Deutscher Kulturverein
GERMAN CULTURAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER
Rundschreiben
Thank You

The German Cultural Society gratefully recognizes the donors who generously support our organization.

Website
This newsletter can also be found on our website, www.GERMANSTL.ORG

New Website
St. Louis German Cultural Society
Youth Group Folk Dancers
http://www.germanstl.org/YGwebsite.htm

Thank You

The German Cultural Society gratefully recognizes the donors who generously support our organization.

John Pappert Memorial Fund
dedicated to the Donau Park Expansion Project

I would like to make a donation to the John Pappert Memorial Fund in the amount of ________________.

Monies collected in this fund are dedicated to the Donau Park Expansion Project.

Please make checks payable to: German Cultural Society, and mail this form and your check to: German Cultural Society, 3652 South Jefferson Ave., St. Louis MO 63118

MATCHING GIFTS

_____ Employer / _____ Spouse’s employer will match this gift.

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Enclose a matching gift form with your donation.

Visit www.matchinggifts.com/stlouis for matching gift programs.

RECOGNITION

Print my name in the Newsletter as: ________________________________

OR _____ Anonymous

The St. Louis German Cultural Society will mail a donation acknowledgment letter to you for your tax records.

DONOR CONTACT INFORMATION

We Thank You and want to acknowledge your donation for tax purposes.

Name ________________________________

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City, State ________________ ZIP Code _______

Email ________________________________

Deutscher Kulturverein - German Cultural Society www.germanstl.org
3652 South Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, Missouri 63118
Phone (314) 771-8368

New Website
St. Louis German Cultural Society
Youth Group Folk Dancers
http://www.germanstl.org/YGwebsite.htm

On the Cover:
Two girls working hard in the kitchen at the Sommer Verein in June.
Kids of all ages are welcome next summer to join us each day the week before the Sommerfest!
Dear Members, Liebe Mitglieder

The summer season is almost over and once again we find ourselves gearing up for the busy fall season that Americans think is the only time Germans have an influence in the community. LOL!

Terry and I would like to thank everyone for a wonderful first half of the year. The people in this organization continue to amaze me with how we accomplish event after event with what literally feels like no time between each one! Thanks to all who have used the Sign up Genius for volunteering hours at festivals. Suggestions and feedback are always welcome. Look for the next set of Sign ups for August - October festivals.

The membership also decided to continue participation in the St. Charles Oktoberfest and as this is one of the top three income events, we will need a lot of help. We have a special request for everyone - Please consider donating some of your time and talent to assure this is a successful weekend. We are also considering transportation options for those who don’t want to drive the distance. Please let Terry know if you would be interested in taking advantage of a transportation option.

In addition, we (Moni and Terry) have donated the money to open the Donau Park Expansion Fund account which was proposed and approved by the members at an earlier meeting in the year. This money will only be used for Donau Park Addition building. If you are wanting to make a donation to fund the Donau Park Expansion Fund, feel free to do so at any time and be sure to stipulate the Donau Park Expansion Fund on/with the donation. We challenge all members to show your dedication to this project through a donation. The Expansion Team is in the process of updating the cost estimate for the interior design to move forth with the next phase.

Last, but not least - A very sincere thanks to all the guys who helped complete the exterior of the New Addition and those who replaced the light fixtures and installed additional light switches at the Jefferson location.

Hope to see everyone at Kirchweih and Oktoberfest!

Moni and Terry

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The purpose of the German Cultural Society

“To foster and practice our culture, customs and folklore in all its forms ... meaning language, music, song, dance, crafts, sports and good fellowship -Gemütlichkeit.”

To do this as good citizens of the country we live in and to promote understanding with other ethnic groups.

The German Cultural Society is a cultural, charitable, not for profit and non-political organization.

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How to reach us

Hall Rental 314.771.8368
germansthallrental@gmail.com
Newsletter 314.413.0483
germanstlmail@gmail.com

www.germanstl.org

Executive Committee

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Vice-President Terry Ficken
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Assistant Treasurer Ian Romvari
Recording & Correspondence Denise Ballew
Membership Kathy Stark
Co-Controller John VanderPluym
Co-Controller Matt Stark
Members at Large Michael Wendl
Jessica Romvari
Katherine Tullmann

Tickets
314.771.8368
germanstltickets@gmail.com

Website
If you have website changes, send them to Bill Wolz, Webmaster, wolz256@gmail.com

Newsletter
Bill Wolz, Newsletter Editor
wolz256@gmail.com

Please send submissions by:
· March 1 for the Spring issue
· July 1 for the Summer issue
· November 1 for the Winter issue
Everybody is welcome.

Totengedenkfeier

Memorial Tribute

at the Donauschwaben Memorial

Sunset Burial Park

Sunday, November 1, 2015

starting at

2:00 p.m.

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Wiener ‘n’ Schnitzl Day at Donau Park

It was a pleasant day at the Donau-Park July 19th for the day despite the weather predictions of extreme heat!

Thanks to all of our volunteers for providing food, drink, dance and especially our slightly over-heated musicians!

Mr. Erk (L), and Mr. Messmer are two of the Club’s long-time volunteers and supporters!

Our dedicated musicians!

And the star of the day: The Wiener & Schnitzl accompanied by sides and dessert.
Upcoming Events

See page 39 for the full Kalender

August 23
Kirchweihfest
German Church Consecration
See page 33

September 12-13
Deutscher Kulturverein
Oktoberfest
Donau Park
See page 36 for details

October 18
Zumba Party-German Style
See page 9

October 24
Liederabend
Song Evening & Dance with ‘Vom Fass’
See pages 12-13 for details

Sunday, November 15
Sockhop
Mittleregruppe ’50s Fun
See Page 26

Saturday, December 5
Tag des Deutschen Kulturvereins
Membership Appreciation
Jefferson Ave Hall

Listing of Groups

Bastelgruppe
Arts & Crafts Group
Coordinator: Käthe Tullmann ................... 314-842-6798
Ktullmann@charter.net
Please call for information and schedule.

Damenchor
Ladies’ Chorus
Coordinator: Käthe Tullmann ................... 314-842-6798
Music Director: Peggy Pancella
Choir Practice: Monday @ 7:30 p.m. at DKV Hall

Kindergarten
Instructor: Janine Jordan .................................
janine.solga@hotmail.com
Classes: 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month Sept-Apr
9:30-11:00 a.m. at DKV Hall.
Call to see if classes will be held.

Seniorengruppe
Seniors’ Group
Coordinators:
Rose Lengenfelder ................................. 314-631-4364
Becky Haas ............................................. 314-487-7852
Senioren Gathering Afternoon: 2nd Tuesday of each month weather permitting from 1 to 4 pm at DKV Hall.
Please call for information.

A thank you to all!
Named and unnamed--we appreciate all who help throughout the year to make the German Cultural Society the success that it is today.
Performing Groups

Deutschmeister Blaskapelle
Deutschmeister Brass Band
President: Helmuth Glatt
Vice-President: John Ampleman ..........636-532-0290
johnampleman@att.net
Secretary/Treasurer: Terri Gudowicz
Members at Large: Norbert Glassl and Becky Fischer
Band Practice: Wednesdays @ 8:00 p.m. at DKV Hall

Tanzgruppen
Dance Groups
Kindertanzgruppe
Children’s Dance Group (ages 3-9)
Practice: generally 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month
Call Birgit for practice and performance schedules
Practice: DKV Hall
Coordinator: Birgit Sterzl McMullen ........ 618-654-1340

Mittlere Tanzgruppe
Middle Dance Group (ages 10-14)
Coordinator: Ruth VanderPluym .......... 618-538-9975
See website/call Ruth for practice schedule.

Jugendgruppe
Youth Group (Ages 13-26)
Coordinator: Rosemarie Ficken ............ 314-487-3969
Instructors: Jessica Romvari, Jennifer Taylor
See website/call Rosemarie for practice schedules.
Practice: DKV Hall

Volkstanzgruppe
Coordinator: Monika Lorenz
For practice & performance schedules contact:
Monika Lorenz ....................................... 314-894-5561

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We want your business and we’ll earn it!
News from the Chorus

After our successful and enjoyable outing at Cole Camp’s Saengerfest on June 13th, we took July off for our summer vacation. Our practices start with refreshed energy on August 3rd.

We will participate in the Kirchweih church service as usual, but our practices will be devoted mainly to our Liederabend & Konzert, which will take place on October 24th. Please mark your calendars now. We would appreciate your support.

We would love to increase our membership, and invite anyone who enjoys singing and music to give us a try. Practices take place on Mondays at 7:30 at our Hall.

For more information please contact me at (314) 842-6798, or ktullmann@charter.net

Wishing you a wonderful summer!

Katherine Tullmann

Donau Park Development Group
- The Wednesday Group -

Meets every Wednesday to develop and maintain our Donau Park in Jefferson County on a year-round basis.

Members: Herbert Fritz, Ralph Hoffarth, Frank Irovic, Hans Lengenfelder, Sepp Messmer, John Mueller, Sepp Neulinger, Matt Potje, Frank Rohatsch, Rudi Sterzl, Willy Tullmann, Marvin Young

Donau Park Expansion Project Committee

Coordinator: Fred Goebel
Frank Irovic, Klemens Wolf, John Romvari, Ted Mayer

Gartenverein

Meets to plant and maintain flowers at both locations.

Coordinator: Becky Haas

Intermediary for Jugendgruppe: Rosemarie Ficken

Members:
Denise Ballew, Rose Hoh, Rose Lengenfelder, Monika Lorenz, Karola & Ted Mayer, Mistti Ritter, Lucille Schweiss, Kathy & Matt Stark, Joe Wagoner
Festkomitee
Responsible for the planning and executing of all menus for DKV-sponsored events, including ordering and receiving of the required supplies, the preparing and serving of food, and the workman-like maintenance of our kitchen facilities and related equipment.

The Festkomitee could not function without the numerous helpers who volunteer every time either in the preparation or the serving of food. We need your help! To help the Festkomitee, please call the Hall.

Hall Maintenance Organization
- The Thursday Group -
Meets every Thursday to maintain our hall on Jefferson Avenue year-round.
Members: Henry Erk, Hans Fischer, Nick Glasz, John Haas, Mike Wendl, Frank Irovic, Hans Lengenfelder
For information about volunteering for the Thursday Group, please contact Terry Ficken, Coordinator, at 314-566-2080.

Newsletter Staff
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Liz Young: fizsett@sbcglobal.net

Please send submissions by:
· March 1 for the Spring issue
· July 1 for the Summer issue
· November 1 for the Winter issue

ZUMBA PARTY
-GERMAN STYLE-

OCTOBER 18th

Join us as we Zumba to a mix of Latin & German music!

Additional details to be announced!

Keep up to date by visiting our Facebook page at:
“GERMAN CULTURAL SOCIETY OF ST. LOUIS”
The Kinder-Tanzgruppe

We start with the youngest Kind(er) at age three to the more “seasoned” Kind(er) at the age of nine. With the Kinder-Tanzgruppe (Children’s dance group), the parents, relatives, friends and volunteers all play a vital role in providing a little German culture and tradition.

Benefits of joining the Kinder-Tanzgruppe:

• Dancing helps develop coordination, confidence and teamwork
• Provides an opportunity to learn a little more about German culture and make new friends

You don’t have to be German to Dance!

We look forward to seeing you!

For more information contact:
Birgit Sterzl McMullen,
Dance Instructor
618-654-1340 or
314-852-1340
Report from the Deutschmeister
Brass Band

Reported by John Ampleman

No sooner than our spring report was published our venues for the year changed. Bevo Mill cancelled their German night, but Urban Chestnut Brewery hired the band for their biergarten for four Saturday night performances during the summer months. That is in addition to our already scheduled Oktoberfest performance there. We are also tentatively performing at another new venue, Recess Brewery in Edwardsville, Illinois. Watch our web site for times and dates for all of our Oktoberfest season performances.

The spotlight is on Joe Rohatsch for this issue’s member profile. Joe started playing the trumpet in sixth grade at Dearring grade school. Unlike most other band members, he didn’t play in high school. He first played with the Deutschmeister when he was about 21 years old, and did so for ten years or so. He came back to the band two years ago and has become a steady member since. He enjoys being a part of the band and fellowship and good times we all have as a part of the Deutschmeister.

The band is always looking for new members. There is no audition required. For more information about joining or booking the band contact John Ampleman at 636-532-0290 or see our web site, www.germanband.com.

Since 1982, Joe has been working at the business that his father Frank started, Frank’s Auto Body. In 2003, Joe’s son, Joe Jr. came to work with his father and grandfather. All three generations are familiar faces in the German Cultural Society.
Liederabend & Tanz
Concert & Dance

Presented by the
Ladies' Chorus &
The Deutschmeister
Brass Band

Saturday, October 24, 2015; 8:00 p.m.
Deutscher Kulturverein Hall
3652 South Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63118

Admission: $10
OR Admission to both Liederabend &
Vom Fass Empfang Tasting: $20

Tasting includes fine spirits from around the world!
Whiskey, Rum, Liqueurs, & Wines
Artisan produced oils & vinegars, cheese, fruit & bread

Kitchen Opens at 6 p.m.
Traditional German Food & Drink for purchase!

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Fine Spirits from Around the World - Whiskey, Rum, Liqueurs
Carefully selected Wines & Artisan-produced oils and vinegars
Cheese, Fruit and Bread for dipping

Saturday, October 24, 2015
$20 Includes
Tasting 5:30 - 7:30 pm &
Liederabend Concert & Dance 8:00 pm

Tasting provided by Specialty shop and
the German Cultural Society at 3652 South Jefferson Ave

Call Monika 314-402-0679 for Reservations
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Classes for Adults and Children (age 4+)
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When
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- 30 weeks / 90 hours of class (excluding holidays and “snow days”)
- Saturday mornings from 9:00 a.m. - noon
- Thursday evenings from 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. (Adult Beginner I & II classes only)

Where
- St. Paul’s Lutheran School
  1300 N. Ballas Rd at Manchester (across from West County Shopping Center)

Tuition
- Affordable tuition information available on our website www.germanschoolstl.org
- Pre-registration discount for Fall classes (before May 31)
- Register online www.germanschoolstl.org (for tuition payment with debit or credit cards)

For more information

Visit our website: www.germanschoolstl.org
Email us: info@germanschoolstl.org
The German School Association’s

Third Annual Trivia Night

Saturday, November 21, 2015

German Cultural Society Hall
3652 South Jefferson Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63118

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Trivia begins at 7:00 p.m.

Regular table ($200) - (8 / table maximum)

Round Sponsor ($250) - includes advertising prior to one round

(Admission includes refreshments)

Silent Auction – 50 / 50 Raffle

All proceeds benefit the German School Association, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation

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Please submit a check payable to THE GERMAN SCHOOL ASSOCIATION,
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Fenton, MO 63026

For information phone: 314-691-4199 or email: vp@germanschoolstl.org
Payment must be received to November 14, 2015 secure a spot.

Name: ___________________________ Number of tables: ___________
Address: ___________________________ Zip Code
Phone: ___________________________
Email: ___________________________

☐ I can’t attend, but enclosed is a donation to support the German School Association
Can you believe that this year, the Sommer Verein is celebrating its third year? We decided to have a loose “beach” theme, and therefore have added to our club motto, which is now: Sonne, Spiele, Schmeckt gut, Schöne Natur, Sport, Spass, Strand, aber keine Schule! (By the way, this apparently was a good decision, based on the amount of rain we had, which made for excellent “waves” of Wasserspiel!) But the rain did not deter us, as we welcomed our returning families, and welcomed new SV friend, Gretel Ulmer, and her family! We are so glad that you have joined our club!

Montag: “Yes the weather is not necessarily looking so good” (Frau Mistti, Herr Pete, and I thought to ourselves) “but this will not stop the fun...the Sommer Verein always perseveres.” And indeed, our weather would prove challenging at times during this year’s adventure out at our Donau Park facilities. We got started by making our water bottles for the week. A huge special thanks to Frau Pam Ulmer, who added to our club with stories and craft time this year. Each day the Kinder were introduced to a different, native German story or fairytale, and then got to make an accompanying craft from the story. We started off with “Was Macht Denn Fuchs Dann?” Soccer is always a focus for the Kinder, and Coach Alex Wendl headed up our program again this year, teaching basic rules, plays, and drills. With a fairly ambitious cooking menu, under Frau Mistti’s direction, we got started today with German Käse Nudeln (our version of German Mac-n-Cheese). One of the Kinder remarked “this is the best-est macaroni and cheese ever!” Now how can we possibly argue with that? We also started our salt molds, which we will finish later on in the week. Prizes of the day: Water-bottles, and our homemade Fox Ears (from story time)
Dienstag: Today’s selection for story time and craft with Frau Ulmer was Rumpelstiltskin. Challenging ourselves in the kitchen, we tried our version of Stuffed Maultaschen (a variation on traditional Swabian pasta) today. It looked so good that you might have seen this on our FB page? Together as a group we stuffed about 120 Maultaschen. When I counted after lunch was over, there were only 12 left! "Ha…success" ("We’re getting there, I thought). A few of our highlights this year include something completely different, and one of those things we’ve never tried before…making baskets. For this, we had to seek out expert guidance and assistance. A huge special thanks to Frau Edeltraud Romvari and family for sharing incredible basket-weaving and yarn-weaving skills with us! Each of the Kinder were each able to make a smaller basket today. Prizes of the day: Our homemade braid bracelets (from story time) and baskets!

Mittwoch: Mid-week. Today’s selection for story time and craft with Frau Ulmer was Hansel U. Gretl, complete with Lebkuchen-häuser (Ginger-bread house) craft. Back in the Küche (German kitchen), “the Kinder seem to be giving us a run for our money, but we will persevere with more great food”. (Frau Mistti and I thought.) Next up on our menu: Eintopf (our version of what we called German soupy-stew), and a Palachinka-making demonstration with Frau Mistti and myself. (Complete with meat, vegetables, and topping bar for the Palachinka…shhh, don’t tell, but I think I might have managed to impress even the discriminating palates of the Wednesday workgroup). One of the cultural highlights of cooking this year, under Frau Mistti’s direction, we also started our homemade Lebkuchen (Gingerbread) hearts today, which we will ice later in the week! This afternoon, Frau Romvari demonstrated yarn-weaving for us. Each of the Kinder were able to make a small yarn tapestry today. Prizes of the day: Our homemade Lebkuchen-häuser, authentic Lebkuchen, and yarn tapestries!

Donnerstag: Today’s selection for story time and craft with Frau Ulmer was Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, complete with “magic Apfeln”. Back by
popular demand, our menu today included our homemade baked pretzels, which became pretzel-dogs for lunch. (You know it’s good when they ask you the first thing in the morning, “Frau Susie, what’s for lunch today?”) Frau Mistti and I continue to think “not bad…we’ve raised the bar, and the Kinder are keeping up pretty good in the Deutsche Küche” or German kitchen. New this year, this afternoon we practiced a bit for our “rhythmic band” performance at the SommerFest. Then under Herr Pete’s direction, we rounded out the day with another cultural highlight, and another never-trying before. We tried our hands at, and were amazed by our Drop-spindles. This is part of the German art of yarning, spooling with wool, etc. and something the Kinder can continue to practice at home! “Way cool” (Frau Mistti, Herr Pete, and I thought).

Prizes of the day: Our Drop-spindles, homemade “Apfeln” (magic apples) and official Sommer Verein t-shirts for everyone!

**Freitag:** Als mir han lust gehabt, am Freitag, sind wir spatzieren gang! We also had a loose “pretzel theme” this year, and this year’s annual “family day” took us to several locations! Our first stop was, you guessed it, Gus’ Pretzels! Our second stop was G & W Meat and Bavarian-style Sausage Company, where we were lucky enough to get a “behind the scenes tour” of the sausage making process. Given the weather, after we purchased our kalte Aufschnitt, we decided to return to the DKV Hall for an “indoor German picnic”. What happens when you buy kalte Aufschnitt? You need something to carry it in, so thanks to Frau Mistti for our official Sommer Verein snack-pack coolers. They looked so good, you may have seen these on our FB page as well! Following this, we landed at the St. Louis Science Center for a look at the “night sky” show, and the Arch exhibit at the structures gallery. St. Louis has
an incredibly rich German history... did you know that in part the Arch draws its influence from German architecture? Prizes of the day: All of our tours, lunch, Fritz snack-pack coolers and more!!!

**Samstag:** We rounded out the week by participating in our annual SommerFest! Following introductions, the Kinder got together to play the “Banana Boat” song in our Sommer Verein rhythmic band! One camper who went above and beyond for this performance was Thomas Wendl, who did a great job on a real ukulele! Many thanks to Joe Wendl (our accordionist who made our rhythmic band sound even better) Prizes of the day: The Kinder playing in their own band, fireworks, and Banana Splits for all!

**Applause Bitte!** Thanks to the awesome Kinder who continue to amaze us with their German cooking skills, energy, love for Wasserspiel, sense of friendship, sportsmanship, teamwork, and connoisseurs of all things German...you all bring us a lot of joy! These awesome kinder are: Ben Faulstich, Luke Faulstich, Danny Gallagher, Tony Gallagher, Gretel Ulmer, Nicole Klotz, Adrienne Reim, Matt Reim, Holle Ritter, Thomas Wendl, Ani Younger, Rebecca Bauer (Junior Counselor), Alex Wendl (Coach & Junior Counselor), and Nick Wendl (Junior Counselor)

Many, many thanks also go to our parent and grandparent, and family volunteer helpers for the week, including: Oma Elfriede Faulstich, Frau Edeltraud Romvari, Herr John Romvari, Riley Christian, Pam Ulmer, and Frau Lisa Younger. As always, our club would not be the Sommer Verein without the seemingly effortless talents of Frau Mistti u. Herr Peter Ritter. Many special thanks, for a lot of this is truly a behind-the-scenes labor of love! They continue to amaze us all with their creativity...Frau Mistti in the Deutsche Küche, and Herr Pete on the outdoor activities for our club. One of the best parts this year? In keeping with our loose pretzel-theme, the Kinder twisted, slipped, and slid their way to fun this year with the Pretzel rafts for Wasserspiel! Awesome!

Until the Sommer Verein meets again...“Ich wünschte, du wärst hier!” (Wish you were here with us), but if not...join the fun next year!!!

*Frau Susie Gallagher*

*Frau Mistti u. Herr Peter Ritter*

*Coordinators, DKV Sommer Verein Enrichment Camp*
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The choice of a lawyer is an important decision and should not be based solely upon advertisements.
A St. Louis/Sacalaz (Sackelhausen) Connection

Britta Glassl and Mathias Young, Maifest 2014 Royalty, have a connection besides that of banner-wearing Fest Jugend. Matt’s great-grandparents, and Britta’s great-grandparents come from a few hauses apart in the Banat–Sacalaz, Temes County, Romania.

Lothringer Haus #121 was the home of Jakob & Anna Lauer, parents of Magdalena Glassl geb. Lauer, mother of Norbert Glassl, who is Britta’s Dad.

Lothringer Haus #116 was the home of Friedrich & Katharina Fett, parents of Mathias Fett, father of Elizabeth Young geb. Fett, who is Matt’s Mom.

So, though they are dancing together thousands of miles and many years later in St. Louis, some of their roots remain on Lothringer Gasse!

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Maifest 2015
at Donau-Park

Hey Herbert, what say we ask for a raise?
Good luck with that, Matt!

Maifest proved to be a beautiful day! It included music, dancing—including our new group of dancers called ‘Wir Tanzen.’ All in all a fun day to usher in Sommer.
Potato pancakes and beer! Yes!

The ‘Wir Tanzen’ group at work!

Our youngest dancers, the Kindergruppe.
Maifest
Maifest

We love our German wares to browse and buy at the Fest!

Kai & Ronnie are the new 2015 Mai Prinz u. Prinzessin of Maifest.

The Mittleregruppe dancers bring their usual spunk to their art.
50’s Sock Hop Dance

Sponsored by
Mittlere Tanzgruppe & Friends

Sunday, November 15, 1-5 p.m.

Dig out those Poodle Skirts and Leather Jackets!
Guys & Dolls, Chicks and Cats of all ages, costumes welcome and encouraged!!

DJ music and dancing, diner food and drinks!

$10 per person
(includes cheeseburger and fries or hot dog and fries)
Dance performance by the Mittlere Tanzgruppe & Friends!

Pop balloon raffle prizes, root beer and coke floats, and ice cream sundaes made by our own soda jerks!

For tickets call Ruth (618) 538-9975

St. Louis German Cultural Society
3652 S. Jefferson Ave. St. Louis, MO 63118
www.germanstl.org
Slavko Avsenik (November 26, 1929 – July 2, 2015) was a Slovenian composer and musician. He began performing the accordion early, and enjoyed a brief, athletic career with the Yugoslav national ski jumping team. His musical career began in 1953 with the Avsenik Brothers Ensemble, ultimately releasing more than 1,000 songs and enjoying success around the globe. He always remained extremely modest about his accomplishments.

Avsenik’s Oberkrainer style is characterized by a typical arrangement of accordion, trumpet, clarinet, guitar and baritone horn. His most popular song, “Trompeten-Echo,” was released in 1955. For over forty years, his Ensemble known as “Slavko Avsenik und seine Original Oberkrainer” became the emblem of ethnic music for Slovenia, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and northern Italy. It spawned hundreds of Alpine orchestras in the process.

The Ensemble performed thousands of concerts before citizens and heads of state alike, reaching millions via radio and television. Landing a contract with Telefunken-Decca in 1960, the Ensemble recorded prolifically. They rose to meteoric heights throughout Europe, toured relentlessly, and logged over 400,000 miles in 1967 alone. Milestones include a 1961 performance before over 80,000 in Berlin Stadium, tours of the U.S. and Canada in 1970 and 1985, and a one-hour German television network special in 1980. Avsenik’s Ensemble appeared regularly on network television, winning countless awards, including eight consecutive television competitions, twelve from German network television, and eighteen as Germany’s most popular band.

The group was awarded the recording industry’s “European Oscar” in 1975, the Golden Rose Award (Austrian radio) in 1979, the Linhart plaque (as Slovenia’s most popular band), and the “Hermann Löns” award from the German Minister of Culture. Selling around 32 million records, Avsenik was awarded 31 Gold, two Diamond, and one Platinum record.

The “Johann Strauss of the twentieth century,” Avsenik collaborated with his brother, Vilko, to produce nearly 1000 original compositions. Avsenik withdrew from the music business in the 1990s. Avsenik died in Slovenia in 2015 at the age of 85. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Brigitta, and sons Slavko Jr., Martin, and Gregory.

**What is Krain?**

Slavko Avsenik was born in 1929 in the town of Begunje, in a region historically known as **Krain** (English: Carniola). It is a mountainous region in what is now Slovenia but was formerly part of Yugoslavia. Begunje is about 52 kilometers northwest of the Slovenian capital Ljubljana in the region traditionally called Upper Carniola (Oberkrain).
See our website:  
www.gwsausage.com

G&W

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Open Tuesdays through Saturday

You Can’t Beat G&W Meat!

www.gwsausage.com

New Hours:
Tuesday  11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Wed - Fri  7:00 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday  8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Wagon Train to Germany

By Peggy Koch

“Displaced Persons” was the polite term used to speak and write about millions of human beings who were torn from their homes and way of life by the political manipulations and violence of World War II.

Young Johannes Becker was one of the many children forced to flee with his family. His flight from Russian territory through Poland to Germany was a journey of many months covering more than one thousand miles.

The first step was being wrenched from the home that the family had known for more than one hundred years.

The dangers along the way were many: Hostile populations, disease, wagon breakdowns, families separated by the confusion.

Even when the family finally found “safety” it turned out to be a tenuous safety, as the war slowly ground to its conclusion.

An excerpt:

John, 14, was helping his grandfather plant a spring garden at his grandfather’s home in Hillsboro.

“Grandpa Becker, we’re studying World War II in history. Do you know anything about it?” the boy asked.

“Yes, I do know some things about the war, John. I lived through it. But the story I can tell you will be different from what you are reading in history books, so study your teacher’s resources and if you have a test, answer what the teacher has told you.”

“What do you mean, Grandpa?”

“I mean that most history books deal in generalities. My story is what happened to my own family and to me during the war. Many other families of similar background could tell similar stories, but parts would always be different because each of us experiences life differently.”

Find the entire story here:

Kenrick’s Meats & Catering

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www.kenricks.com

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Kenrick’s Meats & Catering
Schultüte
A German tradition to celebrate the start of school

The Schultüte is a lovely German tradition that many have adopted to celebrate the start of school. A Schultüte is a decorated cone typically filled with school supplies and also some goodies like small gifts and candies. Children in Germany and Austria receive a Schultüte from their parents on the first day of school as they enter First Grade. The Schultüte is a big deal, a cherished tradition, and an instantly recognizable cultural icon.

In Germany, pre-decorated or plain cardboard cones are found in any shop that sells stationary. The cones come in various sizes. They can be decorated with themes like horses or princesses, or more simple designs.

You can also make your own Schultüte and personalize it for younger children in your family. Crayola has simple directions in English, or search for “Schultüte basteln” online for more ideas and directions (in German), many of which are quite elaborate.

You can give the Schultüten to kids at breakfast and then take photos at the front door before they leave for school – creating lasting memories!

Some suggestions for goodies:

- Small books
- CDs
- Colored pencils Fun erasers
- Rulers – a traditional ruler or a cute small one
- Card games
- Trading cards such as Pokemon or Yu-gi-oh
- Small Playmobil or LEGO figures
- Hair bands and barrettes
- Treats – German candies such as Gummi bears or other small candies

The Schultüte has become a happy symbol of the first day of school for German families that has helped to transform a day that many kids dread into one that they look forward to. Try it yourself!

Color this one! http://azausmalbilder.com/ausmalbilder/rqi/5zy/rqi5zyAcB.jpg
Quick update on the Grün Weiß FC:

2015-National Donauschwaben Tourney - May 23rd & 24th (Memorial Day Weekend) in Mansfield, OH:

The St. Louis German Cultural Society’s Fußball club team (Grün Weiß FC) competed in the 26th Annual National Donauschwaben soccer tourney on Memorial Day weekend 2015 (May 23rd & 24rd) in Mansfield, OH. Almost the entire team made the trip this year, but we also had a few “guest” players including one from Grün Weiß teams of the past (Steve Wendl). The team competed in 5 games in two days, and finished the tourney in 5th place out of 6 teams with a record of 0-2-3 (2 pts total).

A great time was had by all as the weekend also included plenty of Gemütlichkeit in the evenings along with two complementary meals by the host Club - Mansfield Liederkranz.

The Grün Weiß FC are tentatively planning on participating in the 27th Annual National Donauschwaben Tourney in 2016 hosted by the Chicago German Aid Society.

Also, as always, we would like to thank the German Cultural Society for their continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Ballew
Kirchweihfest
German Celebration of the Harvest & Church Consecration

Sunday, August 23, 2015
at 11:00 am

German Cultural Society Hall
3652 South Jefferson Avenue

The Ladies Choir will sing at German Catholic Mass
at 11:00 a.m. in our hall

Festivities to follow the mass:
*FOLK DANCING*
*GERMAN FOOD & DRINK*
*LIVE MUSIC*

See you there!

Kirchweih
See Danube Swabian Heritage @ http://www.dvhh.org/heritage/churches/index.htm
DVHH.org
This past month Mother Nature has been very cooperative with the rainfall. Here’s hoping the bounty will continue through the Summer. [HA! somehow I doubt that.] We are so very fortunate to have Ralph Hoffarth onsite at the Donaupark location to water in a pinch. I have not had much chance this year to keep tabs on the weeds and deadheading, but have heard from several members that the roses and the various other floral areas are doing their best to shine/bloom/put on a picturesque show. Everyone is welcome to encourage Mother Nature in her endeavors.

Within the next week I should get the opportunity to view all and sundry for myself. After that I may be putting in a request for help with weeding. If all that rain we’ve had so far is an indication, the weeds will have had a field day out there with no one to hinder impede their voracious need for space.

Hope everyone is / has been enjoying the floral banquet and visual eye candy of the various flowers.

Since I usually go to choir practice on Mondays the barrels get looked at and “tamed” and watered once a week. The choir is off during July, but thanks to George Ruppe it should not be a problem. He so generously offered to water on his days to practice. Thanks George.

Becky Haas, Garden club coordinator

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Gardening Club
WHERE DID MY ANCESTORS COME FROM?

For those of you asking this question and knowing that the answer is from some village in the Banat, there is more in-depth information you can find in recently acquired FAMILIEN BÜCHER located in the St. Louis County Library, 1640 South Lindbergh Blvd. (near Clayton Rd. & Lindbergh.) The library is one of a few locations throughout the whole country where FAMILIEN BÜCHER of ethnic Germans in hard copy are available and we should feel very fortunate here in St. Louis to have such a great research facility at our fingertips.

The FAMILIEN BÜCHER of the BANAT show genealogies of families who lived in individual villages or towns. They typically provide data on births, deaths, marriages, etc. of people living and deceased going back several hundred years.

This offers a great resource to finding answers related to family trees, lost relatives, migration, and other related interests of family history.

JOE WENDL of the German Cultural Society discovered the existence of the FAMILIEN BÜCHER of the BANAT during his own family history investigations on the Internet. In the St. Louis County Library, SCOTT HOLL is principally responsible for acquiring the books. KARL DAUBEL, Leader of the German Genealogy Special Interest Group is a specialist in the broader German genealogy that permeates throughout the whole world.

The FAMILIEN BÜCHER on file in the ST. LOUIS COUNTY LIBRARY include:

TEMESCHBURG – Edgar Aldag
   Vol. 1 Fabrik Stadt (1726-1843)
   Vol. 2 Neu Arad (1725 – 1835)
   Vol. 3 Josef Stadt (1774 – 1835) Mit Filialen Allodia +Mehala
   Vol. 1 Temesburg Stadt (1718 - 1861) (A - F)
   Vol. 2 Temesburg Stadt (1718 - 1861) (G – K)
   Vol. 3 Temesburg Stadt (1718 - 1861) (L – Q)
   Vol. 4 Temesburg Stadt (1718 - 1861) (R – S)
   Vol. 5 Temesburg Stadt (1718 - 1861) (T – Z)

SACKELHAUSEN – Peter Hummel + Nickolaus Fuhrly
   Vol. 1 Sackelhausen (1766 – 2007) (A – J)
   Vol. 2 Sackelhausen (1766 – 2007) (K – Q)
   Vol. 3 Sackelhausen (1766 – 2007) (R – Z)

BILLER – Hans Wikete
   Vol. 1, 2, 3 Billed (1765 – 2000)
   Mit Filiale Knees (1797 – 1823)

GROSSJETSCHA – Hans Wikete

KLEINJETSCHA – Dietmar Giel
   Vol. 1 Kleinjetscha (1772 – 2000)
   Gertianosch (1783-1785)

TRIEBSWETTER – Dr. Anton Petri, Dr. Josef Wolf
   Vol. 1 Triebswetter (1863)

WARJASCH – Gunhild Burger, Anni Lorenz, Dietmar Giel
   Vol. 1 Warjasch (1786 – 2013) (A – M)
   Vol. 2 Warjasch (1786 – 2013) (N – Z)

GROSSKOMLOSCH – Nikolaus Horn
   Vol. 1 Grosskomlosch (1793 – 1990)

SCHAG und PARATZ – Herbert Mayer
   Vol. 1 Schag/Paratz (2013) (A – M)
   Mit Filialen Ligeth und Karbonarpusta
   Vol. 2 Schag/Paratz (2013) (N – Z)
   Mit Filialen Ligeth und Karbonarpusta

ST. ANDREAS – Jakob Arenz
   Vol. 1 St. Andreas

LIPPA – Anton Nett
   Vol. 1 Lippa (1719 – 1808)

OBAD – Josef Zippel
   Vol. 1 Obad (1860 – 2012)

RIDJICA (BATSCHKA) – Michael Hurtfluss
   Vol. 1 Ridjica (1804 – 1943)
   STANISCHITSCH (BATSCHKA) – Michael Hurtfluss
   Vol. 1 Stanischitsch (1788 – 1895)
   Vol. 2 Stanischitsch (1896 – 1938)

RUDOLFSGNAD – Philipp
   Lung, Elisabeth Annau
   Vol. 1 Rudolfsnag (1866 – 1944)

KOLUT (BATSCHKA) – Jacob Schusy
   Vol. 1 Kolut (1760 – 1825)

DEUTSCH ZERNE – Helga und Anton Hornung
   Vol. 1 Deutsch Zerne (1808 - 1918/1946) (A – M)
   Vol. 2 Deutsch Zerne (1808-1918/1946) (N – Z)

MOLIDORF – Roswitha Egert
   Vol. 1 Molidorf (1833 – 1924/1944)

TSCHESTEREG – Roswitha Egert
   Vol. 1 Tschesterreg (1829 – 1945)

HEUFELD-MASSDORF – David Dreyer (USA)
   Vol. 1 Heufeld-Massdorff (2010)

The above mentioned FAMILIEN BÜCHER are available at the St. Louis County Library. The Library indicated they are planning to acquire similar books for other villages/towns not mentioned above. The library also has a lot of information available on German history and genealogy from areas other than the BANAT. If you have German genealogy interests, SCOTT HOLL, KARL DAUBEL or JOE WENDL might be able to offer advice on what to do.

Mike Wendl, Sr.
Saturday, September 12, 2015
5 p.m. - 11 p.m.
Sunday, September 13, 2015
12 p.m. - 6 p.m.
at the Donau-Park Facilities in Jefferson County

Admission: Free, but please carpool

Continuous Entertainment

Die Spitzbuam on Saturday &
Deutschmeister Brass Band on Sunday

Dancing by the Kindertanzgruppe, the Mittlere Tanzgruppe,
the Jugendgruppe, Wir Tanzen group and the Volkstanzgruppe
Playground for the Children

Traditional Oktoberfest Food, Dancing, and Gemütlichkeit!
Food and drinks must be purchased on premises...No coolers allowed

Come one, come all! Admission is free!
Want to become a member of the German Cultural Society?
Please call us at 314-771-8368 to request a membership application.

Membership Dues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Each member</th>
<th>Annual Dues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior (62 and over)</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Group Dancers</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle Group Dancers</td>
<td>$  5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinder Group Dancers</td>
<td>$  5.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At least one parent must be a member for children in the dance groups.

Dues may be paid in person or by check made out to “German Cultural Society” and mailed to:

Kathy Stark, Membership
9533 Donals Ct
St. Louis, MO 63126

Thank you for your support which is needed & appreciated.

Kathy Stark, Membership

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Hall & Office

German Cultural Society

Hall & Mailing Address:
3652 South Jefferson Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63118
Phone & Fax (314) 771-8368
www.germanstl.org

Directions:

From I-44: Take I-44 to the Jefferson Exit. Head south on Jefferson, Go over Gravois Rd. About 2 miles past Gravois it will be on your left hand side. It is a block before where Jefferson, Broadway, and Chippewa come together.

From I-55: Take I-55 northbound to the 4500 Broadway exit. Turn left. Proceed on Broadway to S. Jefferson. It will be a block up on the right, once on Jefferson.

Donau-Park Facilities in Jefferson County

5020 West Four Ridge Road, House Springs, MO 63051

Directions:

From I-270, take Highway 21 south past Highway 141 to the 2nd exit, marked “Old Route 21 - Shady Valley”. Go south (left) on Old Rte 21 to West Four Ridge Road. Turn right.

The entrance to Donau-Park is the first driveway at the right.
Vereinskalender Event Calendar

2015

Sun AUG 23  Kirchweihfest
              German Church Consecration at the Jefferson Ave. Hall
Sat SEP 12-Sun SEP 13  Oktoberfest at Donau Park
Sat OCT 24  Liederabend und Tanz*
              Evening of German Song & Dance at Jefferson Ave. Hall
Sun NOV  1  Totengedenkfeier
              Memorial Tribute at Sunset Memorial Park
Sun NOV  15  SockHop
              The Mittleregruppe’s afternoon fun at Jefferson Ave. Hall
SAT DEC  5  German Cultural Society Day
Sun DEC 13  Weihnachtsgottesdienst
              German Service at Peace Lutheran Church
Sun DEC 20  Weihnachtsfeier
              German Christmas Celebration at the Jefferson Ave. Hall
Thur DEC 31  Silvesterfeier New Years Eve at the Jefferson Ave. Hall

Membership Meetings
The Membership Meetings will change times per meeting subject to change. For next meetings the following are planned: Thurs, Sept 3 @ 6:30 p.m. and Sun, Nov 8 @ 1:00 p.m.

Executive Board Meetings
The Executive Board meets on even numbered months (FEB, APR, JUN, AUG, OCT, DEC) on the first Thursday of that month at 7:30 p.m. at our Hall on Jefferson Ave.

* Tickets
email germanstltickets@gmail.com
or call 314.771.8368

Volunteer opportunity!
John Unterreiner is looking for club members to help with the hall rentals. In particular, a person is needed who can come Saturday afternoons for several hours to open the hall for caterers, bakeries and music to set up before the events start that evening. Contact John Unterreiner at 314-771-8368 or e-mail at germanstlhall-rental@gmail.com

ALL GERMAN LANGUAGE newsletter submissions are highly appreciated.

Please consider submitting your story or a found story in German!
From I-270, take Highway 21 south past Highway 141 to the 2nd exit, marked “Old Route 21 - Shady Valley.” Go south (left) on Old Rte 21 to West Four Ridge Road. Turn right. The entrance to Donau-Park is the first driveway at the right.