

Trentoner Donauschwaben

Volume 1, Issue 3



May — July 2001

Special points of interest:

- Our second Club President was Jakob Eppli from Bukin.
- In 1973 our Club was renovated & expanded to its present size under President Adam Martini from Bukin.
- In 1973 Peter Kiss from Palanka spearheaded the DS Genocide memorial construction at Our Lady of Lourdes Cemetery.
- 1980 saw the start of our Adult Language School.

Remembering those that Died - A Pilgrimage – 3 June 2001



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A Message from our Corresponding Secretary

I'm pleased to have been asked by our newsletter editor, Dennis Bauer, to pen a column for the *Trentoner Donauschwaben Nachrichten*.

The club can be very proud of the fact that we have such a diligent and dedicated member to see to the bi-monthly publication of this newsletter. All he really has to do, of course, is be its writer, creator, researcher and computer guy. Naturally, Dennis must also serve as "the pusher man". Those of us who promise him articles must sometimes be persuaded or "pushed" to realize that the deadline is this month and not this month a year from now! Whoever coined the phrase: "one good manager is worth ten workers" knew whereof they spoke. Thanks Dennis!

Hans Martini

Rosa Wildmann!

As almost everyone knows, Rosa was our long-time Ladies' Auxiliary President and Kitchen Manager. Since her move down to North Carolina with her hubby, Joe, we haven't had the opportunity to recognize her many years of service in her presence. Recently, an opportunity presented itself when her children (Bob and-

Martha) decided to have Rosa and Joe's 50th anniversary celebration at the Club.

Billed as a surprise party for someone else, Rosa and Joe were unaware of the surprise waiting for them. They walked in through the back door of the Club and were startled by the cheering group of about 60 people. The moment was golden..., as was the occasion. Indeed, when this writer considers that he is just 25% of the way to his (and his wife's, coincidentally) 50th anniversary, the milestone seems all the more.... (Careful here)... monumental and, of course, wonderful!

Toward the end of the event, the Club took the opportunity to recognize Rosa for her dedication and hard work at the Donauschwaben. President Joe Brandecker re-presented a beautiful plaque we had inscribed for Rosa to the applause of an appreciative audience. Thanks again, Rosa!

We hope Rosa and Joe will long remember the time spent with friends on the occasion of their 50th anniversary. We know we will.

Wallfahrt nach Philadelphia

By Hans Martini

Those of you who read Adam Martini's column last time, will recall how important it is for those who survived WWII to participate in a Wallfahrt (pilgrimage). Our trip to St. Peter's Church in Philly this past June 3 also showed just how rewarding the event can be for the rest of us.

With its towering steeple, massive stone walls and majestic interior, the Cathedral of St. Peter seems like it was transported here from Germany. Little wonder then that it was in fact a congregation of Germans who built the structure. Inside the walls resound with melodies, talk and the noises of the church service. It surely does give you the impression that we as individuals are but a small part of the big picture. The experience can be humbling. But with all the festive colors, music and rituals held within those walls, the experience is decidedly uplifting as well.

This year, as in years' past, our group of 20 members included some of our youth: Josef, Brittany, Christina, Luisa and Anna were all dressed in traditional ethnic costume called Tracht. They were just a few of the many who would be in Tracht. Father Charles Zlock, a young American priest with

excellent German speaking ability, presided over the service with many of our members directly involved in various parts of the proceedings.

Thanks to all who attended. Special thanks go to our sister club in Philadelphia and to Fred Gauss and Kaethe Marx for their efforts to make this annual event a reality.



Club Matters by Hans Martini

New Members!

Anyone who knows someone who may be interested in joining our club should encourage them to do so! We are a more interesting and dynamic organization whenever there is a greater mix and number of people. Bring your friends! Membership applications can be had from any of our officers or by calling Hans Martini at 609-888-2762.

We would like to warmly welcome the following new members:

*Mr. Robert A. Schmidt and his wife Shirley from Willingboro, NJ

*Mr. Harold Fleming of Englewood, NJ

*Mr. John Bohnert of Grass Valley, California!

*Mr. John Feldenzer of Libby, Montana!

Those last two new members are a result of on-line interaction with Dennis Bauer and his genealogical research efforts. John Bohnert is a new found cousin of Dennis' and John Feldenzer is a fellow Palanka researcher.

Both have roots in Trenton, are interested in all things Donauschwaben and want to be supportive of our organization and its work. Many thanks!

Teacher Departing.

As students in our adult language class know, Sylvia Magnus has retired as one of our teaching staff. Sylvia began her time with us as a teacher back in the 70's when she had a class of grammar school aged children. Through the 1980's and 90's she taught our adult members the *der, die und das* of the German language. Your recent beginners class will certainly miss you.

The Club would like to thank her for all of her positive efforts in the school & in the kitchen. Vielen Dank, Sylvia!

German School.

As Club Director, Harold Parr, already informed our students the club will be able to carry on with a beginner class this September, in addition to the well-established intermediate class ably taught by Herr Louis Romolo. We en-

courage anyone interested in learning the language of our ancestors to please call Louis Romolo at 609-586-6712.

Genealogy is for Everyone!

Having participated in Dennis Bauer's genealogy seminar recently, it's quite apparent that the world of genealogy is much larger than you might think. Over 113 million Americans are currently involved in family history research. Sources for family histories are everywhere! Online, in your church, in the courthouse, and, even in your attic reside the makings of a family tree sure to be treasured for generations to come. This writer strongly encourages anyone who ever considered doing some family history research to attend the upcoming seminar this fall at the clubhouse. It is sure to be an interesting and informative way to help you get to know how to trace your ancestral roots!

Genealogy & History Section

Ellis Island Ship Passenger List 1892-1924 now On-line

Ellis Island, in the harbor of NYC, was the most popular U.S. port for immigrants to enter this country. It operated from 1892 to 1954. Millions of immigrants went through its gates on their way into America.

In April 2001 The American Family Immigration History Center opened and its web site, www.ellislandrecords.org went online. This new web site now gives internet users direct access to transcribed records from 1892-1924. More than 22 million individuals immigrated through this port during this time period. The aim of the National Park Service and the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation is to eventually to have all the years up to 1954 available online.

The information was taken from the National Archives ships' passenger manifests or lists. The data base was transcribed by over 12,000 volunteer members from the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints (Mormons).

The actual manifests are also digitized and scanned into the electronic data base. This information includes; Immigrant's given name, surname, ship name, port of entry, date of arrival, line number on

the manifest, gender, age, marital status, nationality and last residence. The data base can be searched using the on-line search engine. If you know your ancestor arrived at Ellis Island and can not find him or her, try alternative spellings of both the first and last names. As in any transcribed record, there will be errors of data entry. However the Foundation used a check system to try to minimize these errors.

For a nominal fee, visitors can also obtain a printout of their family's data, a copy of the scanned reproduction of the original ship list and a copy of a picture of the ship on which they arrived.

When the web site went on-line it was almost impossible to log onto the site. Since that time, however, it has not been as busy lately. It may take a few visits for you to become familiar with the site and speed your navigation of the site. Hang in there and you too many be discovering those immigrant ancestors that came to the U.S. through Ellis Island.

Dennis J. Bauer

Personal Ancestry File 5.0 Software is Free & a New Family History Center opens in Morrisville, PA

The genealogy program *Personal Ancestry File*, version 5.0, is now free from the Latter Day Saints/Mormons. All you have to do is download it from their web site at www.familysearch.org. You can also order a copy on CD-Rom from the web site for only \$5.00 if you do not want to take the time (several hours) to download the program.

The program is very user friendly and a must for anyone in-

*Personal Ancestry File 5.0 is
free!!*

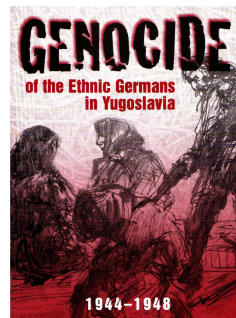
involved in keeping track of their family tree. You can easy print out pedigree charts, family group sheets and other charts to share with family members.

A new *Family History Center* (FHC) opened at the Morrisville, PA ward of the Latter Day Saints (Mormons). It is located at Pine Grove & Big Oak Roads in Morrisville. Present hours are Tues. 6:30-9:30 pm and Thurs. 5:30-9:30 pm. The hours will be extended as more patrons use the facilities. Call 215-295-9628.

Genocide of the Ethnic Germans in Yugoslavia 1944-1948

A new book *Genocide of the Ethnic Germans in Yugoslavia 1944-1948* has been recently released by the Danube Swabian Association of the U.S.A., Inc. It is a recommended reading for all.

The book contains 134 pages. It includes copies of drawings by artist, Sebastian Leicht of Batsch Brestowatz, a Danube Swabian Chronology, documentation of human casualties, a brief history of the Donauschwaben in Europe and in the USA/Canada. The majority of the book discusses the 1944-1948 genocide of the ethnic Germans in Eastern Europe and



specifically in Yugoslavia.

The forward is written by historian and researcher, Alfred M. de Zayas. He has conducted in-depth research into the Donauschwaben blight after World War II.

The book can be obtained from us! Cost is only \$14 and can be picked up at the Club. Mail orders are \$17 & can be ordered from Hans Martini 609-888-2762.

Membership News

2001 Club Officers & Staff

- Joseph Brandecker— President
- Robert Walter— Vice President
- Hans Martini— Secretary
- Eva Martini— Recording Secretary
- Ludwig Jakober— Treasurer
- Josefa Brandecker— Ladies' Auxiliary President
- Dennis J. Bauer— Genealogist & Newspaper Editor
- Dana Miles— Web Master



WE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

- John Feldenzer, Libby , MT
- John J. Bohnert, Grass Valley, CA
- Harold Fleming, Englewood, NJ
- Robert & Shirley Schmidt, Willingboro, NJ

GENEALOGY CLASS A SUCCESS

Eleven Club members attended a 5 week *Genealogy for Beginners* class at the Club. It was held Thursday nights from 7-9pm in April and May 2001. The class was taught by Club Genealogist, Dennis J. Bauer.

Those who attended and received their “Certificate of Attendance” were; John Bastian, Joseph Brandecker, Michael Colacello, Harold Fleming, Mark Gruzlovic, Eva Martini, Hans Martini, Jacob Meisner, Harold Million, Marlena Novosel, and Robert Schmidt. Several of the class members expressed an interest in continuing to get together to discuss and compare “notes” as they research their family history.

Dennis has again volunteered to offer his services at no cost to members if there is additional interest in holding another session in the Fall. Again, the only cost would be for course materials of \$15 per student. Let Dennis or Hans know if you are interested in attending so arrangements can be made. Danke!

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

Hochzeit: Joe Dlubak and Lisa to wed 7 July 2001. Congratulations to the couple from the Club members!

Geburt: Erika Cuomo (former dance group member) & husband, Ed recently had a baby girl, Nicole Marie. She was born 24 May 2001. Congratulations and good luck with the new arrival.

With Sympathy We Note: Mr. Kenneth Roberts, father of member Kim Walter, died recently. Mr. Roberts attended the Club regularly and helped at several of our events. To Kim and her entire family, we offer our heartfelt condolences during this most difficult time.

Rozina Schen, 90, of Trenton, died 3 May 2001. Rozina was born in Palanka, Batschka and was the mother-in-law of member, Katherine Schen and the grandmother of members, Mr. and Mrs. Robert and Ingrid Schoen. We wish the Schen families peace and ask God’s Blessing on the repose of Rozina’s soul.

With Sympathy We Note: Eugene Petty, 62, of Trenton, died 10 May 2001. He was the son of the late Harold and Doris Shropshire Petty. He is survived by wife, Maria Brandecker Petty, a member of our Club; sister & brother-in-law, Sandy & Walter Cerenzia of PA and niece & nephews; Alicia Herbert & Walter Cerenzia, both of PA. Our heart felt sympathy goes out to the family and friends.

Rosa Hartmann Heinemann, 92, of Hamilton, died 13 June 2001. She was the aunt of member, Frank Szmuto. Rosa was born in Palanka. The Club members offer their prayers & sympathy to Frank and rest of Rosa’s family members.

50th Anniversary: Rosa & Joe Wildmann celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last month. A party was thrown by their children, Bob & Martha, at the Club.

Deutsche Ecke

Articles submitted by Adam Martini

Wir Donauschwaben

Dieser Sammelbegriff "Donauschwaben" ist eine oft missverständene Bezeichnung, über die man des öftern lächelt und auch so manchen negativen Humor los lässt. Der moderne Name unseres Volkstammes wäre eigentlich "Volksdeutsche aus dem Südostraum Europas". Wir bevorzugen aber "Donauschwaben". Mit dieser Bezeichnung weiss man sofort mit wem man es zu tun hat.

Unsere Leute kommen nicht nur von den Dörfern und Ortschaften die man an beiden Donaufern findet und wo sie sich über hunderte von Jahren behaupten mussten, sondern es gilt auch für die Landsleute, die weit weg von der Donau lebten. Da ist nicht viel Verständnis heutzutage für unseren Stolz auf Herkunft und reiche Vergangenheit. Ja, sogar der deutsche Bundespräsident, Johannes Rau, ermahnte die deutschen Bürger, sie sollten nicht stolz sein dass sie Deutsche sind, sondern viel mehr stolz zeigen auf ihre Errungenschaften und Leistungen.

Nun wir Donauschwaben sind anderer Meinung und bleiben stolz auf unsere Herkunft und auch Erfolge.

Wer kann vergessen die vielen verschiedenen Dialekte der Dörfer, die oft nicht weit von einander waren, die schönen und eigenartigen Trachten der Regionen, der Einfluss, den die Ungarn,

Serben, Kroaten, Rumänen, sowie Russen auf unsere deutsche Art ausübten, all das machte uns zu einem höchst interessanten neuen Volkstamm. Abgesehen von unserer Treue zu Familie, Gemeinde und Staat, unser Pflichtgefühl und unsere Anpassungsfähigkeit, sei sie auch noch so schwierig, man kann den arbeitsfreudigen Donauschwaben überall erkennen, sei es in den Vereinen, den Baustellen, den Fabriken oder als Handwerker, u.s.w..

Darum wollen wir unsere Herkunft nicht vergessen und davon einiges an unsere Kinder und Enkelkinder weitergeben.



Unterstützt die Vereinigung der Donauschwaben, Ortsgruppe Trenton, New Jersey, ein gemütlicher Familienverein, wo man sich wohlfühlt und auch gut essen und trinken kann.

Gedicht - Abschied

Ich sag' zum Abschied leise Servus,
nicht bye, bye, oder ade,
diese Worte tun nur weh!
Glück und Heil auf weit'ren Wegen,
Gottes Gunst und seinen Segen!

von Wilhelm L. Kriessmann

Der Schwabe

erzählt von Maria Brech

Ein Ehepaar war unterwegs mit der Strassenbahn, von Budapest auf der Strecke nach Hause. An ihrer Tracht konnte man gleich erkennen, dass es ungarische Schwaben waren.

Der Schaffner fragte sie beim Fahrkartknipsen: "Sagen Sie mal, ist es wahr, dass den Schwaben erst mit vierzig der Verstand kommt?" Der Schwabe sagt: "Ja, das stimmt."

Der Schaffner bohrte weiter: "Und wenn er auch zum vierzigsten Geburtstag nicht kommt, was machen Sie dann?" "Dann werde ich Schaffner!", sagte der Schwabe.

Aus dem Buche "Heitere Geschichten aus der Heimat der Donauschwaben".



PROFESSOR & MALER DR.
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Der große Schwabenzug
DIE ILLUSTRATION

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WILHELM KOPPELHOFER

Erster großer Schwabenzug während der Regierungszeit von Kaiser Karl VI., 1718-1717. Zweiter großer Schwabenzug während der Regierungszeit von Kaiserin Maria Theresia, 1740-1772. Dritter großer Schwabenzug während der Regierungszeit von Kaiser Joseph II., 1782-1789.

Newsletter Advertisers and Sponsors

Membership Sponsors:


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You too can have your business advertisement or sponsorship placed here in future issues of our newsletter for only \$50 per year. Contact Hans Martini for details.

The Advertisers to the left are from 1937 *Deutsch-Ungarischer Familien Kalender*, German-Hungarian Publishing Co., Chicago, IL.

Any names familiar to the senior Club members? These Donauschwaben came to Trenton prior to World War II.

Club Events for the Summer of 2001

EVENTS— DATES & TIMES

Muttertagessen — Sunday, 1 PM

6 May 2001

Ausflug — Sunday, 8 AM

20 May 2001

Vatertagessen (Spiessbraten)

Sunday, 1 PM, 24 June 2001

Kanufahrt/Zelteln — 4th of July

Weekend

Sommerspiessbratenessen — Sunday,

1 PM, 15 July 2001

German Heritage Festival— Sunday 9

September 2001

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Vielen Dank !

A special thanks goes out to our wonderful food preparers, cooks, dishwashers, servers and bartenders. Without their hard work, our dinners would not be the success that they are. Danke schön !



Feel free to tip our servers.
They appreciate it!

The Donauschwaben Memorial at Our Lady of Lourdes Cemetery in Hamilton, NJ



[www.geocities.com/
~donauschwaben](http://www.geocities.com/~donauschwaben)