



Donauquelle

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Fall 2017



A Letter from the President

Can you believe we are in the second half of 2017?! The year is going far too quickly once again.

Father's Day and German Fest are behind us. Both were wonderful, successful events. Thank you to all the volunteers that made it so. Oktoberfest is just around the corner and before we know it, Holiday Folk Fair will be here.

The most significant event, so to speak, has been the changes to our beloved Schwabenhof. With the retention of the S&S Hospitality Management team, we are moving forward. Dave Kuklin has been hired as our on-site, General Manager and Alex Pawlak is our Chef. (Ironically, Alex is the nephew of Peter and Lynn Rohmann and Cousin to Gina Walcher — What a small world!) The Schwabenhof will soon reopen for Wednesday and Friday fish fry and broasted chicken dinners. A Thursday German night is on the horizon as well.

Along with a completely redone kitchen, you will see some other physical changes coming. Not only do we have beautiful new chairs (thank you again to Maria Bittner for her generous donation), we will have new tablecloths in the hall, new paint in the game room, as well as some new décor. We are very excited for a tentative soft opening on October 4th and a Grand Opening on October 6th. Hope to see you there sometime!

Mary Ann MacGillis
UDoM President



Jugendgruppe Update

I am incredibly proud to announce that our Milwaukee Jugendgruppe dancers took first place at the Jugend competition over Labor Day. This competition takes place every three years and we were the first dance group to take first three times in a row! Our performance consisted of a 15 minute performance of dancing, singing and poems, so the trophy will be at our club house for another three years!

Fall is almost here and that means it is Oktoberfest time! The Jugend dancers will be performing all three days at our Oktoberfest @ The Schwabenhof — held on the weekend of September 22nd, 23rd and 24th. Be sure to look for us!

We hope to see you at our future performances for German American Day and Holiday Folk Fair as well!

Article Submitted By: Carol Gdula, Jugendgruppe Director

Frauengruppe Holiday Bazaar

Join the UDoM Frauengruppe on Sunday, November 5th as they host their annual "Holiday Bazaar." Come early for 11am mass or stop in for a delicious homemade lunch (served 12:30-2:30pm) of Schnitzel or Goulash beginning at noon. Start your holiday shopping early by browsing the rummage and craft sale including fun jewelry, children's toys, games and used books. Pick up a tasty treat at the bake sale featuring homemade boxed Christmas cookies and as always, card players are welcome! Admission and parking is free and open to the public. Gather your friends and family and attend this great event! Questions? Call Theresa Rohmann @ 262-667-3291 or Carolyn Rauen @ 414-257-2396.



Grüße von der Kulturgruppe

The Kulturgruppe would like to thank everyone for supporting Traubenfest. It was a delightful evening. Thank you to the Kinder and the Jugendgruppe for the awesome dancing. Our special guests the SVEV D'Oberlandler Milwaukee joined us and we enjoyed their performance (and company) very much! We had a great time over Labor Day Weekend in Cincinnati, dancing and seeing all our friends from the different cities.

Where did the summer go to?! Oktoberfest is here and before you know it we will be heading to Holiday Folk Fair!

Article Submitted By: Karen Schmieder, Kulturgruppe Director

Holiday Folk Fair International 2017

The 2017 Holiday Folk Fair International's theme is Celebrate the Culture of Welcome. Every culture around the world has their own symbols of welcome. Lady Liberty welcomes people from around the world as they enter New York Harbor. In the south, pineapples are a symbol of hospitality and friendship. In Jordan, a host may offer coffee to welcome a new neighbor. Local Russian merchants welcome guests with a loaf of bread and salt. These symbols of welcome from around the world come together for the 74th Annual Holiday Folk Fair International.

For decades, the Holiday Folk Fair International has been a keeper of our rich and diverse living heritage, safeguarding the past, honoring the present, and embracing the future. The 2017 Annual Holiday Folk Fair International runs November 17th through the 19th in the Wisconsin Expo Center at State Fair Park and is open to the public. Schedules and performance times can be found at folkfair.org.

Submitted By: Julie Patton



For more information on UDoM Events check out [facebook.com/donauschwaben](https://www.facebook.com/donauschwaben) or visit TheSchwabenhof.com

What would you like to hear more about? E-mail me at: info@theschwabenhof.com

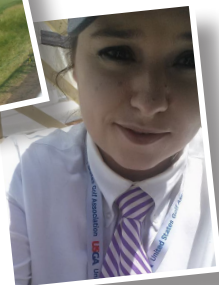
2017 US Open

As you may know, the 117th US Open took place in Erin Hills, which is located in Hartford, Wisconsin. While the tournament took place June 15th through the 18th, our very own UDoM Member, Megan Kosanke, was hard at work for the Open starting June 12th.

Megan was on the grounds from Monday through Sunday, making sure each player, judge, course official and spectator was well fed. She began the week working in the hospitality tent as the kitchen assistant, making omelets. However, starting Thursday, the event became so busy that she became a server, helping in various tents throughout the grounds.

She spent a good amount of time in the Player Hospitality Tent, where she get the opportunity to meet all of the players. Megan said all the players were extremely nice and patient, and shared a story about one player in particular. "[He would] take peanut butter and jelly Uncrustables by the dozen out to the course with him, with about 3 cartons of chocolate and skim milk as well," she noted, explaining this was especially funny because those items were really intended for the kids. Megan also spent time in various other tents, such as the USGA Hospitality Tent, which was for all of the judges and course officials.

Megan is a recent graduate of Waukesha County Technical College, which is how she landed the gig. The school offered a career fair while she was still a student, and the U.S. Open was there looking for hard-working candidates that could handle the stress of feeding the huge crowds at their event. Megan applied and got the position immediately, and she is also excited to say that she was asked back for the 118th U.S. Open, which will be played at Shinnecock Hills Golf Club, located in Southampton, NY from June 11th through June 17th of 2018.



Article Submitted By: Julie Patton

Kinder Korner

The Kindergruppe had a very busy summer. The highlights of our summer were performing German Fest and Labor Day in Cincinnati. Over Labor Day, our kinder were invited to take part in a joint performance with kids from other cities and were able to make many new friends. We joined the Jugend and Kulturgruppe this past Saturday at Traubenfest, where we performed and helped the Kulturgruppe be "police" for the stealing of the grapes. The kids once again had a blast and look forward to that every year! We are now in our open enrollment time, so if know anyone interested between the ages of 3-12 please let us know! The Kindergruppe would also like to congratulate the Jugendgruppe on their third consecutive competition win. Thanks for being such great role models for the Kindergruppe!



Article Submitted By: Katlin Schmieder

A Competition Reflection

This past Labor Day, the Jugendgruppe once again brought home the First-Place Dr. Awender award. This is the third time in a row that our group has won, and it marks my last competition as a Jugend dancer. I've competed in a total of four competitions since I joined the Jugendgruppe at the age of 12, and while the cities and the dynamics have changed each time, a lot of the rituals have remained the same.

In the early hours of competition morning, all the girls gather together to begin getting ready. A team of hair braiders, makeup artists, and costume pinners assemble to make sure our ladies are looking their best. Hundreds of bobby pins and safety pins hold us together in every way to make sure nothing goes out of place during our performance.



While everyone is filled with nervous energy, the older ones try to help calm the younger girls, who have never experienced a competition before. Somewhere else, I'm sure the boys are having a similar experience, but with a lot fewer bobby pins. Eventually, both teams are ready: Full tracht, perfect braids, ribboned hats, crisp vests and aprons. We gather for one final practice of our routine before we leave for the club.

This year our 15-minute performance begins with a short march, followed by Emily Mayer's poem, "Jugendtreffen." She executes it perfectly, and we move on to our waltz, fast-paced and complicated to the tune of "Lustig ist das Zigeuner Leben." Afterwards, we assemble to sing our first song, "Wahre Freundschaft," a bittersweet song about friendship. And finally, it's my own big moment. This year I was presented with the opportunity to perform the poem, "Mei Urohn." I'm confident, having spent hours upon hours memorizing the Schwobish with the help of so many people who speak it much better than I. Thankfully, the practice has paid off. The hardest part is over and I return to the group to sing our final song, "Lasst Doch der Jugend." We end our performance with a fast-paced polka, and our march to get off the floor.

We polka off the floor, and keep going until we are all outside of the hall. Behind us we can hear applause. People coming from the hall tell us we did wonderfully. A man comes up to me and says my poem was beautiful, and asks if I know Schwobish fluently. We are all buzzing with adrenaline from the performance. It doesn't matter if we've won. We know we did our best, and that's what matters. Finally, after all the groups have performed and the judges have met, all the youth are invited into the hall for the grand march, and announcement of the winners. Regardless of what the outcome may be, that march is always a fulfilling moment. You've finished with the competition, and you're marching alongside your teammates, your closest friends, your family, not just from your city but from all the groups in the Landesverband.

It's time to make the announcement. They call third place, to Cincinnati, and we cheer for our friends. Next, they call second, given to St. Louis. I wonder if we've placed at all; surely, we couldn't have won three times in a row. There's a moment of silence before they announce that Milwaukee has done it. We've won first.

It's hard to contain our excitement, the sheer emotion of that moment. I even began to cry. They once again present us with the plaque that has been hanging in our hall back home since 2011. We hug and cry and take countless group photos. Those of us who have been there since then start to realize this is the last time we'll have this opportunity. The hard work of the summer, the countless 4, 8, 10 hour practices, the sweat, the blisters; it has all been worth it for this moment. There is nothing in my life that I am more proud of than our group, our big extended family of close friends. And I hope that next competition, when I'm sitting in the audience, I get to see the younger ones, now no longer so small, helping out the first-timers, and continuing to do what Milwaukee does best: Simply enjoy dancing.

Article Submitted By: Julie Patton