

Trentoner Donauschwaben

Volume 2 Issue 4



October-December 2002

Special points of interest:

- 2008 will mark the 400th Anniversary of the German settlers to Jamestown, VA.
- The Trenton Donauschwaben had the youngest member at the 2002 Milwaukee Treffen
- There are over 90,000 German settlers in the Ft. Myers/Naples, FL area today.
- Sebastian S. Kresge, gg-grandson of a PA Swiss settler founded the Kresge 5&10 stores in 1912.
- The first hamburger (named after the German city) was sold on Coney Island, NY in the 1870s.

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Inactive Membership Status vs. Active Membership Status

Don't tell anyone at the Milwaukee Donauschwaben that they "don't have time" for their club. They do, and their hugely successful Treffen (see article on page 2 of newsletter) was as good an example of this as any. The thousands in attendance had a great time because Milwaukee had dozens of people making the event possible. To be sure, their members, like ours, lead lives just as busy as anyone. How is it possible for some clubs to have so many active members and others far too few? Let's look at the issue square-on.

In the case of our own club, we are blessed – BLESSED - to have many active members. We have lots of active members and many more who regularly come out to the dinners. That's how our club survives and thrives while, sadly, others in the Delaware Valley have faltered. It's no big secret really, the club has a successful formula for attracting and keeping good people who MAKE the time to help and/or support the club.

So what's the point of this article anyway?! The point, dear readers, is that making the time is what it's all about. We all prioritize our time according to that which we feel is really worth doing and that which is not. It is a fallacy to assume that because someone is active at the club they must have lots more free time. Ha! The fact is they have determined that the club is worth the effort/time and they have a good time being there. That's it.

We'd like to invite all of our non-active members to see what it is that brings active members to the club. Start by coming to our dinners; or, perhaps you might consider German language school; or, maybe you'd like to jump right into it by being a part of the Schlachtfest team. Remember this is your club too and that every member is an important part of its future success. Thanks!

Hans Martini

Kernast's celebrate their 50th in grand style.

Long time club members, Rosa and Peter Kernast, celebrated their golden anniversary in the company of a large crowd of family and friends here at the clubhouse. Given by their sons, members Ron and Pete, the August event featured a scrumptious dinner, live music, and plenty of good cheer and Gemütlichkeit. The Kernast's hail from Batschka Palanka in Yugoslavia and make their home both in Hamilton and in Florida. Now retired, they were the long-time owners of Mayer's Bakery (now Pizza Star) near St. Raphael's church in Hamilton. On behalf of the entire membership, we wish the Kernast's all the best!!

Generous Donation made by the Kernasts to benefit German Language Education. Knowing that many of the guests would want to bring a gift to celebrate the occasion, Rosa and Peter decided to dedicate any money to two charitable causes. One was the well-known and respected Sunshine Foundation and the other was to benefit our club's German language education program. Specifically, the Kernast's intend for the money – some \$550 – to be earmarked for scholarship purposes. Although the precise details of the scholarship fund are still being worked out, we applaud these two wonderful individuals for their dedication and commitment to our culture and language. Vielen herzlichen Dank, Herr und Frau Kernast!

While we're at it, this is a great opportunity to shine a bit more light on these two wonderful members. It should be noted that the Kernasts have been frequent and consistent financial supporters of our organization, as well as long time active members in many different capacities. Among other things, the Kernasts donated toward the remodeling of our club during the '70's; supported the dance group and its activities through the '80's and, now have gotten behind the push for German language education. In addition, Peter was membership secretary for many years and Rosa has spent untold hours helping out in the club's kitchen. They are truly generous members who have always been a positive force at the Donauschwaben. Bravo!

Club Matters

CLUB TRIP TO MILWAUKEE

By Ray Martini from our Georgia Office, picture by Adam Martini



It has been a long time since any of us attended a Donauschwabentreffen. That ended this past Labor Day Weekend when some 19 Trenton members joined about an equal number of Philly members in far away Milwaukee, Wisconsin. We LOVED it! What a fabulous time we all had.

So I had to get into my black vest again, I was told. The Leib'l (Donauschwabens vest) could not have fit more snugly, or in my case, not at all. Actual truth be told, a few Leib'ls of my former size sewn together would have still caused the buttons to strain their buttonholes. Many thanks to Harold Million, who loaned me his and possibly saved some poor soul from injury from flying Leib'l buttons! His vest hid my slowly expanding midsection well enough, as long as I didn't exhale that is. Apologies for the beer stains Harold, I am still at a loss as to how they got there.

All the dance group members looked a heck of a lot younger than I remember, but the feel and the atmosphere was unmistakable. Trachtenfest 2002 in Milwaukee was as I always remember them to be, memorable and at the same time, well... just plain fun. The perennially small but mighty band of Trentoner Donauschwaben had the distinction of having the youngest "Schwob" in attendance, 3 week old Greta Brandecker, daughter of "the prez" Joe and Caroline Brandecker. In her father's arms, she braved the thankfully brief speeches by the dignitaries from around the US and Canada, as well as the Einmarsch, and was roundly applauded for her participation.

This wasn't the only indication of a healthy future for our group. For the first time in as many years as I can remember, the Trentoner Donauschwaben, partnering with their cousins in Philly, fielded a four-couple dance group which performed both Saturday and Sunday. Kudos to both Brittaney Brandecker and Anna Martini who performed superbly both days in the non-competition dancing segment. Same goes for Luisa Martini, who bravely joined her sister and Brittaney in the Tracht parade. Helping the girls were Frau Josefa Brandecker and Frau Eva Martini (as well as JoAnn) who patiently layered the plethora of underskirts just "so". The skirts give the girls' traditional dress (Tracht) that unmistakable hour glass figure which always makes them look so darn good. Indeed, the hundreds of young people from across the North American conti-

nent looked great!

In addition to the above members, Hans & Joann Martini with Christina, Herr Sepp Brandecker, Herr Stefan Mayer, Herr Andreas Franz, Herr Adam Martini, Steve Brandecker (aka "S baby"), young Joseph Brandecker, as well as my family, Marie, Kathleen and Adam of the Georgia chapter of the Trenton Donauschwaben (hey I still pay my dues, well actually my wife does, I'm not allowed near the checkbook!) rounded out our merry group.

Of course there was beer, great food and great desserts (we have long ago grown spoiled by these expectations), Gemütlichkeit, old friends (Chicago, Cleveland, Mansfield, Windsor, Detroit, etc. etc.), and new friends. But it was the youthful dance performances, unmatched in both exuberance and intensity, that will be, for me, the most memorable aspect of the 'treffen. All groups, without exception, performed great traditional "Schwobisch" dances with a smattering of Schuplattler, which alone would be well worth the trip. But it appears that our traditional style of dance lends itself to expressions of personality that will always keep me coming back and wanting more. It's the guy who enters the dance floor with sun glasses on and a girl on each arm, or the girl who spins way too fast (which caused my son no small discomfort because he was able to see her bloomers), or something else that separates this style of entertainment from all others.

Our time with the Trenton/Philly group at the 2002 Milwaukee Donauschwabentreffen went way too fast. Before we knew it, it was goodbye and Auf Wiedersehen. For those of you who remember the great times we had in 'treffens' past, I can assure you that although the craziness of those times is - fortunately, I guess - a thing of our youthful past, the good times are definitely not. We hope to make next year's Treffen in Mansfield, OH. At the Milwaukee 2002, a great time was had by all.

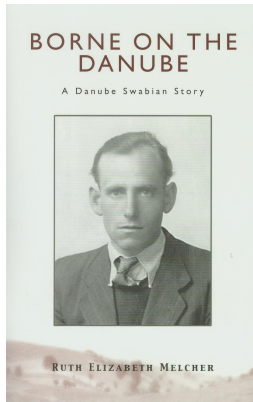
Club Improvements Noted

We have long sung the praises of Hausmeister, Marion Dlubak, who with his son, Joe, have done a splendid job of insuring the good order of our property. Recently, Marion expertly painted parts of our less-than-maintenance-free clubhouse. This has really made a big difference to the club's appearance and to the durability of the surfaces painted. Thanks Marion!

The governing committee of the Donauschwaben has begun tackling some long-needed property improvements. On the agenda are improvements to the club's cooling system (anyone present during some of our recent warm weather events will appreciate that!) and improvements to the caretaker's residence, among other things.

When you have a property well over 100 years old such as ours, the need for maintenance never seems to go away! With your continued support however, we as an organization are able to do the things necessary to keep our "home" in good order. Vielen Dank!

Genealogy & History Section

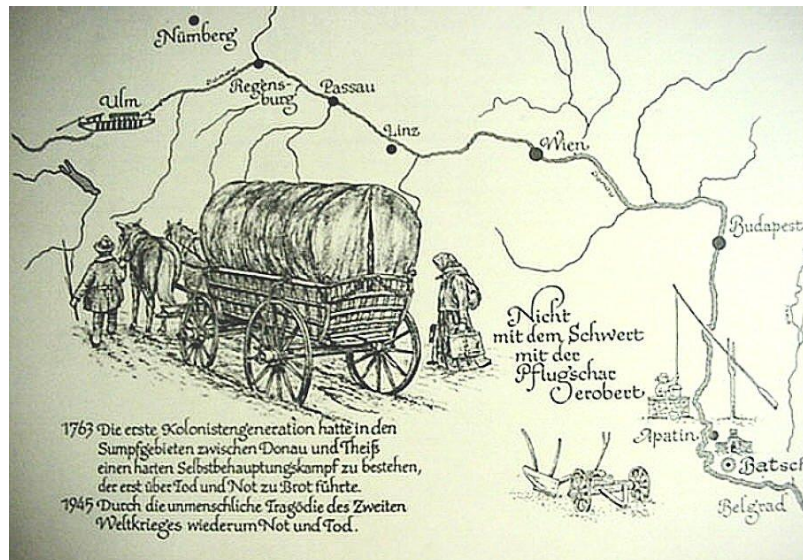


NEW DONAUSCHWABEN LIFE HISTORY BOOK JUST RELEASED

Ruth Elizabeth Melcher recently published a book entitled *Borne on the Danube—A Danube Swabian Story*. The book is about her Donauschwaben father, Adam Schneiker, and his life growing up in 1921 Gyönk, Hungary to the present day.

The book follows Adam as he grows up in pre-World War II Hungary, his career as a baker, his service in the Hungarian Army, his capture by the Russians, his re-settlement to Germany and his eventual immigration to the United States.

The book is 117 pages and is an enjoyable easy reading. It can be ordered from Barky Publishing, P.O. Box 24605, Minneapolis, MN 55424 (ruthmel@attglobal.net). The cost is \$12.95 plus \$3.35 shipping and handling.



The Return, a long trip back after several hundred years.

BUKIN PICTURE BOOK NOW AVAILABLE

To all who have family from the Village of Bukin, Batschka, the Bildband Bukin has been published.

1. The book includes 552 pages - it is 9" by 12" and weighs 5-1/2 pounds. The paper that it is printed on is top quality and will last forever.
2. The book includes 600 pictures black and white made before 1944.
3. The book includes 60 color pictures made after 1944.
4. The book includes a list of all families living in Bukin in the year 1944.
5. The book includes the history of Bukin of 1749 - 1912 written by Josef Winkler in the year 1912.
6. The book includes geographical plans where Bukin is located
7. The price of the book is \$87.00 and the shipping costs are \$10.50. (the book is shipped from Lappersdorf, Germany).

The content of the book also describes the settling and the life of the people of Bukin in the 200 years from 1749 - 1945. It is a very informative documentation for all who are interested in the history of Bukin.

Also available is the Bukiner Heimatglocken by Hans Gallo. It is a CD with all the newspapers published from 1949 to 2002. This is also available when you order the book. It is \$10. The total cost of both including shipping is \$107.50 and you will be able to send a check to a cousin in Arizona so you do not have to worry about sending money to Germany. When the book arrives Andreas will give instructions with the address.

My book and CD arrived in less than 3 weeks. It is so beautiful even though I cannot read German I am starting to pick out words and their meanings. The book is done in dark brown and gold. You may order the book and CD from Andreas Pfuhl

E-mail Address is: Pfuhl-Lappersdorf@t-online.de. His mailing address is :Andreas Pfuhl, Gartenstraße 23, D93138 Lappersdorf, Germany.

If you would like more information please email Jackie Weber (a fellow Donauschwaben researcher), weberone@torchlake.com. (Information from the internet Banat List).

Genealogy & History Section (Continued)

The German-Hungarian (Donauschwaben) Family Calendar Magazine

Subscriber List for Mercer County, NJ 1951-54 (*Deutsch-Ungarischer Familien Kalender*, National Weeklies, Inc., Winona, MN, 1951, 1953 & 1954 Issues) . This is a list of A-B surnames from the Trenton area only. Additional surnames will follow in future issues.

Transcribed by Dennis J. Bauer, 10 September 2002. Surnames appear exactly as spelled in the original text and may not be the actual spelling. The list shows the individual's place of origin and their address in the Trenton area at the time of subscription to the magazine. Some translations of town, county and country names were done. As with any secondary source, you may wish to consult the original magazine.

The magazines, written in German, were published in the U.S. from 1932-1954. They contained stories from the German-Hungarian regions of Hungary, Yugoslavia and Romania, pictures of "home", jokes, poems and best of all a list of American and Canadian subscribers, their spouses, their place of origin and their present addresses in the U.S. and Canada. Subscribers listed were from the United States and Canada. During its publication, the magazines listed between 10-15 thousand Donauschwaben.

Trenton, NJ

ABEL, Josef, from Wekerlefalva, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 335 Morris Ave.
 ABEL, Mathias and Magdalena LOTSPEICH, from Gajdobra, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1726 S. Broad St.
 ABEL, widow Kathrin, nee SPIEGEL, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 122 Ashmore Ave.
 ALLAR, Mathias from Segenthau and Anna STRACK, from Traunau, Banat, Romania, 164 Parkinson Ave.
 ANGELBRANDT, Martin and Theresia BUSCH, from Wekerlefalva, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 439 Emory Ave.
 ANNASENZ, widow Magdalena, nee SCHÖN, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 103 Woodland St.
 BAKTER, Anton, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Elisabeth BOHN from Erdevik, Srem, 322 Woodland St.
 BAKTER, Franz, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Anna PILLER, from Filipowa, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 185 Brown St.
 BALL, Johann, from Uj Pecs, Banat, Romania and Veronica FELLINGER from Calma, Srem, 248 Jersey St.
 BALTASAR, Wilhelm, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Eva OFNER, from Gajdobra, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 577 New Kirk St.
 BARON, Frank and Anna TIEFENBACH, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 135 Howell St.
 BAUER, Karl, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Theresia HEMMERT, from Obrowatz, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 115 Cummings Ave.
 BAUMGARTNER, Anton, from Brestowatz, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1400 S. Broad St.
 BAUMGARTNER, Michael, Sr., from Brestowatz, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 340 Morris Ave.
 BAUMGARTNER, Michael, Jr. and Magdalena MÜLLER, from Brestowatz, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 357 Hewitt Ave.
 BAUMGÄRTNER, Matthew, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1152 Hamilton Ave.
 BECK, David, from Ernestinovo, Slavonia and Katharina SCHAB, from Seig, Baranya, Hungary, 367 Cummings Ave.
 BEER, Valentin, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 413 Morris Ave.
 BERG, Franz and Eva KATALA, from Csalma, Srem, 713 Anderson Ave.
 BERG, Josef and Margaretha SCHREIER, from Segenthau, Banat, Romania, 15 Sheridan Ave.
 BERNATH, John, from Segenthau, Banat, Romania and Katharina VOGL, from Kreuzatätten, Banat, Romania, 720 S. Olden Ave.
 BERNER, Franz, and Maria SCHMIDT, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1409 S. Clinton Ave.
 BERNER, Jacob, and Lina VARGA, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 333 Cummings Ave.
 BIER, Franz, from Kreuzstätten, Banat, Romania and Elisabeth ALT, from Gajdobra, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 33 Ashmore Ave.
 BIER, Michael, widower, from Kreuzstätten, Banat, Romania, 115 Liberty St.
 BIERENFELD, Henry, from Lünen, Westfalen, Germany and Katharina MATTES, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 234 Howell St.
 BINDER, Karl, from Vienna, Austria, 34 Ashmore Ave.
 BLÄSIUS, Nikolaus and Magdalena Fabritz, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1355 Liberty Ave.
 BLANCHE, Adam from Wiesenheid and Katharina ADAM, from Kreuzstätten, Banat, Romania, 1127 Genesee St.
 BLECHL, Adam, from Palanka, Batschka Yugoslavia and Maria FELDENZER, from Trenton, NJ, 908 Chester Ave.
 BOHN, Peter, from Gajdobra, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Eva HIEL, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1214 S. Broad St.
 BOHNERT, Adam and Eva KAMRAD, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 951 Beatty St.
 BOJ, Franz, from Tovaros and Eva SCHLOTTER, from Gajdobra, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 1004 Dayton St.
 BOLTASAR, Wilhelm, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia and frau, nee OFNE, from Gajdobra, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 577 New Kirk Ave.
 BOROSCH, Anton, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 905 Genesee St.
 BRAND, Stefan, and Irma TURANSKY, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 13 Brown St.
 BRETTRÄGER, Theresa, nee RAUCH, from Ilok, Srem, 305 Ashmore Ave.
 BRINZA, Josef and mother, widow Elisabeth HORNUNG, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 377 Hewitt St.
 BRISCHLER, Josef and Margaretha BALLNER, from Segenthau, Banat, Romania, 1346 Deutz Ave.
 BRUDER, John, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, and Theresa BERNHARDT, from Wekerlefalva, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 16 Ashmore Ave.
 BRUNN, Georg and Theresia GANGEL, from Gajdobra, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 71 West St.
 BURG, Jakob, from Palanka, and Josefina NIKOTA, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 417 Morris Ave.
 BUSCH, John and Theresa MANZ, from Gajdobra, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 503 White Horse Ave.

Membership News

2002 Club Officers & Staff

Joseph Brandecker— President *Robert Walter*— V.P. for Facilities
Kim Walter— V.P. for Human Resources *Hans Martini*— Corresponding Secretary
Eva Martini— Recording Secretary *Ludwig Jakober*— Treasurer
Josefa Brandecker— President Ladies' Auxiliary
Harold Parr— President of German Language School
Dennis J. Bauer— V.P. for Cultural Affairs, Genealogist, Newspaper Editor
Dana Miles— Web Master *Adam Martini*— Newspaper Staff Writer



TRENTON DONAUSCHWABEN BALL CAPS FOR SALE

The Club now has ball caps for sale. They are black with the Donauschwaben shield and words "Donauschwabem—Trenton, NJ" on the front. They look real sharp. Great to wear to Club events. Contact any Club Officer for one. The cost is only \$16 each.

GERMAN LANGUAGE SCHOOL STARTS

Registration for the Fall Adult and Children's classes is Wednesday 17 September, 7pm at the Club. Adult classes started September 25th and run from 7:30-9:30pm every Wednesday. The Children's classes began Saturday 28 September from 10am-noon. We will still enroll students to date.

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

Name Correction: We apologize to Members Harold and Mary Parr for misspelling their last name in the last issue of the Newsletter.

Palanka Treffen: Members Eva & Adam Martini attended the 2002 Palanka Treffen in Germany during their trip to Europe in June. They also visited family and friends in Germany and Belgium.

Anniversary: Members Liz & Al Tindall celebrated their 25th Wedding anniversary 8 October 2002. Congratulations!!!

Graduation: Christa, daughter of Al & Liz Tindall, graduated from High School in June and is attending Rider University, majoring in Global Business. Good Luck Christa in your studies.

Passings: Member Nikolaus Marx died 9 September 2002. He was born in Palanka. He was also a member of the Philly Club. Our prayers go out to wife, Käthe, daughter Christine and her husband George.

Member Katherine Wolf Schneider died 16 September 2002. She was also born in Palanka. Our condolences to her friends and family.

Bolivar Velez died 17 June 2002 in Philadelphia, PA. He was the father of member Dee Dee Miles. We express our belated condolences to Dee Dee, husband Dana and the rest of their family.

Birth: Greta Marie Brandecker, daughter of President Joseph & Caroline Brandecker was born 12 August 2002. Greta was the youngest attendee at the Milwaukee Treffen over Labor Day 2002!!!!

Two members with same birth date: A couple years apart, Dennis J. Bauer & Ulrich Haller were both born 29 August. Happy Belated Birthday to you both two.

New member: The Club wishes to welcome our newest member, Manfred Grotzke of Pipersville, PA. He was sponsored by member Adam Martini.

Philadelphia Donauschwaben Anniversary: The Philly Club will celebrate it's 45th Anniversary Saturday evening at 6pm on 9 November 2002. Congratulations Philly!!!!

Retirement: Adam Martini retired 1 April 2002 after working 44 years for George Nakashima Studios of New Hope, PA as a custom woodworker.

Deutsche Ecke, Seite 1

SPRICHWÖRTER (German Words to live by)

Germans have always had a strict work ethic, high standard of orderliness and quality of life. Below are some German sayings with the English translations to live by:

Arbeit macht das Leben süß.
Work makes life sweet.

Faulheit macht die Gelenke steif.
Laziness makes your joints stiff.

Rast ich, so rost ich.
When I rest I rust.

Ohne Fleiß, kein Preis.
Without industriousness, there is no reward.

Morgenstund hat Gold im Mund.
Morning hours put gold in your mouth.

Sich regen bringt Segen.
To get a move on brings blessings.

Ordnung ist das halbe Leben.
Order is half of life.

Erst besinnen, dann beginnen.
First think, then begin.

Wenn jeder vor seiner Türe fegt, ist die ganze Stadt sauber.
When everyone sweeps in front of his own door, the whole town will be clean.

Eile macht Weile.
Haste makes waste.

Übung macht den Meister.
Practice makes the master.

Der Apfel fällt nicht weit vom Stamm.
The apple falls not far from the tree.

Wohlerzogen hat nie gelogen.
A good up-bringing never deceives.

These sayings were found in the October/November 2002 issue of *German Life*, Denville, NJ, page 64.

Die Dorfgemeinde by Adam Martini

Es ist wieder Herbst geworden. Der Sommer ist nur eine Erinnerung. Die Tage sind wieder kürzer, die Nächte kühler und schön langsam werden die Erinnerungen wach vom heurigen Sommer, Festen und auch uralten Zeiten. Die Zeit zum Nachdenken hat begonnen, denn jeder steckt wieder im Alltag. Einer der Gedanken der in mir periodisch auftaucht ist: Warum feiern wir Donauschwaben immer diese jährlichen Feste, ziehen die Trachten unserer Ahnen an, singen alte Lieder und tanzen alte Tänze? Nicht nur tun wir Alte es, aber wir wollen, dass unsere Kinder und Kindeskinde es auch so machen. Das kann nur die Liebe und Sehnsucht für unsere ehemaligen Dörfer und Kleinstädte sein. Es ist dieses Dorfleben das wir in unserer modernen Gegenwart vermissen. Wenn man so zurückdenkt an das Vaterhaus und das Dorf wo unsere Wiege stand, dann werden so viele gute Erinnerungen wieder wach. Unsere Häuser waren keine Paläste, aber schön, angenehm, manche hatten Schilfdächer die neueren hatten aber schon Dachziegel. Es gab keine zentrale Klimaanlage oder Heizung, aber dicke Mauern, die Sommer und auch Winter verträglich machten. Wir hatten einen Kachelofen der vom Gang aus geheizt wurde. Der Gang, der immer an der Hofseite der Häuser war, hatte oft Reben und Rosen die in gewissen Jahreszeiten den ganzen Innenhof verschönerten.

Da gab es eine Sommerküche und ein Weinkeller, einen Brunnen mit einer Walze und Eimer den man mit einem Hebel rauf und runter drehen musste. Im Sommer wurde diese Brunnenanlage manchenmal als Kühlschranks benützt. Melonen wurden oft in den Eimer gelegt und dann runter zum Wasser gelassen um zu kühlen. Da gab es Leben im Hof, Hühner, Gänse, Enten, Schweine und oft Hasen und Tauben. Alles lebte und gedeihte im Vaterhaus. Da waren Gemüseärten, Weingärten und Felder zu betreuen. Die Arbeit ging nie aus, aber der Sonntag wurde gefeiert. Keine Arbeit am Sonntag. Es war der Tag des Herrn,

Kirche, Friedhof und Besuche waren auf der Tagesordnung. Auch die Feste wurden gefeiert, wie Taufe, Hochzeit, Begräbnis und Kirrtag, Namenstage, Weihnachten, Ostern, und so weiter. Es gab kein Fernseher und auch fast keine Radios, aber ein reges und interessantes Dorfleben.

In dieser Umwelt sind wir Donauschwaben aufgewachsen. In dieser naturnahen Lebensart fanden wir unsere Stärke und Ausdauer, Treue und Freude am Leben. Darum treffen wir uns immer wieder zu grossen Festen, in alten Trachten, singen schöne Weisen, sagen sinnreiche Gedichte auf und feiern wie daheim. Das Dorfleben damals war schön und wir können es halt nicht vergessen.

Die Vereinigung der Donauschwaben, Ortsgruppe Trenton, ist ein Familienverein, der diese Dorfgemeinschafts Ideen in die moderne Gesellschaft übertragen will. Kommt und unterstützt die Donauschwaben. Wir alle haben ein Dorfleben in uns, wir alle suchen eine Verbindung mit anderen Menschen, wir alle suchen Werte die man nicht vom Fernsehen oder Radio erhält. Es sind diese Instinkte die uns durch unsere Ahnen vererbt wurden, die heutzutage noch immer Richtungsweisend sind.



Deutsche Ecke, Seite 2

Village Life in a Modern World – Translation by Hans Martini of Die Dorfgemeinde

Autumn has come to pass. Summer is now just a fading memory. The days are getting shorter, the nights cooler. It is a time for reflection. Images of summers' past, of festivals and of the good old days come to mind. Why do we Donauschwaben hang on to "the good old days"? Why do we put on old ancestral costume; sing melodies from the past and dance the dances of long ago? Not only do we old-timers do this, but we want our children and their children to do so too.

This can only be the result of our love and longing for the small town or village life of our past. For Donauschwaben everywhere, it is the life we left behind that we miss most in the modern world of today. When I think back to my family home and the small town in which I lived, the memories come sharply into focus. Our houses were not palaces by today's standards, but they were neat, comfortable and had either thatched roofs or tiles depending upon their age. There was no central heating system much less air conditioning, but thick walls made it bearable in summer and winter. We had a tiled central heating stove which heated everything from the entranceway back. By the way, the entranceway to the house always faced the yard and was often adorned with vines and roses that bloomed at different times of the year. These would serve to beautify the entire yard area for long periods of time.

There was a summer kitchen, a wine cellar, and a well with a bucket that one raised and lowered with the turn of a crank. This system also served as a refrigerator during the hot summer months. For instance, melons were put into the bucket and lowered into the well to chill. Everything lived and revolved around the family house which was always a beehive of activity. The yard was a lively place with chickens, geese, ducks, pigs and often rabbits and doves. There were also vegetable gardens, vineyards, and fields that needed tending. Indeed, the work went on without let up – at least until Sunday, that is.

Sunday was a special day of rest. It was a day for church, visits to the cemetery and, above all, a day to get together with friends and family. In addition to Sundays, occasions such as baptisms, marriages, burials, name days, and the big holidays like Christmas and Easter were very important and always celebrated appropriately. You see, there were no TV's and only a few radios but we never seemed to need them. We had a dynamic, busy and interesting village life!

It was in this environment that we Donauschwaben grew up. A close union with nature gave us our strength and character, it was our source of joy and contentment. This is why so many Donauschwaben gather for events such as the Treffen in Milwaukee. It is why we put on the fashionably old styled clothing; sing the old standards; and, recite meaningful and time-tested prose. To my mind, the incredibly nurturing experience of life in a Donauschwaben village means that I am never really free of its effects.

In many ways, our club is a family organization based on these same ideals. Ideals from long ago transported to our modern day existence. We all have this yearning for a simpler, less complicated village life. We all seek a connection with our fellow man. We all seek the same type of life affirming interactions that no TV show can give us. These instincts live in all of us and drive our desire to preserve our heritage: a heritage as relevant today as it ever was. Support this wonderful Donauschwaben club of ours.

Children's School Hours are Changing!

The reality of life in the fast lane – that is life as an active young person! – is that Saturday is an overwhelmingly busy day. We are now changing the hours to Friday evening to better address this reality. PLEASE consider bringing your child/grandchild/niece or nephew to our school. We can not stress enough the importance of language education. Come on people, make the effort!

Please call Mrs. Kleinmann at 609-587-5296 to find out more information.

MILWAUKEE TRACHENFEST ITEMS AVAILABLE

The Milwaukee Donauschwaben have contacted us to let us know that they still have Trachenfest souvenirs available for sale.

These items include; pins, T-shirts and shot glasses. The prices are as follows:

- PINS.....\$5.00 each
- T-SHIRTS.....\$10.00 each children (2/4,6/8,10/12)
- T-SHIRTS.....\$15.00 each adult S,M,L,XL,XXL
- SHOT GLASSES.....\$4.00 each

Postage and handling: under \$50.00.....\$5.00
over \$50.00.....\$10.00

If you are interested in a purchase, please contact a Club Officer. The Club will send out a bulk order on behalf of the members.

Newsletter Advertisers and Sponsors

Membership Sponsors:

* *Familie Theresia u. Josef Bohn und Marlene Novosel* *

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

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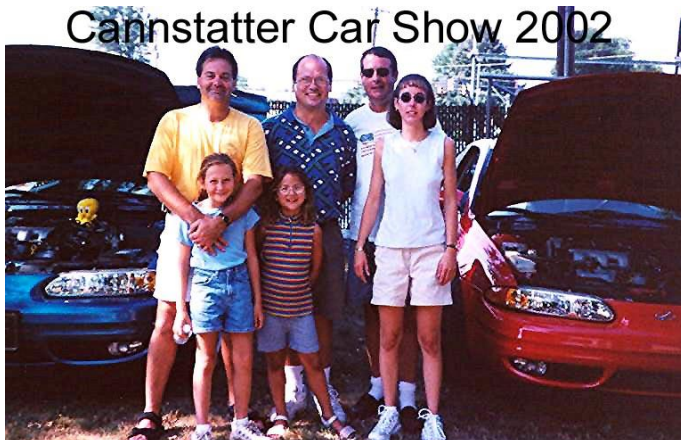
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Car Show at the Cannstatter

Cannstatter Car Show 2002



Members Dennis J. Bauer & daughter, Melanie (sun glasses), entered their two Olds Aeros in the 1st annual car show held at the Cannstatter Volkfest Verein in Philadelphia in August. Members; Frank Herdt, Lexi Herdt, Hans Martini, Christina Martini, Luisa Martini, Steve & young Joe Brandecker stopped by to show their support. They did not win, but had a great time at this fabulous facility. What a great Biergarten! Plans are already made to hold it here again next year. Put it on your calendar.

Melanie did take first place (Cleanest Car) at the 21 September 2002 Fairless Hills United Methodist Church Car Show. She then won 3rd Place at the Charles Oldsmobile Car Show in Bristol, PA on 5 October 2002 and Class Winner at the Philadelphia Modifiers Car Show in Bristol, PA on 12 October 2002. Any body need a car detailer? Congratulations Melanie! (Picture by Luisa Martini).

Recent Club Activity Pictures



Philly & Trenton Dance Group at the 14 July 2002 Trenton Club Pig Roast.



Ludwig Jakober & Harold Parr carving the pig for Fest.



Joe Brandecker, Jr., Steve Brandecker & Dennis Bauer at the 17 August 2002 Cannstatter Car Show in Philly.



President Joe Brandecker at the Milwaukee Treffen over Labor Day.



All the dance groups together at the Treffen.



The Philly/Trenton Dance Group "on stage".



Donna Bauer, Melanie Bauer & Eva Martini at the 8 September 2002 German Heritage Fest.



The Kernast's Celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary (Aug.'02). A party was held at the Clubhouse.



Philly President & Trenton member, Fred Gauss addresses attendees of the Trenton Pig Roast in July.

Club Events for the Fall 2002

EVENTS— DATES & TIMES

- *Philly Steuben Parade— Philadelphia, Saturday, 1pm, 21 Sept. 2002*
- *Erntedankfestessen— Sunday, 1pm, 22 Sept. 2002*
 - *Club's 46th Anniversary Dinner Saturday, 6pm, 19 October 2002*
- *Totengedankefeier— Our Lady of Lourdes Cemetery, Sunday, 1pm, 3 November 2002*
- *Schlachtfestessen— Sunday, 1 & 3pm, 17 November 2002*
- *St. Nikolausfeier— Sunday, 8 December 2002*
- *Silvesterfeier/News Years Party— Tuesday, 31 December 2002*

Please call Frau Josefa Brandecker at (609) 585-8460 for meal reservations.

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 !



Though certainly not necessary, feel free to tip our young servers. Young, hard workers are hard to come by. They appreciate it!

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From the Club's Officers and Staff

Memorial improvements in the works

The club's Donauschwaben memorial located in Our Lady of Lourdes Cemetery in Trenton has been around since 1979. Founded largely through the efforts of the late Peter Kiss, the memorial commemorates the sad events of 1944-48 and is the site of a yearly service held each All Soul's Day. Recently Memorial Committee member, Eva Martini, oversaw a renovation of some of the landscaping at the memorial site. New flower boxes have been installed which give a far more uniform and orderly appearance in front of the monuments. The new concrete boxes, the potting soil, white stones and flowers were all paid for through the memorial's own maintenance account (which, in turn, is supported by donations given year round). Many thanks to Eva and to all who have helped maintain this most important element of our club's cultural life.

Special mention should also go to Mr. Joe Schon. Mr. Schon has been maintaining the lawn and bushes at the memorial for quite some time. We are most grateful for his work. Vielen Dank!

Please come to the Donauschwaben's memorial service this coming November 3rd. The Sunday afternoon service starts at 1pm and goes for about 35 minutes or so. This writer encourages everyone to attend – please! Hans Martini