

# Trentoner Donauschwaben Nachrichten

Volume 9 Issue 4

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## Points of Interest

- Yuengling Beer just celebrated its 180th anniversary.
- It is America's Oldest Brewery.
- It is located in Pottsville, Schuylkill County, PA.
- Dick Yuengling is the 5th generation owner.
- A history of the brewery was featured on ABC's "Good Morning America" on Sunday 25 October 2009.
- It was founded by German immigrant David G. Yuengling.
- An additional brewery was added in Tampa, FL recently.
- They brew lagers, porters, ales and black & tan.
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## Detroit Treffen 2009

"Are we there yet?" "You PROMISED it was only a bit longer - just around the corner even." "No, seriously dad, my sister is *really* starting to bother me so we need to stop NOW." sigh. That, dear readers, was part of the background music that accompanied this writer's 12 hour drive. Wonderful daughters, yes, patient daughters.... sometimes less so. Let's face it, it's hard to put a positive spin on the distance involved here. The question becomes... Was the long drive worth it? The answer is easy: Unequivocally yes.

By now, all of our regular readers know the high regard with which we hold the annual gathering of Donauschwaben from across North America. Officially dubbed "Landestreffen der Donauschwaben", or just "Treffen" for short, the event takes place at a different club and city each year in the August/September timeframe. This time around, we traveled to "Motown" for what turned out to be a truly wonderful cultural and social experience.

Detroit: motor city, home of the big three automakers and rich in music history, among so many other good things. Alas, it's also pretty run down in some places but it remains a great city nonetheless. The Detroit club is located in a suburb just a bit north and boasts well-maintained and spacious facilities. Trenton attended with over three dozen members this year. This time around, we hooked up with our sister club up in New York whose members were running a bus trip to the Treffen. Eleven of our folks hopped on the Big Apple Express and had a wonderful time. Word has it that NY Donauschwaben club president George Ritter is not only a stand up guy but is also a stand up comedian, regaling the packed bus with jokes and humorous comments throughout the journey. What a great bunch of folks those New Yorkers are. They were such gracious hosts and our people truly appreciated the opportunity to have accompa-

nied them. It almost excuses their Yankee baseball team beating ours... well, almost.

Baseball tragedy aside, such close cooperation between the clubs in the northeast is clearly the key to a more successful future. Our Philadelphia-Trenton dance group is more than enough proof that working together is in everyone's interest. Indeed, all of the clubs in attendance from our eastern region – the UGH, Philly DS, NY DS and Trenton DS – marched under one banner for the first time ever at the Treffen. We looked super!

Festivities were held both inside the big clubhouse and outside under a huge tent. Detroit made sure that food, beverages, music and Gemütlichkeit were never in short supply. The thousands of young folks, old folks and in between folks thoroughly enjoyed themselves all weekend long. Some even had the energy to participate in the Sunday morning German mass that has become a valued tradition among our people.

Our own dance group did a very good job too, doing themselves and all the rest of us proud. The group was managed by Philadelphia Donauschwaben members Matt Gauss and his dad, "flat tire Fred", who had a puncture in one of his Good Year radials enhance his Treffen experience. Matt was joined by our own Anna, Brittaney, Luisa, Josef, Christina, Sofi... as well as Kathleen and Adam from San Antonio, Texas. That's right, we had long-horned Schwobs in our dance group for the second time in as many years. Kudos to them for learning the dances "on-line" and performing with the rest of the Tanzgruppe so well.

So, dear readers, that was Donauschwabentreffen 2009. We thank our fabulous hosts at the Detroit Club and look forward to 2010 when it will happen all over again... this time, however, right in our backyard. For the first time ever, the Landestreffen der Donauschwaben will take place just 25 minutes from our clubhouse at the United German Hungarian Club in Oakford, PA. EVERYONE reading this newsletter should make plans right now to attend the August 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> event. There simply will not be a better time to see a Landestreffen. **See you there!**

## Inside this issue:

Club Matters	2-3
Genealogy/History	4
Membership News	5
Deutsche Ecke	6-9
Newsletter Sponsors	11
Pictures of Club Schule	12 13
Club Events	14

## Club Matters & Members—1



### 53rd STIFTUNGSFEST (53rd Anniversary)

The Donauschwaben celebrated its 53<sup>rd</sup> anniversary this past October 18<sup>th</sup>. The Sunday afternoon event packed our clubhouse we are delighted to say. Guests

included a sizable contingent from our sister club, the Philadelphia Donauschwaben, as well as from our good neighbors at the German American Society. All enjoyed the tasty Schnitzel dinner presented by our hard-working kitchen staff and serving crew. Attendees were also treated to the fine sounds of Vince Botteon and his magical accordion that created just the right atmosphere.

Highlights from the anniversary program included poem presentations by the charming Tindall sisters, Christa and Katie. Our German School for young people led the singing of a number of songs, including the old time favorite “Kein schöner Land”. We were also happy to have a full complement of dancers from the Philadelphia-Trenton Dance Group this year. Their energetic and enthusiastic performance wowed the crowd even though the space available to them was just a bit more than a large walk-in closet! J Many thanks to Matt Gauss for some thoughtful and humorous comments just before the dancers went on.

Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to club members Christina Martini, Sofi Walter, Gary McGhee, Jacob Bauer, Anna Hahn, Käthe & Evi Schmidt, as well as Frau Käthe Marx from the Philadelphia Donauschwaben. These awards are an effort to publicly recognize our fine members for all their hard work and dedication over the past few years. “Danke Schön” to them for their service and to everyone who made our 53<sup>rd</sup> anniversary such a special occasion.

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### Atlantic City Hosts the Donauschwaben

A large number of club members from both the Trenton and Philadelphia Donauschwaben headed down to the Trump Taj Mahal Casino this past October 24<sup>th</sup>. The occasion was the annual Oktoberfest held at the giant hotel wearing “The Donald’s” famous family name. Indeed, Mr. Trump is very proud of his German heritage and spares little expense in putting on an impressive German event at the sea side resort. Given the fabulous venue, it’s little wonder that our Philadelphia-Trenton dance group was very happy to receive an invitation to be a part of the entertainment this year.

One of the biggest dance groups we’ve ever assembled arrived at the cavernous convention hall that Saturday afternoon. Some 12 couples representing both the youth dance group and Philly’s adult group staged both some of their well-known dances along with some newer ones too. The smiling and energetic dancers endeared themselves to the audience who applauded their performance most appreciatively.

Things didn’t start out so smoothly however. Let’s face

it, it wouldn’t be nearly as interesting if it did! Due to a technical glitch, the bus carrying most Philadelphians and some Trentonians arrived at the casino with not a moment to spare. Our dancers jumped off and ran through the hotel, right past security personnel who never even got a chance to object to the youngsters sprinting across the “adults only” gambling area. They eventually ended up where they needed to be just in time, if not just a bit breathless!

The “Grand Parade” featuring all of the entertainers at the Oktoberfest then got underway. The long line of musicians, luminaries, singers, Schuhplattlers and Donauschwaben dancers snaked its way around the hotel and casino as a promotion meant to lure folks to the event. Most of our dance group really enjoyed the fact that the parade route included a ride on the long escalator in the main hall. How often does a parade ride on an escalator ?

All in all, everyone had a good time even though some did complain about leaving a few dollars too many at the slot machines. Thanks to those who attended, including dancers, families, members and friends. A special “shout out” to long-time Trenton members Carl and Sue Conrad who traveled up from Cape May for the event. Thanks also go to former radio personality and Oktoberfest MC Mr. Walter Pottgiesser for the many nice things he said about our Donauschwaben clubs to the big crowd that day. To paraphrase former NJ governor Tom Kean: Atlantic City and the Donauschwaben, “perfect together!”



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### Donauschwaben Heimat Trip— Heimat, Palanka an der Donau

An article by Käthe Marx about her recent trip to the her Donauschwaben Heimat will be posted on our club web site ([www.trentondonauschwaben.com](http://www.trentondonauschwaben.com)) for reading. It is in German at present but will also be translated to English in the near future.



## Club Matters & Members—2



### **Herd Fencing Celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup>**

Few families are as prominent in the history of our Donauschwaben organization as the Herdt clan. In fact,

the patriarch Franz Herdt, a native of Neu Futog, was pictured with the founding fathers of our club back in 1956. Both Palanka born sons, Hans and Franz, donated time and effort in the building of our clubhouse in the 1970s. Their mother, Magdalena, and their wives, Apollonia and Josephine (respectively), worked tirelessly in our club’s kitchen for years. Grandson Frank served as our club’s president in the early ‘80s and as director for many years thereafter.

Indeed, almost all of the senior Franz Herdt’s grandchildren were active in our club at one time or another. They included, Maryanne, Kathy, Barby, Frank, Linda, Suzi, Karin, Ingrid and Mike. All were important to our dance group and/or school and/or as parents in some manner or another for many, many years. It is very safe to say that our club would not have been nearly as successful without the efforts of this fine family.

Given the work ethic they shared and the importance they placed upon family, it’s little wonder that the business the senior Franz Herdt and his son Hans began in 1959 is still going strong. What started as a small garage based fencing business in Trenton soon became a large company with many employees based out of nearby Crosswicks, NJ. Things were going very well for the family business but it was clear a successor needed to be found to keep things going. This is where our club re-enters this “Great American” story once again.

As was mentioned above, one of the granddaughters, Barby, was active in both our school and dance group in the 1970s and 80s. It was at our club that this fair maiden met and eventually married a handsome fellow by the name of Michael Galati. Barby and Mike would not only dance for our club for many years but would also become members of cousin Frank Herdt’s new band “Tradewinds” which played its first “gig” at the Donauschwaben. Michael joined Herdt Fencing not long after his marriage and eventually became its president upon his father-in-law Hans’s “retirement.”

Herd Fencing is now celebrating its half century mark as a family run company. We encourage our readers to consider this fine company when the need arises as Michael Galati and his staff provide expert advice and quality service. That’s the way it’s been for five decades now and that’s the way they intend for it to be in the years ahead.

**Congratulations from all of us at the Donauschwaben.**



### **We Remember Our Ancestors**

It’s been 30 years since the late Peter Kiss initiated services at our club’s large memorial at Our Lady of Lourdes cemetery near Trenton. That inaugural event followed a long and arduous process led by Peter to fund the purchase of a large 20’ x 10’ plot and three granite monuments engraved with text and victims’ names. It would surely please Herr Kiss to know that three decades later the memorial service remains a vital and well-attended happening on the club’s yearly calendar.

Held each All Soul’s Day, the event recalls the tragic history of the Donauschwaben in the aftermath of WWII. White crosses with names of the many concentration camps are placed around the monuments as a stark reminder of what happens when hatred, vengeance and opportunism collide. The well manicured memorial stands as a silent witness to the horrors of so many years ago.

Through prayer, song and ritual, almost 40 members and friends gathered this past November 1<sup>st</sup> to insure that those who lost their lives were not forgotten. Among other things, the service featured remarks by Andy Franz as well as a poem recitation by Eva Martini, both survivors of this terrible time period. Our youngest generation was also on hand to lead the crowd in prayers, they included Brittaney, Mary, Luisa & Christina. Luisa also read a passage from the German language bible entitled “Der Herr ist mein Hirte” and sang the Donauschwaben Volkshymne. It was all most meaningful and well received. Many then returned to the club for complimentary coffee and cake to end the afternoon in a most enjoyable manner.



We’re happy to report that the event continues to enjoy excellent support from our own club as well as from members of the German American Society and from the Philly DS. In fact, the numbers have been growing over the past few years. It is also very reassuring that every age group is well represented as it bodes well for the future of this important club undertaking.

We look forward to seeing you there next year.

## Genealogy, Culture & History Section

### SCHWOBS IN THE NEWS OF OLD (We like to eat & have fun)

#### “Ladies Auxiliary to Serve Pork Supper (*Trenton Evening Times*, 13 January 1955)

Members of the Ladies Auxiliary at the Arbeiter Maenner Und Damenchor will serve a roast pork supper on Saturday from 5 to 8pm in the Arbeiter Hall, 151 East Franklin Street. Chairmen of the event are Mrs. Eva Genovay and Mrs. Mary McKeever, auxiliary president.

Assisting on the same committee are Mrs. Pauline Justig, Mrs. Catherine Bombach, Mrs. Mary Patarcity, Mrs. Theresa Bauer, Mrs. Hermina Engelberger, Mrs. Anna Hilsdorf, Mrs. Francisca Hahn, Mrs. Catherine Spieldenner, Mrs. Elizabeth Ofner, Mrs. Anna Maus, Mrs. Carola Mayer, Mrs. Catherine Marx & Mrs. Theresa Knabel.”

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#### “Danube Swabian Festival Saturday (*Trenton Evening Times*, 20 October 1960)

The fifth annual Danube Swabian dance and song festival will be held here Saturday evening at the Polish-American Club, Route 130, Yardville. Danube Swabians are ethnic Germans who settled in the lower region of the Danube River in Central Europe. Taking part in the Trenton Chapter festival are folk dancers from Brooklyn, Philadelphia, Harrisburg and Trenton. Performers will wear native costumes. Refreshments will be offered. Proceeds will be donated to charity.”

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#### “Home Festival (*Trenton Evening Times*, 13 September 1963)

YARDVILLE—The Danube Swabian Committee will stage its “Home Festival” tomorrow at 2pm at the German-American picnic grounds. A 40-piece brass band, contests, songs & races will be featured”

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#### “Public Picnic (*Trenton Evening Times*, 28 July 1967)

The Danube Swabian Association will hold a picnic on Sunday noon at the Royal Oak Grove on Kuser Road.”

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#### “Pork Supper (*Trenton Evening Times*, 19 January 1968)

The Danube Swabian Association Inc. will sponsor a roast pork dinner Sunday at 4pm at St. Stephen’s Auditorium, Genesee & Hudson Streets.”

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### DONAUSCHWABEN AUTHOR WINS NOBLE PRIZE

Herta Müller, a member of the Romanian German minority, recently won the 2009 Nobel Prize for literature. She had previously been persecuted for her political views and writings on life under the Communist regime in Romania. She was forced to leave Romania when it was ruled by the Communists. Her father served in the German Army during WWII and her mother spent five years in a Soviet work camp. She and her husband moved to Germany in 1987. Look for a more detailed report on her writings in an upcoming newsletter.

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### DONAUSCHWABEN READINGS POSTED ON OPRAH WEB SITE

One of the DVHH readers recently posted a list of current books published about the Donauschwaben on the suggested Oprah Winfrey book club web site. It would be great if Oprah would pick at least one of the books to promote on her TV show. Time will tell.

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### TRENTON DONAUSCHWBEN REMEMBERED ON-LINE

A number of individuals have been busy posting tombstone/burial information on the “Find A Grave” web site ([www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com)). Anyone can participate in the project by just registering at the web site. Pictures of the individuals, their tombstones, etc. can also be uploaded to the individual’s data page. The web site has a data base of over several thousands of cemeteries and several million individual names, not only in the States, but also worldwide .

Of interest to club members are names listed to the pages for the Our Lady of Lourdes and Holy Sepulchre cemeteries in Hamilton Township, NJ. As you may know this is the final resting place for a great deal of our Trenton area Donauschwaben family and friends. Our Lady of Lourdes cemetery is also the site of the club’s Memorial. Two present contributors to the site data base are our own Dennis Bauer and friend of the Donauschwaben, Scott Bayler. Danke.

# Membership News

## 2008-09 Newsletter Staff



**Joseph Brandecker, Jr. President. Dennis J. Bauer, Vice President/Newsletter Editor.  
Melanie Brandecker, Newsletter Copy Editor. Kim Walter, Vice President/Club Photographer.**

**Ludwig Jakober, Treasurer .**

**Hans Martini, Secretary.**

**Staff Writers: Adam Martini, Andy Franz, Brittaney Brandecker & Michael Lenyo**

**AutoKlub Leader: Terry Huff**

**Website Committee: Dennis J. Bauer & Terry Penrith**

**Genealogical & Historical Researcher: Dennis J. Bauer**

**Mail Room Coordinator: Eva Martini**



## Film to Document the Plight of Ethnic Germans

A St. Louis, MO, resident named Ann Morrison has undertaken to document an oral history of what many still regard as a controversial subject: the ethnic cleansing of 15 million ethnic Germans in areas outside the redrawn boundaries of Germany after WWII. These include hundreds of thousands of our own Donauschwaben as all of our readers well know. The English language documentary film has the support of Ms. Morrison's college out in Missouri, as well as from the leading historian/human rights expert in the field, the Cuban born Professor Alfred de Zayas. Here's what the film's promotional literature says about the undertaking:

"Memories of a painful secret held for over fifty years are now finally being brought to light. *THE FORGOTTEN GENOCIDE: The Expulsion after WWII*, is an in depth, feature length documentary that examines the sufferings put upon Ethnic Germans living behind the Iron Curtain. Through interviews with survivors and an examination of relics of the era, the students of St. Louis Community College-Meramec aim to preserve the memory of this sad period in human history, and hopefully give peace to the almost 15 million souls lost [both killed and expelled]." (continued on page 6)

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

**Congratulations** to the **Philly-Trenton Dance Group** on their recent performances at the Phillies game and Trump Taj Mahal in Atlantic City, NJ.

To **Christina Martini** on her confirmation at St. Gregory's Roman Catholic Church, 20 November 2009.

**Get Well** to members **Frau Pat Huff** and **Jim Brunner**.

**Condolences** to the **Bauer family** for the loss of their niece/cousin, Gayle Persichilli, of Brick Township, NJ, on 2 October 2009 and cousin, Jean Tott Bauer, of Trenton on 11 October 2009.

**Welcome** to Florida member **Dave Goodwin**. Dave was up here from Florida recently and sat in on our joint car show meeting and our monthly business meeting for October. Unfortunately he could not stay for our Anniversary dinner and had to return to his home in sunny Florida.

**Congratulations and Best Wishes** to club member **Tom Goodwin**, Dave's fine son. Tom was re-elected to another term on the Hamilton Township Council where he serves as its president. Indeed, Tom made a "campaign stop" at our clubhouse and at the GAK during the long and grueling election season. Hamilton is a large municipality in New Jersey with a population of around 100,000. It is also home to our clubhouse and many of our members. We're excited and delighted for Tom and wish him good luck as he does his best for the citizens of Hamilton.

**International exposure**— Our friend **Hans Kopp** from the Cleveland Donauschwaben was recently interviewed by Dr. Tomislav Sunic of the Voice of Reason Broadcast Network. Hans told the international audience about the plight of the Donauschwaben after WWII and how he survived the Gakowa camp and how his parents survived the Soviet camps. How friend Henry Fischer from the Kitchener Donauschwaben was also interviewed by Sunic. Both Hans and Henry are active members of the DVHH. You can listen to both their interviews at <http://reasonradionetwork.com/>.

**Amazing** that our club web site located at [www.trentondonauschwabens.com](http://www.trentondonauschwabens.com) had over 184,088 hits since last November. July-August were the busiest months for web visitors. That is a whole lot of people stopping by to see what is happening at the Trenton Donauschwaben.



**Stay informed!**  
**The Donauschwaben supports...**  
**TED HIERL'S GERMAN-**  
**AMERICAN RADIO PROGRAM**  
**Sundays from 10:00 AM to 12:00**  
**PM on WNWR 1540 AM Radio.**

# DeutscheEcke, Seite 1

Continued from page 5—**Film....**

It's interesting to note that Ms. Morrison is not German but Polish. It was through her husband Ron's association with the St. Louis Donauschwaben club that she became familiar with this very tragic chapter in European history. Her determination and passion in wanting to let the world know what happened to so many innocent Germans is a big plus for our community. Readers may also be interested to know that three of our own club member-survivors were interviewed for the film during the Detroit Landestreffen this past September. The college plans for a St. Louis premiere in late February and the director urges anyone who is able to attend to please consider doing so. National and international media coverage of the event is sure to raise awareness of a subject that is so important to so many of our members. We will make more information known as it becomes available.

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## **“Geschichte der deutschen Volksgruppen in Südosteuropa” (History of the German communities in South East Europe)**

This unique DVD tells the moving story of the Danube Swabians, Transylvania, the Carpathian Germans and the Germans and Hungarians from Bukovina and the Dobrudja. In four sections, the fate of German minorities in Southeastern Europe from its beginnings to the present shows. The fate of the expulsion is impressively retold with previously unknown historical photographs and film documents. The DVD can be ordered for EUR 19.00 by mail, telephone or via the Internet at:

*Vloe Home*  
25 Steingasse  
A-1030 Vienna  
Tel 0043 - (0) 1 - 718 59 05 30  
[sekretariat@vloe.at](mailto:sekretariat@vloe.at)

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### **Erinnerung an Österreich 3. Fortsetzung** by Adam Martini

Der kalte, lange Winter, wo auch auf dem Bauernhof die Arbeit etwas gemütlicher war, war jetzt vorbei. Ich war jetzt elf Jahre alt, besuchte die Volksschule in Haigermoos, war aber etwas zu alt für die zweite Klasse. Da meine Grossmutter während der Zeit die wir in Jugoslawiens Konzentrationslagern verbrachten, täglich mit mir das Lesen übte, so konnte ich schon ganz gut lesen und unser Lehrer Herr Egon Kreuzbauer mit seinem Kollegen halfen mir in einem Jahr die zweite, dritte und vierte Klasse zu meistern. Das Lernen in der Schule war immer leicht für mich. Jedenfalls an dem ersten Winter in unserer Hütte, war das Lesen für mich lebenswichtig. Auch hatte Haigermoos einige Karl May Bücher die man zuhause lesen konnte und diese Bücher die in allen deutschsprachenden Länder sehr berühmt sind, besonders für die jungen Leute, ja sie können einen süchtig machen und man kann nicht aufhören zu lesen. Ich bekam süchtig für Karl May Bücher und der lange Winter war ideal für Bücherlesen. Grossmutter duldet es am Anfang, aber dann im Frühjahr als ihr Progammm mit dem Schweinestall und dem Gemüsegarten Wirklichkeit wurden begann für mich ein Kurswechsel. Grossmutter sprach jetzt oft von einem Hühnerstall der auch noch unter dem Hüttendach Platz hätte. Sie wollte zehn Hühner und einen Hahn haben. Bei dieser neuen Idee runzelte Herr Neissl die Stirne und erklärte, dass Füchse sowie Habichte oft erfolgreich dem Hühnern das Leben kürzten. Natürlich, Grossmutter hatte auch für

diese Situation einen überzeugenden Plan, sie erklärte, dass da nichts passieren kann, da ja immer jemand bei der Hütte ist und so diese Hühnerjäger, sollten sie aus der Luft oder aus dem Walt kommen, eine unangenehme Überraschung erwarten würde. Es wurde mir schön langsam klar, dass der gutgesinnte Herr Neissl, unser Bauer, unsere Grossmutter nicht überzeugen konnte, dass dieser Hühnerplan eine schlechte Idee ist und wir unseren Eierbedarf bei ihm vom Hof erwerben könnten. So an einem Morgen, ganz früh, hörte ich laute Stimmen, es war Grossmutter und Herr Neissl. Sie wurde abgeholt um beim Grasfuttereinbringen für die Kühe mitzuhelfen. Es war die Stimme des Bauern der gerade sagte: „Susi“, meine Grossmutter heisst Susanna, „dast amoi a ruha gibst, mach was mechst, aber net mehr wie zehn Hendl und oan Gockerl.“ Ich dachte sofort an den Arbeitsplan der wieder auf mich zukommen wird und meine Freizeit wiederum kürzer macht. Es dauerte gar nicht lange da wurde eine Ecke in einen Hühnerstall umgeändert mit Nester fürs Eierlegen. Der Plan war, über Nacht die kleinen Hühner in dem Käfig ähnlichen Hühnerstall zu sperren und am Tag sie rauslassen und in einem kleinen, auf schnelle Art, eingezeunten Wiesenstück zu treiben.

Natürlich Grossmutter hatte mehr als zehn Stück, sie begründete dies, ja wahrscheinlich sterben einige, oder da sind vielleicht mehr Hahne dabei, so sie muss auf Nummer sicher gehen, um die erlaubte Zahl füllen zu können. Der Bauer schaute nur trüb drein und sagte nichts. Aber da gab es noch einen Platz unter dem Hüttendach und zwischen den aussen Mauern und zwar gleich neben der Tür zu unserem Raum, wo noch etwas hinpassen würde.

(continued on page 7)



## Deutsche Ecke, Seite 2

Continued from page 6-**Erinnerung...**

Diese Tatsache beunruhigte Grossmutter, sie wusste nur nicht wie man diesen Platz gebrauchen könnte. So vergingen einige Monate. Die Hühner wurden immer grösser, manche übernachteten auf den Ästen der Bäume aber die meisten endeten im Stall am Abend. Unsere Hütte wurde immer lebendiger. Die Ferkel und die Hühner sowie einige Hahne gaben unserem kleinen Fleck Erde und der Hütte einen eigenartigen, interessanten und freundlichen Eindruck. Da war was los. Niemand von unseren Verwandten hatte so eine Gelegenheit wie wir. Sie wohnten zu nahe am Hof, oder direkt am Hof und dort war kein Platz für solche Sachen. Das sicherte das Ansehen dass meine Grossmutter immer hatte. Sie hatte wieder eine kleine Wirtschaft aufgebaut, wir bekamen jetzt unsere eigene Hühnererei, die damals sehr teuer waren. Wir hatten zwei Schweine, eins für uns und eins wurde an einen Verwandten in Salzburg verkauft. Mein Onkel Toni Mack, sowie viele andere Verwandte halfen im Spätjahr beim Schlachten und Wurstemachen, es war drei hundert Meter weg vom Hof und erinnerte mich an zuhause, es war wie ein Ritual, Tonivetter wusste wie man schlachtet und all die vielen Tricks die so dazu gehörten. Er setzte den Ton und jeder musste seinen Anweisungen folgen, sogar ich und meine junge Schwester Maria, mussten mitmachen. Es war so wirklich ein donauschwäbisches Fest, da wurde getrunken, meisst Most, was im Innviertel meist getrunken wird, geflucht, meist in kroatisch und ungarisch, und später wenn die Männer angeheitert waren sangen sie die so schönen, melodischen kroatischen Lieder. Es war wie daheim, aber neu für die Bauern, die alles viel schneller machen beim Schlachten. Wenn Herr Neissl schlachtete, da kam Herr Pfaffinger von Haigermoos, der zugleich der Friseur vom Dorf war, sowie der Messner, auch der Assistent zum Pfarrer, sowie der Messdiener und zugleich ein Kleinbauer war. Seine Frau und Tochter hatten einen Kreislerladen, was zugleich der Treffplatz der ganzen Gegend war. Jedenfalls der Messner, so war er bekannt, man nannte ihn Messner und nicht Pfaffinger, war der Schlachter für

Schweine, und hatte sein System. Wie gesagt da gab es keine Würste oder Schwartenmaggen. Auch das Töten der Schweine war anders. Die Österreicher betäubten das Schwein zuerst mit einem schweren Hammer den sie mit einem kräftigen Schlag auf die Stirn zwischen den Augen setzten, um dann das Schwein mit einem Messer zu töten und verbluten liessen.

Tonivetter im Gegenteil gebrauchte nur ein grosses Messer, dass er meisterhaft mit einem Stich dem Schwein das Leben nahm. Dieser Unterschied beim Schlachten, sowie so manche andere Methoden der Aufarbeitung des Schweinefleisches wurde kritisch beurteilt von Grossmutter und Onkel Toni, wobei unsere Art die Bessere sein sollte. Natürlich diesem Urteil stimmten nicht alle bei, aber Grossmutter nahm kein Blatt vor den Mund und verursachte so manchen Ärger mit ihren Ansichten. So nach dem Schlachten wurde es wieder schön langsam Winter und wieder gab es viel Schnee und die Bauern konnte sich jetzt wieder etwas ausruhen.

Da wurde oft Kartengespielt und wir hörten den Radiosendungen zu, meist in der grossen „Stubn“ im Bauernhaus. - Fortsetzung folgt.

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### Finding the Germans of Chile by Jackie & Willie Hepp

(ed. note: What follows are the adventures of two club members who made a once-in-a-lifetime visit to the South American country of Chile. Enjoy!)

The lake region of Chile, with its warm and enticing natural splendor, is

a dramatic contrast to the cold and challenging terrain of Torres del Paine to the south. It is a truly remarkable display of the diversity of nature along Chile's nearly 3,000 miles of Pacific coastline.

Six towering snow capped volcanoes and over 5,000 sparkling lakes dominate the idyllic landscape of Chile's Lake District. Calbuco, one of the area's most famous volcanoes, has erupted thirteen times since 1961. The cone of this 6,000 foot volcano is completely missing. Another giant is the 8,600 foot Osorno volcano. Osorno last blew its top in 1832. At that time, Charles Darwin was exploring the Pacific Coast and recorded the event in his journal.

Both volcanoes lie on the shores of gorgeous Lake Lanquihue' (pronounced yankeyway) is the area's largest lake covering 330 square miles. In several places, the water reaches a depth of 3,000 feet. Its Mapuche Indian name, Langquihue', means deep place.

Our hotel in Puerto Varas, Los Cabanos Logos, overlooked this spectacular lake. During breakfast in the hotel's fourth story, weathered wood and glass dining room, we watched the morning sun burn the mist off Lake Lanquihue' until the volcanoes were clearly visible on the far shore. Below us to the right, the old city of Puerto Varas lay nestled into the side of the crystal blue lake. The city's sprawling, modern commercial buildings climbed up into the surrounding hillsides.

This thriving city of 200,000 had its precarious beginning in 1849, when a newly recognized Chilean Government decided to colonize the southern frontier to keep the French from claiming the land. The Chilean Government contracted first with the Irish, then the Czech and finally, with the German colonists to settle in the Puerto Varas and Puerto Montt areas.

(continued on page 8)

## Deutsche Ecke, Seite 3

Continued from page 7—**Chile..**

Three thousand five-hundred German families, who were each promised 400-600 acre parcels of land to farm, were the most tenacious and successful. Even these hardy pioneers were unprepared for the problems encountered in clearing trees and stumps from the heavily forested land between Puerto Varas and Puerto Montt. German men had to work for two years clearing the land before they could begin to farm their own parcels. This condition angered German colonists, since it was not in the contract they signed with the Chilean Government. During the time German men were clearing the land for farms and villages, they lived outdoors in work camps, while their wives and children were housed in a military garrison.

Odyssey's morning tour took us to Fruitillar, a German settlement thirty-five miles south of Puerto Varas. Descendants of the 19<sup>th</sup> century settlers still live and work in this small, picturesque, lake-side village. Their Victorian style wooden homes are embellished with artistic Alpine carvings. Window boxes overflow with petunias that grace the tidy rows of houses separated by colorful picket fences. Rose bushes and brilliant flowering Fuchsia bushes flourished in the yards, while tropical Palm trees and evergreen Beeches grew side by side on the streets and along the lakeshore.

An old wooden church, town hall, an Alpine style restaurant and several small shops were spread across the village's dozen streets. In one shop we met an elderly woman who had emigrated from Hamburg, Germany in the 1950's. She told us that she loved Chile and would never go back to Germany. We watched her operate a shuttle loom weaving Alpaca wool into sweaters and skirts that she sold to tourists.

A major attraction of this charming town is the outdoor museum of German Colonization built into the hillside behind Fruitillar. We were greeted at the museum entrance by an elderly man dressed in lederhosen and playing an accordion.

High up on the hillside was a two-story manor house. Ornate open and enclosed porches graced the manor's entire

wooden exterior. At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, it was the home of a wealthy merchant farmer.

Lower down and to one side of the hill, was the more modest two-bedroom home and workshop of the estate's blacksmith. An adjoining wooden building housed a collection of kitchen utensils and farm equipment used by the early settlers. An interesting artifact was a steam driven tractor that the owner had shipped over from Germany.

A watermill, where grains for making breads, cakes and noodles were ground, sat on a hill below the manor house. At the very bottom of the hill, the small village of Fruitillar housed the common settlers, many of whom were employed as farm hands and domestic workers on the manor.

As we drove back through the countryside to Puerto Varas, Pilar, our guide, pointed out German owned farms that are the area's main producers of grains, potatoes and strawberries. The Spanish word for strawberry is fruitillar. She also mentioned their considerable influence on the public school curriculum that requires all area children take eight hours of German language a week, starting in Kindergarten. The city of Puerto Varas revealed sign of enduring German culture in its active German Social Club located in a concrete building that covered half a city block.

Dinner that evening at a private restaurant was a wonderfully different treat. The restaurant, called Martin Pescador, was also the ranch home of our hosts, Rocky and Carla Santera. All of the vegetables, fruits and meats served were grown on their six thousand acre fondo. Rocky was cooking chicken in his six sided smoke house when we arrived. His wife, Carla, greeted us and led us inside a rustic pine dining room where two long tables were set for us.

We enjoyed Pisco Sours and local wines and snacked on Rocky's delicious smoked salmon and crackers. At Carla's invitation, we sat down to a salad and vegetable course where more wine was served. Then platters of smoked chicken were carried in along with dishes of boiled potatoes. The deep savory flavor of the chicken was fantastic and we

quickly rated it as the best meal of the trip. After a dessert of homemade Black Forest Cake, traditional bowls of mate' filled with green yerbe leaves were brought out.

Drinking yerbe mate' is a daily custom throughout most of South America. It is also a social ceremony where the same bowl of mate' and bombilla (or metal straw), are passed around in a circle offering hospitality and good will, much like the American Calumet, or piece pipe ceremony. Quecha Indians taught the Spanish conquerors to drink mate'. Indians gathered the small green leaves from an Evergreen tree (part of the holly family), that grows wild in Argentina, Paraguay and Brazil.

Today yerbe is grown on plantations. Yerbe leaves are dried and ground into a coarse mixture and left to age for nine months before use. The mate' is a dried hollowed out gourd, a vessel for brewing ground yerbe leaves in hot water. Mates and bombillas can be ornate and expensive, and those made of silver are rare and sought after by collectors.

Each couple in our group received a mate' filled with yerbe leaves and hot water. Willy and I liked the taste and asked for refills of hot water. Before the trip ended, Willy purchased a mate' and bombilla set to take home. I found bags of loose yerbe, as well as, yerbe tea bags at a local health food store back home. Sometimes in the afternoon, we still relax and reminisce over a good mate' yerbe.

When everyone finished drinking their mate', we went outside to enjoy marshmallows toasted over a barbeque pit in the front lawn. Rocky's delicious homemade huckleberry brandy was passed around and savored. Overhead in the star filled night, we could distinguish stars in the shape of a cross in the southern sky.

An early morning drive east on International Highway 225, took us to Vicent Rosales National Park. We spent the entire day exploring this oldest of Chile's national parks. From Pilar, we learned that one third of the country is set aside as national parks and preserves.

(continued on page 9)



## Deutsche Ecke, Seite 4

Continued from page 8—**Chile**

All morning long, spectacular views of Lake Lanquihue' and snow coned Osorno followed us throughout the park. The only detraction was the ugly sight of prolific yellow Gorse bushes that lined long stretches of the park road and much of the Lake District. The original settlers burned off brush to clear the land for farming, and then discovered that the soil washed away without natural growth to hold it back. Hearty Gorse from Scotland was introduced to hold the soil. The Gorse spread so quickly and wildly that it could not be contained even with routine burning.

About 180 families live on 6,000 acre fondos inside the park, where they grow potatoes and dairy products. Their fenced in properties often have cattle and horses grazing in green fields along the roadside. Typically, their houses of redwood with Alpine trim and lace curtains covering tall windows, presented a tidy, well maintained appearance.

The bus pulled off the road and into the driveway of the Weiss family's farm. Their two story redwood home had an enclosed front porch restaurant where people, who rented cabins on the property, came for meals. There was a garage, several sheds and a large red barn behind the farmhouse.

The Weiss' raised lamas, sheep, cows and chickens in fields that stretched for acres back into the hills. We enjoyed taking turns holding and petting a litter of two week old puppies, while their mother kept a fixed, but gentle eye on us. A pair of backyard swings offered a great opportunity for having fun. We discovered that sitting in the swings and taking a running jump off a large wooden platform, sent the swings zooming down cable like wires that carried us several hundred exciting yards down the back lawn.

From their front lawn, the Weiss family had a million dollar view of snow capped Osorno, our next destination. Pilar informed us that Osorno is a 200,000 year old, compound volcano. She related a tale about a Mapuche medicine man who explained to his tribe that volcanic eruptions were the workings of the demon spirit of the snow. The demon was very angry at being imprisoned in the mountain and his

wrath grew, until it finally exploded in a volcanic eruption that set him free to demonize the Mapuche people living in the area.

Evergreen Beeches and Coique' trees that grow near water and often have life spans of two hundred years, crowded the forest floor at the foot of the volcano. Dense trees became spare and slowly disappeared as the bus climbed Osorno's steep, 8,600 foot side. The driver ground gears as the bus labored to climb the narrow winding road that switched back and forth across the volcano at least a dozen times. Halfway up the mountainside, there was nothing but gravel and burnt cinders from the 1932 eruption.

The road ended abruptly about three quarters of the way to the top. Osorno's snow covered ice cap stood formidably above. A chair lift carried skiers and tourists close to the top nearly all year round. Ubiquitous Lake Lanquihue' lay 7,000 feet below, down Osorno's mountainside. Copper sulfate from the glaciers had turned her waters an intriguing emerald green.

A few agile group members decided to trek across the volcano to catch a glimpse of two more volcanoes that Evon had told them were on Osorno's other side. I followed the hikers for a few hundred yards, but turned back when the narrow path of cinders began to flake off under me and roll down the mountain. Willy went on with the hikers who descended into a valley and crossed over another ridge. When he returned, he said that the trail over red and black cinders was strenuous and it felt, as if he was walking on ball bearings.

The tour bus crossed over the park road and turned down a dirt spur, before continuing on to areas that revealed surprisingly different landscapes. A narrow fast moving river, energized by spring's glacial melt, ran alongside the bumpy dirt road. Across the coursing river, mountains of layered, charcoal grey rock rose abruptly to a height of six hundred feet. A few scrawny trees had managed to grow in cracks in the rock surface and were scattered across the mountainsides.

Huge Huckleberry bushes grew

in abundance along the roadside and in open areas up to the forest's edge. The dense Beech forest provided food and shelter to the park's animal residents that included foxes, beavers, wild boars and pumas.

It was noon when we arrived at a beautiful emerald lake that lay at the foot of two snow capped glaciers. Todos Los Santos, or Lake of All Saints, was named for the Jesuits, who in 1636, stopped there long enough to build a chapel. The Jesuit priests were on their way to Argentina, where they put down their strongest roots by establishing Catholic colleges that still thrive as important centers of culture and learning today.

A hotel lodge on the lake's edge, provided an excellent meal of poached salmon. While we enjoyed lunch, Evon told us that we were less than one hundred miles from the place where Chilean poet, Pablo Neruda, crossed over the Andes on horseback and escaped to Argentina. Neruda was old and sick at the time and a fugitive from the Chilean Government. A few good friends led Neruda over the mountains, while he lay unconscious and strapped to his horse for most of the journey, due to his extremely poor health. Today, it takes travelers about twenty hours to make the journey to Argentina through a series of bus rides overland and boat rides across six or seven lakes.

A walk on the wide delta like beach behind the hotel revealed the point where the lake's glacial waters poured into a river basin. We followed the beach as it curved around the lake and were rewarded with views that showed the immense size of the Lake of All Saints and the towering height of the two glaciers on its opposite shore. On the walk back to the hotel, we noticed the ugly, dangling boughs of golden Gorse that encroached on the beach and trespassed into hotel garden areas. Even the stone walls built by hotel owners to keep the invaders at bay were largely ineffective.

(continued on page 11)



## Our AutoKlub Travels



### AUTOKLUB MEMBERS ATTEND TWO EVENTS

Our AutoKlub members split their time the weekend of September 26. The Huffs, Bauers, McGhees & the Stefan Brandecker families attended the Annual Boardwalk Car Show at Wildwood, NJ. (Tina Lynn Brandecker picks out her sweet 16 birthday present in the photo—

Terry Huff's 912 Porsche).

While the Lenyos, Martinis & the Joe Brandecker families attended the Dover, DE - NASCAR race. Car show helper Jimmy McShane (Mary Beth Huff's brother) also joined the group on the trip to Dover. A good time was had by both groups.

### DSA/GAK CAR SHOW WRAP-UP MEETING

Our AutoKlub hosted a joint Trenton Donauschwaben-German American Auto Show committee dinner meeting on 14 October 2009. We discussed the results of the successful 5th show this past summer and started to "brain storm" for the 6th Annual Euro-American Auto Show to be held next summer on 11 July.

### TERRY'S AUTO TIPS—Winter is Coming You Might Need New Tires Sooner Than You Think

Eventually, you'll need new tires. Did you know that George Washington might be a better tire-wear tester than Abraham Lincoln?

There's an old trick to tell when you need new tires: Hold a penny upside down in the tread. If you can see the top of Lincoln's head, you need new tires.

America's first president, it turns out, is perhaps a better tire tester than the 16<sup>th</sup>. Place a quarter upside down in a tire groove. The distance from the coin's rim to President Washington's hairline is about a 1/8 inch. If you see more of Washington's head than his hairline, get new tires.

*Consumer Reports* magazine cautions that you might need tires sooner than the penny test reveals, and that a tire with only a 1/8 inch of its tread left might not give you adequate hydroplaning resistance and snow traction.

The easiest thing to do is replace the tires with what came on the vehicle. Carmakers consider tires as part of the suspension system and therefore test them extensively for well over a year. Thus, "original replacement" tires can automatically re-

store your car's ride and handling to showroom condition.

That isn't to say you can't choose another tire. Consult *Consumer Reports*, for example, or have a quick chat with our service manager for suggestions. This is especially important if you are considering a tire upgrade – that is, perhaps something larger. If so, remember that bigger isn't always better. A poor tire size choice can degrade ride and handling, possibly lead to suspension damage over time and worse, affect speedometer function.

By learning to "decode" a tire, you'll be better informed when you buy replacements. The first place to look is the driver's door jamb. There, you'll see a sticker with the tire specs; they're a whole lot easier to read here than from a tire sidewall! You'll also find the specs in your owner's manual.

A number like P225/65R17 is the **tire size**. The "P" means it's a passenger-car tire even though it may be used on many SUVs. An "LT" instead of "P" means it's a "heavy-duty light-truck" tire, which you'll find on many pickups and larger SUVs. The number "225" denotes the tire's cross-section width in millimeters. The "65" indicates the height or thickness of the tire sidewall. This number is a ratio of sidewall height to cross-section width. Therefore, "65" means the sidewall is 65 percent as high as the tire is wide. High-performance tires will have a lower ratio such as "45," for example. That's what "low profile" means. Continuing, the "R" means radial-ply tire, and the "17" is the wheel diameter in inches.

The **load index** indicates the weight the tire can safely carry. Choose replacement tires with the same or higher load index as those that came on the car.

The **speed rating** comes after the load index and is expressed with a letter. "S"-rated tires allow a maximum sustainable speed of 112 mph; "T" is for 118 mph. Performance tires will have an "H" (130 mph), "V" (149 mph) or "Z" (150 mph plus). Choosing a higher speed-rated tire can give you better handling even at legal speeds, according to *Consumer Reports*.

The higher the **tread-wear rating**, a triple-digit number, the longer the tire is certified to last. High-performance tires will generally have much lower numbers than some all-season tires.

The **temperature and traction scores** indicate a tire's temperature resistance and wet-stopping ability. For traction, AA is best and C is worst. For temperature resistance (how temperature changes affect tire performance), scores range from A to C. Certain performance tires may have a "low" rating of C because they are optimized for dry-road driving in warm weather.

The **maximum pressure rating** (expressed in pounds per square inch or PSI) is self-explanatory, but this is different from the *recommended inflation pressure*, which you should always follow. Your owner's manual provides guidelines for the conditions that call for increasing tire pressure. Finally, tires have a freshness date! *Consumer Reports* advises not to buy tires more than a couple of years old. Look for the Department of Transportation (DOT) number following the letters on the tire sidewall. The last four digits tell you the week and year the tire was made. For example, if you see "1509," it means the tire was manufactured during the 15<sup>th</sup> week of 2009. Roll on...safely!

Source: VW of Langhorne newsletter on-line.

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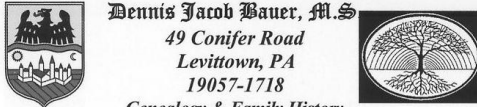
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continued from page 9—Chile

Petrohue' Falls was only a twenty minute ride from Todos Los Santos. In the Mapuche language, "petro hue" means "misty place". It is the place that received the most glacial melt. Water flowed down from the glaciers gathering tremendous force. Over time, the water carved channels right through the huge, pitted black rocks in its path. As the rushing water pounded over the rocks to the river below, it sent a spray of watery mist several feet into the air. The water spray close to the falls felt both cooling and refreshing in the full heat of the afternoon sun.

The park had constructed safety railings of metal and wire around several viewing points along the chain of black rocks that extended far out into the river. From these points we noticed that several falls, or channels in the rocks, were spread out across the river. None of them were more than twenty feet high. Falls closer to the shore received less water and were narrower than falls in mid-river.

Several miles away stood Osorno with its perfect conical top mysteriously obscuring any evidence of its eruption in 1832, as if nothing had happened nearly two hundred years ago. Yet, the real evidence of Osorno's eruption lay in the molten lava that had poured down in rivers and left the black pitted rocks we were now standing on.

We stayed there awhile, soaking in the majestic scenery, knowing that it was our last chance to explore this fascinating combination of volcanoes, glaciers and lakes. Tomorrow afternoon, we would be on an hour and a half flight from Puerto Montt to Santiago.

\*\*\*\*



### Club Pictures Fall - Treffen & Anniversary Dinner







# Deutsche Sprach Schule & Tanze Gruppe

## Seite (Youth & Adult)

### ADULT SCHOOL

Guten Abend—Our adult language teacher, Andy Franz, is soliciting students for his Fall class. Classes are held each Wednesday night from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. We have a number of “adults” enrolled already. Do not be shy, drop by and try it out! Contact any officer if you are interested in attending. Auf Wiedersehen.

### YOUTH SCHOOL

The youth class continues to meet each Friday night from 6:30-7:30pm. Our students continue to perform during our monthly dinners with great success. Enrollment is still open so please contact [woodworks5@AOL.com](mailto:woodworks5@AOL.com) or 609-586-6109 if your child or grandchild wants to check it out. Open to all students from Kindergarten through high school.

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### SCHOLARSHIP DONATION

AutoKlub leader, Terry Huff, presents a check for \$900 to student scholarship chair, Liz Tindall, at our 53rd Anniversary Dinner on 18 October 2009. The money was raised by a raffle held at our 2009 auto show this past summer. The donation will be used in 2010 to award scholarships to local high school students.

\*\*\*



### Dancing in Front of the Biggest Crowd Ever!

So when the World Series contending Philadelphia Phillies organization needed a German dance group to perform during their very first German American Day Celebration, upon whom did they call? That's right, the Philadelphia-Trenton Donauschwaben Dance Group! Not surprisingly, our dancers jumped at the opportunity. Not only would they be performing in front of 40,000+ baseball fans at the stadium, it turns out they would be on “Fox Sports” national TV for about 20 seconds too. WOW!

The whole idea was hatched in less than a week's time for one of the last regular season home games for the National League Champs on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Given the occasion, anyone able to do so quickly cleared their schedules for the Saturday afternoon performance. The group of 16 dancers met before the game with Phillies' organizers and their popular mascot, Philly Phanatic. Guided by the talented family of Tanzgruppeleiter Fred Gauss, our dancers “coordinated” some humorous dance moves with the furry Philadelphian. An impromptu practice then followed in the unlikeliest of places, a big bathroom inside one of the locker rooms!

Meanwhile, parents and a number of other dance group supporters way up in the right field seats, level three, could only wait nervously. Suddenly the “Tanzgruppe” emerged from the third base side tunnel as the fifth inning drew to a close. A few minutes later the group's smiling faces appeared on the “Jumbo Tron” and they began marching onto the field to the announcer's introduction. The Donauschwaben had arrived!

The familiar music of one of the best known dances suddenly blared from the public address system as the dancers and the Philly Phanatic began whirling and twirling in unison. Those watching didn't know whether to look at the giant screen above or directly at the group far below. Most of us tried to do a combination of the two, looking up and down repeatedly and an almost dizzying fashion. The dancers were marvelous! They smiled, laughed and looked like they were having the time of our lives. All the while, the Philly Phanatic masterfully injected himself into and out of the performance in a manner all seemed to enjoy. It went very well indeed and there was an appreciative round of applause at the end.

Kudos to our dancers and to everyone involved in making this event happen, including the Gauss family and Philly DS president Rose Matico. Congratulations as well to our friend Bill Galgon, president of the UGH, for performing with his band “Heimatklaenge” just before the first pitch. We hear that the Phillies' organization liked the whole thing so much they are considering more of the same in the future. Perhaps then another lucky German dance group will get the call to appear on field. We know they'll have the same home run of a good time ours did. \*\*

# Club Events for the Fall 2009

## EVENTS— DATES & TIMES

*Come out and join us!*

- ◆ 53. Stiftungsfest (53rd Anniversary Dinner) - Sunday, 18 October, 12:30pm
- ◆ Totengedankfeier (Memorial Service) — Sunday, 1 November, 1pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Cemetery
- ◆ Schlachtfest—Sunday, 22 November, 12:30 pm & 3pm
- ◆ St. Nikolausfeier (Christmas party) - 6 December, 1pm
- ◆ Silvesterfeier (New Year's Eve Party)— 31 December, 8pm

**Please call Frau Eva Martini (609) 586-6109 or Frau Kim Walter (609) 585-8752 for meal reservations. Chicken is always available as an alternative to the featured dish (except at the Schlachtfest). Please let us know your preference in advance.**

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## Vielen Dank !

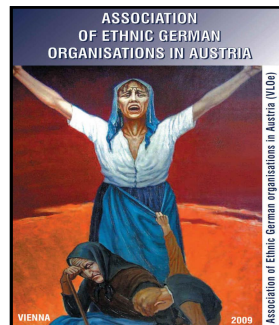
To all of our members who do the work that always needs doing, THANKS!! Whether it's in the kitchen or out by the tables; serving refreshments or baking pastries; selling tickets or cleaning up; it takes many fine people a good many hours to make dinner events a success. We truly have some of the finest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

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



## Auf Wiedersehen bei den Donauschwaben!

### Assn. of Ethnic German Organizations in Austria (VLOe) Publishes Booklet



The VLOe recently published a Twenty-two page booklet entitled "Crimes against former Austrian Ethnic Germans from Eastern Central & Southeastern Europe & their continuing injustice".

The booklet gives a short history of these peoples (German s from Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia and the fate they suffered at the close of World War II and the present problem of injustice for those still living in these areas and those that fled.

A copy of the booklet can be obtained at their web site address at [www.vloe.au](http://www.vloe.au) (English & German versions).

\*\*\*\*\*

### Adult Dance Group Now Forming

This is not a misprint, ladies and gentlemen. We are indeed moving forward and the time for "thinking about it" is over! Ron Kernast and a few other members are in the early planning stages of what will surely be a fun and worthwhile undertaking. The group will have a limited schedule of practices and just a few performances annually so the time commitment will definitely be doable for most. No experience is necessary so put on your dancing shoes and join us for a great time! Contact a club officer or [dsatrenton@AOL.com](mailto:dsatrenton@AOL.com) for more information.

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### Arbeiter Club Celebrates 100 Years

A number of our own club members joined a gathering celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Arbeiter Singing Society at 151 East Franklin St. near the Hamilton-Trenton border. Among those present were former presidents Heinrich Sawadski and Guenter Thiel, as well as radio personality Ted Hierl. They joined current president, Joseph Mueller, along with Martha Bartlog and others in marking their club's big milestone. A very nice performance by the club's singing choir highlighted the evening's festivities. **Congratulations to the Arbeiter Club!**