

Susan Koelble, a local genealogist and member of the local chapter of the *Association of Professional Genealogists (APG)* will be present. Our own Dennis Bauer is also a member of the APG and plans on attending. There will be genealogical vendors at the fair also. ***

CLUB MEMBERS REPRESENT DVHH AT THE ANNUAL DONSCHWABEN VERBAND MEETING



Club members Ray Martini and Dennis Bauer not only represented the Trenton Donauschwaben at the April 21-23 Verband meeting in Arkron, OH, but also represented the Donauschwaben Villages Helping Hands web site organization. They joined DVHH members Tina Leto and Hans Kopp (see photo to left, Martini, Leto, Bauer & Kopp). Ray also represented the newly organized Atlanta Donauschwaben.

They also met with Nenad Stefanovic, of Serbia, who recently released the English version of his book, “A People on the Danube—The Fate of the Germans in Yugoslavia under the communist regime of Tito”.

Nenad (photo to right with Tina Leto and Hans Kopp) has collected conversations and commentaries from both Serbian and German witnesses to the genocide of the Donauschwaben. It is a great addition to anyone’s historical book collection. He also received a certificate of appreciation from the Verband for his book and research on the topic.*****



Ortssippenbuch Author Passes

“Dear Donauschwaben,

I am sorry to advise that Johann Pertschi, devoted Filipowa researcher and author of two Filipowa Ortssippenbuch volumes passed away on July 2, 2007. His funeral was on Monday, July 9. (see funeral card on page 7).

Mary Ann Fischer, who learned of the sad news from her cousin, reported by Johann's wife, states, "This man has devoted so much of his life to the history of the Batschka, both with his book and CD." Johann was the author of Ortssippenbuch Filipowa, in der Batschka, 1763-1944, published in 1989 and he also produced a second Filipowa volume in 1994, as well as a recently released CD.

It must be recognized that the commitment required to document an entire village is an unselfish personal sacrifice, and that the families of such dedicated persons as Johann Pertschi have also supported these endeavors through the loss of their loved ones' golden hours spent, for the benefit of others.

In extending our sincere condolences to friends and family of Mr. Pertschi, we also acknowledge the legacy passed on to the Batschka community and a job well done. May he rest in peace.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen, *Nancy Fredenberg*”

DVHH Asst. Batschka Coordinator (Permission to publish granted)

Membership News

2007 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 *Terry Huff*— AutoKlub Leader
Harold Parr— President of German Language School *Melanie L. Brandecker*— Newsletter Copy Editor
Dennis J. Bauer & Terry Penrith— Website Committee *Adam Martini/Andy Franz/Mike Lenyo*— Staff Writers
Dennis J. Bauer— V.P. for Cultural Affairs, Club Genealogist, Newsletter Editor



2007 Cruisin Classic Car Show at Philly Cannstatter

Mark your calendars for August 11 (from 9am to 3pm) for their 6th annual car show. As in the past our AutoKlub should be well represented with their cars at this fun-filled day at the Philly Cannstatter on Academy Road in Northeast Philly (just off I-95).

In addition to cars, the club offers great food and adult beverages at the biergarten. There are plenty of shady trees in the picnic grove area to escape the sun. Join us and support our AutoKlub members. See you there.

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

Congratulations: **Lyla Rose Lenyo**, graduated from Hamilton High West this past June. This September she will attend Montclair State College in North Jersey where she'll be studying business. Best of luck to this talented young lady!

To members **Irmgard and Ed Thompson** on their 48th wedding anniversary. Wir gratulieren!

To members **Dennis & Donna Bauer** who celebrated their 35th Wedding Anniversary on 8 July 2007.

To member **Anna Martini** for earning the Microsoft Office Certification for Word 2003 at Hamilton High School.

To member **Joe Brandecker, Jr.** for earning a 1st Place target shooting trophy (age 12+) at the 10 June 2007 Kolping Society Day at the Philly Donauschwaben. Joe as also recovered from his foot injury and should be back on the track running soon.

To **Eric J. Paar**, son of Marie and Harold Parr, who graduated from Rutgers University in May with honors, Doctor of Pharmacy. Eric is with Acme Pharmacy in Hamilton, NJ.

To **Christa Tindall** recently received her Masters degree in Education (M.S. Ed) from the University of Pennsylvania. She plans to be a German or Social Studies teacher in an area high school starting this fall.

To long time member **Martha Sawadski** on her marriage to Helmut Bartlog on 3 June 2007. Their reception was held at the Arbeiters.

Thanks: to our friends at the **German-American Society** for co-sponsoring the 2007 Auto Show. We enjoyed working with the GAK members on this special event again this year.

Welcome home: to members **Brittaney Brandecker** and **Klare Andrichuk** on their July trip to Great Britain.

Gute Besserung: Get well soon to members **Sophie Brandecker, Katie Helleis, Dieter Brand, Kellianne Mayer, Mike Colacello, Joseph Wildmann, Rosa Wildmann, Kaethe Marx, Pat and Bob Wesley, Jim Lieblang** and member **Steven Gruzovic**.



Unser Beileid: The Donauschwaben extends its sympathy and condolences to the family of member **Paul Radtke**. Paul's mother, **Hildegard**, age 95, passed away in Germany. May she rest in peace.

Willkommen: New member **Albert and Maria Prummer** (geb. Schlapp) of Hamilton, NJ. Albert is originally from Munich, Germany and Maria is originally from Parabutsch, Yugoslavia.

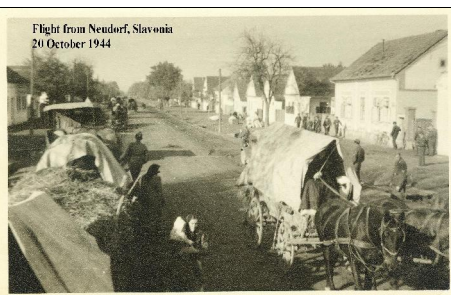
Danke Schoen!

Thanks to member **Detlef Kempe** for his donation of kitchenware to the club.

Special Thanks: The AutoKlub would like to offer a special thanks to "friends of the AutoKlub", **Todd and Rick Search, Don Solt, Dave Wood** and **Fred Philhower** and also the **21 DSA Club volunteers** who helped make the Auto Show another success.

In addition, as in the past, member **Gary McGhee** did a great job at the Auto Show as DJ and MC. We also thank him for promoting our show at other car shows/cruise nights throughout the spring and summer.

Deutsche Ecke, Seite 1



Flight from Neudorf, Slavonia
20 October 1944

Neudorf

Editor's Note: Club member Ludwig Jakober, his sister Luise, his mother and his Neuburger grandparents fled their home in the Donauschwaben town of Neudorf toward the end of WWII. Ludwig Jakober's sister, Luise, wrote this account and our newsletter staff translated it to English.

Once upon a time there was a wonderful little town called Neudorf. It was populated by Donauschwaben who were well-known for their industriousness and positive attitude. Indeed, they were a happy and successful people. But then came WWII and with it came hatred and death.

Fathers and sons had to join the military and many would not return. They would die and be buried in unmarked graves in foreign lands. As the war drew to a close the front came closer and closer to our town. Meanwhile, bomber aircraft and partisans made our lives a misery. Eventually, the German military marched into our town with the intention of saving us from our attackers. This created great anxiety and fear among the townsfolk because we knew this was the beginning of the end.

Sirens wailed and bombers came. Mothers grabbed their children and fled for safety. When would this terror end? The worst memory of this

horrible time came during an evening bombing raid. Eight townsfolk died in one bomb blast. Grandparents and townspeople searched and searched the wreckage for signs of life. Yet they found nothing but scattered remains and little else. Four of the victims were children which just added to the pain our town felt. Even as the funeral procession made its way to the cemetery, bombers circled overhead threatening more death and destruction.

One day the town crier called on us to pack up and be ready to leave. It was the 20th of October and the wagons and horses stood ready to take us away. It was a day none of us from Neudorf will ever forget. No one knew where we would go or for how long. We had to run for our lives and we were afraid.

One more time through the familiar gates beyond which stood wagons packed full with our possessions, then at once we left Neudorf, riding away through strange villages along endless streets. We crossed the river Drau by the town of Dolji Miholjac. We then began experiencing difficulties as wagon wheels began to break under the strain.

The horses pulled with all their might, often getting stuck in the morass along the way. Our Donauschwaben wagon train passed into Hungary much the same way our ancestors did generations ago - except this time it was in the opposite direction. After weeks of travel we ended up in Austria, in the region called Burgenland. It was during the cold of winter and the strain of the ordeal showed on everyone.

After six weeks on the road our group finally halted in a place

called Boehmerwald. Unfortunately, no one was happy to see us refugees and we were told to go home, go away. We were homeless and tired and had a hard time accepting what was happening. Hunger was everywhere present and it was only with ration cards that we were able to obtain some sugar, meat and bread.

Finally on May 7th, 1945, the war came to an end. We packed up and got ready to return home. At the Yugoslav border we learned that our previous farewell from Neudorf was to be our last. There was no going back.

It's been over 60 years since those trying days at the end of WWII. With renewed determination we started over and built new lives for ourselves. We're doing fine and times are good. Yet - and yet - we still remember every street and house from our beloved town. The fertile fields and bustling farms, everything we left behind. The war took it all away. We are now just visitors to our own homes when we dare to go back. A guest in your own home, it's so hard to accept. Everything looks different, strange and... sad. Our church, our center of worship, was torn down by the new inhabitants - for what?

You know, time does heal all wounds and we're thankful for our new homeland and the blessings we've enjoyed. We are at peace with the way things turned out. But Neudorf still lives on in our hearts. The home where we were born won't soon be forgotten. Folks from Neudorf, wherever they are, are connected in mind and spirit. We believe in the love of God and pray for peace among men.

I close this story by wishing all those from Neudorf the following: Be well and God bless all of you and your families.

Luise Jakober

Deutsche Ecke, Seite 2



29. Deutsche Wallfahrt zum Heiligen Johannes N. Neumann 10. Juni 2007, in Philadelphia

Ein ereignisvoller Tag welcher wir schon seit 2004 erwarteten. Ein Schwabenkind aus Filipovo, der das Lager Gakovo überlebte, Priester und Erzbischof geworden ist, Hochwürden Dr. Robert Zollitsch, der am Fronleichnam-Sonntag unser Zelebrant war.

Der Erzbischof landete in Washington mit seinem Sekretär Rev. Michael Maas am 8. Juni und sie wurden vom Freund Rev. Michael Schapfel empfangen, welcher dort eine Firmung geplant hatte.

Am 9. Juni trafen sie in Philadelphia ein und wurden Gast der St. Peter Pfarrei. Wir danken Rev. und Pastor Moley für seine Gastfreundschaft! Er machte auch eine Führung mit den Gästen durch die wunderschöne 150 Jahre alte Kirche, sowie den Schrein des Heiligen Neumann und Museum. Diese Kirche wurde von Deutschen erbaut in vielen freiwilligen Stunden, nach der Tagesarbeit.

Am Sonntagmorgen begann die Prozession mit den Gläubigen um 10:15 morgens. Die weissen Kreuze mit den Namen der Lager zuerst, Fahnen, vier Marienmädchen: Anna, Luisa und

Christina Martini und Brittaney Brandecker und zwei Filipovo Trachten getragen von Christine Matthews und Laureen Veitz. Jugendliche trugen zwei Nelken-Vasen mit dem Band: „Den Toten der Heimat“ und stellten es vor dem Altar ab.

Der Erzbischof, Rev. Schapfel, Rev. Maas, Rev. E. Michel, Rev. C. Zlock, Rev. C. Hergenroter, Msgr. Tomiscek und fünf Ministranten zogen als Letzte in die Kirche ein, unter den Klängen „Wohin soll ich mich wenden“. Die Sänger des Franklinville, Schwarzwald-Quartetts und des Waldechos, mit der Organistin Gertrud Morsehead, Direktor Guy Rothfuss, sangen die ganze Schubert-Messe zu jedermanns Freude.

Die Kirche war herrlich mit hellgelben Gladiolen geschmückt. Wir danken St. Peter Pfarrei dafür.

Beide Lesungen wurden von Hans Martini, Trenton Donauschwaben, einwandfrei und mit klarer Stimme vorgelesen. Das Evangelium liess Rev. Charles Zlock.

Die inhaltsreiche Predigt von Herrn Erzbischof wurde aufmerksam aufgenommen. Sie spendete Trost und sprach alle Anwesende an. *

Alle Leute waren froh, glücklich und zufrieden dieser schönen Messe beigewohnt zu haben.

Nach der Hl. Messe wurden im Schulhof viele Bilder gemacht mit dem Erzbischof und seinen Landsleuten. Welch ein wunderschöner Tag, der soviele Teilnehmern zusammen rief, sogar aus Chicago, Virginia, New York und Trenton! Ein 98 jähriger Mann kam aus New York mit der Enkelin angereist, er war übergücklich dabei gewesen zu sein. Viele Heimerinnerungen wurden ausgetauscht, die aus der Jugend und Vorkriegszeit stammten.

Anschliessend war ein Empfang im Heim der Philadelphia Donauschwaben, wo ein Andenken vom Rathaus der Stadt Philadelphia, durch den Vertreter des Bürgermeisters Street Herrn Al Taubenberger, an den Erzbischof überreicht wurden: Eine grosse Freiheitsglocke mit Widmung, ein grosses Bild des Rathauses mit Widmung vom Stadt-Rat, und zwei kleinere Freiheitsglocken an die Priester Rev.

Schapfel und Rev. Maas, vom Bürgermeister.

Präsidentin der Philadelphia Donauschwaben Frau Rosalie Matico überreichte ein Geldgeschenk und ein Donauschwaben-Teller dem hohen Gast. Der Herr Erzbischof überraschte uns mit Geschenken: An Rosalie Matico ein CD mit wunderschönen Kirchenlieder, aufgenommen im Münster von Freiburg. Ich bekam vom Hochwürden Herr Dr. Zollitsch das interessante Buch „Himmel in Stein“, das Freiburger Münster, das zugleich eine Anregung sein soll öfters die Verwandten in Deutschland zu besuchen. Er dankte für die Einladung zum heutigen Tag und erwähnte, dass dies schon seit unserer Begegnung in Rom 2004, festgelegt wurde.

Ich dankte dem Erzbischof für die Aufmerksamkeit und sagte: Wir sind dem Herrgott dankbar, dass er Gakovo überlebt hat und Priester und Erzbischof geworden ist. Zu dieser hohen Berufung wünschen wir Ihnen Gesundheit und reichsten Gotesegen auf allen Ihren Wegen!

Eine Privataudienz mit Kardinal Rigali in Philadelphia steht am 11. Juni bevor.

Der Herr Erzbischof verabschiedete sich von uns mit Segen und verbleibt noch drei Tage in Washinton um einigen Einladungen zu folgen.

Wir danken seiner Exzellenz für das Kommen!

*Käthe Marx, Sekretärin
der Philadelphia Donauschwaben*

- For a copy of Erzbischof Dr. Zollitsch sermon call (609)-586-6109.

Johann Pertschi, devoted Filipowa researcher passes



Wernau, den 7. Juli 2007

Dein Weg war Liebe und Stärke.
Wir haben unendlich viel verloren.

Johann Pertschi

* 9. November 1922 † 2. Juli 2007

In Liebe und Dankbarkeit:
Renate Pertschi
und alle Verwandten

Die Trauerfeier mit anschließender Urnenbeisetzung findet Montag, 9. Juli 2007, um 14 Uhr in der Kirche auf dem Erasmusfriedhof in Wernau statt.

Auto Show Items



The 3rd Euro-American Auto Another Success!!

The weather was fine, the food and drinks were fine and so were all those fine cars and trucks! This year's show was held on 7 July 2007 at the German-American Society Picnic Grove in Yardville once again. The German-American Society and the Trenton Donauschwaben again co-hosted the show and made it work!

Last year we had 120 car entries (Entries and AutoKlub member vehicles). This year we had over 136 cars and trucks. Our AutoKlub committee had its first planning meeting all the way back on 11 January 2007.

Fifty trophies were awarded to the top vehicles. Additional trophies were awarded for "Best American" - George Ott's 1937 Pontiac, "Peoples Choice" - Doug Kasics' 1957 Chevy and "Best Euro" - Frits Hager's 1976 Porsche 912E (see photo above) . Proceeds will go to the Club's German Language Scholarship Fund.

We want to thank ALL those that entered their vehicles. It was extremely difficult picking trophy winners and you are ALL winners in our book.

The Trenton Donauschwaben AutoKlub would like to thank all our sponsors that either sponsored a trophy or donated items for our grab bags, door prizes or raffle. You helped make the show another success!

Our 2007 Trophy Sponsors

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AUTOKLUB CAR SHOW T-SHIRTS!



The AutoKlub has car show T-shirts for sale. They are white with the AutoKlub logo on the back and lettering about

the annual event. Sizes are; small, medium, large and X-large at a cost of \$15. See any officer for yours today!



WHERE ARE THE KEYS TO YOUR VETTE ONKEL STEVE?

Evan Bauer, 20 months old, is taking after Opa Dennis Bauer and Tante Melanie Brandecker as a motor head. He loves cars and trucks, and especially VWs! and of course Corvettes.

Look out Terry! You may have competition for AutoKlub Leiter.



Our Autoklub Travels



Brittaney Drives

You all know that feeling when you get your license. You so happy you start to cry, your jumping for joy. You start to feel the freedom, you can finally drive by yourself, no parents.

For me that happened seven months ago and I couldn't be happier. At that moment when the guy said I passed I just wanted to cry because I realized that I was worried about nothing.

The only thing that I was missing was a car. Everyone wants to have that perfect first car. The one with the new car smell, the one where you can feel the wind blowing in your hair, the one with a working air conditioning, and the one your parents will approve of. For me that was happening.

My dad said he would get me a car, but what I didn't realize was that I would be getting my Oma's old car. I mean it was a good car, it was in good condition, and I didn't have to pay a million dollars for it. At first, I really didn't want it. I thought about just getting rid of it, but I couldn't. After awhile I just gave into it that this was going to be my car.

By the time I gave in, it was already January /February and the car had been sitting on the street and had not been driven for about a year. When my dad finally got it inspected and got it all ready for me, I was super excited. At first I really wanted to have the perfect car and the wind blowing in my hair but, after awhile I realized that wasn't going to happen so I took what I had.

When I first got to drive it, it was the best feeling in the world. I could finally feel that freedom of not having to wait for my parents everywhere and being able to drive anywhere. After driving it to school a couple times, I started to get jealous of the beautiful cars people got, mostly the spoiled rich kids had the perfect cars and I wanted to be one of them so badly. However, I knew I couldn't.

But of course, like any other used car, it had it's problems. At first the car wouldn't start right. Then it went to the air conditioning not working at all. With the air conditioning not working, I had to have the windows down and of course the windows had to not be working either. And then at that point I thought that nothing else could go wrong, I wouldn't let anything else go wrong. But unfortunately, nothing is perfect and everything went down hill from there.

By April I was done, I couldn't take it anymore. The car just had to many problems and I was stressed out as it was and I didn't need anymore. I told my dad and he said we would take it and get the car checked out and see what needed to be fixed. By the time that had been done and the cost was added for what needed to be fixed, it wasn't worth it.

After that my dad didn't really want to get it fixed. The price to fix it was outrageous. So my dad and I started to look at new cars. I had seen a couple that I liked, but would never be able to afford. So while looking for the perfect car I had to take the bus to school and back. It really wasn't fun, considering I

was the only Junior on the bus that had a license and wasn't able to drive to school.

After a couple of weeks of taking the bus, my family and I finally went to the car dealer and looked at a car. The car I really wanted was the Chevy Cobalt LS, but my mom thought it wouldn't be safe considering that it didn't have power windows and locks. Then we looked at the four door and it was a little more, but it had everything that I was looking for. It was the perfect car. It had windows that worked. The air conditioning worked so I didn't have to always have the windows down. It was also really roomy, so I could fit more people in it. Not that I would be driving with a lot of people in it. However, after taking it for a test drive I fell in love with it and I wanted it. After my parents talked about it, they decided I could get the 2007 Chevy Cobalt. At first I didn't think that I would be getting a brand new car. However, this car made me happy and I really felt the freedom.

Now after having the car for a few weeks, I couldn't be happier. I have been taking good care of it like watching where I park it, and keeping it clean. But I have realized one thing in this process we all take things for granted and that if we all took the time to realize it, we would all have the perfect car in the first place. ***

AUTOKLUB MEMBERS NEW RIDES

Pat Huff—2007 Triumph Thruxton 900 Motorcycle



Brittaney Brandecker-2007 Chevy Colbalt



Martini Racing Team" driver Anna Martini 2001 VW Jetta .



Dan Penrith and his 2004 VW Golf



Good Luck on your new vehicles!!!!

Pope Weighs in on Driving!

Does it really surprise anyone that a German pope would offer religious guidance on driving? After all, Pope Benedict the 16th comes from the land of Porsche, BMW and Mercedes Benz, where driving flat out on Germany's famous super-highways is considered by many to be a divine right for heaven's sake (no pun intended). So how many times did the Pontiff blast down the Autobahn at triple digit speeds because he didn't want to be late for mass? Well... we're sure it wasn't *that* often!

In any case, the Vatican just issued some well reasoned do's and don'ts for the faithful taking to the road. It's called "Guidelines for Pastoral Care of the Road" and covers everything from being a Good Samaritan to not using the car as an expression of power and dominance. Hopefully they'll be passing out some copies at the church exits on Sunday, the way out of the parking lot can be mighty dicey at times! All kidding aside, if the church can help make our roads just a tiny bit safer by encouraging courteous driving practices, we say "sehr gut"!

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2007 GERMAN HERITAGE FEST

On September 9, 2007, the German Heritage Council will be celebrating its 34th Annual German Heritage Festival held at the PNC Bank Arts Center. This year will be marked by a special event by a famous German singer/entertainer – HEINO, born Heinz – Georg Kramm in Düsseldorf – Oberbilk. He graciously agreed to perform one last time at the Festival for us, under the motto “Deutschland – Meine Heimat”.

Starting on September 1, 2007, Heino will begin a 40 – city tour in Germany. During that time, Heino will come to perform for the last time at the Festival. In 2005, Heino celebrated 50 years as an entertainer and 40 years as a recording star. Christmas of 1948, his mother gave him an accordion and in 1955, he started with two other friends. Well known all over the world, as a performer, Heino has recorded over 1,000 songs since 1965. He has also appeared in countless number of television shows over the years as well as many awards and “Gold Records”.

Heino will be traveling New Jersey with his wife, Hannelore, of 28 years. In addition to Heino, there will be an additional appearance by Mandy Bach, whom Heino has promoted and supported since she was a child star.

As it has been since the first year, the Trenton Donauschwaben club will again be at the festival, selling its famous cakes and coffee. People come year after year and always come back looking for the deliciously made pastries. The Trenton/Philadelphia dance group will perform on both the mall and tent stages. There is always plenty of food and drink available. Tickets are \$14 for advance and \$20 for box seats. For tickets, you can contact Steve Brandecker at a club dinner or by phone at 609-265-7779 or Ted Hierl at 609-585-6757.

Lastly, this year we have something new going on at the festival – selling raffle tickets. 1st prize is a trip to Germany from LTU Airlines. 2nd prize is a 7 – day cruise and 3rd prize is a BMW Mountain Bike. Tickets are \$5 each or a book of five for \$20. Steve will be sure to see you at upcoming events. SB

Club Pictures - Summer 2007

3rd Annual Euro-American Auto Show — "It's All About Having Fun" - Gary McGhee!



Deutsche Sprach Schule Seite (Adult & Youth)

Trenton DSA awards two German Language Scholarships

Having turned fifty years old this past October, the club finds it of utmost importance that its strong traditions and values continue for generations to come. To that end, the Donauschwaben Verein formed the "Danube Swabian German language and culture scholarship", as a way to recognize those students who have demonstrated a love of the German language, traditions and culture. This spring was the first time that two college scholarships were offered to graduating students enrolled in the German classes taught in the three Hamilton high schools. Congratulations to Kiersten Patterson of Nottingham High School and Lyla Lenyo of Hamilton High School West, who were the first ever winners of the Danube Swabian German language and culture scholarship! Scholarship applications were distributed to all three Hamilton Township high school German classes.

The applicants were required to be high school seniors, having the equivalent of two years of high school German and an expressed interest in German culture/language. The criteria for selection was based upon two essays...one in English on "What the Study of German Means to Me" and the other essay, in German, on "My Most Memorable Experience in German Class". Other criteria for selection included; academic achievements, SAT scores and a summary of extracurricular and volunteer activities. We thank Dr. Kurt Mueller, of Tampa, Florida, who has volunteered to review and select the winners based upon the criteria stated above.

The Club has officially formed a scholarship committee going forward, chaired by Liz Tindall and daughter Christa, and will be presenting scholarships on an annual basis to deserving high school German students. There will be door prize drawings held at each Donauschwaben event, proceeds of which will benefit the scholarship fund. - *Liz Tindall, Scholarship Program Director*

Kinder Schule

The Kinder Schule is off for the summer and will return in September (photo—Kinder Schule performing at the June Pig Roast). Please contact Eva Martini at 586-6109 or woodworks5@AOL.com if you or someone you know has a school age child is able to attend. It is a great experience.



Adult Schule

The Adult Schule continues to meet Wednesday nights from 6:30—7:30 pm. They will take August off and return in September also.



Scholarship Winner Writes Letter

“To the Vereinigung der Donauschwaben,

I would sincerely like to thank you for the scholarship you have presented me. It is an honor to accept an award from such a devoted and superb establishment like yours. A couple of months ago, my family and I attended one of your Schlachtfests, suggested to me by my teacher Frau Christine Charlesworth. My family and I enjoyed every moment of it, from the delicious traditional cuisine, right down to the friendly atmosphere of everyone there. Your organization is simply wonderful and really gave my parents insight as to why I am so proud of our German heritage. They are looking forward to attending one again! Again, I would earnestly like to thank you for the scholarship. I guarantee that I will put it to good use as I continue on with my education into the German language and culture, in hopes of one day becoming completely fluent.

Danke Schön, *Kiersten Patterson*, Hamilton High School North – Nottingham High School”

Danke Schön to the AutoKlub

Our German Language Scholarship Committee would like to thank Terry Huff and the AutoKlub for deciding to donate a portion of the auto show proceeds towards the scholarship fund.

Club Events for the Summer 2007

EVENTS— DATES & TIMES

Come out and join us!

- ◆ Euro-American Auto Show, Sat., 7 July, 9am-3 pm at German-American Club.
- ◆ Pig Roast, Sunday, 22 July, 1pm
- ◆ DonauschwabenTreffen, 1-2 September, Mansfield, OH.
- ◆ German Heritage Fest, Sunday, 9 Sept., 10am-4pm, Holmdel, NJ.
- ◆ Children German School starts 14 Sept., Fridays at 6pm.
- ◆ Erntedankfestessen (Saurbraten), Sunday 23 Sept., 1pm.
- ◆ Wildwood Car Show Weekend, 20-23 Sept., Wildwood, NJ.

Please call Herr Joe Brandecker at 609-585-9001 or Frau Eva Martini (609) 586-6109 for meal reservations. Chicken is always available as an alternative to the featured dish (except at the Schlachtfest). Please let us know your preference in advance.

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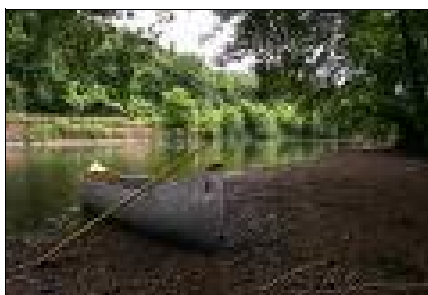
Vielen Dank !

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

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



Auf Wiedersehen bei den Donauschwaben!



Canoeing in the Pines

Having dumped most of his family into the Delaware river during a canoe trip a couple years back, this writer has resolved never to laugh about others who experience the same fate.... Hahahaha.... J Okay let's be serious, as long as no one gets hurt it's usually pretty darn funny when someone gets "up close and personal" with the local fish population! Such was the case this past Pine Barrens canoe trip when a couple of our intrepid canoeists did some unexpected water temperature testing. Despite this, however, the weather was super and our group had a great time.

Chief Donauschwaben outdoorsman, Steve Brandecker, handles the organizing for our club when it comes to matters of nature. He's been at it for many years (and follows the footsteps of legendary "Grizzly Ludwig" Jakober) and we're always thankful for his efforts. This year's Pine Barrens adventure included a dozen canoes and around 30 members and friends. By any measure, this was one of our better years.

It all starts at a local canoe rental place where everyone gathers. We throw our canoes onto the trailer and pile into some ancient mini school buses for a bouncy ride to our destination. No one really knows for sure how the canoes stay attached to the trailer, but it seems none have fallen off to date. Eventually, we reach the starting point where our canoeists embark on an enjoyable three hour journey through the very best that New Jersey has to offer. Hey, Bruce Springsteen knows what he's talking about good people, New Jersey's a great state and its natural beauty is just amazing.

At some point in the middle of the canoe trip we all stop at a nice beach area for lunch and camaraderie. It's a bonding moment everyone seems to enjoy. Afterwards, it's a lazy float toward our eventual destination where the rickety buses wait to pick us up. What a great experience it is for young and old alike. See you next year in the Pines!