



Coming Events:

December 18, 2022

Weihnachtsfeier

Donauschwaben's German American Cultural Center

Der Trommler

FALL/WINTER 2022



Message from the President, Margot Maurer

Happy Holidays to everyone! As the fall comes to an end, there is so much to recap and report. As an organization, we have had a very busy summer and fall with many successful events which our members enjoyed. There is much to share, so let's get started.

Sommer Oktoberfest took place over the August 19th-21st weekend and was very successful. With everything in place and ready to go, we opened our doors on Friday evening with lots of people ready to get back into the Oktoberfest spirit. The attendees on Friday and Saturday seemed more like the crowds we had before the pandemic. Mother nature sent some rain our way and our Sunday crowd was smaller than expected, but those who attended were in good spirits despite the rain. Overall, guests enjoyed the food, the beer, and the performers who provided both music and dancers.

We rely heavily on our volunteer staff for Oktoberfest and we are very thankful for the work of many people who worked one or more shifts over the course of the weekend. Lenau Park Staff, board members, and other subgroups and volunteers must work very hard before the weekend begins doing all manner of preparations for the event. They do everything from taking deliveries, putting up signage, prepping the tablets and ticket software, taking care of the sign-ups for all the shifts, printing all manner of information, setting up the bars, overseeing outside workers setting up the tent or the lighting, setting up the tables/tablecloths and chairs, and dozens of other jobs. Our fest volunteers take care of the food lines, bars, kitchen, cashiers, and parking. Of course, we all enjoy the performers who play music for everyone's

enjoyment, and the dancers in their colorful dirndls! It takes everyone to make it a success and our volunteers are our biggest asset. Thank you so much!

The annual Landestreffen was held in Trenton this year and Cleveland was well represented. I will save the fun photos for the Jugendgruppe section but know that we had a nice ensemble of young and old attend this event. It was very well organized and a pleasure to attend.

It seems that in every newsletter, I am compelled to ask for member support of our Capital Fundraiser and Endowment Fund fundraiser. We recently sent out a letter via e-blast explaining the financial needs of our organization. We have been offered an opportunity to receive a very generous donation of stocks in the amount of \$25,000 to be placed in a foundation that will yield funds for years to come. The one stipulation of this donation is that our organization raises the same amount in donations, including monies that new and renewed memberships would contribute to this cause. Our membership email went out on November 18, 2022, to renew for 2023. Letters were sent to those without an email. It was sent to current members and those who have let their membership lapse. Please renew your membership to help with the fundraising effort. Additionally, if you are not already a member of the DGACC, please consider filling out a social membership application to become a member. Better yet, please consider opting to renew as a lifetime member for a one-time donation of \$500. If you've been blessed and are in a position to make an additional donation, we'd be grateful. A donation in any amount to the Donauschwaben German American Center (DGACC) will help us reach our goal.

Many people ask, "what do I get for my membership dues?" The answer is twofold. Most simply, the DGACC board and our staff organize and hold free cultural events for the membership such as Kirchweih and Weihnachtsfeier, both of which offer various free refreshments. That alone is worth the cost of the membership and makes your dues a reasonable contribution to the organization. But more importantly, your collective dues contribute to the cost of keeping Lenau Park open. Where would our band or dancers practice without Lenau Park? Would our Frauengruppe or Seniorengruppe find another location to meet? Our German School would be forced to rent a rather large facility for their classes, and our soccer players would be playing on other fields. In the end, the real question is, would we even have an organization without our home at Lenau Park? We need everyone to contribute by purchasing a membership, donating

their time as volunteers, attending and supporting our events, and if possible, donating additional funds to help our organization to continue.

As always, we are also in need of volunteers. Our Wednesday crew has been busy, as always, improving the grounds and repairing what they can in an effort to keep Lenau Park beautiful. Many hands make light work and our Wednesday crew keep up with many of the things you may take for granted when coming to Lenau Park. That landscaping that you admire as you walk past was done by volunteers. That light that started working again, that doorknob that was jiggling, the lovely decorations for the holidays, all done by volunteers. If you are able, please consider joining our Wednesday crew, 8:30-12:30, with lunch provided.

As another year comes to a close, we meet again at our annual Weihnachtsfeier! It's such a beautiful day and allows us to celebrate the season as a Donauschwaben community. On behalf of the board, our trustees, and our staff, we wish you a wonderful holiday season with family and friends and the best of everything in the new year. We look forward to seeing all of you in 2023!

Message from the Director, Marianne Buechler



The Christmas season unfolded at Lenau Park with the magic of our lovely traditions of beautiful decorations, Glühwein, scrumptious bakery and wurst, and friends gathering. What a warm feeling of comfort all of this has brought!

As 2022 comes to an end, our staff, volunteers, and members can reflect on the memories made with most of our events coming back to life and a job well done!

The staff of the Donauschwaben's German American Cultural Center and the Society of Donauschwaben at Lenau Park wishes our Board of Directors, Managing Members, Members, Volunteers, Donors, Sub Groups and Affiliated Groups, along with our Patrons and Guests a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We can't wait to see what 2023 brings!

News from our Groups

Kindergruppe

**Leaders: Laura Calvey
and Sabrina Gloeckler**

The Kindergruppe has been busy this Fall! We performed at the Sommer Oktoberfest, St. Elizabeth's Hungarian Festival, German Day at German Central, and at Normandy Senior Living. Our Kinder enjoyed a fun Halloween party and we had a successful Santa Brunch on December 4th. We are always looking for new members, and kinder ages 4-11 are welcome. We meet every Monday from 6:30-7:30 pm in the practice room.

Sommer Oktoberfest



Halloween Party





Santa Brunch



Jugendgruppe

**Leaders: Margot Maurer ,
Kathleen Martini and
Erik Maurer**

The Jugendgruppe families have been very busy this year. Back in June, we held our annual car show at Lenau Park with record-breaking crowds on a picture-perfect day. TV cameras covered the event and interviewed our Miss and Mr. Donauschwaben as part of the broadcast. A special thank you goes out to all our volunteers who made the day possible!

Father's Day Car Show



Sommer Oktoberfest had our families at Lenau Park doing what they always do, dance and volunteer! The Jugend performed on both Friday and Sunday, and in between, the Jugend and their parents helped in all manner of ways. Tending bar, cutting cake, serving food, and breadng schnitzel, are just some of the jobs our Jugend families helped with.





Our Jugend also participated in the Landestreffen event in Trenton over the Labor Day Weekend. Each and every year, this is a memorable event, and this year was no different. A Kirchweihfest was planned for Sunday that was simply spectacular. The dancers from groups across the country wore their trachten and took part in a grand parade of performers. They then performed dances that all the groups learned specifically for this event. It was a sight to behold and well worth the extra effort. Our Jugend did a great job of representing Cleveland!

Landestreffen Trenton



Our trachten were also on display for our annual Kirchweih at Lenau Park. After a delicious goulash lunch and a lovely church service, our German School students, and our Jugend, Kinder, and Kulturgruppe dancers, put forth a lively program for those in attendance. Our Blaskapelle provided the music, and John Berger led the raffle of the Kirchweih Strauss. We also took the time to honor many of our volunteers with Silver and Gold service pin awards. It was a lovely, traditional afternoon that allowed members to both celebrate their heritage and to pass our traditions on to the next generation!

Kirchweih



Kulturgruppe

President: Erika Knowles

Thank you to everyone that came out and attended our Oktoberfest Fall Festival on October 15th. It was wonderful to see a full house! The Blaskapelle and the Shotskis provided musical entertainment while the Cleveland Jugendgruppe and Kulturgruppe and our special guests the Akron Kulturgruppe all gave dance performances. The Kulturgruppe also recently performed at St.Elizabeth's Hungarian Festival and German Day at German Central. Our dancing season is coming to an end but we will be back next year. Check the website for the 2023 calendar. Our last DKG meeting of the year is November 11th at 7:30 pm.



Deutsche Sprachschule

**Principal: Heike
Haddenbrock**

Wir haben uns alle sehr gefreut, uns wieder mittwochs und samstags zum Unterricht in den Räumen im LENAUPARK treffen zu können! Es sind zwar leider viele Schüler verloren gegangen und wir haben deutlich weniger Klassen als vor dem Besuch der lieben kleinen Coronaviren, aber wenigstens gibt es dieses Jahr etliche Schüler im Kindergartenalter, was uns hoffen lässt, dass die Schule sich demnächst wieder aufbauen lässt.

Der Schulalltag läuft fast wie früher: wir hatten unseren ersten Fundraiser, den Christkindlmarkt. Auch der Nikolaus hat uns besucht.

Weiter unten sehen Sie ein paar Bilder aus unseren Klassen.



Der **Kindergarten** am Mittwoch an Halloween! Ältere fleißige Kinder gibt es auch: die **Gruppe 6** am Mittwoch

Noch ältere Schüler, genauso eifrig bei der Arbeit wie die Kinder: die **erwachsenen Anfänger**.

Unser Christkindlmarkt mit den Bastelarbeiten der tüchtigen Schüler:





Die Kinder singen den Kunden am Christkindlmarkt gern Weihnachtslieder vor!



Und hier die Mittwochs-Schüler beim Besuch vom Nikolaus. Am Samstag kam er natürlich auch:



As evidenced in the pictures above: German School is in session again, in person, roaming through the rooms at Lenau Park! Our regular activities are almost like pre-Covid; we held a Christkindlmarkt, and St. Nikolaus came to visit.

Even though Covid has driven away many students and several classes are now missing, compared with just a few years ago, at least this year there are new Kindergarten students in attendance which gives us hope that the school can be rebuilt eventually. We are hoping for a bright future!

Frauengruppe

**President: Barbara
Goebel**



The "Frauengruppe" meets every 3rd Thursday of the month, except January and August.

At present we have 15 active members. The ladies enjoy getting together to catch up on the events that are planned at Lenau Park.

Members take turns bringing the refreshments. We had a nice Mother's day luncheon with members bringing a dish to share. The "Keglers" donated the Bratwurst. We presented a sketch with Heidi Tysl und Marga Schetterer entitled "Zwei Frauen im Zug ohne Worte". We all had an enjoyable day. Sadly our longtime member Marga Schetterer passed away in July, she will be missed.

We are always looking for new members.

For more information contact Barbara Goebel, Tel: 440-777-2406 or E-mail to Barbarakgoebel71@gmail.com



The kitchen of Lenau Park once again smelled of cinnamon and spices as the Frauengruppe baked for their Cookie Fundraiser. You not only need flour, butter, sugar, and spices, but also many willing hands. We are happy to see the next generation coming to learn. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.





Edelweiss Ski Club

President: Ryan Temple

The Edelweiss Ski Club has planned four trips for the early months of 2023 traveling to Cockaigne, Holiday Valley, and Peek'n Peak. If interested, please contact the group via email at ski@donauschwabencleveland.com for more information.

Blau-Weiss Tennis Clubs

President: John Szeltner

The annual fundraiser featuring the band "Revolution Pie" was held in November to great success!

Leagues will resume in the Spring with more information to come.



SCD Concordia

**President: Brookes
Swisher**

Concordia is running Youth Soccer Programs throughout the winter.

For information about the various programs go to concordiasoccerclub.com

Concordia is looking to form a U19 Boys Team for this Spring/Summer. Interested participants can email: info@concordiasoccerclub.com

Concordia - North Coast Soccer League Champions



Blaskapelle

President: Scott Saluga

The Blaskapelle had a very busy summer and fall season playing in all manner of venues. Here are some photos for your enjoyment!

Bier & Brats



Sommer Oktoberfest



Krampusfest



Seniorengruppe

President: Willie Loeffler

In August we had 42 people on a bus to the beautiful Lakeview Cemetery with a terrific tour guide explaining everything. She did a great job, very informative which we would have never known on our own. From there we ate at Guarino's Restaurant, followed by a two-hour narrated tour up the Cuyahoga River on the Goodtime III.

In September there were 16 people that went on the cruise up the northeast coast of New England with two stops in Canada. The weather was just great on our US stops in Boston, Portland and Bar Harbor. The Canadian stops were not as good weatherwise. The tours were enjoyable with the on-and-off shuttle in Boston. The Portland stop was a walking tour of Portland and then a Bus trip to Kennebunkport. We saw the Bush Estate in Maine and several other scenic sights. The Bar Harbor stop was also a walking tour of the town and then a bus tour of Acadia National Park which was free. Very picturesque.

We hope to do more of the same type of trips in the future. This trip was a nine-night cruise on the Adventure of the Seas by Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines.

Pictured below are 10 members of the Senioren Group.



Deutscher Musik Verein

**President: Christine
Fowkes**

Bier & Brats



Sommer Oktoberfest



Cleveland Labor Day Oktoberfest



German Central Oktoberfest



Akron Oktoberfest



STV Bavaria Trachtenverein

President: Jeremy Laning

*To the Members, Staff and Friends of the
Donauschwaben's German American Cultural Center
and Prost! at Lenau Park*

*Frohe Weihnachten und
ein glückliches neues Jahr*

*From the Vorstand and Members of
Schuhplattler und Trachtenverein Bavaria*



Sommer Oktoberfest



Tulsa Oktoberfest



**Wishing all our members
A Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year!**