

# Trentoner Donauschwaben Nachrichten

Volume 5 Issue 1



January-March 2005

## Points of Interest

- The Donauschwaben Christmas rituals begin on December 4th, Barbara Day. This was followed by St. Nikolaus Day (presents for children).
- Pork & sauerkraut is the traditional first meal of New Years for the PA Germans. It is a cultural symbol of Good Luck!
- The use of surnames in Germany dates back to the 1500s.
- Some surnames are derived from places (Schwab), occupations (Bauer=farmer, Schneider=tailor), characteristics/colors (Schwarz=black), animals (Hirsch=deer) and locations (Rosenthal=rose valley, Bach=brook, Berg=mountain).
- German names like Rilke, Krupke and Renke usually have slavic roots.
- German names like Hansen, Jansen & Petersen have Scandinavian roots.
- A German-speakers inquiry about your NAME is generally about your last name not your first name.
- Information on German names from <http://german.about.com>.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members and Friends of our Club,

On behalf of the club's governing committee and board of directors, I would like to say a big "Danke schoen" to everyone who helped make this past year a success.

From our hard-working group of club officers to the dozens who helped with the Schlachtfests, the German Heritage Festival, Spiessbratens and regular monthly dinners. Thanks go as well to those who helped with the Donauschwaben Memorial, the AutoKlub, the language school, our youth dance group, outdoor activities, field trips, club cleanups, and our wonderful newsletter and web site. In deed our well-visited web site continues to give us international exposure. So many worthwhile and rewarding undertakings were made possible only with the efforts of many fine members like you!

Once again, out heartfelt thank you to all who helped and to all those who supported us in any way!

We are indeed grateful that 2004 was such a good year for the club. From as far away as the Donauschwabentreffen in Windsor,

Ontario to right here in our own clubhouse, we enjoyed success after success. We can all be proud of the fact that the club remains vibrant, strong and moving forward. With your continued support, ladies and gentlemen, our club's future remains bright and promising.

On behalf of the Donauschwaben, I would like to wish you and your loved ones all the best for the holidays and a **Healthy and Happy New Year. Prost 2005 !**

Sincerely,  
**Joseph Brandecker, Jr.**  
**President**

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## NEW BOOK FROM CLUB MEMBER

This spring, club member Dennis J. Bauer will publish his new book *Obituary Abstracts of Palankaer-Americans & Related Family Members from the Delaware Valley Area of PA & NJ 1904-2004*. It will contain a short history of Palanka in the Batschka, and the Trenton area, in addition to local obituary abstracts.

The main section of the book will be the obituary abstracts of 465 area residents who were from Palanka or had a Palanka connection. These obituaries were collected by Dennis and our late Club member Peter Kiss over the years. The book is dedicated to Peter and Dennis' Donauschwaben ancestors.

This will be Dennis' third self-published book on ethnic German genealogy and his second dealing specifically with Donauschwaben genealogy and culture. For those with a Palanka connection this is a great genealogical resource.

Dennis has the honor of having a section of his second book, *From Batsch to Trenton -The Trip to America in 1913 by the Lorenz Helleis Family*, recently published in the Weihnachten 2004 issue of the *Batscher Heimatblätter* in Germany.

For information on obtaining your copy of the Palanka book contact Dennis at 215-945-9089 ([genealogy@trentondonauschwaben.com](mailto:genealogy@trentondonauschwaben.com)) or when you see him at the Clubhouse. Dennis plans on donating a portion of the book sales to the Club.

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## Club Matters & Members



**MIKE & ROGER ROCK-ON**

Members Mike Lenyo and Roger Mauro entertained the locals, including some of our club members, at the Ivy Inn in Hamilton, NJ on 28 October 2004.

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### FRIENDSHIP AWARD

Member Käthe Marx received the Federal Republic of Germany Friendship Award on 13 May 2004. The award reads:

"Presented to *Katharina Marx* on May 13, 2004 in recognition of your efforts on behalf of the German-American relations, in recognition of your endeavors in fostering and sustaining friendship between the Federal Republic of Germany and The United States of America."

It was signed by the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany. Congratulations Käthe, from all here at the Trenton Donauschwaben for this honor. She is also a very active member at the Philadelphia Donauschwaben. Keep up the great work Käthe.

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**CLUB MEMBERS ROCK at the 'ROCKTOBER' FEST**

A contingent of a dozen Club members met at the 24 September 2004 "Rocktober" Fest at the United German-Hungarian Club (UGH) in Oakford, PA this past Fall to celebrate the 125th Bavarian Oktoberfest and the von Steuben Day Parade. A live rock concert followed the soccer tournament held at the

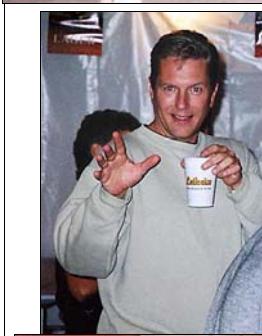
UGH that afternoon.

A great time was had by all as our group was entertained by a great local rock group under the "big tent". The food and drink were excellent as they rocked and danced on through the night.



The event will be held again Friday night 23 September 2005. We recommend the event to those that enjoy good food, drink, rock music and dancing. We hope you will join us in support of this club outing as we visit our friends at the UGH.

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### GERMAN LANGUAGE SCHOOL UPDATE

We have had to make several changes in 2005 due to the passing of our children's teacher, Frau Kleinmann and the unavailability of Adult Teacher, Andy Franz.

Eva Martini, Anna Martini and Brittany Brandecker have stepped in temporarily to teach the children's class. The Adult class was postponed until March when Andy returns. Please bear with us.

If you know of anyone interested in helping out teaching German at the Club, please let us know.

Wednesday, October 20, 1948

## Paripaser Group Schedules Dance

Plans for the eighth Anniversary Dance have been completed by the Ladies First Paripaser Yearly Sick and Death Benefit Society. The event will be held at eight o'clock Saturday night at the Arbeiter Hall, 151 E. Franklin St. Music will be furnished by Paul Fritz.

Chairman of the event is Eva Genovay and Anna Muller and Marie Sabuel are co-chairmen. Other members of the committee in charge include: Tessie Bauer, Yvonne Dienes, Anna Dornstauder, Mary Diszler, Hermina Engelberger, Mary Fritz, Elsie Engelberger, Elizabeth Elias, Anna Flesch, Theresa Fessenbecker, Elizabeth Friedrick, Katherine Fuchs.

## Genealogy & History Section

### MANY GERMAN CLUBS IN TRENTON IN THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY

There were over 30 German clubs and singing societies in Trenton by 1915. They included: Schwäbischer Volksfest Verein, Deutscher Wirths Verein, Kranken and Sterbe-Kasse, Landwehr Verein, Hessen Verein, Bayern Verein, Badischer Verein, Würtemberger Verein, Norddeutscher Verein, Liederkranz Singing Society, Liedertafel Singing Society, Badenia Singing Society, Trenton Deutscher Club, Erster Deutsch-Ungarischer Kranken-Verein, Harmonie Singing Society, Caecilla Singing Society, Social Turn Verein, Banater Männerchor, Paripas, Germania Chamber #2, German-Hungarian Citizen Club, the Deutsche-Ungarische Singing Society and the Deutscher Arbeiter Verein, Allgemeiner and the Aurora.

The Trenton Times newspaper article (left) from 1948 pertains to the Paripaser (Parabutsch) club. Note: "Tessie Bauer" (Theresa Helleis Bauer) was club member Dennis Bauer's grandmother and sister-in-law of member Katie Helleis.

### Gently Does the Snow Fall... by Adam Martini

#### Translation of article by Hans Martini (See German version on page 9)

How and when such love of the Christmas season began and then became steeped in such tradition, is undoubtedly questions better answered by theologians and historians.

We Donauschwaben, as with all German and Austrians, seem to have celebrated the birth of Christ in both religious and secular ways right from the very beginning. All those wonderful traditions from the various areas of central Europe were always a part of our everyday life, something we passed on to each succeeding generation.

This Christmas heritage must have been one of the reasons our Donauschwaben club was founded. We wanted to show our children the rich and beautiful traditions of our ancestors, through Christmas plays and song. That is an important reason why we Donauschwaben wandered about Trenton and Hamilton in the 50's, 60's and into the 70's, renting space to practice our Christmas traditions. The nativity scene was at the time our best loved and most important such custom.

Since then, of course, much has changed. All of our founders are now deceased as are most of the women from that time. Truly, the women were and still are the heart and soul of our organization.

The purchase of our current clubhouse and adjoining property dates back to 1973. It was a good move on the part of our founders and members to get a place of our own. Since then we've turned this place into a warm and inviting home for all to enjoy. As time went on, however, the passing of the older generation made the group smaller. The dance group too, so active and well known for years under the direction of Frau Marlene Novosel with Herr Ludwig Jakober, slowly faded as many would marry and move on.

Yet, the indomitable spirit of the Donauschwaben lives on, bringing renewed enthusiasm to our cause and a fresh will to move ahead. We are dancing again in conjunction with the Philadelphia Donauschwaben. Interest in an adult German language school remains strong, as well, and our children's school is making a very nice come-back. Again we have three generations of members at club functions, as this past St. Nikolausfeier clearly showed. That grandparents, parents, youth and children all feel at home in our club bodes well for the future.

The program was held in a festively decorated hall accompanied by a delicious dinner (prepared by Frau Josefa Bradecker, Frau Käthe Pfann and Frau Maria Petty). Under the musical direction of Frau Liz Tindall, our young people sang songs and recited poetry, making for a most pleasant afternoon. President Joe Bradecker read the Christmas bible passage and all were encouraged to sing by the speaker, Hans Martini. Indeed, everyone did sing along quite nicely. A Christmas poem read by Frau Eva Martini, stirred both heart and soul. But there was more to come!

Before things could be put away, a dangerous looking Krampus paid a surprise visit. This was especially worrisome for the little ones, some of whom ran for cover. In his inimitable fashion, Krampus strode about, looking everyone over and finally stopping at the table of Herr Ron Jakober - and promptly gave him the black coal! Ron would immediately give assurances that he would indeed improve his behavior in the coming year.

At that moment, good ol' St. Nick arrived on the scene and drove Krampus away. The attention of all present was then directed at the far more pleasant "Weihnachtsmann", most especially the attention of the children. His bag of goodies was quickly emptied, as the children emerged from their hiding places to get in line for a present.

Many thanks to Herr Stefan Bradecker for so ably being St. Nick, and to Herr Michael Lenyo for his praiseworthy portrayal of Krampus.

The following festively clothed young people and children performed songs and poems: Fräulein Christa Tindall and her sister, Käthe; Sarah, James and Robert DiPierro; Mary Lenyo; Dayna and Christopher Galati; Brittaney and Joseph Bradecker; and, Anna, Luisa and Christina Martini.

It was a very nice afternoon for family and friends, one in which we could feel good about ourselves and enjoy each other's company. **Happy New Year to all. Prosit 2005!**

Editor's Note: The Club would like to make special mention of newcomers from the Harold Huff clan who enjoyed the St. Nikolaus festivities for the first time. Harold's granddaughter even received "extra credit" toward her high school German class by attending the program.

## A DONAUSCHWABEN TRADITION

### MY SCHLACHTFEST EXPERIENCE

By Mike Lenyo

"Another delicious Schlactfest dinner was held this November 14<sup>th</sup>. This bi-annual event is always the most popular dinner for the Donauschwaben Club, with crowded dining rooms from 1-3pm, and again from 3-5pm. A true feast, the Schlactfest food is amazing. Between the Sarma (stuffed cabbage), Bratwurst, Leberwurst, roast pork and all the trimmings, the choice can be difficult. I chose the usual 3-Sarma/3-sausage plate, swimming in potatoes, gravy, and sauerkraut. After eating, the only problem you have is fitting into your car for the ride home! How does this event continue each year with such fantastic and plentiful food? The answer can be found each Friday and Saturday before the dinner, when the club members gather to begin preparations for the event.

My wife Denese and I joined the regulars for the sausage-making the Saturday prior to the dinner and what a great time we had. Being new to the 'sausage-making scene' I was not sure what to expect. Upon arrival, the authorities immediately provided clear direction to the Sausage-teams. I proceeded to the preparation area, washed my rubber gloves, then tried to put them on. (Hint: Put them on first, THEN wash them.) For 15 minutes I stood there awkwardly stretching the wet gloves over my wet hands. After the glove debacle, I headed over to the meat table. Yes, hundreds of gloriously mushy, mashed, mixed, pork parts and spices (garlic, black pepper, white pepper, paprika, etc.). In this raw form it does smell surprisingly good, even at 9am in the morning. Herr Jakober and the gang provided clear instructions to me: "Stick your hands in and SQUEEZE". My first thought was 'There is no way I'm going to touch that'. My second thought was that in 24 hours I would be *eating* it, therefore why am I concerned with *touching* it. So I jumped right in.

We all followed the mixing tradition: Squeeze, Push, Roll, Mash: REPEAT. On the other side of the room the final pork trimming had been done by Dennis Bauer and Harold Parr and the livers were being cooked by Jake Bauer in preparation for making the Leberwurst later in the morning.

As we pounded the meat into submission, it evolved into that perfect sausage-compatible consistency. It was time to bring in the big tools. At this point, the team settled into their roles; Dennis Bauer and Steve Brandecker rolled the meat into grapefruit-sized balls of the perfect size to fit snugly into the sausage-maker. They had ample help from the youngsters, Karl Suttmann and Hubert Pinkerton. Chuck Pinkerton commanded the links, expertly rolling the lamb intestines onto the machine and filling with meat while Steve and Bob Walter hand-cranked the grinder. Walt Suttmann cut the links to perfect size and passed down the line to myself, Jake Bauer and Harold Huff. We were trained by Herr J to poke holes in the sausage to allow air to escape, and twist with just the right tension so as not to tear the skins.

By now it was around 10am. The most important role of the day belonged to your President, Joe Brandecker: He brought the beer. We rolled, grinded, filled, cut, and twisted while sampling the morning brew until the hundreds of pounds of meat was all safely enclosed in links, ready for drying and then cooking. Seeing the links hanging in a row, it became apparent this great tradition is truly a work of art!

All this time the ladies, along with Sepp Brandecker and Harold Million, were preparing all the other foods, including Sarma, Spaetzle, gravy, sauces and other side dishes. Harold Parr, Ed Butrym and friends were now grinding the liver down to a pulp in preparation for making the liverwurst. At lunch break we were served a fresh batch of the sausage made that morning, and a surprise platter of Gulasch. Delicious! Unfortunately, Denese and I had to make for our exit after lunch.

We have been enjoying these dinners for the last several years. I have taken for granted the hard work, dedication, long hours, and expert skill of all the people who make these wonderful dinners possible. While we worked on that Saturday for about 3 hours, the remaining club members not only worked a long day on Saturday, but began preparations Friday night. Of course, Sunday morning the cooking begins, so it is truly a long, hard weekend for the cooks and members who help prepare and serve the food, the bartenders, Uli Haller and the other donut makers and everyone else - and it is all on a volunteer basis. Let me say to all of them, THANK YOU! WE APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS! It was yet another wonderful event made possible by your hard work.

We are looking forward to the next Schlactfest this February 6th (Super Bowl Sunday—Eagles vs. Patriots). For anyone wishing to help out, please contact your president for dates and times. With long hours, no pay, and a great lunch, it's quite a good deal! It is a great time to learn the tradition and art of making sausage the way our ancestors did. A great cultural experience with a lot of fun thrown in!"

Note: The Club is most appreciative to the following for their help during the Nov. 2004 Schlactfest: Josefa, Kaethe, Maria, Tess, Anne, Anna, Susan, Rene, Denese, Helga, Caroline, Harold H, Harold P, Uli, Lydia, Ludwig, Dennis, Jake, Mike L, Walt & Karl, Hans, Chuck & Hubert, Ed, Ron, Steve, Joe, Joseph, Sepp, Marion, Bob, Eva, Anna M, Brittaney, Luisa, Christina, Lyla, Kim W. and Hans K.

**Vielen Dank!!**

# Membership News

## 2005 Club Officers & Staff

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



## Steuben Monument in New Jersey

In May 2004 a larger than life sculpture of German-born General Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben was unveiled at the Monmouth Battlefield State Park in NJ. He is honored as an American Revolution hero. His drillmaster skills were used to train our troops for their final victory over the British during our War for Independence.

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

**Congratulations.** To member **Jason Bauer** for being elected Vice President of the Penn Wireless Association (a Ham radio club). Jason is also their web site administrator ([www.pennwireless.org](http://www.pennwireless.org)) and newsletter editor. The apple does not fall far from the tree?

**Promoted:** Club member **Frank Herdt**, one of our former club presidents, was recently named Director of European Sales by the firm "Allentown Caging". The company makes laboratory research equipment and is expanding into new markets. We wish Franz good luck in his new position.

**Birth:** **Charlotte Marie LaRue** is the newly arrived daughter of club members Barbara and Andrew LaRue. It might be noted that Barbara attended the November Schlachtfest the day before Charlotte's birth, indicating that our sausages have all types of health benefits! ☺ But seriously folks, our heartiest congratulations go out to Barbara and Andrew, as well as brother Daniel. Best Wishes to Charlotte!

**Get Well:** 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.

Wishing member **Carol Bauer** a speedy recovery from her recent illness.

**Mary Beth Huff** and **Mae Klauser** on their recent surgeries and **Pat Huff** on her continued recovery.

**Jim Lieblang** on his continued recovery from his auto accident.

Club friend, **Andreas Pfuhl** (Bukiner) in Germany after a serious car accident. He was organizing a trip from Germany to the Batschka this spring, but due to the accident it had to be cancelled. Adam and Eva Martini had planned to attend.

**Our Sympathy:** May these souls and all the souls of the Faithful Departed rest in Peace, Amen.

The club sorrowfully notes the untimely passing of **Brigitta Kleinmann**, our children's school teacher, at the young age of 72. In a sadly ironic twist, Frau Kleinmann died on the same day her students were performing the St. Nikolausfeier program they had prepared for just two days earlier. She was well liked by our young people and her grandmotherly nature created a warm and inviting classroom environment.

Born in Germany, she immigrated to this country in the 50's with her husband, Alfred, former owner of Old Heidelberg restaurant. Brigitta eventually became a catechism teacher at St. Gregory the Great School and a substitute teacher in the Hamilton School System.

Many of our club members attended the viewing including several of the German school students. It was a nice tribute to a woman who made quite a positive impact on all of us in the time she served as schoolteacher. To her husband, Alfred, and to her entire family, the club extends its sincerest condolences. May she rest in Peace, Amen.

**Otto Kraus** Remembered... The Donauschwaben gratefully acknowledges the generous memorial contributions made to our organization in the name of Herr Otto Kraus. This includes a very generous donation made by Herr Kraus's family in his memory. Part of the proceeds will be used for beautification efforts on the club's property. (see death notice on page 7).

**Good Luck to Bob Walters** on his NJ Correction Officer academy training in Camden, NJ. Run like a military boot camp, we are told Officer Bob is doing extremely well as a "Boot". Hang in there Robert!!!!

# Deutsche Ecke, Seite I

## Der Trommler (German version)

by Ruth Melcher

Als meine Eltern in den 20iger, 30iger und Anfang der 40iger Jahre jung waren, hatten ihre Dörfer noch Trommler, die durch die Gassen gingen, mit den Neuigkeiten, aus dem Gemeindehaus. Im Beschka, Jugoslavien, das Dorf meiner Mutter, las der Trommler die Botschaft in Hochdeutsch für die Deutschen und in Serbisch für die Serben vor. In Gyönk, Ungarn, das Dorf meines Vaters, benutzte er Hochdeutsch oder Ungarisch. In Gyönk hat er Stadtpolizei Uniform getragen; in Beschka, kam er in seinem alltäglichen Gewand.

Sie nannten ihn den Trommler, aber sein richtiger Titel war Kleinrichter, weil er Gehilfe vom Grossrichter im Gemeindehaus war. Er hat auch einzelne Botschaften vom Gemeindehaus ausgeliefert.

Der Trommler ist so ungefähr einmal in der Woche gekommen und ist hie und da stehengeblieben und trommelte, bis jeder herauskam. Dann rief er aus, daß ein Volksfest stattfinden wird, die Steuer fällig war, oder eine Versteigerung für ein Schaf oder für Holz, das im Gemeindewald gefällt war, stattfindet.

Mein Vater erinnert sich, daß oft nach seiner Verkündigung, man gesagt hat, "Im Falle des Regens, wird das am vorherigen Tag getan." Das war ein altes Sprichwort, die man wahrscheinlich vor 200-300 Jahre noch von Deutschland mitgebracht hat.

Diese Zeit, als man Spass machen konnte, war noch friedlich. Das letzte, woran meine Mutter sich von dem Trommler erinnert, war der Sommer 1944, gegen Ende des zweiten Weltkrieges. Der Trommler kam öfters, so zwei, dreimal in der Woche, um den Volksdeutschen zu sagen, daß sie nach Deutschland flüchten sollten. Das Dorf war halb Deutsch und bis zum Herbst hatten alle das Dorf verlassen.

## The Town Crier (English version)

by Ruth Melcher

When my parents were young, in the 1920s and 30s and early 1940s, their villages still had town criers who walked down the streets calling out news from the village hall. In Beschka, Yugoslavia, my mother's village, the crier read messages in High German for Germans and in Serbo-Croatian for the Serbs. In Gyönk, Hungary, my father's village, he used High German or Hungarian. In Gyönk he wore a police uniform; in Beschka, he came in his everyday clothes.

They called him, the drummer, but his official title was *der Kleinrichter* (little judge) because he assisted *der Grossrichter* (big judge) at the village hall. He also delivered individual messages from the village hall.

The town crier came about once a week, stopping here and there and drumming until everyone came out. Then he announced things like Volkfests, dates taxes were due or auctions for a sheep or for wood cut from the county woods.

My father remembers that often after his announcement, people would say, "In case of rain, we'll do it the day before." This was an old saying that the settlers probably brought with them from Germany 200 or 300 years earlier.

Those days when people could still make jokes were happier, simpler times. My mother's last memories of the town crier are from the summer of 1944, near the end of World War II. He came more often then, two or three times a week, to tell ethnic Germans that they needed to flee to Germany. The village was half German and by fall all of them had left.

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Ruth Melcher has written a book, *Borne on the Danube*, about her father's life as a Danube Swabian growing up in Hungary, his WWII experiences and his immigration to the U.S. More information is available at <http://pws.prserv.net/usinet.jmelch/usinet.jmelch/>; however, the ordering address is incorrect. Copies are now available from: Ruth Melcher, 4624 Bruce Ave., Edina, MN 55424; phone: 952-920-3061. Cost: \$12.95 plus \$3.25 shipping/handling.

# Deutsche Ecke, Seite 2

## OTTO J. KRAUS

21. Juli, 1911 - 14. Dezember, 2004

Wir, die Donauschwaben, Ortsgruppe Trenton New Jersey, betrauern das Absterben von Mitglied und Freund Otto J. Kraus und wollen auch unser innigstes Beileid an die Familie zum Ausdruck bringen.

Er war ein Vorbild für uns alle. Immer freundlich, überall war er dabei, von Clubsekretär bis Präsident der deutschen Sprachschule. Er löste die oft drohenden Probleme der Clubpolitik ohne jemanden zu beleidigen und hatte immer eine positive Einstellung.

Herr Otto Kraus und seine Frau Edith, sie ist auch schon verstorben, wurden anfangs der 1970. Jahre Mitglieder. Beide arbeiteten selbstlos im und für den Verein. Besonders Herr Kraus, er war bis in's hohe Alter aktiv und übernahm so manches Amt im Verein. Vor einigen Jahren gab er seine aktive Rolle im Club auf, kam aber zu jeder Veranstaltung, sowie den monatlichen Festessen. Er brachte immer seine zahlreiche Familie mit, die oft einige Tische besetzten.

Er wurde in Österreich-Ungarn geboren, aber ist in Wien aufgewachsen, seine wienerische Aussprache hat er bis zum Ende beibehalten. Er landete im Jahre 1922 mit einem Studenten Visa in der USA. Später bekam er sein „Bachelor“ Titel von der „SUNY“ am Farmingdale Campus. Er ging wieder zurück nach Österreich, kam aber 1938 wieder in die USA und wurde hier Staatsbürger. Er arbeitete für 25 Jahre im Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory.

Herr Otto Kraus war ein Mann mit dem sich der Schreiber dieser Zeilen, gut verstanden hat, da wir beide im Österreichischen System aufgewachsen sind und so die Liebe zur Natur und das Leben im Freien, sei es am Wasser oder in den Bergen, gemeinsam als wichtig werteten. Otto Kraus, wir werden Dich vermissen aber nicht vergessen! Ruhe in Frieden!

*Adam Martini*

## Obituary for Otto Kraus

by Adam Martini  
(English version)

The Trenton Donauschwaben mourns the loss of club member and friend, Otto J. Kraus, and would like to extend our heartfelt sympathy to his family.

In many ways, he was an example for us all. With an always friendly demeanor, he discharged duties ranging from club secretary to president of the German Language School. He always managed to steer clear of the “club politics” of the time, never offending anyone and always being a force for the positive.

Herr Kraus and his late wife, Edith, became members at the start of the 70's and both would work tirelessly for the club. This was especially true for Herr Kraus, who worked right into his later years as club secretary. Even after he gave up his official duties, he attended almost every single club function, often bringing a very sizable contingent of his extended family. Indeed, they would occupy a number of tables!

Otto Kraus was born in Austria-Hungary and grew up in the great city of Vienna. He came to this country on a student visa in 1922 and attended the State University of NY (SUNY) at Farmingdale where he earned a Bachelor's Degree. His life-journey took him back to Vienna once more before returning to this country in 1938 and eventual citizenship. He worked for 25 years at the world renowned Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory.

He was a man with whom this writer had an excellent understanding. Undoubtedly this was due to our having both gone through the Austrian educational system, but also because of his abiding love of nature and the great outdoors.

Otto Kraus, we will miss you but won't forget you. Rest in Peace!

*Adam Martini*

## PRESSEBERICHTE und NEUIGKEITEN aus Politik, Gesellschaft und Landsmannschaft

Palankaer beim Tag der Donauschwaben in Windsor



Windsor, Ontario, Canada.

Wir erkennen von links, Rudolf Oster, (Hamilton, Ontario) Therese Karte, geb. Becker, (Waterford, Wisconsin) Katharina Neer, geb Saler, (Murrieta, (Californien) Ottmar Gangl, (Akron, Ohio) Katharina Frank, geb. Dittrich, (Cypress, California) Andreas Franz, Pennington, (New Jersey) Hans Slama, Clara Slama, geb Durstin, Richard Slama, Heidy Schumacher, geb. Grieser, (alle Windsor, Ontario) Amelitta Klein, (Vancouver, British Columbien) Stefan Mayer, Anna Hahn, geb Mayer, (beide Trenton, New Jersey) Magdalena Hanftaler, geb. Fischer, (Cleveland, Ohio) Eva Martini, geb. Mayer, (Trenton, New Jersey)

Insgesamt gaben sich 1500 Landsleute ein Stelldichein, darunter fast 500 Jugendliche aus 19 Vereinen mit 29 Tanzgruppen. Man kam aus allen Himmelsrichtungen, von New York City bis Los Angeles und alles was dazwischen liegt. Die Tanzflächen in zwei Sälen waren pausenlos belegt. Es war ein ueberaus erfolgreiches Treffen."

*Richard Slama*

## From the Palankaer Heimatbrief— November 2004 issue. Permission granted.

\*\*\*\*\*

Leise rieselt der Schnee,  
Still und starr ruht der See,  
Weihnachtlich glänzt der Wald:  
Freue dich, Christkind kommt bald.

In den Herzen ist's warm,  
Still schweigt Kummer und Harm,  
Sorge des Lebens verhallt:  
Freue dich, Christkind kommt bald.

Bald ist heilige Nacht,  
Chor der Engel erwacht,  
Hört nur, wie lieblich es schallt:  
Freue dich, Christkind kommt bald.

A Holiday poem submitted by Adam Martini

# Deutsche Ecke, Seite 3

## DER GROSSE HUND

Meine erste Kindheitserinnerungen von meinen Eltern, Grosseltern und unserem Haus waren und sind noch immer fest verbunden mit einer grossen, zotteligen bärengleichen Gestalt, der Nero, unser Hund. Er war mein gutmütiger und geduldiger Spielkamerad und mein Beschützer. Ich war ein schmächtiger Bub und auf der Gasse mit der „Banda“ (Spielgefährten) einer der schwächsten. Solange ich in der Hörweite von Nero spielte, konnte mich keiner anrühren, weil der Hund auf meine Hilferufe sofort reagierte und mir beistand. Seiner massiven und schreckhaften Gestalt konnte keiner widerstehen. Natürlich wenn ich aus der Rufweite war bekam ich meines. So versuchte ich ihn mitzunehmen wo immer ich ging und spielte.

Einmal beim unerlaubten schwimmen im Krapaloch,...aber das ist eine andere Geschichte.

Als ich 1956 allein in Trenton ankam, wurde ich oft älteren Palankaer vorgestellt (es waren viele) und meistens war es ein wiederholendes Gespräch und Fragen – „Wer bischt du?“ „Der Franz Andres“ „Nun welche Franza?“ „Mein Vater war a Fleischhacker“ „Der mit'm grossi Hund?“ „Ja, der mit dem Nero“ war meine Antwort.

Fast alle wussten dann, wer ich war, zu welcher Familie ich gehörte und sogar wer meine Ahnen waren. Alles das durch die Erinnerungen an einen Hund. Wer war dieser Hund den so viele Palankaer kannten?

Als Hochzeitsgeschenk, gab ein Freund meines Vaters ihm ein Hündchen. Es war einer von zehn. Nach ein paar Monaten war es das Einzige, das noch am Leben war. Das Elternpaar des kleinen Nero, waren ein Bernhardiner und eine Neufundländerin. Als Nero ausgewachsen war, wog er zwischen 70 bis 80 Kilo. Er hatte einen riesengrossen Kopf, ein dichtes fast wasserfestes braunes Fell und wurde ein geliebtes und geschätztes Familienmitglied.

Als Metzger musste mein Vater auf Märkte fahren, die oft 20 bis 60 km von

Palanka entfernt waren, um Rinder, Schweine und Schafe zu kaufen. Ab ging es mit unserem verrückten Pferd im leichten Wagen und mit dem Nero. Kaufte Vater eine Herde „Schlachtvieh“ mussten diese nach Hause getrieben werden. Normalerweise beanspruchte es zwei Treiber, der Nero machte es alleine. Hatten wir ein dutzend Schweine in unserem Stall und es ging zum „schlachten“ war es sehr gefährlich um Schweine aus der Herde auszulösen. Mein Vater deutete auf ein gewisses Schwein und der Nero brachte es ihm. Im Winter wenn der Schnee lag, zog der Nero einen Schlitten und mein Bruder (Buwi), und ich waren die Passagiere. Der Vater gab Nero den Befehl zur Grossmutter – Wangler zu gehen und ab ging die Fahrt. In zwanzig Minuten waren wir dort (wenn alles gut ging). Sah der Nero eine Katze auf dem Wege, dann war der Teufel los. Wir flogen vom Schlitten und der Hund mit dem Schlitten jagte die Katze. Es gab Geschrei, wildes Bellen und es dauerte eine Weile bis alles gelöst war und die Fahrt weiterging.

In seiner Rolle als Beschützer des Hauses, musste Nero oft die frischen Bratwürste bewachen, die mein Vater früh morgens (drei Uhr) machte und zum kühlen in den Hof stellte. Der unwiederstehende Duft der Würste lockte die Katzen von weit und breit. Der Versuch eine Wurst zu stehlen brachte manche von ihnen zur Strecke. Der Ruf des Nero's unter den Katzenliebhaber war ziemlich übel, so wurde versucht ihn zu vergiften. Er überlebte es und von da an trainierte mein Vater den Hund nur Futter vom Vater, Mutter, Bruder und mir anzunehmen.

Da war noch eine Geschichte mit Bratwürste.

Der Vater mit seinen guten Freunden waren im Berner Wirtshaus und sie tranken ausgebliech. Das verlangte nach Essen. Vater's Bratwürste waren sehr beliebt. Ein Freund der sehr oft in

unserem Haus war und der den Nero kannte schlug vor, er könnte Würste holen. Vater warnte ihn, das dass nicht möglich wäre wegen dem Hund. „Na ja der Nero kennt mich“. Also er ging los. Niemand war im Haus, nur der Hund. Es vergingen zwei Stunden und von dem Freund und den Bratwürsten war nichts zu sehen. Mein Vater machte sich auf den Weg. Als er heimkam, sass der Nero vor dem „Gangtürl“ und der Freund vor ihm. Wenn er versuchte durch das Türl zu gehen, zeigte Nero ihm sein Gebiss und der Freund schritt vorsichtig zurück und hoffte auf eine baldige Rettung. Der Nero liess Leute in das Haus aber nicht heraus, ohne das jemand von unserer Familie dabei war.

Die beste Erinnerung und Lehre die ich von Nero habe ist die folgende:

Als ich sechs Jahre alt war, gab mir Vater die Verantwortung den Nero dreimal im Tag zu füttern. Der Hund war schon ziemlich alt und gebrechlich. Unsere Schule endete mittags und natürlich war ich hungrig und wollte gleich etwas zu essen haben. „Mutter gib mir etwas zu essen, ich bin so hungrig“. Die Mutter brachte mir gleich was ich wollte, aber auf einmal war mein Vater da und er gab mir einen seltsamen Blick. Er nahm mich am Arm, führte mich zum Nero und sagte zu mir die folgende Worte, die ich noch heute höre: „Bevor du selbst essen tu'scht, tu dei Pflicht und futter den Hund, der sich selb'scht net helfe kann und vergess es nie in deim Lewe, des is net nur für den Hund aber auch für alle andere die sich net helfe kenne“. Diese Mahnung und der Nero leben noch immer in mir.



*Andreas Franz*

(Look for an English translation of Andy's article in the next issue)

# Deutsche Ecke, Seite 4

**Leise rieselt der Schnee,....** by  
**Adam Martin**  
(See English version on page 3)

Wie und wann diese so beliebte Weihnachtszeit ihren Anfang hatte und seit damals sich zu einer weltweiten Tradition entwickelte, sind Fragen für Geistliche und Historiker.

Wir Donauschwaben, sowie alle Deutsche und Österreicher waren aber schon immer dabei die Geburt Jesu, unser „Christkindl“, kirchlich sowie gesellschaftlich zu feiern.

All die schönen Traditionen, die aus den verschiedenen Gegenden Mitteleuropas kamen, wurden von unseren Vorfahren beibehalten, praktiziert und an die nächste Generation weitergegeben.

Das musste schon am Anfang der Gründung des Vereines der Donauschwaben, ein Grund gewesen sein eine Gemeinschaft zu gründen, um unsere Kinder auf diese reiche und schöne Tradition aufmerksam zu machen, sie in Weihnachtsspiele zu verwickeln und ihnen die schönen Weihnachtslieder beizubringen. So kam es, dass unsere Gruppe, die Donauschwaben, in den fünfziger und sechziger bis zu den siebziger Jahren, in Trenton und Hamilton, heimatlos herumwanderten und in der Weihnachtszeit einen Platz mieteten um diese Weihnachtstradition am Leben zu erhalten. Das Krippenspiel war damals das wichtigste und beliebteste in unseren Weihnachtsfeiern. Seither hat sich natürlich vieles geändert. Unsere Gründer sind jetzt alle gestorben, auch viele der aktiven Frauen, die eigentlich das Herz und die Seele des Vereines waren und noch immer sind, sind auch nicht mehr am Leben.

Wir haben seit 1973 unser eigenes Vereinshaus mit Gelände, es war ein guter Zug von den Gründern und Mitglieder einen eigenen Platz zu erwerben. Seither wurde es in ein wirklich gemütliches Heim umgestaltet.

Hier kann man sich wohl fühlen in den schönen, sauberen Räumen, sich ausruhen und mit Landsleuten und Freunden treffen und gut essen und trinken.

Mit dem Absterben unserer Eltern und Großeltern wurde die Gruppe kleiner. Die Tanzgruppe unter der Leitung von Frau Marlene Novosel und Herr Ludwig Jakober, die damals ihren Höhepunkt erreichte und überall bekannt war, löste sich langsam auf, oft durch das Heiraten der Tänzer. Doch der Geist der Donauschwaben blieb immer aktiv und lieferte Stärke für unsere Unternehmungen. Wir tanzen wieder, und zwar mit den Donauschwaben in Philadelphia. Eine Schule für Erwachsene die deutsch lernen wollen wird unterstützt und eine Schule für unsere Kleinen macht ein schönes „comeback“. Das es wieder drei Generationen gibt im Verein konnte man an unserer Weihnachtsfeier feststellen. Dass sich Großeltern, Eltern, Jugendliche und Kinder in unserem Heim wohl fühlen gibt Ansporn für die Zukunft.

In einem festlich geschmückten Saal und nach einem ausgezeichneten Mittagessen zubereitet von Frau Josefa Brandecker, Frau Katharina Pfann und Frau Maria Petty, fing unser Weihnachtsprogramm an.

Unter der musikalischen Begleitung von Frau Liz Tindall, sangen Jugendliche und Schüler Weihnachtlieder und sagten Gedichte auf und gaben dem Nachmittag ein Wohlgefühl.

Herr Präsident Joe Brandecker las das Evangelium von der Geburt Christi und der Sprecher Herr Hans Martini forderte zwischendurch alle Anwesende auf mitzusingen. Alle machten mit. Ein wunderbares Weihnachtsgedicht, das Herz und Seele berührte, wurde von Frau Eva Martini vorgetragen. Das war aber nicht alles. Bevor der Sprecher das Mikrofon wegräumen konnte, überraschte ein gefährlich aussehender Krampus die Anwesenden, besonders die Kinder, die in Deckung flüchteten. Der Krampus schaute sich alle an, machte halt

am Tische des Herrn Ron Jakober's und gab ihm die schwarze Kohle, der sofort versprach, sich im kommenden Jahr zu verbessern. Das ebenso plötzliche Erscheinen des guten St. Nick vertrieb den Krampus und so übernahm der Weihnachtsmann die Aufmerksamkeit aller Gäste und besonders der Kinder. Sein voller Sack mit Geschenken wurde schnell leer als alle Kinder aus ihrem Versteck kamen und sich einreihen um ein Geschenk zu bekommen.

Herr Stefan Brandecker als St. Nikolaus, sowie Herrn Michael Lenyo als Krampus spielten ihre Rollen tadellos.

Folgende festlich gekleidete Jugendliche und Schüler lasen Gedichte und sangen Lieder vor: Fräulein Christa und Katie Tindall, Sarah, James und Robert DePierro, Mary Lenyo, Dayna und Christopher Galati, Brittaney und Joseph Brandecker, Anna, Luisa und Christina Martini.

Es war wieder einmal ein schöner Nachmittag, für Familie und Freunde, an dem man sich wohl fühlen konnte, ja fast so gemütlich wie daheim.

Frohe und gesunde Weihnachten und einen recht angenehmen Rutsch in's Neue Jahr !

**Prost 2005 !**



## Our Autoklub Travels



### TERRY'S AUTO TIPS Fuel Saving Tips

With higher gas prices, we all want to save gasoline. Here are some tips for your wallet:

- ❖ Regular servicing of your engine is important.
- ❖ Change your driving habits. Accelerate gradually & drive smoothly.
- ❖ Drive smart and do not idle too long. Turn off the engine if you are waiting for someone in the store.
- ❖ Plan your errands ahead of time & combine them.
- ❖ Weather can affect fuel economy. Wind, road surfaces and weather conditions also have a bearing on gas consumption.

Source: MSN Auto Webpage

**HAPPY WINTER MOTORING**  
*-from TERRY HUFF*

\*\*\*\*\*

### 1ST ANNUAL CAR SHOW AT THE CLUB

The AutoKlub held its 1st "members only" car show during the Club's Annual Erntedankfest on 26 September 2004. Those that attended the dinner voted for their favorite car/motorcycle. The results were very close. The winners were; Pat Brittingham with his classic VW beetle—1st place, Mike Lenyo with his Chevy Corvette—2nd place and Dennis Bauer with his VW New Beetle—3rd place. Plaques were presented to the winners by Terry Huff and Melanie Bauer (see pictures on next column). Other club entries were; Terry Huff and his VW Dune Bug, Harold Huff and his VW Passat, Jim Brunner and his Mercedes SL, Steve Brandecker and his Chevy Corvette, Hans Martini and his Porsche, Melanie Bauer and her Olds Alero, Ron Jakober and his motorcycle and Sean Jakober and his motorcycle. All entries received plaques of appreciation from the Club for their participation in the event.

We wish to thank Terry Huff of Terry's VW Service Center, Fallsington, PA for co-sponsoring the event and to Melanie Bauer and Ludwig Jakober for counting the ballots. We plan to make this an annual event and hope all our AutoKlub members can show up next year!



1st Place—Pat Brittingham

2nd Place—Mike Lenyo



"HERR J" Jakober shows off his motorcyvcle skills????

\*\*\*\*\*



Porsche Carrera GT

A mid-engine two-seat roadster, this sculpted super car from Porsche fittingly debuted in concept form at the Louvre during the 2000 Paris Motor Show and finally hit the streets as a 2004 model. It features many cutting-edge technologies including magnesium wheels and the first use of a ceramic composite clutch in a production car. The Carrera GT boasts a 605-horsepower 5.7-liter V10 engine that blasts from zero to 60 mph in less than 4 seconds and to 100 mph in less than 7 seconds.

The Porsche Carrera page was the most frequently visited page by web visitors to the MSN Autos web site. The next most popular car pages were; Ford Mustang, Chevrolet Corvette, Nissan 350Z, Ford GT, Ferrari Enzo, Porsche 911, Lamborghini Murcielago, Dodge Viper SRT-10 and the Ferrari 360 Modena.

Now if we could only afford one and not just "window shop"! We know it is on Hans Martini's Christmas list for next year.



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### NEW DONAUSCHWABEN BOOK FROM GREAT BRITAIN

I just received a copy of a new book, "Homelands and Heartlands—Forgotten Victims of World War II", by the late Peter Cowles (book cover to left). It includes a short history of the Donauschwaben and details the family history of his grandparent's life and struggles in post World War II Hungary as ethnic Germans. Information and order forms are available at the Club.  
*Dennis Bauer*

\*\*\*\*\*

### A PEBBLE IN MY SHOE—A FEW LEFT IN OUR STOCK

Do not forget to pickup your copy of this wonderful book about a Donauschwaben family's struggle during war torn Europe in the 1940s. The Club only has a few left in stock. They will be available during our meetings and dinners or from Hans Martini. The cost is \$25 (\$3 shipping and handling if applicable).

\*\*\*\*\*

### WILLKOMMEN

The Club wants to welcome our newest member, **Wilhelm Hepp** of Trenton, NJ. Wilhelm is a Palankaer and is the brother of member **Alex Hepp** and the uncle of member **Liz Tindall**.

## GERMAN SOUPS FOR THE COLD WINTER



As the cold of Winter arrives, there is nothing better than a hot bowl of soup to soothe those frozen bones. Here are several German soup recipes gathered from around the internet and from fellow Donauschwaben.

\*\*\*\*\*

### GREEN BEAN SOUP

Grüne Bohnensuppe

To make a simple green bean soup, put 6 cups cold water in a soup pot, add one (1) medium chopped onion, one (1) bay leaf, one (1) tablespoon salt, 2 to 3 cups of cut-up fresh green beans, 3 medium cut-up potatoes, chopped parsley, and if desired, 3 cut-up carrots and 1 to 3 whole allspice.

Cook until tender. Just before serving, stir in 1/2 cup heavy sour or sweet cream (1 cup rich milk or light cream may be substituted). Some families favored a touch of vinegar, 1 to 2 teaspoons, in addition to tangy sour cream. If potatoes are not used, increase amount of beans accordingly. Make 8 servings.  
If desired, dumplings could be added.  
Bon appetite!

\*\*\*\*\*

### GREEN BEAN SOUP with HAM & FRESH SUMMER SAVORY

Grün Bohnensuppe mit Schinken und Bohnenkraut

Combine 1 to 2 lb. meaty smoked ham bone with the water and onion as above, simmer until meat is tender, about 2 hours.. If broth is too thick, add water. Remove ham bone, strain and return broth to pot. Add vegetables as above, cook until tender. Add cut-up ham. Stir in cream and 4 sprigs fresh, chopped summer savory; heat through. Serve immediately. Makes 10 to 12 servings.  
Recipes vary throughout the country.

## BEAN SOUP WITH HAM

Bohnensuppe mit Schinken.

For best results, meat on the ham bone, hocks or the ham piece should equal about 2 cups.  
The amount of salt needed depends on the saltiness of the ham.

1 lb. white beans, about 2 1/2 cups  
12 cups water  
3 to 4 smoked ham hocks, smoked or picnic ham or meaty ham bone  
3 whole allspice  
1 bay leaf  
1 medium onion chopped  
1 garlic clove, minced, optional  
1 cup cubed potatoes, optional  
1 cup diced carrots, optional  
Salt and pepper.

Boil beans in 4 cups of the water for 3 minutes, cover and soak 1 to 4 hours, adding hot water as needed to keep beans covered. Drain and rinse. Combine the remaining water and smoked ham bone or hocks with cold water, add allspice, bay leaf, onion, and, if using, garlic. Simmer until meat is tender.  
Remove bone, add potatoes and carrots, if using, drained beans and pepper, cook until beans are tender. Remove the meat from the bones, cube and set aside. Just before serving, add cubed ham and adjust seasoning. Serve hot.

Variation: - Bean Soup with Ham and Tomato.

Add 2 cups home-canned tomatoes along with the cubed ham; heat through.

Variation: - Bean Soup with Buttons - (Bohnensuppe mit Knöpfchen).

At times cooks fortified the hearty soup by adding 1 cup or so of Dumpling, toward the end of the simmering period.  
Bon appetite!

## PRESERVED' POULTRY SOUP

Eingemachte Suppe

Can be made from chicken, duck, goose, pigeon, or wild game.  
Boil the head, wings, feet, stomach, neck, and heart in salt water.

Add parsley root, carrots, parsnip, celery root (celeriac), one tomato, one green pepper, one onion, spices. Debone the meat, cube it or cut it in small strips.

When the soup is about ready, add in the cubes or strips of meat. Separately, brown some chopped onions and chopped parsley leaves in a little butter or goose fat. Add into the soup, after the soup has been strained through a sieve. Add some boiled rice. To finish off the soup, add a mixture of egg yolk, cream, and one tablespoon of flour.

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## KALE & POTATO SOUP

Grunkohlsuppe



### Ingredients:

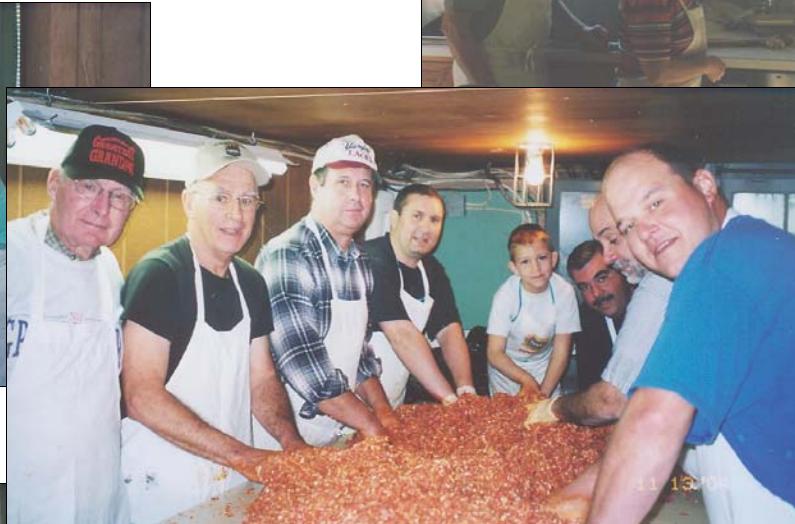
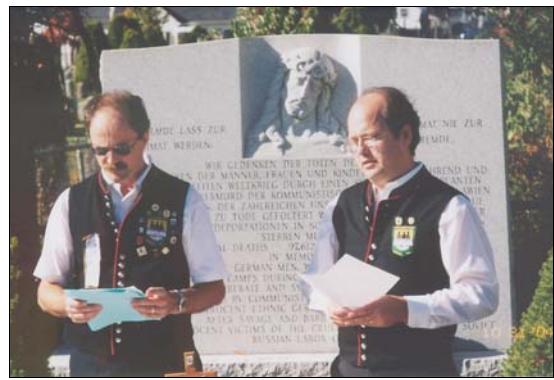
4 potatoes -- medium  
1/2 teaspoon pepper  
2 tablespoons vegetable oil  
2 pounds kale -- fresh  
8 cups water  
1/2 pound garlic sausage  
1 teaspoon salt

### Preparation:

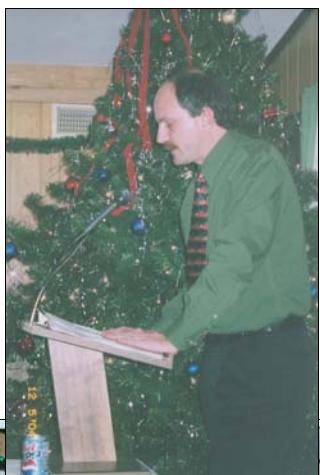
- Garlic Sausage should be the smoked kind, cooked and sliced. Peel and chop potatoes. Combine with vegetable oil and water. Cook for 20 to 30 minutes or until potatoes are tender. Remove potatoes and reserve liquid. Mash potatoes through a sieve and return to potato liquid. Add salt and pepper and simmer for 20 minutes. Wash kale discarding all tough leaves and cut into shreds. Add to potatoes and cook for 25 minutes. Add sausage. Simmer gently for 5 minutes.

- Serves 6 individuals.

## Club Pictures this Fall 2004 (Memorial Service & Schlachtfest)



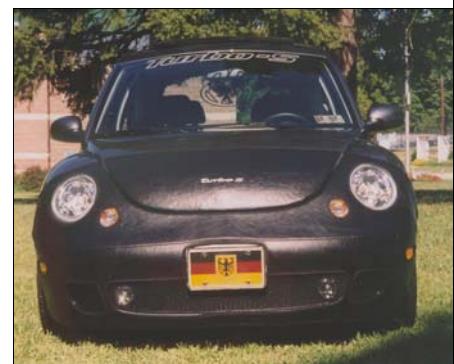
# Pictures at the Club this Christmas 2004 Holiday



and  
New Years  
2005



## AutoKlub Pictures from the 1st Erntedankfest Car Show



Members that showed their cars/bikes at the 1st Erntedankfest Autostellung on 26 September 2004. The Club members voted for their favorites.

Entries (top-bottom, left-right); Pat Brittingham (1st place), Mike Lenyo (2nd place), Dennis Bauer (3rd place), Steve Brandecker, Harold Huff, Hans Martini, Jim Brunner, Melanie Bauer, Sean Jakober, Ron Jakober and Terry Huff. Terry Huff of Terry's Service Center co-sponsored the event. Plagues were give out to the winners and the entries.

# **Club Events for the Winter 2005**

## **EVENTS— DATES & TIMES**

**Come out and join us!**

- Winteressen (Sauerbraten dinner), Sunday, 9 January 2005, 1pm.
- Annual Membership Meeting/Brunch, Sunday, 23 January 2005, 1pm.
- Schlachtfest, Sunday, 6 February 2005, 1 & 3pm.
- Osteressen (pork dinner), Sunday, 20 March 2005, 1pm.
- HAPPY EASTER TO ALL!!!!

**Please call Frau Josefa  
Brandecker (609) 585-8460 or  
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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!**

## **48<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner Honors Members' Contributions**

48 years, *liebe Landsleute*, is long time! Yet, that's just how long the Trenton Donauschwaben has been around. To celebrate this milestone, we were pleased to have a large number of people from neighboring clubs join us, including sizable groups from the Arbeiter's, the Philadelphia Donauschwaben and the German American Society. They were treated to a tasty multi-course dinner; the melodious sounds of Vince Boetteon on accordion; poems by Eva Martini; and, an energetic and uplifting dance performance by the Philly-Trenton Donauschwaben Dance Group. Many thanks to all who attended and all who helped make the event a success.

You know, dear readers, it isn't always easy to remember and recognize the efforts made by so many members – past and present - over 48 years. Most of us can't recall what happened last week never mind last decade! Walk into our clubhouse and it seems as if the building and organization were always there. But, it wasn't always there and we really did have nothing more than an idea - a dream - in the beginning.

Understandably, few remember the many members who made time and money available to build this terrific clubhouse of ours. Few recall the many teachers we've had teach who knows how many students German. Can anyone really overestimate the importance of the many, many kitchen volunteers over all those years? And what of the young people? We celebrate the fact that many are still around but how many will remember the energy that went into making them feel a part of the club as they grew up? We do indeed owe a debt of gratitude to all the many people whose efforts made us what we are today.

Nowadays we have many wonderful members who are as supportive of our club as any who've gone before. We are blessed to have a caring and devoted core of individuals who permit the club to function, as well as a considerable number of members and friends who support the various undertakings. Like our predecessors before us, we do the work that needs doing and look ahead with optimism.

And so, as we work our way towards our 49<sup>th</sup> anniversary this fall, let us keep in mind the thousands of hours that went into making this possible. Let us rejoice in our good fortune and dedicate ourselves to keeping this club of ours the very best it can be. Our future depends on us!

**Hans Martini**