

Trentoner Donauschwaben Nachrichten



Volume 4 Issue 4

October-December 2004

Points of Interest

- The population of Germany has decreased over the last 30 years.
- A new U.S. Embassy is scheduled to be built in Berlin this fall.
- Autos have been produced in Saxony now for over 100 years. Presently VWs, BMWs and Porsches are built here.
- Gold has recently been discovered in Katzhütte, Thuringia.
- The Dresden *Frauenkirche* restoration is almost complete.
- German is still the most common ancestry of Americans today. Forty-three million or 15% of us claim German ancestry.
- Cologne's cathedral is being visibly hidden by development and high-rises.
- Source: *The German Connection*, 3rd Quarter 2004, San Diego, CA.

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Donauschwabentreffen, Labor Day Weekend, 2004

Several thousand happy Donauschwaben from all over converged on the Canadian town of Windsor for a weekend of culture and Gemuetlichkeit. Once again, the mighty Trenton contingent was very well represented, with 43 members making the journey. That makes it three years in a row that a disproportionately large group of us has traveled to the national event to participate, observe and enjoy.

Of course, getting there was half the fun. In this writer's case, it all started when 11 fine members piled into a van and headed off at the stroke of midnight. Driving through the night had three distinct advantages: no traffic, no traffic and, yes, no traffic. When breakfast time rolled around we were just outside the ever popular "Nee-a-gah-ra Faellen", as they are called by the Landsleute. How many times have you seen the big falls and still enjoyed them all over again? Enough said.

So, having gotten just a tad wet from viewing the falls too closely, we ventured across the border to our northern neighbors, the wonderful Canadians (oh stop, they do like us). Perhaps it was the prospect of having to inspect the luggage of 11 passengers or the fact that none of us (except, perhaps, this writer) fitted the "profile", but the border crossing went smoothly. We rolled into our hotel parking lot by dinner time on Friday having had a most enjoyable site-seeing type day.

The Windsor Donauschwaben facility is quite large, with a big hall and a great big hall side by side. The Windsor people did a good job and we thank them for their "Gastfreundschaft".

Our fabulous Philly-Trenton Dance Group danced with verve and skill in each hall on different days. They also participated in the ever exciting "friendship dance" on Sunday featuring hundreds and hundreds of young people doing a soccer field size dance. Wow! The Treffen always features the dance groups from the many, many clubs involved. Toronto, Cleveland, L.A., Milwaukee and elsewhere

performed like there's no tomorrow for a most appreciative audience. We are as proud as we can be about our young people!

Our Trenton Club's contingent was lead by President Joe Brandecker, who once again handled the thankless organizing tasks very ably. Thanks to Joe and the Philly President Fred Gauss for all their efforts. Space doesn't permit a full recitation of all those who attended, but we are grateful to each and every person for showing with a special nod to the first-timers. It truly does demonstrate the community-spirit of our club. We enjoy doing things together!

A few memorable tidbits from the trip included a sizable group of us setting out to visit a lighthouse only to find that the hour-long drive ended up at a structure the size of a tall garden shed! Then there was the big commotion Dennis caused at the border. Who knew he fitted the "profile"? After a few anxious moments with a very control-oriented border guard, however, Dennis, Donna and Melanie were on their way none the worse for wear. How about Tony Walter and Adam Martini meeting their 80 something year old Kindergarten teacher from the Donauschwaben town of Bukin for the first time in 62 years ago! (Why the teacher instinctively pulled the ear of Adam upon seeing him is unknown. Adam, for his part, claims he was a "well-behaved" student and denies evidence to the contrary.)

All in all the weekend was a great success. From our youngest to our most senior, the 2004 Treffen weekend was an enjoyable mix of site-seeing, culture, and social interaction. Planning is underway for the early August, 2005, Treffen to be held in Los Angeles, California. That's right, good people, the Golden State beckons! This particular Treffen will feature the highly anticipated youth group culture competition as well. So, mark the calendars and prepare to come with us for what promises to be a most memorable experience.



Club Matters & Members

It's a Small World

Do you know anyone that would like to become a member of the Donauschwaben? If so, ask them to come to a Sunday dinner. They may be surprised, as I was, at how many friends and acquaintances they might have in the club. We always need more members, so give it a try. That is how my family became members.

My initial exposure to the club came when I moved my family to Hamilton Township. Our neighbor was none other than the illustrious Donauschwaben officer and all-around good guy Hans Martini. It was inevitable that we would become friends since we are part of the "Dreimaedelhaus Club". Yes, we've done our part to make the male population of Hamilton Township happy. Hans wasted no time in extending an invitation to a Sunday dinner. Prior to the dinner, he thought it would be a good idea to bring me out on a Wednesday night to meet some of the members. Having no idea who would be in the club, I looked forward to meeting new people and making new friends.

As it turns out, it's a small world. Entering the Wednesday evening social night, the first person I see is Robert Walter. Bob and I were in the Mercer County Ultimate Frisbee League (yes, it's a real league...) for years. In fact, we were on the same team and together we were the Joe Montana-Jerry Rice tandem of the league, scoring countless touchdowns between us. In fact I think Bob still holds a few records. So, that's the first 'stranger' I met in the club.

Next up, your honorable President Josef Brandecker. Hmm, his name sounds familiar. Through the beard and thinning hair I did not recognize the kid I attended St Raphael's Elementary school with for 5 years. Yes, another stranger turns out to be a past acquaintance.

Looking at the old pictures on the wall, I notice a large, dark-haired bear of a man on a camping trip. I tell Hans "That looks just like a guy I know named Ron Jakober". Hans replied "That's because it IS Ron Jakober.". Ron, known as "Yak" in high school, and I were good friends through high school, especially in German class where he joked his way to straight A's. We also ran the streets in his green VW bug, and drove a little too fast in his white Dodge Charger. The car was formerly owned by his brother Rick, also a long-time club member. Of course his father, 'Herr J', is a member, current treasurer, and past president of the club.

Another picture showed a young Billy Ward. That's Officer Ward now, since he is a Hamilton police officer. Bill also played in the Frisbee league with me and Bob. Glancing to the right there is an old picture of some young, well-dressed members of the old dance troupe, which showed a teen-age Mike Galati. Mike's lovely sister JoAnn is married of course to the aforementioned Hans Martini. Her brother Mike was on my Babe Ruth baseball team, Vinch Paving, which won the 1977 Babe Ruth

League Championship.

In that one Wednesday evening I realized that the Donauschwaben is not some clandestine club of separatists looking to carve out some new German state in central Jersey (...there were some rumors...!), but rather it represents the community we live in with members of all ages and different walks of life, with a culture of family values and community spirit.

A few weeks later we attended the Sunday Dinner. The food was, and still is, the best authentic German food around. Kudos to the ladies! After dinner there was some dancing by the Trenton and Philly clubs, a poetry reading by Mrs. Martini, and other activities throughout the day. What a great event!

During the dinner, I saw even more familiar faces. Yet another old Frisbee teammate, Ed Soden, was there. His sister Jen was there, who works with me at the same company. Ed's other sister Pam and I were in the same high school class. In a conversation with another esteemed club member, former club president Frank Herdt, I learned his wife is also a Hamilton West graduate, Class of '81, the former Arlene Ialacci. Arlene and I were in the many classes together in school. She was an excellent student and surpassed me academically graduating in the top 5% of the class, 25th out of 535 students. We both attended Rutgers University that next year. More evidence of the small world we live in.

So looking back, this club that was previously unknown to me, that I assumed was full of strangers, is actually a community of solid citizens that come together to celebrate the good times while honoring their heritage and remembering the past.

I encourage all members to extend an invitation to a neighbor, just as Hans did to me. I am currently recruiting some friends from my work to join us at the next Sunday dinner. You never know, the person you invite may just find a big group of old friends ready to welcome them into the club.

Mike Lenyo

WILLKOMMEN - NEW MEMBERS

We want to welcome three new members to the Club:

Scott Balyer of Hamilton, NJ

David Himmelsbach of Walkinsville, GA

Anna Kinal of Trenton, NJ

All three have Donauschwaben roots.

Genealogy & History Section



Frederick Miller 1824-1888

BEER IN AMERICA

Beer brewing can trace its roots to Mesopotamia, Egypt and Greece. Beer/Ale was popular beverage in Colonial times and was safer to drink than the water. It was drunk with all meals at home, at work and in the military! Today the oldest food law in existence is the "Beer Purity Law of 1516". It was proclaimed by Wilhelm IV of Bavaria and decreed that all beer must be brewed from pure water, barley and hops.



Beers main ingredients are; barley, hops, water and yeast. The yeast ferments the barley malt and hops to alcohol and carbon dioxide. Main types of beer include; lager, pilsner, ale, stout, bock and porter. Beer is about 90% water and has a 3.5% alcohol content. Ale is produced by top fermenting yeast whereas lager is produced by bottom fermenting yeast. Brewing lager (German word "lagern" for "to store") takes up to 30 days over that of the seven day ale brewing process.

The history of beer in the USA starts with the Pilgrims. The Pilgrims brought the art of brewing with them to Plymouth Rock in 1622. One reason they put to shore there was that they had run out of ale a board ship and had to replenish their beer supply.

William Penn, the Governor of Pennsylvania, had the first brewery in PA at his home "Pennsbury Manor" in Bucks County, PA. in 1683.

George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, James Madison, Samuel Adams all brewed their own beer during Colonial times. Philadelphia, Boston and New York (New Amsterdam) had the major breweries in order to serve their large colonial populations. The local tavern was not only a place to purchase brew, but also talk politics and learn of the local news.

The 19th century brought an influx of German immigrants with brewing skills including; Henry Weinhard, Theodore Hamm, Josef Schlitz, Frederick Pabst, Frederick Miller, Frederick Schaefer, Bernhardt Stroh, Adolphus Busch, Eberhard Anheuser, Georg Ringler, Jacob Ruppert, Heinrich Zeltner, Isaac Leisy, Valentin Blatz, Jacob Halm, Jacob Kuebeler, Anton Kopp, Frederick Krug, Adolph Coors and David Yuengling. The Germans helped make lager beer more popular than the traditional English ales that were brewed by the likes of Morris, Carpenter, Parschall, Thomas and Frampton of Philadelphia. Many of the German brewers became very wealthy.

David G. Yuengling, a German immigrant to Pottsville, Schuylkill County, PA, started the Eagle Brewing Company (later renamed Yuengling) here in 1829. It is the oldest brewery in operation in the U.S.A. today. He picked this location for his brewery because of its good water quality and many caves/mines (natural refrigeration) in addition to the areas large German & Irish populations that loved their beer after working all day on the farm or in the coal mines.

Milwaukee, WI, eventually became the U.S. beer brewing capital because of the large German population, location as a port city, limestone caves and supply of ice (for cooling) the brew. In 1860 it cost about \$1 a barrel to produce beer that could be sold for \$8 a barrel retail. Later Busch and Anheuser teamed up to open a brewery in St. Louis, Missouri, then the gateway to the west. Beer brewing was taken further west to Golden, CO, in the 1860s by Adolph Coors.

Most of the beers at this time were sold locally in the company's own taverns as beer spoiled after about two days. It is here that the German and Irish custom of "treating" (buying a round) was born. By 1870 there were over 4,000 breweries in America.

French scientist Louis Pasteur invented pasteurization in 1870 and when applied to beer prolonged it's shelf life. Pabst and Anheuser-Busch were the first American brewers to take advantage of this process and it increased their sales and distribution of their beer drastically when coupled with the use of ice and the expansion of the railroad system in the U.S. By 1895 Pabst was the largest brewery in the U.S., followed by Anheuser-Busch and then Schlitz.

The number of German breweries and subsequent decrease in beer sales began in 1914 with anti-German sentiment during World War I and then followed by Prohibition in 1920. Only low alcohol beer (near-beer) was allowed to be produced. Some breweries converted to making ice cream, root beer and soft drinks, chocolate, milk, etc. in order to survive prohibition and the depression. The number of breweries fell from 1,700 to 170 after Prohibition ended in 1933. The beer brewing industry made a come back in the early 1940s with the advent of cans and mechanical refrigeration. In 1935, G. Krueger Brewing Company of Newark, NJ was the first to market beer in steel cans. Only 25% of beer consumed at that time was from cans and bottles. The rest was from kegs.

The number of small breweries continued to decline in the 1950's as Anheuser-Busch, Miller and Coors gobbled up the small local breweries as they fought each other for larger corporate profits. With the introduction of TV, advertising became more important to the sales of beer. Anheuser-Busch was the first to put ads on TV, followed by Miller Brewing and the introduction of it's *Miller Lite*. Miller was the first brewer to use professional athletes in their commercials in order to brag about its beers "Taste great". By the 1980s, over 80% of the beer market was controlled by Anheuser-Busch, Miller and Coors.

Since that time there has been an increased interest by the American public in specialty beers and beer tasting. Thus the micro-brewery beer industry was born. In addition the American public developed the taste for imported beers like Spaten, Dinkel Acker, DAB, Warsteiner, St. Pauli Girl, Löwenbrau and Becks from Germany, Dreher from Hungary, Pilsner Urquell and Rebel from the Czech Republic, Molson from Canada, Foster's from Australia, Heineken from Holland, Harp from Ireland and Corona and Dos Equis from Mexico, to name a few. Although we Americans love our beer on-tap, we consume 90% of our beer from cans and bottles. Beer remains the popular beverage of choice at picnics, barbecues and while watching football games whether at home or at the football stadium.

Dennis



Note: During Oktoberfest in Munich, Germany over 6 million people drink over 5 million gallons of beer and eat over 200,000 bratwursts.

Prost!!!!!!

Genealogy & History Section (Continued)

The German-Hungarian Family Calendar Magazine

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

Transcribed by Dennis J. Bauer, 17 December 2002. Surnames appear exactly as spelled in the original text and may not be the actual spelling. The list shows the individual's place of origin and their address in the Trenton area at the time of subscription to the magazine. Some translations of town, county and country names were done. As with any secondary source, you may wish to consult the original magazine. This complete list can also be found on the Club web site under genealogy.

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

Roebing, NJ

LAFORSCH, Josef, from Brestowatz, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Magdalena HIRSCHENBERGER, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, 242 5th Ave.

REMICH, widow Marianna, nee LAMPL, from Alexanderhausen, Banat, Romania, 17 Amboy Ave.

WEIMANN, Lorenz, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Emilia JUNGER, from Gross Komlosch, Banat, Romania, 34 Amboy Ave.

Mixed Mercer County, NJ Towns

BURG, John, from Palanka, Batschka, Yugoslavia and Katharina LAUBER, from Gajdobra, Batschka, Yugoslavia, Mill Rd., Bordentown.

REIN, Andreas Sr., from Gorjan, Slavonien and Eva FLESCHE, from Paripas, Batschka, Yugoslavia, Redwood Ave., Bordentown.

www.totenbuch.com-donauschwaben.at

"The genocide has already started in the autumn of 1944. The so called "Anti-Facist Council of People's Liberation of Yugoslavia" (AVNOJ) under the command of Josip Broz – called "Tito" – sent all Danube-Swabians into concentration camps. They lost all their rights and were forced to hard work. They have never got any compensation! Now you can read the names of all 64,000 death victims on this page."

I'm sure the majority of listers have seen this before, but I just went through it last night and thought it might be of interest. This is a searchable list of 64,000 Donauschwaben killed after WW II by the Josef Broz (Tito) dictatorship.

The complete list may also be downloaded with notification to the manager. I found the best way for me to search was to search "Everything" and use only surname. The list may also be searched by specific location and surname/vornamen but results may miss some people that moved. Sad but true. I never realized I had so many family predecessors exterminated.—John R. Penz of the Banat internet list.

TRENTON FACTS

Manufacturing drew the immigrant to the Trenton area in the late 1800s. The major industries at that time in Trenton were; steel (Roebing Steel & Wire), potteries and the rubber mills.

The 1900 U.S. Census for Trenton recorded 4,114 Germans in Trenton and they were the number one ethnic group. Hungarians with a population of 3,292 were the fifth largest ethnic group in Trenton.

By 1920 there were 4,423 Hungarians in Trenton, the third largest ethnic group. Other large ethnic groups included the Germans, English, Irish and Italians. Over 25% of the Trenton population was foreign born in 1920.

Source: Trenton Evening Times, 4 July 1976.

The Christmas Pickel

In old world Germany, the pickel was the last decoration to be placed on the Christmas tree. It is said that the one who finds the pickel on Christmas day will be blessed with a year of good fortune and a special gift!

Please visit member John Feldenzer's PALANKA WEBSITE at: www.feldenzer.com . John posts articles from our newsletter and has a link to our web page. It contains a variety of Donauschwaben information, pictures and resources.

Membership News

2004 Club Officers & Staff

Joseph Brandecker— President *Robert Walter*— V.P. for Facilities
Kim Walter— V.P. for Human Resources *Hans Martini*— Corresponding Secretary
Eva Martini— Recording Secretary *Ludwig Jakober*— Treasurer
Josefa Brandecker— President Ladies' Auxilliary *Terry Huff*-AutoKlub Leader
Harold Parr— President of German Language School
Dennis J. Bauer— V.P. for Cultural Affairs, Genealogist, Newsletter Editor
Dana Miles/Edward Soden— Web Masters *Adam Martini & Mike Lenyo*— Newsletter Writers



German-American Day

October 6, 2004 will be German-American Day. This day was proclaimed German-American Day by the U.S. Congress and approved by then President Ronald Reagan in 1987.

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

Note: Next year's Donauschwaben Treffen is in Los Angeles, CA. It will be in Early August. If you are considering going, please let President Joe Brandecker know as he has to make hotel reservation soon, well in advance of next year!

Congratulations: On 22 September the Bucks County Commissioners presented member **Dennis J. Bauer**, R.S., M.S., with a certificate for his 30 years of service as an Environmental Health Supervisor with the Bucks County Health Department.

Well Wishes: To member **Andy Franz** on the repairs to his Bahama vacation home damaged by the last two hurricanes this past Summer.

Congratulations: To members **Hans Martini** and **Dennis Bauer** for having two of their articles published in the September 2004 issue of the *Heimabote- Das Sprachrohr der Donauschwaben in Nordamerika*. The articles are from our Summer 2004 club newsletter.

Mrs. **Kathy Tozzi** (geb. Herdt) began her first year as a first grade teacher at Macgilliard Grammar School in Hamilton. Kathy is not only a former German school teacher at our club but was also part of the 70's era youth/dance group and was herself a student in our German school. Good Luck Kathy!

Member **Rick Jakober** was recently promoted to Vice President at Perritt Laboratories in nearby Hightstown. The growing firm does all types of biological testing. Congratulations Rick!

Gute Besserung: A speedy recovery to member Mrs. **Pat Huff**, who had surgery in June.

To member **Jim Lieblang** who was in a serious car accident on 17 October and is at the St. Lawrence Rehab Center.

Also speedy recoveries to members, **Peter Kernast, Sr., Brigitte Kleinmann, Duane Bath** and to Mrs. **Bert Roberts, Kim Walters** mother.

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

Our Sympathy: Member **Helen Kernast**, 77, passed away 26 August 2004. Helen was born in Palanka, Yugoslavia of Peter & Maria Berner Kernast. She is survived by sister, Anne Kernast, brother & sister-in-law, Peter & Rose Kernast and nephews Hans Kernast, Ronald Kernast & Peter Kernast. Our prayers go out to her family and friends.

Member **Frau Theresia Bohn** (geb. Hepp) who passed away recently at the age of 95. A native of the Donauschwaben town of Palanka, she was the mother of members Frau Marlene Novosel and Herr Josef Bohn, grandmother of member Markus Novosel, and aunt to the Hepp Family. Frau Bohn was very supportive of our organization, actively contributing in a number of different ways especially during the club's earlier years. In the 1970's, she also had the unique distinction of being "Fahnenmutter" at our club's gala flag dedication ceremony. Her funeral mass in Allentown, NJ was well-attended by a number of club members, friends and family. Grandson Markus Novosel gave a truly inspired eulogy that surely struck an emotional cord with everyone present. It was a very fitting farewell to a very fine woman.

Frau Katharina Eppli died last month at the age of 89 and was buried in Trenton's Holy Sepulcher Cemetery in a very private ceremony. A native of the Donauschwaben town of Bukin, Frau Eppli was the wife of the late Josef Eppli, former Donauschwaben Club President in the 1960's. For many, many years, she was an active part of our kitchen staff, always ready to work hard and share a laugh or two. Like Frau Bohn above, Frau Eppli was an important part of our club's history and someone whom we will long remember with fondness.

L. Earl Brunner of Oakford, PA, father of members **Jim and Rose Brunner** of Levittown, PA, died 7 October 2004 in Langhorne, PA. Husband of Marion Paxson Brunner. He is also survived by Sheryl and David Wingfield of Avon, CT.

May these souls and all the souls of the Faithful Departed rest in Peace, Amen.

Deutsche Ecke, Seite 1

Eine eigenartige Volksgruppe – „Donauschwabən“ genannt.

By Adam Martini

Unsere Vorahnen, die fast alle aus dem mitteleuropäischen deutschen Sprachraum kamen, waren damals schon bekannt für gewisse Eigenarten, wie zum Beispiel, Fleiss und Ausdauer, Freude an der Arbeit, sowie Bescheidenheit und Gottesfurcht. Der bekannte lateinische Spruch: „ore at labore“ (bete und arbeite) war das wahre Leitmotiv der damaligen Deutschen. So ist es kein Wunder, dass man diese Leute, meist Bauern und Handwerker, als neue Kolonisten für den Wiederaufbau des Südost Gebietes Europas gewinnen wollte.

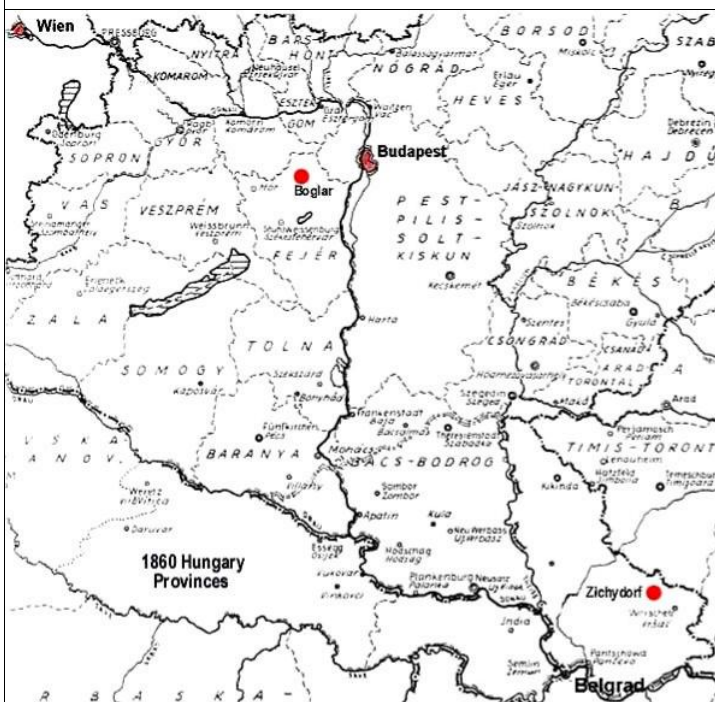
Die verwilderte Tiefebene Ungarns, der Batschka sowie Banat und überhaupt die verwahten Dörfer und brachliegenden Felder des ungarischen sowie slawischen Sudostens wurde zur neuen Heimat für unsere Vorahnen. Die Verwüstung dieses Teiles von Europa war das Resultat der türkischen Feldzüge, die das christliche Europa zu erobern versuchten und unter osmanische Macht stellen wollten. Die Türken kamen bis zu den Toren Wien's aber nicht weiter. Nach einer Weile entschloss man sich, unter ihnen war der bekannte Prinz Eugen, der edle Ritter, die Türken wieder anzugreifen und zurück zu treiben. Es war ein erfolgreiches Unternehmen und die Türken mussten sich zurückziehen. Die Verödung der besetzten Gebiete unter den Türken waren jetzt wieder frei und man brauchte Menschen für den Wiederaufbau, ein undenkbares Unternehmen.

Und so kamen dann unsere Vorahnen in Schiffen auf der Donau in diese Gebiete. Es gibt ja eine Anzahl von Büchern die über diese Zeit der übermenschlichen Leistungen der ersten Kolonisten berichten. Nach vielen Generationen, die schwer arbeiten mussten, sah man eine Besserung. Ja das Land wurde sogar später die Kornkammer Europas genannt. Der Erfolg in der Landwirtschaft der deutschen Kolonisten, später Donauschwaben genannt, wurde sogar studiert und erforscht von Professoren aus Deutschland. Die Dörfer, manche gemischt mit Ungarn, Kroaten und Serben, wieder andere fast rein deutsch, erlebten eine Blütezeit die schwer zu beschreiben ist. Das Leben war gut, man konnte Feste feiern, hatte deutsche Kirchen, Schulen, Gesangsvereine, Sportvereine, Friedhöfe und eigene Wirtshäuser. Es wurde viel gearbeitet, aber auch so manches gefeiert. Der Sonntag gehörte dem Herrgott. Die Kirche war immer mitten im Dorf, die Glocken konnte ein jeder hören, der Herrgott war mit uns auf den Feldern, in den Weingärten und im Haus. Es war so wie eine Partnerschaft mit Gott und so konnte man fast alle Probleme meistern. All das friedliche Zusammenleben mit den Ungarn, Slawen, Rumänern kam zu einem schnellen Ende. Übernacht wurden alle Donauschwaben, es war 1944, enteignet und in die Vernichtungslager verschleppt oder erschossen. Dreihundert Jahre von schwerer Arbeit wurde als „nichts“ abgefertigt und wir mussten uns wie Diebe im Dunklen verstecken. Wir wissen aber wer die wirklichen Diebe sind.

Mit diesem Umsturz der Dinge möchte man glauben es könnte einem zum scheitern bringen. Aber unser Stamm ist eigenartig, wir hatten starke und gutgesinnte Vorahnen, die immer einen neuen Weg fanden und weiterarbeiteten. Wir sind ihre Nachkommen. Wir sind die heutigen Donauschwaben und haben den selben Geist und Kraft unserer Vorahnen in uns. So lässt uns nicht einschlafen. Die Zeiten sind jetzt gut und so mancher von uns vergisst die alten Werte. Wenige bekommen schmutzige Hände bei der Arbeit, heutzutage. Das Leben ist gut, die Brieftasche ist voll und die Herkunft ist eine nebelige Erinnerung. Man braucht ja nichts und niemand, wir haben ja alles. Auch der Herrgott passt nicht mehr so richtig in unseren Alltag. Wir sind „frei“. Man muss acht geben, es ist nicht schwierig Hollywood mit all ihrer leeren Propaganda zu durchschauen. So stehen wir heute wieder vor einer Verwahtung, diese ist etwas anders als unsere Vorahnen es hatten. Diese Verwahtung führt zur Vereinsammung, Entfremdung und Glaubenlosigkeit. Wir sind aber die Nachkommen von dieser langen Linie von Pionieren, wir müssen uns nur besinnen um unserem Leben eine positive Richtung zu geben.

Wir haben ja einen kleinen Verein hier in Trenton, die Vereinigung der Donauschwaben. Die Türen sind offen für jede Person die interessiert ist in unsere deutsche Art. Das Heim ist gemütlich, die Bedienung freundlich und das Gelände ideal für Kinder und Familien.

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Deutsche Ecke, Seite 2



The Village of Hodschag (Odzaci) in the Batschka

The Donauschwaben: a Uniquely German People. by Adam Martini
(English Version)

Our ancestors from the German speaking areas of central Europe were always possessed certain desirable qualities. These included an excellent work ethic, trustworthiness and a fear of God. The popular Latin phrase: "Ora et Labora" (prayer and work) was the guiding principle in those days. It's no wonder then that this group would be much sought after to colonize and rebuild the devastated areas of southeastern Europe in the 1700's.

The virtually uninhabitable areas of Hungary, the Batschka and Banat, with their devastated villages and decimated fields became the new home for our Germans ancestors. The destruction of this part of Europe was the direct result of the Turkish Ottoman Empire's efforts to gain control of Europe. For a while, the Turks were triumphant in this endeavor and approached the gates of Vienna... but could go no further. After a time, campaigns were then waged to retake the land. These were lead by Prince Eugen of Savoy, among others, and were overwhelmingly successful. As the Turks retreated, formerly oppressed regions became free again and with it came the need to rebuild – an almost unimaginable task.

And so it was that our ancestors traveled down the Danube by boat and arrived in these godforsaken

places. Much has been written about the first settlers and the extreme circumstances they had to endure. Only after many generations would all of the hard work finally create a relatively good life for our ancestors. Indeed, eventually the area became the breadbasket of Europe. Such was the success of the Donauschwaben that scientists from Germany would come to study crop production techniques.

By the turn of the twentieth century, the villages and towns of the Donauschwaben areas would experience a time of unprecedented prosperity. These "Doerfer" had either all-German populations or were a mixture of Hungarian, Croats and/or Serbians. Life was good. There were German churches, schools, singing societies, cemeteries and taverns. There was still much hard work to do but now there was time to celebrate as well.

In many ways, life revolved around the church. Built at the center of town, the church was the focal point of the community and its all-important bells could be heard in every direction. It was truly believed that God was with the Donauschwaben; whether in the fields, in the vineyards, at home, or anywhere else. It was as if there was a partnership with the Almighty and that every problem had a solution through Him.

This idyllic life and coexistence with other ethnic groups came to a quick end in 1944. Overnight, Donauschwaben would lose everything and, if they hadn't escaped ahead of time, were sent to concentration camps or were killed outright. Hundreds of years of hard work suddenly amounted to zero with many sneaking away at night as if they were thieves. The Donauschwaben, of course, knew the real thieves all too well.

With this catastrophe, one could well imagine that the Donauschwaben would finally disappear into that dark night. Not so with this group! They had strong and resilient forefathers who never gave up and



always kept on going.

Today, this heritage of strength and vitality lives on in all of us. We have every reason to believe we can take on life's challenges and succeed. The unfortunate part of today's prosperity is that all too soon we forget the value of getting one's "hands dirty" while doing something worthwhile. Life is (too) good, the cupboard is full and, for many, one's proud heritage is just a quaint and somewhat foggy notion. We don't want for anything and, as a result perhaps, we feel we don't really need anyone either. Even God is far less important today, there just isn't room for Him in our busy lives. We are "free".

We must, of course, be on our guard for this type of empty and meaningless lifestyle. This is especially true as it relates to Hollywood's vacuous propaganda, which constantly challenges us to stay true to ourselves and to God. This attack on our well-being is somewhat different today than it was for our ancestors so many years ago. We are at risk of becoming estranged from our communities, from one another and of distancing ourselves from God. Let us use the example of our pioneering ancestors to give our lives new meaning and a positive direction.

The Trenton Donauschwaben is but a small club in a big world. The doors, however, are open to everyone interested in the German way of doing things. The atmosphere is relaxed, the people are friendly, and the place is ideal for children and families alike. Come, participate with us, we need each other!

Our Autoklub Travels



TERRY'S AUTO TIPS

Fall & Winter Preparation!

With Fall. Comes cooler temperatures..... Keep these tips in mind as the temperature drops and Winter approaches:

- ☀ Change the engine oil prior to the cold season. Change the oil at least every 4,000 miles for conventional oil and 8,000 for synthetic oil. ALWAYS change the oil filter.
- ☀ Check your battery and charging system. Check that exhaust system also.
- ☀ Make sure your tires are in good condition for Winter traction. Inflate them to the manufacturers specs.
- ☀ If those wiper blades chatter or streak, put on new ones (at least once per year). Check that heater & defroster.
- ☀ Keep your gas tank full, it decreases the chances of moisture forming in the gas lines and freezing.

HAPPY FALL & WINTER MOTORING - from TERRY HUFF

AutoKlub Members Win Big During Summer 2004 These are just some of the wins!

- VW Super Jam, Maple Grove, PA-June
 - Dennis Bauer—New VW Beetle-1st
 - Colin Huff—Stock Classic VW Beetle-1st
 - Terry Huff-VW Kit Car-3rd
 - Rick Search—Stock Conv. Classic VW Beetle-3rd
 - Pat Biringham-Stock Conv. Classic VW-1st
- Red Robin Cruise Night—June
 - Melanie Bauer-Olds Alero
- William Penn Fire Company Car Show, Hulmeville, PA—June
 - Dennis Bauer-New VW Beetle-2nd
 - Colin Huff-VW-1st
 - Melanie Bauer-1989-Present-3rd
- Cruisin Classics Car Show, Phila. Cannstatter—August
 - Andy Franz-Sports Car-2nd
 - Hans Martini-Sports Car-3rd
 - Terry Huff-Kit Car (VW dune buggy)-1st
 - Rick Search- Antique Early VW-2nd
 - Joey Bongard-Import/compact (Classic VW)-3rd
 - Mike Colacello-Antique Plymouth-3rd
 - Trenton Donuaschwaben AutoKlub-Most entries- 1st

Trenton Donauschwaben Autoausstellung Rained Out

The 18 July AutoKlub Member Car Show at the Spiessbraten was postponed until the Erntedankfest (Roladen Dinner) on 26 September due to rain. However, diehards, Mike Colacello (1952 Plymouth), Dennis Bauer (2003 VW Beetle), Mike Lenyo (1987 Corvette) Hans Martini (1987 Porsche), Melanie Bauer (2000 Olds Alero), Kurt Müller (Mercedes sedan) and Frank Herdt (1968 VW Beetle) still brought out their cars for display in spite of the rain. They are true “motor heads“. It was great to see former German Class Teacher Kurt Müller show up from Maryland.

Mother Nature did cooperate on September 26th for the Autoausstellung. Look for details in the next issue.

Fun on Wheels Car Show Essex, Canada

While at the Donauschwabentreffen in Windsor, Canada over the Labor Day weekend, Donna, Melanie and Dennis Bauer decided to attend a car show in nearby Essex. It was held from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. on 5 September 2004.

The show was held at the wooded Heritage Village complex. They had to brave thick fog to get there but it cleared out by 9:30 a.m. The village also housed a fine automobile museum and also offered the attendees a great car flea market.

Several hundred cars were present, including antique autos, foreign cars, street rods, trucks, muscle cars and sports cars. It was an excellent event and well worth the 1/2 hour drive in the fog and \$5.00 (Canadian) admission fee. It can now be said that the Bauers drove over 600 miles, to another country, just to see a car show. Motor Heads or what?

AutoKlub Wins Again!!! Sehr Gut, Ja?

Our AutoKlubleiter, Terry Huff, presents the Cannstatter Car Show Trophy to our Trenton Donauschwaben President, Joe Brandecker and a \$100 cash prize for the most car show participants by any car club. Second year in a row! (See page



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Trenton Donauschwaben travels to Holmdel, NJ...

You know, dear readers, the German Heritage Festival has long been a part of our club's yearly calendar. That's right, since the 1970's we've traveled up the Garden State Parkway to participate in New Jersey's biggest German event. We come fully stocked with delicious home-baked pastries that are often snapped up faster than you can say "low carb diet". This year no one suffered any toe injuries: nor did anyone "lose" a coffee maker on the parkway; in fact, no one even left an attache case in the parking lot! The action was elsewhere, in fact.

For the first time in many years, a Donauschwaben dance group performed again at the German Heritage Festival. Our Philly-Trenton group did a great job before a sizable audience who applauded most appreciatively. Some were even pressed into service as the dancers had a few onlookers join in the last dance. It was great fun and great to see our dance group back in action after such a long absence.

There were, of course, lots of other things to do and see. Food, music (our man Vince Boutteon worked his accordion magic), a German flea market, dance groups (ours too!), desserts (ditto!), soccer games, kiddy rides, and a gala stage show all add to one wonderful German happening. Many thanks to honorary club member, Ted Hierl, for his continued efforts to make this important cultural event a reality here in New Jersey.

Let's not forget the phenomenal pastry people who helped make this all-important club fund raiser possible: Josefa, Eva, Katharina, Anna Hahn, Rene, Uli, Lydia, Harold & Harold, Ludwig & Susan, Marion, Helga, Kurt Kusenko, Anna, Brittaney, Josef, Josef & Josef, Steve, and anyone else who helped. Danke Schoen!

We look forward to seeing even more members at next year's Heritage Festival. Make the time, good people, we're sure you'll enjoy yourself!

Hans Martini



**A Fly Fishing Trip to "FERNIE"
British Columbia with a new found cousin -
by John E. Feldenzer**

It began after finding a new cousin a few years ago in which we (John A. Feldenzer) met over the telephone via a fly fishing book store, in which we discovered a shared love, "FLY FISHING". John A. later called me from his home in Roanoke, Virginia (I live in Libby, Montana) to tell me he had to attend a "Neurological Medical Seminar" (the actual meeting came about through my German genealogy research in which I discovered that we were related) in my area (Flathead Valley) and thought he would drive over to meet my wife Myrtle and me. Later in 2002 I met John again, and along with his son Andrew and with my grandson Josh, we fly fished the Elk River in Fernie B.C. for a couple days. It turned out to be a two days of great fishing, but way too short! We later discussed another trip on the "Elk", only this trip had to be at least a week! John contacted Ned Cooper at "Elk River Guiding Co. in Fernie B.C." and we started making plans. John booked Ned Cooper for a drift boat trip on the ELK and a "walk-in" on the WIGWAM River for the first week of September 2004. I picked up John A. at the Kalispell airport on September 4th at 12:30 pm from a Delta flight from Roanoke (after a couple connections) and we loaded up all the gear and started north to the Canadian border of B. C., about 60 miles away through the town of Eureka, Montana. Upon reaching The Elk River Company fly shop we found to our delight that Ned Cooper had set us up in a "condo" that was really nice We carried our small amount of fishing equipment (it sure seemed small) into the condo and decided to go have dinner. After dinner we went back to our condo and retired after such a hard day.

Sunday, September 5th: It took a couple hours to get our equipment organized and we then left to have breakfast and afterwards went to Ned Cooper's to sign in for the trip of a lifetime (at least for me . . . the "old man" of the group). We decided to take my "Hyde drift boat" and that way I could learn the river for later trips.Wrong! What an eye opener, sure not like the Kootenai River at home. There were more turns and problems for

beginners that I ever thought possible. But, what a fantastic fishing day on the Elk River .

Monday, September 6th: We met Ned's guide Jeff Mironuck. Jeff is the Publisher of the new magazine, *Fly Fishing the West* (www.flyfishingwest.com). After breakfast we left for a "walk-in" to the WIGWAM River which is highly acclaimed as being one of the finest Cutthroat and Bull Trout rivers in the country. We had a rather harrowing experience riding with Jeff that left embedded fingerprints on the "chicken bars" so make sure you stop at the restroom before starting out! He should have been a Winston Cup driver! We prepared for our walk-in donning our waders and boots (we noticed that Jeff did not put on the same) and the "small" amount of gear that all fly fishermen need, and headed down the path for a short hike.Wrong again! I should have brought my mountain bike and just left it there! After a walk of about one mile, Jeff halted the parade by holding up his hands and "yelling" since I was dragging along well behind the party of hikers I could not understand what was happening.As it turned out a large black bear was feeding at the edge of the path and Jeff figured we might want to wait until the bear left. No argument from John E. or John A. was recorded. After what seemed hours and many miles of travel we arrived at the WIGWAM River, and to one of the most spectacular views I have ever seen! We spent about 5 hours fishing for Cutt's and Bull's and we were not disappointed!! At one point while helping me, Jeff advised me to "cast there next to the large rock". Something grabbed hold of the very small size 16 "green caddis" fly and slowly moved out into the middle and to the bottom of the river then decided to just stay there! I had a very hard time trying to move the fish. Jeff said, you have a very large "BULL" on the line, about a 29" and maybe about 12-14 pounds! After 20 minutes and moving downstream working very hard to put pressure on the "Bull" without breaking him off, Jeff landed him in the net for me, then after pictures were taken and my "shaking" from excitement died down, we released him. This was the highlight of all my fly fishing experiences to date, even my Steelhead fishing on the Klamath River! What a fantastic day!

Now for the trip out. Upon reaching Jeff's RV, I almost had a "stroke" I was so tired that I simply lay on the ground. If you want to try this when you are 68 years old, you better get in shape! I told John that I did not think that I would be back here again. As I sit here writing this, I have changed my mind! "Wigwam" here I come again, only a little wiser this time. Do not ask me where we

were at as I do not like to tell "Tall Tales". Jeff is a very good guide and spends a lot of time working with the fishermen on how to fish the river and what flies to use. We highly recommend Jeff as a guide, just bring your Rosary beads with you while traveling with him in his RV.

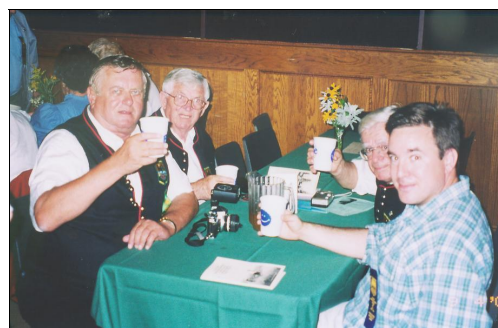
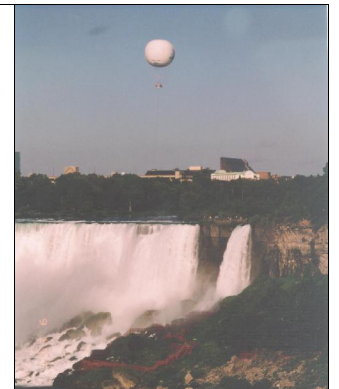
Tuesday, September 7th: John and I decided we needed to rest a bit so we decided to strike out on our own and fish. about forty to a couple hundred Cutt's (sounds about right?) and a lot of walking on rocks that were ALL round. John mentioned maybe we needed to hire Ned Cooper again. No argument from me.

Wednesday, September 8th: After breakfast we met Ned at the Elk River Guiding Company Fly Shop again and after looking through their supplies we discovered we needed more equipment for the trip down the river that morning, so we "picked" up a few things. I was very concerned that Ned's boat might not stay afloat with the "extra" gear we had, but everything seemed OK. We put in just past the largest dump truck you can imagine.can't say anymore than that! Just another fantastic day fishing.even after all the casting hang-ups! The problem was, John was casting in front and was right handed and I was casting from the rear and was left handed, and the wind was "blowing very hard". You knew it was bad when you saw Ned praying. Strange thing for an adult man to do on a river? Oh, lest I forget to mention! Just before we reached the take-out "I" was rowing my boat with John in the front and Ned in the back fishing (a guide no less). Ned caught the largest "CUTT" of the day. There must be something in the fishing ethics about a guide doing this. . . . ?

Thursday, September 9th : We again decided to rough it, and fish on our own on the Michelle River north of Fernie about 45 miles Again, another three or four hundred fish.we only needed to fish half a day?

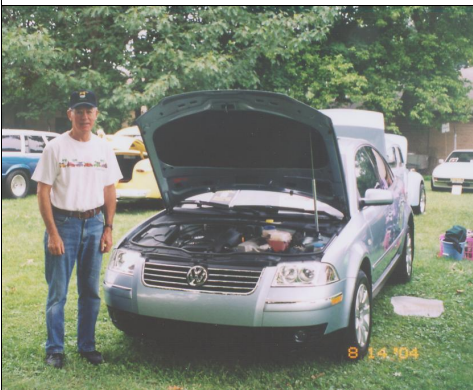
Friday, September 10th: We packed up and headed for the U.S. border and home. Upon reaching the border we had a real surprise. We had all the equipment in the back of the pickup and behind the seats and figured it would take forever to go through all the "stuff" for the Border Patrol. They took one look at us and the "small" amount of equipment we had and simply waved us through. What a shock, as we had been worried about them checking everything. What a great Trip! It must be in the "genes" since many of our Donauschwaben ancestors were also fishermen.

Our Club at the Donauschwabentreffen



AutoKlub Pictures from the Canstatter Show

AutoKlub entries (left-right, top-bottom): Andy Franz, Dennis Bauer, Hans Martini, Harold Huff, Joey Bongard, Melanie Bauer, Mike Colacello, Mike Lenyo, Rick Search, Steve & Joe Brandecker, Terry Huff & 4 of 6 winners (Mike Colacello & Andy Franz missing).



Club Events for the Fall 2004

EVENTS— DATES & TIMES

Come out and join us!

- 48th Stiftungsfest, Sunday, 17 October 2004, 1pm.
- Totengedenkfeier, Sunday, 31 October 2004, 1pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Cemetery.
- Schlachtfest, Sunday, 14 November 2004, 1 & 3pm.
- St. Nikolausfeier, Sunday, 5 December 2004, 1pm.
- Silvesterfeier, Friday Night, 31 December 2004, 8pm.
- MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!!

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

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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 Donauschwabern!

The Book: A Pebble in My Shoe by Katherine Hoeger Flotz

“For some time I have been waiting for Katherine's book to reach me, and today it is in my hands.

Katherine describes so vividly the trail of tears of her and her husband's Donauschwaben family during the years of 1944-1949. Her family ends up in the death camp of Gakowa, where she first lost a grandmother on starvation, her mother dies on typhoid fever and she almost too. Her husband's family, whom she did not know in those times, criss-crossed Europe dodging guns, bombs and Partisans, surviving on next to nothing.

The Vertreibung (Expulsion) of the Danube Swabians has been swept under the rugs. Between 1944-1950, 14 million German speaking peoples outside of Germany, were brutally abused, became refugees and over two million of them were killed. Five million of those 14 million were Donauschwaben. The biggest ethnic cleansing ever! And who approved those deeds?

This "ethnic cleansing" was decided upon by Churchill (representing democracy), by Roosevelt (representing democracy) and Stalin (representing tyranny) at a meeting in Potsdam in 1944.

It's to be thanked to authors like Katherine to tell us first hand just how it was. It's our story, and it has to be told. Thank you Katherine! It's a book of tears, but I warmly recommend it to any Donauschwaben. “

Rosina T. Schmidt of Canada (Permission granted for reprint)

The Club has copies of this wonderful book for a donation of \$25 plus \$3 S/H. Contact any officers for your copy.