



Landestreffender Donauschwaben

Every year over Labor Day weekend, Donauschwaben from all over the United States and Canada come together to celebrate our heritage in a weekend full of dancing, fun, food, and fellowship. As any Schwob would say, it is the "best weekend of the entire year," as we all get to see the friends we have made over the years.

This year's treffen was held in Detroit, Michigan. It was nice to see the Carpathia Club packed with hundreds of people coming together to share the common bond of what it is to be a Donauschwaben.



The Carpathia Club has a few things to be proud of. Not only did they put on a wonderful weekend that many of us will never forget, but they also are celebrating 100 years of existence this year, which is an amazing milestone in itself.

All three of our dance groups participated in the dancing portion of the weekend. Our Kindergruppe combined with Akron, Ohio's Kindeggruppe who also has a smaller group to put on what was a memorable performance. The Akron group learned two of our Kinder's dances and danced together like they had been for years. Our Youth group as always put on outstanding performances that got the audiences attention.



The Kulturgruppe's performance was wonderful as well. It was one of the few times we have all of our

college kids, and those who live out of state be able to perform together.

This all leads us to where we are now, headed towards a year full of planning as Milwaukee will be the host of the 2014 Landestrachtenfest. Next year, we face another competition, involving all of the youth groups. Our youth group has already been preparing to keep the plaque in our display case in the hall. We look forward to welcoming all the Donauschwaben from around the United States and Canada to our club for



what is guaranteed to be another unforgettable weekend.

Submitted by
Katlin Schmieder



Kirchweih 2013: Dancing through the Decades The 50th Anniversary of the UDoM Kindergruppe

On Saturday September 28th, 2013 please join both former and current UDoM Kindergruppe members in celebrating the group's 50th anniversary at the Schwabenhof.

As we join together on this evening to help celebrate how far our Kindergruppe has come over the decades, we also come together to celebrate all the friendships we have made throughout the years. Doors open at 6pm, the program begins at 7pm and includes performances by the UDoM Kindergruppe, Jugendgruppe and Kulturgruppe. Music and dancing to follow will be provided by Talisman. Homemade brats and bakery will also be for sale.

We would like to thank those of you who have been our audience over the years. Without your support, we could not have reached this milestone. This celebration is as much yours as ours and we look forward to seeing you all there!

Although we are trying to reach as many former Kindergruppe members as possible, if you know of any that did not receive an invitation, please call Karen Schmieder.

For tickets and table reservations to this special event, please call Karen (Keidl) Schmieder or Katlin Schmieder @ 262/547-1371 or email katlinmarie824@gmail.com

Frauengruppe Holiday Bazaar

Join the UDoM Frauengruppe on Sunday, November 3rd as they host their annual "Holiday Bazaar." Come early for 11am mass or stop in for a delicious homemade lunch of Schnitzel and Goulash beginning at noon. Start your holiday shopping early by browsing the rummage and craft sale including 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 is free and open to the public.

Visit us on the web at:
UDoMmilwaukee.com
or follow us on [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/UDoMmilwaukee)

What would you like to hear more about? E-mail me at:
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Jugendgruppe Update

First and foremost, the Jugend dancers were very excited to have back dancing with us for the summer all of our college students from in-state and out-of-state. We are so fortunate to have our local college dancers with us throughout the year, but we are not totally complete until we have all our dancers who could not make it back during the school year with us for performances.

Most of the dancers Kirstie Siladi, Michael Hutz, Peter Hutz, Tom Walters and Kirsten Walters were able to join us for performances at Germanfest, Oktoberfest and our Labor Day Landestreffen in Detroit. Some of them still had school over the summer so we were happy they could still make the time for these major dance events.

We were surprised and delighted when Michael, Tom and Kirsten were able to drop in for the Heimatabend gathering with the Banater Schwaben group from Germany, on the Friday of our Oktoberfest weekend. They were unaware that we were dancing that evening and did not have their costumes, but that did not matter they joined in anyways for one of our most awesome and memorable performances of this year.

Submitted by Carol Gdula

Banater Schwaben Heimat Abend

On August 23rd the UDoM held a celebration in honor of our friends who were visiting from Germany. The group was comprised of three separate groups, two dancing, and one band. They all came from the Banat region, more specifically from Singen, Esslingen-Wendlingen, and Freiburg.

Their dance group performed a "sneak peak" of their longer program they would be doing the following evening. From the moment they stepped on the stage to the moment they left they captured the audiences attention. Their traditional dances and Bayerische medley left the crowd in anticipation to what they had in store for their full program the following day. Something very unique



about the group

is that there were many ages represented in the group. From the youngest at 7, to the oldest in their 60's they all danced in unison and were so proud to be representing their country and dance groups in America.

Their band, Eisenbahner Musikanten was the musical entertainment for the entire night. Not only did they place for everyone to dance for fun throughout the night, but they planned all

the dance groups' music that they performed to. They

are an outstanding blaskapelle who can really keep the crowd going.

We enjoyed the time we had with the Banater Schwaben in Milwaukee and many of us have created friendships that will last a lifetime.

Submitted by Katlin Schmieder



Holiday Folk Fair International 2013

The 2013 Holiday Folk Fair International's theme is Celebrating the Culture of Community, commemorating a community of people who are bound together by common ties, such as language, customs and beliefs. They are also connected by what they think, how they behave, what they value and what they pass on to the next generation. The community gives them an identity and a sense of belonging. It helps us discover who and why we are.

The Culture of Community, sometimes called "folklore" or "folklife," is the living expression of culture woven into everyday life — anyone's culture — learned and passed on informally from person to person. It must be alive and current to be folklife, even though it may have existed over long stretches of time.

This intangible cultural heritage refers to traditions or living expressions inherited from our ancestors and passed on to our descendants, those oral traditions, performing arts, social practices, rituals, festive events, knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe, and the knowledge and skills to produce traditional crafts.

The 70th Annual Holiday Folk Fair International runs November 16th through the 18th at the Wisconsin Expo Center at State Fair Park and is open to the public. Schedules and performance times can be found at folkfair.org

Grüße von der Kulturegruppe

The Kulturgruppe is gearing up for the busy fall and winter months ahead. This weekend we will be visiting our friends at Oak Crest Villa for their Oktoberfest as well as the following weekend at the Kindergruppe's Kirchweih. We are also practicing for Folk Fair, where we will be doing three new dances. We are bringing two back from the past, and doing one new one that our friends from the Banater Schwaben dance group shared with us.

The Kulturgruppe would like to wish the Kindergruppe a "Happy 50th Anniversary" and hope that Kirchweih is a success. We are looking forward to celebrating with you.

UDoM Membership Directory

The UDoM will be printing a public membership directory for those members that would like their contact information published. If you are interested in having your name, address, phone and email public for our members to share please send your information by October 18, 2013 to hsiladi@udommilwaukee.com

German-American HISTORY 101

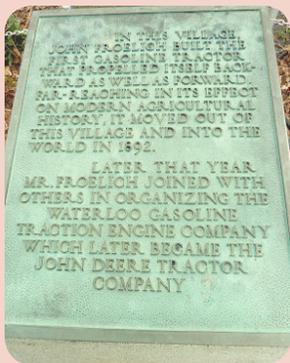
Nearly everyone is familiar with the name John Deere. The world's largest manufacturer of farming machinery in the world, but most are unfamiliar with the name John Froelich, the German-American who invented the gas powered tractor that made it all possible.

Today we remember John Froelich (1849-1933) the inventor of the first gas powered tractor in the world. John was born into a family of farmers. His parents Johannes Heinrich Froelich and Kathryn Gutheil, were both immigrants to Iowa from Kuhrhessen, Germany. The area of Iowa where they settled is still known today as the Town of Froelich, named after John's father, the town's founder. John would be the first of nine children born on November 24, 1849. From early on, John was fascinated with machinery and became an expert on steam-powered engines. He operated a grain elevator and eventually owned a steam powered wheat threshing operation.

To speed up production, John purchased a Van Duzen gasoline engine to power his grain elevator which in part would later inspire his idea to invent a gasoline powered tractor. At the time, tractors were powered by steam; John noticed that farmers had trouble bringing wood and coal out in the fields to fuel their engines. In an effort to solve this problem, he collaborated with another German-American; a professional Blacksmith named William Mann. Together he and John mounted a gasoline engine on wooden beams over a running gear from traction engine. With special parts engineered by William Mann and himself, John was able to build a 16 horsepower tractor with the ability to travel forward and in reverse.

Soon after in Waterloo, Iowa, John met with a group of investors, and together they established the Waterloo Gasoline Traction Engine Company. The sole purpose of this company was to manufacture the Froelich Tractor. Unfortunately due to a few mechanical glitches, production eventually came to a halt. The firm sought out other products to produce in order to remain open. John Froelich decided to leave the company. After John's departure, the firm eventually solved the issues with the tractors and sold the firm to Deere & Company, later to become the John Deere Tractor Company. As a result, Froelich received little money or recognition for his invention.

John left this world in 1933, but those who knew him honored his memory by erecting a stone monument as a tribute to his life. This beautiful monument was unveiled in the presence of 2500 people in the very community that still bears his family name. Another John Froelich milestone was his invention of the first Air Conditioner, which went on to become the Carrier Air Conditioning Company, but it doesn't end there. He also invented the Washing Machine and Dryer, Dishwasher, Mechanical Corn Picker, and a mounted gasoline engine powered well drilling machine. In 1991 this talented German-American, John Froelich was inducted to the Iowa Inventors Hall of Fame.



Germanfest Trachtenschau 2013

Thank you to all of the people that participated in the Trachtenschau this year. As you may remember, the Donauschwaben were the featured group and we had quite a showing! I am looking forward to our participation for years to come.

MaryAnn MacGillis,
Trachtenschau Chair Person



Jugendgruppe Summer

First It is hard to believe that fall is almost here! We have been busy all summer long! As summer continued in July we moved right into performances for three days of Germanfest. We enjoyed our special joint performance for two of the days with the Kulturgruppe on the Pretzel Stage. We again, like last year after performing at Germanfest, have the possibility of some interested new dancers. We are very excited about these new dancers joining our group!

We next had a very busy weekend in August with a Banatschwabischen Heimatabend on the Friday of our first Oktoberfest weekend. It was a very memorable evening with lots of wonderful music and dancing.

Our summer officially ended, as it always does, with our Labor Day Landestreffen. Our Jugend dancers performed both Saturday and Sunday and they wowed the audience with three of their new dances they learned this year. They were truly amazing!

With fall now approaching, we are working on more new dances that we will perform in the near future. Though the year is coming close to an end, we are still going strong with performances from until the end of the year!

Submitted by Carol Gdula

Lessons from Oma

Jugend in all of the Donauschwaben dance groups within the Landesverband were able to enter an essay contest this year. This essay event was very special to us here in Milwaukee because it was in honor of one of our past Jugendgruppe leader Maria Abt, who sadly passed away last November.

The essay was titled "Lessons from Oma" and the dancers were to write a 500 word essay or less on how the Donauschwaben culture had affected their lives. There were cash awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners that would be awarded at the Labor Day Landestreffen gathering in Detroit. The family of Maria Abt would be reading and judging these essays. The names and clubs were removed from each dancer's entry so the family would not know who wrote each essay.

I remember some of our dancers telling me how hard it was to limit their own words to only 500! I had to smile because to me that said a lot about our wonderful club here in Milwaukee.

I am very excited to say that two of our Jugend dancers were final winners; first place went to Katlin Schmieler and second place to Peter Hutz. We would like to congratulate both dancers and let them know that we are so very proud of them!

Submitted by Carol Gdula