

Trentoner Donauschwaben Nachrichten

Volume 5 Issue 4



October-December 2005

Points of Interest

- The soft pretzel was brought to Philadelphia in 1710 by the Palantine Germans.
- The commercial pretzel industry was started in Lititz, PA by Julius Sturgis in 1861.
- October 6th is officially German-American Day in the U.S.
- PA & CA each have over 3 million German-Americans in the state.
- New York City & Chicago have the largest German-American populations of any cities.
- 44% of the North Dakota population claim German ancestry.
- John Philip Sousa's mother was German.

Source: United German-American Committee web site (www.ugac.org)

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The 2005 California Donauschwabentreffen

Surf's up! Okay, okay, we'll admit to a few pre-conceived notions and comfortable stereotypes in advance of our August trip to California. Some of us might even have expected Los Angeles dance group members to all have surfboards on their vehicles! Such was not the case, of course. What we Donauschwaben from "back east" did discover was that our Golden State brethren are pretty much the same as any other: warm, friendly and most hospitable. Of course, the state itself has "just a few" positive attributes too: a fabulous Pacific coastline, incredible mountain ranges, lush fields of agriculture, and thousands of other sights of beauty or interest. Despite all this, dear readers, we are pleased to report that the Donauschwaben cultural event was worth the trip all by itself. To have been a part of it, to have seen it and appreciated it was indeed a most memorable experience.

The Los Angeles Donauschwaben host club sponsored the event at a huge German catering facility (called the Phoenix Club) not far from Disneyland in Anaheim. Our Trenton club has been making its presence known the last few years at these events and this time was no different. Led by club president and first lady, Joe and Caroline Brandecker with family, the group included: Mike and Denese Lenyo with family; Bob and Kim Walter with family; Josef and Josefa Brandecker; Adam and Eva Martini; Käthe Pfann; Anna Hahn; Stefan Mayer; Steve Brandecker; and, JoAnn and Hans Martini with family. Our young people included Lyla, Brittaney, Anna, Luisa, Joe, Sophie, Christina, Nick, Mary, Emma, and, last but certainly not least, Greta! Wow!

The Philly-Trenton dance group was not led by Fred Gauss this time around as he was unable to attend. Yet while we missed Fred, his daughter Regina Gauss acquitted herself most admirably, handling the organizing with aplomb. Many thanks to her and to all the Gauss's for their fine efforts. They were part of a sizable contingent of Philly participants in LA, including Herr and Frau Adam Mattes.

We were also glad to see a number of friends from the New York clubs as well.

Speaking of our Philly-Trenton dance group: a great big CONGRATULATIONS to them for representing our clubs so well. They were smiling, happy, enthusiastic and engaging and danced most skillfully. They socialized and interacted with youth from across the country, saw many new dance routines, and found out about club life and activities in other cities. We could not have asked more from them. Let's add here too that both the Philadelphia and Trenton clubs sponsored part of the expenses that brought the dance group to the west coast. It was a worthwhile investment no matter how one looks at it.

Normally, youth dance groups from all the various cities are the stars of the show and this year was no different. In fact, this year was even more interesting than usual as the much-anticipated Awender competition was held this year. While Cleveland took top prize, truly all the young people were wonderful. The colorful Tracht, the festive dancing and wonderful singing made for a most enjoyable spectacle. The Saturday evening parade of all the various groups clad in their finest Tracht was a sight to behold. The energy, enthusiasm and good will was everywhere evident. It was a moment that made us all proud to be Donauschwaben club members!

One of the most powerful moments of the entire weekend occurred in the very last hours of the event. Many had already departed but hundreds of young people were still around, dancing to the music of some fabulous sounding German band. Ingrid Dorr, the National Youth Coordinator, called for a moment of remembrance in the great hall. She wanted to memorialize a young California dance group member who died very tragically a few years back. The assembled young people formed a loose circle and swayed to a most evocative song called "I hope you dance." A very emotional scene followed that effectively bonded this vast group together as one. It was something none of us had ever witnessed before and few will soon forget.

(Continued on page 2)

Club Matters & Members



GERMAN HERITAGE FEST 2005

Our Club attended the 32nd Annual German Heritage Festival in Holmdel, NJ on Sunday 11 September 2005. As usual we sold our assortment of German pastries and cakes. We were among a dozen other food vendors present at the event. Our Philly-Trenton Youth Dance Group performed twice during the day. The dance group from our friends at the United German-Hungarians in Oakford, PA also performed later that day.

It was a beautiful day for the soccer games and for vendors to sell German ethnic clothes, mugs, pins, books, maps, CDs, steins and other sundry of German related items. Our own Stefan Brandecker is a trustee and member of the Special Events Committee for the German Heritage Council of NJ. The event proceeds help sponsor six scholarships.

CLUB MEMBER FROM NEW MEXICO VISITS

Member Kathy Purr Newlon from New Mexico was our special visitor at the 25 September Erntedankfest/ Autoausstellung dinner. She was back East, with her husband Evan, to visit her mother, Betty Purr, who lives in Trenton. All three attended.

Kathy emailed the Club upon her return to New Mexico and expressed her thanks for a warm, friendly welcome she and her family received from our club members. We all hope to see Kathy next time she is back here in the East. Kathy, we at the club enjoyed your company also!

Note: Kathy's father, Adam Purr came to the USA with Sepp & Sophie Brandecker in the 1950s. Truly a small world. **

THE GOOD OLD DAYS



Members Kate Helleis and nephew Jake Bauer reminisce about the "good old days", farming and the family gatherings in Bucks County, PA and Mercer County, NJ during Jake's visit with Kate at her home in Allentown, NJ in September.

HURRICANE KATRINA HITS THE GULF

Our hearts and prayers go out to all the recent victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. In response to this disaster, the Club donated \$250 dollars to the Catholic Charities USA- Hurricane

Relief Fund.

Note: German immigrants were among the first families to settle in Louisiana and helped found New Orleans in 1718. They eventually intermarried with the Acadian families of the area.

The 2005 California Donauschwabentreffen

(Continued from page 1)

While we could go on talking about our wonderful young people, it might be a good point to mention those on the other end of the age spectrum. The older generation is just as big a part of these events as any other. It is indeed the strength of ours and of any other organization that all age groups are involved and active. Surely, one of the highlights for our more senior members (and for all of us) occurred at the field mass. At one point, the chief celebrant, Father Hermann Rettig, asked all those who were born in the Donauschwaben areas to please stand up. It was a poignant moment as a good 1/3 of the attendees stood to warm applause. Time, as they say, marches on but it is good to see our oldest generation active and making a difference. Okay, a few tidbits before we close:

- The Martini family, right down to 9 year old Christina, must have been on some terrorist watch list as they were all searched at the airport. Apparently, no explosives were found on any of them.
- Having an equestrian team lead the Trachten parade no doubt looked great on film but it was road hazards, road hazards, road hazards for all of us!
- Sure it was a balmy 118 degrees down in Death Valley, CA, but as Adam and Eva said, "it was a dry kind of heat"!
- The Brandecker family's Denver to LA to Denver car tour gives them the "most traveled Trentoners" award for this particular event. No word yet on whether Joe plans to tour all of Canada on his way to next year's Treffen!
- Mr. and Mrs. Wilhelm Strauss of Germany found out about our club online, came to the treffen at our recommendation and we all had a great time together! Schöner Gruss aus Trenton to our newest friends "over there."

So that was the Donauschwabentreffen for 2005, good people. The next time around we'll be in the Windy City. That's right, the wonderful city of Chicago is the site of the 2006 treffen. Please plan to join us next year. - Hans

Genealogy & History Section



Fourth Generation of Membership in Club

Evan Jacob Bauer is now the fourth generation to be a member of our club. He was born in September 2005 at St. Mary's Hospital in Langhorne, PA.

Pictured from left to right are, Jacob Andrew Bauer (great-grandfather), Dennis Jacob Bauer (grandfather), Evan Jacob Bauer and proud father, Jason Jacob Bauer. The name "Jacob" goes back several more generations. Evan's great, great grandfather was Jacob Bauer (born in Palanka) and his great, great, great, great grandfather was Jakob Bauer (born in Weprowatz). Only his great, great, great grandfather Christian Bauer (born in Weprowatz) lacked the name. Pretty amazing family tradition!

APATIN ORTSSIPPENBUCH TO BE RELEASED THIS CHRISTMAS

Look for the release of Jakob Schuy's new *Apatin Ortssippenbuch*. Apatin is located on the Danube River in northwest Batschka. It will contain about 1,050 pages covering the years 1750-1825. Many of our southern Batschka ancestors can trace their roots to this port city. This family lineage book will not only contain birth, marriage and death dates but also places of origin for the villagers in Germany, Alsace-Lorraine, etc.

The cost of the book will be between 50-55 Euros. Contact Jakob Schuy, Bresslauer Strasse 12, 6759 Kaiserslautern, Germany, if you are interested in this publication.

COLLECTION OF DONAUSCHWABEN MEMORIES FROM HOME

Over the past several years Adam Martini and Andy Franz have graciously written articles for our club newsletter about experiences at home, in the camps, their flight to freedom and of their temporary home in Austria prior to arriving in the U.S.A. Their works have been posted on several websites and appeared in several Donauschwaben newsletters. We applaud their work. The Donauschwaben experiences should not be forgotten and should be shared with all in order to keep our rich history alive and known.

As such Hans Martini and I, members of the Club's Cultural Committee, would like to collect these and other Donauschwaben experiences in writing and publish them in a book sponsored by the Club. All donations from the sales of these books would go to this committee. Therefore, we are asking any of our Donauschwaben immigrants if they would "tell their story" for inclusion in this book. It can be written by the club member personally or told to Hans and me and we will put it in writing for you.

More and more of our older members are passing on and with them their stories of home. What a great legacy to leave the club, our members, both present and future, and the World. We are a proud people with a rich history and culture. Please consider this request. If you are interested please contact Hans or I. Danke Schön!

Dennis J. Bauer

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY CELEBRATES 110 YEAR OLD ROOTS

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormons) established their Family History Library over 110 years ago this year in Salt Lake City. It is the world's largest genealogical research facility and is open to the general public. The library contains millions of volumes of books, microfilm and microfiche of records from all over the world, including records on the Donauschwaben. Happy Birthday!

Membership News

2005 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

Melanie L. Bauer— Newsletter Copy Editor, Asst. AutoKlub Leader

Dana Miles/Edward Soden— Web Masters

Adam Martini, Andy Franz & Mike Lenyo— Newsletter Writers

Dennis J. Bauer— V.P. for Cultural Affairs, Genealogist, Newsletter Editor



CALLING ALL SKIERS

I am trying one more time to organize our annual ski trip. If anyone is interested contact me at 609-585-8460 or email me at www.ledich@aol.com. The exact date will be determined later if we get enough people together.

Also there is the annual ski trip to Crystal Brook Resort in the Catskills, NY in January or February. You do not have to be a skier to enjoy this weekend of outdoor activities, fun, friends and good food/drink. Hope to see you there, Stefan Brandecker.

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



Congratulations: Looking adorable in her beautiful dress, **Mary Lenyo** is shown here during her First Holy Communion earlier this year. Mary received the sacrament at nearby St. Vincent de Paul Church and returned to the Donauschwaben clubhouse with family and friends afterwards to celebrate the event. Congratulations!

To **Eva Martini** on her 65th birthday (oops!) on 18 August 2005.

To members **Jason and Pam Bauer** on the birth of their son, **Evan Jacob Bauer** in September 2005 at St. Mary's Hospital in Langhorne, PA (our newest club member). He is the first grandchild of members **Dennis and Donna Bauer** and the third great-grandchild of members **Jacob and Carol Bauer**. Evan is also the great-grandnephew of member **Katie Helleis**.

To members **Erich & Estelle Haratsch** on their 17 September 2005 marriage. The couple was married at the Notre-Dame de Vincennes Church in Paris, France.

Best wishes to: Erich Jakober, son of members **Rick and Susan Jakober** and grandson of **Ludwig Jakober**, as he attends his first year at Loyola University in Maryland. Erich would like to pursue a degree in engineering.

Best of Luck to: members **Steve and Kellianne Mayer** and their children, **Marcus and Abby**, who just moved to a new home down the road in Cinnaminson, NJ. The family is said to be doing just fine in their new surroundings!

Our Sympathy: To member **Sophie Brandecker** on the passing of her cousin's husband, **Fred Masur** on 20 August 2005. He was a member of the Philly Donauschwaben.

To member **Käthe Marx** on the passing of her sister, **Maria Theresa Lavundi (nee Karl)**, of Philadelphia, on 10 July 2005. Maria was born in Palanka, Yugoslavia and was a member of the Philadelphia Donauschwaben.

Our condolences go out to the Brandecker, the Lavundi and the Marx families, friends and our friends at the Philly Donauschwaben.

Get Well: to members **Sepp Brandecker, Peter Kernast, and Jim Lieblang** on their recent medical problems this fall.

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.

Wilkommen New Members: We want to welcome new members, **Daniel, Theresa, Dan, Chris and Kathy Penrith** of Sewell, NJ. Daniel is **Dennis Bauer's** cousin. Dan, Chris and Kathy are presently students in college.

Did You Know? Our **Fred Gauss** is on the Board of Directors of the United German-American Committee. He is also past President of the Philly Donauschwaben, is on the Philadelphia Steuben Parade committee and active with the Philly-Trenton Dance Group and the Donauschwaben Verband. He also lectures to local schools on our German culture. Fred graduated from LaSalle University and is an audit supervisor with the City of Philadelphia. A busy guy!

Deutsche Ecke, Seite 1

THE RETURN HOME...

By Adam Martini

(Translation by newsletter staff,
original appeared in German in our last
issue)



Our escape from our hometown ahead of the communists had its origins in the waning days of summer, 1944. From our village called "Bukin" (pronounced: "boo-keen") in a part of Yugoslavia called "Batschka", we set off with a horse and wagon along with just a few essentials for our journey. We attached ourselves to a long line of wagons heading out of Bukin and eventually ended up in a part of eastern Germany called "Pommern" (now a part of Poland).

Once we reached our objective, we no longer needed our horse and wagon and it was our intention to unload them at the earliest opportunity. Indeed, the feeding and maintenance of a horse is quite a responsibility, one we could scarcely justify in those circumstances. We had little to worry about though as in a short time German military authorities would take them for the war effort.

WWII was still a roaring inferno. Vast Russian armies, unstoppable in their numbers, were heading west – in our direction! The whispers were everywhere, "pack up and head west, the Russians are coming..." and so on and so on. Suddenly, the local authorities issued a command: "All who want to flee to the west had to be over the bridge by 9 the next morning!" The bridge was to be blown up precisely at 9 AM to slow the advancing Russians. The bridge, unfortunately, was some 3 miles away.

The prospects did not look good for us. Our little group consisted of my 8 month old sister, my grandmother, my mom, myself (a not-so-strapping 7 year old), and our possessions... and no horse

and wagon! We were not the only ones in such a predicament and soon a rising panic seemed to pervade the area. There were very few bicycles and even fewer motor vehicles so most people started toward the bridge on foot. The few "essentials" we were able to bring from Bukin now had to be left behind. Only that which my grandmother and I could carry was taken as my mom had to carry my sister. And so we were off...

The way to the bridge developed into a foot race. To add to the frenzy was the growing sound of artillery in the distance signaling that the front was coming nearer. My mother, never one to sit still for long, urged us to speed up – speed up! My grandmother, on the other hand, was of a different mind set which inevitably lead to confrontations. In the end, my mother would usually prevail and our little group moved along as fast as it could. In any event, we made it across the bridge in time.

It was not long before we heard explosions that brought the bridge down behind us. Many refugees were still on the other side and their fate would not be known. We headed off in the direction of the train station and arrived there along with hundreds of others. It was a teeming sea of humanity! Somehow, my ever-resourceful mother, clinging child around her neck, managed to squeeze us on board the packed train. Many would be left behind. We, however, were happy everything worked out – if just barely - and that we were heading west.

My next memories of our "refugee trek" are from the mountainous Riesengebirge area during Christmas, 1944. We got off the train in the town of Hirschberg and the local authorities set up the gymnasium for refugees. As it was Christmas Eve, the townspeople tried to bring us some holiday cheer by bringing Christmas trees and even Santa Claus who gave us youngsters a small gift. This incredibly loving gesture still lingers in

my memory. The gracious and friendly behavior of these people underpins my theory that Germans everywhere have much to offer the world. They think clearly and have a good heart.

It was pretty in Hirschberg. Snow made everything white and the big pines looked like so many wonderful Christmas trees. Alas, we had to go and my mother had to decide where. Many of our relatives had gone to Bavaria and Württemberg already but we headed for upper Austria (Oberösterreich) to an area called Wels. We ended up being assigned to a farm in a small village. The people there were not very friendly. However, no one had asked them if they had wanted us either, I guess. There we would wait out the last few months of WWII.

During this time, we heard some wild rumors that Hitler was going to have planes fly around dropping gas everywhere to prevent Germans from being taken alive by the enemy. I was understandably terrified as I really did not want to die! So it was that every time I heard an aircraft, I would hold my breath.

One day, American soldiers came to our village and it was then that I saw my first black person. It was quite a shock really. The soldiers were friendly but went house to house collecting guns to be destroyed in the village center. After a short time, my father came "home" to us after having served as a soldier since 1943 and survived. This, however, made our host family even more unfriendly.

In the mean time, we became aware of a train that was said to take people – people like us - back to Yugoslavia. What a fight this caused in our family! On the one side, my grandmother who wanted nothing to do with such an idea. On the other, my parents. My dad dreamed of a return to the family workshop and mom to her house, vineyards and fields. They longed to see the majestic Danube and the Mostung tributary that flowed near our village. They even had hopes to see our dog "piri" (bee-ree) whom we had left behind. You know, I still remember his howling when we left, so sad and so all knowing.

(Continued on next page)

Deutsche Ecke, Seite 2

(Continued from previous page)

My grandmother, though, was correct. She asked my parents if they thought the war was just some twisted fantasy. She said they should be happy to have escaped with their lives from Yugoslavia. The call to go home, however, was too strong for my parents and nothing would stand in their way. So, we boarded the very first train back to Yugoslavia. The engine and passenger cars were festively decorated with flowers and placards. People sang, toasted with wine and beer and were happy to be heading home. Everything went according to plan until we entered Yugoslavia and the town of Zagreb (Agram).



The train rolled to a stop at the station in Zagreb. What was thought to be a short stop became longer and longer. Then came the command: "everyone shall stay put until further orders". The next followed "Leave everything in the train and assemble in the station hall". My grandmother then gave my parents a look that said, "this is the beginning of the end".

At this point, everyone who was in the train was now out of the train and in the station. The exits were locked and we were placed under armed guard. Thus began a very long night, one I can truly not forget. The friendly tone from the loud speaker became shrill and hateful. One command followed the next; "earrings, rings, watches, money, etc. shall be turned over!" We had to file back through the entryway to surrender our possessions. The loud speakers seemed to be everywhere at once. Then came an announcement that someone had failed to turn over valuables and would

now have to be shot. Shortly thereafter, a shot was heard nearby! This caused much commotion and not a little hysteria in some. It really was like some kind of horrible circus.

Once outside we had to stand in a large group with heavily armed soldiers surrounding us. Again and again, we heard a gun shot with the explanation that someone else had failed to surrender his or her valuables. This tactic caused an enormous panic in everyone. At the same time, the soldiers began looking for anyone associated with the German military. These men were taken away... after which we again heard gunshots. My father hurriedly burned any pictures of his military time in a tiny little fire around which our family huddled for secrecy. They did not catch him then and it was not until later in our first concentration camp that he would be taken away. This was how our first stop went in our beloved homeland.

The next day we headed off to Krndia. For us it was the first of four death camps we would have to endure and somehow survive over the next many months and years. We would then pass through places like Jarek, Mitrowitz and Kruschivle where tens of thousands of Donauschwaben would perish. From the last camp, Kruschivle, we were miraculously rescued by an aunt (a nun) who had hired men to sneak us out. We then escaped with them across the border into Hungary and freedom.

As for my father. He died after being taken away from us in Krndia. We never got anywhere near the town of Bukin, my birthplace, and my dad never saw his beloved workshop again.

The second train called "Back to the Homeland" was halted by Austrian authorities and never crossed the border into Yugoslavia....

Note: The Martinis would settle in Austria where Adam would attend woodworking school. Adam would immigrate to Trenton in 1956 alone at age 19.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN



Member Frank J. Herdt, Technical Director of European Operations, Allentown Caging Equipment Co., Inc, is back on the road again.

He sends his best recently from Berlin, Germany. Frank states "All work of course".

BACK IN THE U.S.A. AGAIN

The Club welcomes back Gary, Lisa, Andrew, Gabi and Julia Bartmann from their eight year stay in Germany (outside Munich) while working for Lockheed Martin.

Gary was transferred back to the States this Fall and they make their new home in Marlton, NJ. Good to see the family back here in the States.

MEMBERS HONORED

Our Joe Brandecker and Hans Martini were presented with the DSA gold pins for their outstanding service by Verband member Adam Mattes at our 16 October Stiftungsfest.





Our Autoklub Travels



TOYOTA SALES IN GERMANY UP

Toyota sales in Germany are up 63% (\$150 million). Toyotas are relatively inexpensive in Germany and have more standard options than the traditional German made automobiles. Source: The Atlantic Times, May 2005.

Terry & Den's Auto Tip for Winter: If your car has a sun roof, make sure the sun roof drains are clean and unclogged quarterly in order to prevent water leaks into the interior. *****

HAT TRICK AT CANNSTATTER CAR SHOW



The annual Cannstatter car show was held Saturday, 13 August 2005 in Philly. Was it hot!!! Almost 100 degrees. That could have been the reason that there were not as many cars this year, but our AutoKlub was again represented.

Contratulations to Autoklub members, Rick Search (1st place import/compact), Terry Huff (2nd place sports car) and Melanie Bauer (3rd place import/compact). Also entered were Dennis Bauer and Steve Brandecker. The group returned to Levittown for a swim party/cookout and a much deserved cold beer or two.

CRANBERRY FEST—CAR SHOW

On Saturday, 1 October 2005, six of our AutoKlub members displayed their vehicles at the Annual Bordentown Cranberry Fest. Present were; Terry Huff (Dunebuggy), Patrick Huff (Beetle), Jim Brunner (Porsche), Rick Search (Beetle), Steve Brandecker (Corvette) & Jim Lieblang (Triumph Motorcycle). It was a great day of fun, food and enjoyment.

A number of our Club members showed up in support of our car members. *****

2006 CAR SHOW DATE

Keep Saturday 8 July 2006 open for our 2nd Annual Euro-American Auto Show at the German-American Club!!!



12th Annual Boardwalk Classic Car Show at Wildwood, NJ

The show was held 23-25 September 2005. Our own Terry Huff (1965 VW Dunebuggy) and Gary McGhee (1963 VW Bug/Rod) were among the 800 entries. Plaques were awarded to the top 25 winners. What a great event. There were as many hot rods cruisin' the streets of Wildwood as on the boardwalk. *American Graffiti* Revisited!

Terry was one of the winners and the first ever winner with a foreign car (VW-based)!!! The Brandeckers and Bauers ventured down the shore in support of our duo and their wives.

Congratulations to Terry and Gary for representing the Trenton Donauschwaben AutoKlub.

2nd Annual Erntedankfest/Autoausstellung

We held our own AutoKlub member car show on 25 September 2005. Six of our members displayed their vehicles. Those that attended the dinner voted for their favorite vehicle.

This year's winners were: Steve Brandecker—1st place with his Corvette, Hans Martini—2nd place with his Porsche and Sean Jakober-3rd place with his motorcycle. Congratulations to all that showed up with their vehicles including, Melanie Bauer, Dennis Bauer, Andy Franz and Ludwig Jakober. Terry and Mary Beth Huff arrived later after accepting his winners plaque in Wildwood, NJ that morning.



Our 49th Anniversary (Stiftungsfest) 16 October 2005

Our Officers & Staff

Vereinsvorstand

Präsident	Joseph Brandecker
Vizepräsidenten	Dennis J. Bauer Robert Walter Kim Walter
Schatzmeister	Ludwig Jakober, Jr.
Schatzmeisterstellvertreter	Harold Parr
Sekretär	Hans Martini
Protokoll Sekretärin	Eva Martini
Finanzprüfer	Al Tindall
Finanzprüfer	Mike Lenyo
Finanzprüfer	Richard Jakober
Frauenpräsidentin	Josefa Brandecker
1. Vizepräsidentin	Helga Kusenko
2. Vizepräsidentin	Caroline Brandecker
Schatzmeisterin	Kim Walter
Rundschreibenredakteur	Dennis J. Bauer
Rundschreibenkomitee	Melanie Bauer Adam Martini Andreas Franz Eva Martini Andreas Franz Marion Dlubak Stefan Brandecker
Lehrkräfte	Dennis J. Bauer Dana Miles & Ed Soden Terry Huff
Hausmeister	Stefan Brandecker
Wirtschaftsmeister	Hans Martini
Familienforschungsleiter	Harold Parr
Webleitung	Eva Martini
AutoKlub Leiter	Dennis J. Bauer
German Heritage Festival Vertreter	
Totengedenktafelkomitee	
Direktoren:	Harold Parr Franz Herdt Harold Million Mark Gruzlovic Eva Martini Ulrich Haller Josefa Brandecker



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Celebrating the Club's 49th Anniversary—Stiftungsfest

Here at the Donauschwaben one can always tell if a club event is to be well attended by Herr Jakober's stress level. It all has to do with the demands placed upon him each month for just the right seating arrangements (a job he does exceedingly well, by the way, and with assistance from Dennis Bauer this time around). If his breathing is calm and blood pressure is normal, our event will most likely fall into the average attendance category. On the other hand, if the veins on his forehead are fully visible and throb rhythmically with a racing heartbeat, then the Donauschwaben can be assured of a large number of dinner guests. We are "happy" to say that Herr Jakober's stress level was in the red zone and the club did indeed have a great turnout!

Okay, we will not belabor this lame attempt at humor any longer. Suffice it to say we were all delighted with the packed house for our club's 49th birthday! We had a strong contingent from the Philadelphia Donauschwaben, led by President Rosalie Matico, Landesverband regional president Adam Mattes, V.P. Fred Gauss and Frau Käthe Marx; a large number of Arbeiter Club members; and, German American Society members led by president Heinrich Sawadski. In addition, we also had many of our own members on hand. "Ausgezeichnet!" as they say.

Naturally, our vaunted and undaunted kitchen staff was up to the challenge, serving up a delicious multi-course dinner everyone seemed to really enjoy. Josefa & Sepp, Käthe, Maria, Caroline, Helga & Joe, Harold M., Ulrich & Lydia, Kim, Joe, Marion, and Eva were just super as always. They had ample help from our wonderful young people brigade of Anna, Brittaney, Lyla, Luisa, Joe, and Victoria (a newcomer) as well as a few others. With Steve holding down the fort on the liquid end of the dinner, all was well in the Donauschwaben clubhouse (and let us not forget to thank the regulars who gave up their seats to accommodate the overflow crowd!).

(Continued on page 12)

Club Fall Pictures (Treffen in LA, Wildwood Car Show, Rocktoberfest at UGH, German Heritage Fest in NJ)



Deutsche Sprach Schule Seite (Adult & Youth)

GERMAN CLASS LEARN ABOUT DONAUSCHWABEN HISTORY

The young students in our Adult German Class learn not only the German Language but also about our Donauschwaben culture and history from teacher, Andy Franz, and class member and Club Genealogist, Dennis J. Bauer.

Andy, originally from Palanka on the Danube River in Yugoslavia, offers historical and first hand knowledge of our culture and history. Dennis adds supplemental information gained from his years of Donauschwaben research. During the 18 October 2005 class Dennis gave a power point computer presentation on the subject. The power point had been compiled previously by Dennis Bauer and Hans Martini for a presentation they gave to Kolping Society in Philly several years ago. Also present for that class was Hans Martini, Eva Martini and President Joe Brandecker.

The presentation is available to anyone of interest, contact Dennis or Hans.

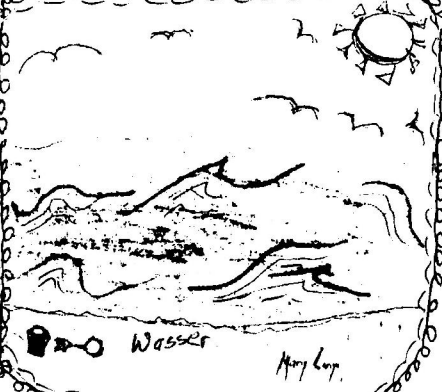
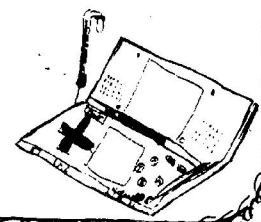


Happy and blessed Thanksgiving !

 Dank dir, Herr !
 Mit frohen Gaben
 füllst du das ganze Land.
 Alles, alles was wir haben,
 kommt aus deiner Vaterhand.

Ich bin

Dankbar
 für....
 gutes Essen



SOFI, NIK +
 EMMA WALTER

KIM W.
 BRITTANEY
 ANNA M.
 DRUM

Bücher
 sind
 super



Christina Martini

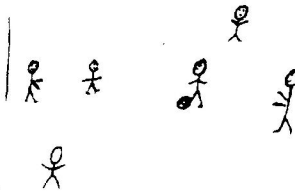
Ich bin dankbar für meine familie und meine
 Freunde. Ich bin auch dankbar für deutsch. auch
 unsere Welt.



Deutsch ist furchtbar interessant
 Brittaney Brandecker

DINA GALATI
 CHRIS
 ANNA MARTINI

Ich bin dankbar für meine
 Gesundheit.



Ich bin dankbar für
 Freunde



Brittaney
 Anna

Luisa Martini

Janus Herrro

Ann

Lara

Greta

Christina

Wasser

Mary Kay

Club Events for the Fall 2005

EVENTS— DATES & TIMES

Come out and join us!

- **49th Stiftungsfest (Schnitzel), Sunday, 16 October 2005, 1 pm. Dress accordingly.**
- **Totengedenkfeier (Memorial Service at Our Lady of Lourdes Cemetery), Sunday, 30 October 2005, 1pm.**
- **Schlachtfest, Sunday, 20 November 2005, 1 & 3pm. Come out on Saturday and help us make sausages and Sarma.**
- **St. Nikolausfeier, Sunday, 4 December 2005, 1pm.**
- **Silvesterfeier (New Years Eve Party), Friday Night, 31 December 2005, 8pm.**

Please call Frau Josefa Brandecker (609) 585-8460 or Frau Eva Martini (609) 586-6109 for meal reservations. Chicken is always available as an alternative to the featured dish (except at the Schlachtfest). Please let us know your preference in advance.

VEREINIGUNG DER DONAUSCHWABEN
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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!**

Stiftungsfest (Continued from page 9)

It should surprise no one that "culture, culture and more culture" was the mantra for the anniversary celebration. Most of the club's German School students were on hand, reciting poems and even a prayer to everyone's delight. You know, it is never easy for anyone to speak publicly in front of a large audience but our young people did a fine job doing just that while using the language of our ancestors. "Sehr gut!" Thanks go to our language instructors, Eva "Omi" Martini, Andreas Franz and the assistants for a job well done.

The Philadelphia/Trenton Dance Group made a well-received appearance as well. Led on the floor by the dashing Matt Gauss, the group of 8 dancers delighted the crowd with their energetic and skillful performance. We are most grateful to group coordinator Fred Gauss and to everyone who participated.

There was even a surprise in store for a couple of our members. President Joe Brandecker not only celebrated his 42nd birthday on the club's 49th he was also the recipient of the Landesverband's golden citation for service to the Donauschwaben community. Congratulations! He and Hans Martini were presented the awards by Adam Mattes along with Rosalie Matico and Fred Gauss. It was a distinct honor for both that was much appreciated.

In between all of this we had the wonderful music of Vince Botteon, a fine musician who hails from up near Easton somewhere. Vince not only plays well, he is also always ready to accommodate even the most bizarre requirements of a sometimes chaotic entertainment program. If anyone of our members is looking for a musician for hire, Vince is your man.



So, good readers, that was our 49th anniversary celebration. Thanks go to all who helped and all who attended. Next year it is the big "five-oh" for our Donauschwaben club. That's right, we'll be a golden 50 next year! Look for an appropriately large celebration to mark this tremendous milestone. We ask all of our members and friends to please plan to join us. (See pictures on page 8).

Note: Next year is our 50th Club Anniversary, so breakout those old photos, etc. We want to make it a very special occasion next Fall. Please contact an officer if you want to be on the anniversary committee!