



Donauschwaben's German American Cultural Center

Der Trommler

WINTER / SPRING 2023-2024

Contact us:

440-235-2646

Office@lenaupark.com

donaucleveland@gmail.com

Website:

donauschwabencleveland.com

Facebook:

**Donauschwaben's
German-American Cultural
Center - Cleveland
and
Prost at Lenau Park**

Upcoming Events:

**Fish Fry Fundraiser
Every Friday 4:30-7:30
through March 29th**



Message from the President, Margot Maurer

The busy days of November and December lead right into the rather uneventful days of January and February. But before you know it, March is here and Spring is around the corner. In this issue of the Trommler, readers will get to see all the wonderful stories and images from our holiday season here at Lenau Park, and updates on events happening in the near future. I encourage you to read about all the group activities from the past few months. If you feel a little left out, then be sure to join us next year!

Since it is the springtime, we are, of course, in the middle of our Lenten Fish Fry! We've been serving over 4,000 pieces of fish every Friday for 4 weeks, and will continue to host this event through Good Friday. Our doors open at 4:30 pm and we serve until 7:30 pm. You can enjoy your meal in the main hall, or order take-out dinners in our lobby. Either way, we're sure you'll enjoy the many options, such as baked/fried fish, shrimp, chicken, and assorted sides, that we offer! Finally, if you are feeling up to volunteering at this busy event, call or email the office for more information.

Our membership drive is also underway. We have sent multiple reminders to renew for 2024, so please check your cards and make sure you are current in your membership. If you have questions or concerns, email membershipdgacc@gmail.com or call the office and speak to Erika.

By the time this newsletter is printed, members will be receiving it at the Donauschwaben's German American Cultural Center's Annual Meeting of the Members. This year, it will be held on March 10th at 2:30 in the afternoon. Our members will have the opportunity to learn more about the operations at Lenau Park. We will review the status of our organization, the condition of our facility, and the state of our finances. It also gives us an opportunity to look back at the previous year and to look

Upcoming Events:

Bunny Brunch
March 17th

Jägerfest
April 6th

Schwabenball
April 13th

Bunter Nachmittag
April 14th

forward to things to come. Additionally, our various groups will have the opportunity to report on the cultural endeavors of the past year and update members about any changes and their upcoming events. Yes, I write about this every single year, but I do so because it is so important. Additionally, I would like to thank the members of the Executive Board for all their contributions over the past year. These officers include First Vice President, Ed Meister, Second Vice President Mike Welker, Finance Secretary Anita Kalkhof, Treasurer Norbert Manz, Recording Secretary Stephanie Rounds, Group Liaison Ingrid Wagner, Activities Chair Erika Rounds, Membership Chair Jacob Szeltner, and Communications Secretary Karina Gross. All the members of this board donate a great deal of personal time to Lenau Park. They attend monthly Executive Board meetings, quarterly main board meetings, and many more specialized meetings in between. They work in their spare time on projects like the membership drive, the sewer project, and planning/organizing volunteers and events such as Oktoberfest, Weihnachtsfeier, and Kirchweih. If you've ever attended an event at Lenau Park, there's a good chance that members of the board have had something to do with it and they are still there working while everyone else enjoys the event. Finally, I would like to thank the Members of the LLC Board which includes managing members Karin Nitsch, Herb Haller, John Szeltner, Heidi Szeltner, Leanne Haag, and recording secretary, Stephanie Rounds.

This year, we will be hosting the Landesverband der Donauschwaben USA Annual Meeting with representatives from every Donauschwaben club in attendance. This will take place the last weekend of April. We are in the process of sprucing up Lenau Park to put our best foot forward for this event. Our **WEDNESDAY WORKERS**, who are always so instrumental in the continued maintenance of Lenau Park, will be contributing to this effort and are asking for a **MORE VOLUNTEERS!** If you are available on Wednesday mornings, please join our dedicated crew out at Lenau. Lunch will be provided which also signals the end of the work day. We are also asking that groups clean-up their designated areas within Lenau Park, as there will be many break-out sessions throughout the building. We are welcoming our guests on Friday evening as they arrive in Cleveland by gathering in Prost! At Lenau Park, our Biergarten & Restaurant. If you have Donauschwaben friends who may be coming into town, this would be the best place to meet them and catch up on old times!

Thank you for taking time to read this message! Please make it a point to come out to Lenau Park in the near future and enjoy our groups and the various events that they sponsor, or attend one of the events sponsored by the house!

Of Special Note!

Our main hall, big lobby, and our service bar all received much needed face-lifts with fresh coats of paint! We want to give a special shout out to member Jim Poerner, painter extraordinaire, for taking on the big task of painting all the primary areas of Lenau Park. A lot of prep work was needed before painting started as our walls were starting to show signs of age, and the project took almost an entire week. He was assisted by Bob Biondich, Lucas Biondich, and Fred Krist. The project had been on the to-do list for quite some time, and scheduling a week when the hall was not in use was a little tricky, but these capable volunteers got it done! Take a look around next time you are at Lenau Park and thank the team for all their help!





Message from the Director, Marianne Buechler

We hope you are enjoying our weekly Lenten Fish Frys available from 4:30-7:30 each Friday. Volunteers are always welcome! When you volunteer, not only do you get to enjoy camaraderie and help the club, you also receive a full dinner, side, and dessert as well as two drink tickets to be used that evening.

Lenten Fish and Features Menu

(Available Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sundays during regular Prost! food service hours, February 14—March 30, 2023.)



Clam Chowder

Cup \$4 Bowl \$5 (May be substituted for soup with any regular menu Entrée for \$2.)

Shrimp and Hush Puppy Appetizer

Golden Fried Shrimp (10) and Hush Puppies (6) - enough to share! \$14

Fish Dinner

Choice of Grilled or Battered Haddock, Haus Seasoned French Fries, Haus made Cole-slaw and 3 Hush Puppies \$17

Shrimp Dinner

Fried Shrimp (12), Haus Seasoned French Fries, Haus made Coleslaw and 3 Hush Puppies \$18

Fish Sandwich

Choice of Grilled or Battered Haddock, Cheddar Cheese, Lettuce, Tomato on a Roll, Haus Seasoned French Fries, Pickle and your choice of Cajun Remoulade or Tartar Sauce \$15

Hush Puppies

(6) \$4

Prost! at Lenau Park is also offering a special Lenten menu that includes baked and battered haddock, shrimp, hush puppies and clam chowder. This menu is offered everyday that Prost! is open for food service. Check it out!

Our staff continues to look forward to seeing you when visiting Lenau Park!

News from our Groups

Kindergruppe

**Leaders: Laura Galvey
and Sabrina LeAnza**

The Kinder hosted our annual Santa Brunch on Dec 3. This was our biggest event yet with 390 guests. We included a vendor show and dance performance along with the usual raffle and visit with Santa. We participated in Weihnachtsfeier and took our winter break. Practice resumed January 29. We held a parents meeting this past Monday and are excited for 2024. We will host our annual Bunny Brunch on 3/27. Tickets are available now.



Jugendgruppe

**Leaders: Margot Maurer
and Erik Maurer**

**Join us for Schwabenball
on April 13, 2024 at
5:30 in the evening.**

**Jagerschnitzel Dinner
Jugend & Kinder
Performances
New dances will be
debuted!**

**Our New Miss and Mr.
Donauschwaben for
2024 will be crowned!**

**Our Blaskapelle will
provide music for the
evening!**

**See our ad at the end of
the newsletter!**



The Jugendgruppe has been busy on many fronts.

We hosted a dance workshop in November, sponsored by the Landesverband with Choreographers coming from Romania to teach participating groups a variety of dances. Along with Cleveland participants, we hosted guests from Cincinnati, Akron, Mansfield, Detroit, Windsor, Toronto and Kitchener. We danced for several hours on Saturday and Sunday, and had fun getting to know Jugend from other groups!



The jugend also participated in Kirchweih in November, Weihnachtsfeier in December. We continue to prepare for Schwabenball and our upcoming trip to Europe in late June / early July of 2024.

More images and information for these events appear later in the newsletter.



Kulturgruppe

President: Erika Knowles



The Kulturgruppe hosted our 10th Annual Oktoberfest Fall Festival back in October. Fun was had by all and a big thank you to the Jugendgruppe and the Akron Kulturgruppe for performing, along with the Shotski's!



The Kulturgruppe had a fun Christmas Party back in December!





The Kulturgruppe hosted Fasching ~ Karneval on February 10th. We had Mardi Gras themed food with Cajun Schnitzel, Jambalaya, Rice and Beans and Beignets. The food was great, the themed drinks good and we hope that everyone had a great time! It was nice to see a full

dance floor of people in costumes. We look forward to holding this event again next year.



Our 2024 Annual Meeting and Elections will be held Friday, March 15th at 8pm. Anyone 21 and over is welcome to join us and we would love to have you! We are looking for dancers to add to our group as well! Dance practice will not start until April. Email Dkg@donauschwabencleveland.com if you are interested.

Deutsche Sprachschule

Principal: Chantal Kloos

Das Jahr 2024 hat bereits mit viel Trubel begonnen!

Im Januar haben die älteren Schüler online an Levels 2 bis 4 des National German Exam der AATG teilgenommen; es ist dieses Jahr den meisten Schülern sehr schwer gefallen, aber fast alle haben sich Urkunden verdient, Gold, Silber, Bronze, und Leistungsurkunden. Gut gemacht, Kinder! Dann im Februar hat die Deutsche Schule in mehreren Klassen-Partys Karneval gefeiert. Kinder und auch viele Erwachsene trugen witzige Kostüme, wie man hier sieht:



Dann wurde gespielt, getanzt, ein Kasperletheater angeschaut, eine Karnevalssitzung vom Vorjahr angeschaut und, besonders in den Erwachsenenklassen, viel über dieses in Deutschland sehr beliebte Fest gesprochen.





Für die älteren Schüler hat nach Karneval der Ernst des Lebens wieder begonnen; sie bereiten sich jetzt auf Prüfungen am Schuljahresende vor.

Wir haben auch über den tollen Erfolg eines ehemaligen Schülers zu berichten, der in seinem ersten Jahr an der Uni weiter Deutsch als Zweitfach studiert und dort auch als Tutor für Deutsch arbeitet: er wurde ausgewählt, demnächst vier Wochen an der Universität Bonn zu verbringen. Herzlichen Glückwunsch, Liam! Mach weiter so!

Hier sind unsere Neuigkeiten nochmal auf Englisch für all diejenigen, die nicht viel Zeit für die deutsche Sprache haben und hatten:

2024 began with a lot of activity - as usual.

In January, the older students participated in levels 2-4 of the online National German Exam (by AATG). It was a hard exam this year, for our students as well as for those who are still lucky enough to have German classes offered at their highschools, but most of our own kids earned medals and certificates in gold, silver, bronze, and achievement. Of course we are very proud of them!

In February, we celebrated Karneval in a series of classroom parties. For one evening, students young and old showed up in funny costumes to play, dance, enjoy time with the beloved puppet Kasperle, and mostly in the adult classes they also watched parts of a German Karneval event from last year and discussed this very important German holiday.

Then things turned to hard work again for the older kids who are now preparing for their year end exams.

We also have to report about a big success for one of our recent alums who is now a college freshman at John Carroll with German as his minor: he was just awarded a scholarship to spend four weeks at the University of Bonn! Congratulations, Liam! Keep up the good work!

Frauengruppe

**President: Barbara
Goebel**

Frauengruppe 2.0 is a “new” undertaking for the next generation of Frauen. Our original Frauen meet on the third Thursday of the month at 1pm, and the 2.0 version is made up of women who are still in the workforce and therefore meet on the same day, just in the evening at 7pm. We wish to continue the traditions established by the original Frauengruppe and keep contributing to Lenau Park. Join us!



Cookie Baking 2023 was a great success! Frauen of many generations participated in this wonderful event. The cookie sales benefit the group and the club! It really is the most delicious activity at Lenau Park!



Edelweiss Ski Club

President: Ryan Temple



After a sold out event with Blau-Weiss for Disco Inferno - and so much fun - we kicked off winter with our Christmas party in December. The January weather held so much promise for our skiers and boarders with cold temps and early snow at Holiday Valley, but it was not to last, and we had to cancel 2 club trips to Peek 'n Peak before wrapping up with a final trip to Holiday Valley in late February. Used to making the best with little help from Mother Nature, we still enjoyed time with friends and family. Members also planned and enjoyed smaller group trips within Ohio and out west. Maybe we'll get more snowflakes next year!

Blau-Weiss Tennis Clubs

President: John Szeltner



DISCO INFERNO: The Blau-Weiss Tennis Group and Edelweiss Ski Club held a fundraiser in November of 2023 that featured the band *Disco Inferno*. A wonderful time was had by everyone and the dance floor was full until the very end of the evening. Our guests asked for a repeat performance, so *Disco Inferno* will be back this coming November 16th. Watch the website for details as they become available. Tickets will be limited and go quickly, so do not hesitate to order once they are released.



The **Blau-Weiss Tennis Group** will start planning for the 2024 Summer season in April. We offer both Men's and Women's leagues along with a Mixed Doubles league. **Never Played Tennis**, but would like to learn. We had a successful **adult lessons** group that met on Saturday mornings last year and will most likely offer those lessons once again.

Women's Leagues play on Monday and Thursday mornings.

Men's Leagues play on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings.

The **Mixed Doubles League** meets on Friday evenings.

Open play is available during weekday mornings and afternoons along with weekends.

There is a yearly membership fee for anyone that uses the tennis courts and it includes an invitation to any picnics, parties, or events at which the Blau-Weiss Tennis Group is involved. Reach out to John Szeltner at tennis@donauschwabencleveland.com or 440-734-3676 if interested in joining or obtaining more information.

PICKLEBALL: We are considering offering **members** the option of playing this fast growing sport at specific times this summer. Planning will be discussed at our Annual Meeting in April. Reach out to John Szeltner for more information.

Blaskapelle

President: Scott Saluga



The Blaskapelle had a marvelous fest season. Our KrampusFest 2023 on December 2nd was a wonderful event. Krampus of Cleveland and the Chardon Polka Band continue to work with us to make it an annual event that they love doing. The crowd was fully engaged and most stayed until the end, even after the raffles. We are already coming with ideas to make it an even better event. We are in the process of finalizing the schedule for fest season and will post it as soon as it is ready.



The Blaskapelle took off January for much needed rest and we started back to rehearsals on February 1st. We are always looking for more performers to add to our group. We still are looking for trumpets, flugelhorns and baritones, but we accept other instruments as well. The Blaskapelle holds rehearsal most Thursday nights from 7:00pm-8:30pm in the main hall.

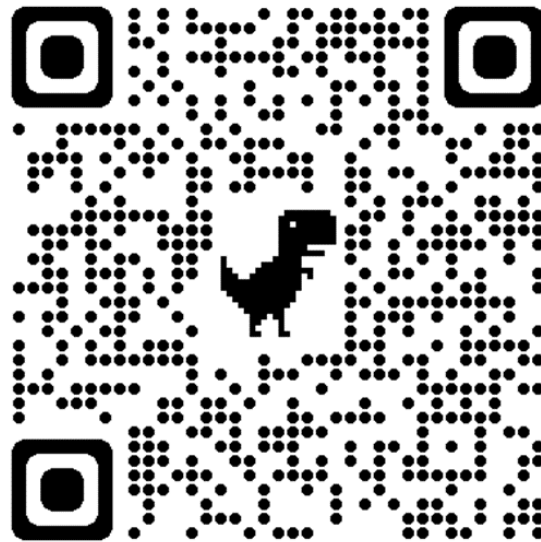
Officers: President: Scott J. Saluga, Vice President: James Lenahan, Treasurer: Robert Elshaw, Secretary: James Boyer, Delegates: John Yatson, Roger Radke, Musical Director: Julie Williams





Membership

**Membership Chair:
Jacob Szeltner**



If you know a family member or friend who would like to become a Social Member, please scan our new Membership QR code. Enter your information and payment all in one.



**Donauschwaben's
German American
Cultural Center
Membership 2023**

YOUR NAME HERE!

Kirchweihfest



Silver Pin Award Recipients



Gold Pin Award Recipients



Weihnachtsfeier



Upcoming Events

“FRY DAY”

FISH FRY

FUNDRAISER

FRIDAYS 4:30-7:30PM
FAMILY FRIENDLY
FEBRUARY 16
MARCH 29

DINE IN OR CARRY OUT
BAKED OR FRIED FISH,
FRIED SHRIMP &
CHICKEN TENDER
DINNERS W/SIDES
FRIES OR BAKED POTATOES,
COLE SLAW OR APPLESAUCE

A LA CART ITEMS:
MINI POTATO PANCAKES,
MAC & CHEESE, PIEROGIS,
VARIETY OF DESSERTS

PUBLIC BAR
FOREIGN/DOMESTIC BEER,
WINE AND LIQUOR

DONAUSCHWABEN'S GERMAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER
7370 COLUMBIA ROAD, OLMS TED TOWNSHIP, OH 44138
440-235-2646 WWW.DONAUSCHAWABENCLEVELAND.COM



Donauschwaben's
German-American Cultural Center
Lenau Park - 7370 Columbia Rd, Olmsted Falls OH 44138

Annual Lenten Friday Fish Fry Fundraiser

February 16 and 23, March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29, 2024 4:30pm to 7:30pm
In Haus Cafeteria-Style Dining (Main Hall) OR Carry Out (Lobby)

	<u>Adult</u>	<u>Child</u>
Baked Fish Dinner	\$16.00	\$10.00
Fried Fish Dinner	\$15.00	\$9.00
Golden Shrimp Dinner	\$15.00	\$9.00
Combo: Baked Fish & Shrimp Dinner	\$15.50	NA
Combo: Fried Fish & Shrimp Dinner	\$15.00	NA
Combo: Baked Fish & Fried Fish Dinner	\$15.50	NA
Chicken Tenders Dinner	\$15.00	\$9.00

All Dinners include (No Substitutions):

- Choice of Baked Potato or French Fries
- Choice of Cole Slaw or Applesauce and Bread/Butter

Family Pack – Carry Out Only (No Substitutions) \$85.00

Includes 3 Fried Fish, 3 Baked Fish, 24 Fried Shrimp, 3 Baked Potatoes, French Fries, 12 oz
Coleslaw, 12 oz Applesauce, Bread & Butter AND a Quart of Mac & Cheese!

À la carte items:

\$5.50 Fried Fish (1pc)	\$4.00 Baked Potato
\$6.00 Baked Fish (1pc)	\$4.00 French Fries
\$5.50 Shrimp (6pcs)	\$2.00 Applesauce
\$5.50 Chicken Tenders (2pcs)	\$3.00 Cole Slaw
\$4.00 Potato Pancakes (6+applesauce)	\$.50 Sour Cream Packet
\$4.00 Pierogi w/Onion (4pcs)	\$3.00 Traditional Streusel Cake
\$5.00 Mac & Cheese	\$5-6 Variety of Cakes & Tortes

Check out our *Prost!* at Lenau Park Souvenirs and Handmade Gifts in the Lobby!

Full Bar Available!

Please Note: Prost! at Lenau Park Gift Certificates are not redeemable at our Fish Fry Fundraiser.
Carry Out orders will be processed entirely in the Lobby. Dine In food service will be
cafeteria style and will take place in the Main Hall.





THE KINDERGRUPE PRESENTS

BUNNY BRUNCH & EGG HUNT

March 17, 2024 | 10am-12pm

DONAUSCHWABEN'S GERMAN-AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER
7370 COLUMBIA ROAD OLMSTED FALLS, OH 44138

ADULTS (13+): \$20 ♦ CHILDREN 2-12 \$15
UNDER 2 FREE (DOES NOT INCLUDE A MEAL)

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED BY 3/10. ALL SALES FINAL.
FOR TICKETS GO TO:

DONAUSCHWABENCLEVELAND.COM - UNDER CALENDAR
ASSIGNED SEATING. FOR SEATING REQUESTS AND INFO
CONTACT US AT KINDER@DONAUSCHWABENCLEVELAND.COM OR 216.548.6952

BRUNCH BUFFET
10AM - 11:30AM

Chicken Tenders,
Green Eggs & Ham,
Tator Tots, Donuts
Vegetable Medley,
Fruit salad, Coffee,
Juices, Tea

Egg Hunt
11:30am (12 & Under)

Outdoors
weather
permitting.

Take photos with
the Easter Bunny
Children's Crafts
Raffle Baskets
Specialty Drinks



Donauschwaben Seniorengruppe



Calling All Seniors! Come join us for our monthly luncheon on: **Thurs. April 4, 2024**



Reservations are **REQUIRED** by the Monday evening prior to the meeting.
Call Theresa Pfaff at **440-779-8522** or Willie Loeffler at **440-984-9082**

The buffet luncheon, served at 1:00 p.m., will include:
Pork Schnitzel, Spätzle, Blaukraut, and Dessert ... \$20 per person

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND....Entertainment will be provided by the "Keck/Pfaff Duo"



Reinhard Keck joined the Jugendgruppe in 1963 where he played accordion for the dancers. He also met his future wife Maria Mireiter, and many other lifelong friends. After retirement Reinhard and Maria joined the Seniorengruppe and soon after Reinhard ran for president. Maria also served on the board. Reinhard still loves to play the accordion as a hobby, and has occasionally played for the Senioren.



Andy Pfaff joined the Jugendgruppe in 1972 and played guitar with the accordionist for the dance group, including a couple shows on Polka Varieties. In 1986 Andy played onstage with Max Weinberg, the drummer for Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band. Now in the Seniorengruppe Andy enjoys playing classical, rock, and polka music.



REMINDER . . . Bring your dancing shoes ...

50/50 Fundraiser Raffle: 3 Prizes

50% of Gross Proceeds for the DS Seniorengruppe

The remaining 50% of Gross Proceeds will be split into 3 Prizes: 1st ticket drawn will receive a 25% Prize
2nd ticket drawn will receive a 25% Prize
3rd ticket drawn will receive the 50% Grand Prize



Alt macht nicht die Zahl der Jahre
Alt macht nicht die grauen Haare
Alt ist wer den Mut verliert
Und sich für nichts mer interessiert.

Growing old is mandatory, but growing up is optional!

We do not stop playing because we grow old,
we grow old because we stop playing!

**Years may wrinkle the skin,
but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul.**

We don't grow older, we grow riper!

Contact us at:

Senioren@donauschwabencleveland.com

Donauschwaben German-American Cultural Center
Lenau Park

7370 Columbia Road
Olmsted Township, Ohio 44138
440-235-2646

donaucleveland@gmail.com
donauschwabencleveland.com



The Cleveland Donauschwaben and the
Donauschwäbische Jugendgruppe
cordially invite all to attend

Schwabenball

on the 13th of April, 2024 at the
Donauschwaben's German-American Cultural Center

The Jugendgruppe will present a program and our newly selected
Miss Donauschwaben & Mr. Donauschwaben 2024 will be crowned

Entertainment will be provided by our Donauschwäbische Blaskapelle
with a special appearance by our Kindergruppe dancers

Dinner will be served from 5:30 until 7:00 p.m.

Dinner options include:

Jagerschnitzel with Garlic Mashed Potatoes or
Vegetarian Teriyaki Stir Fry.

All meals include green beans, salad, rolls, and dessert.

Gluten free available upon request. Adult or child portions are available.

Please specify your dinner option when making your reservation.

All dinner tickets are \$30. on or before April 7th, and are
\$32. as of April 8th. All Jugend and children tickets are \$15.

Reservations: Erika Rounds at 440-934-0283 or roundserika@gmail.com
or online at: www.donauschwabencleveland.com/calendar

Please save the date for this special evening. We hope to see you there!

Bunter Nachmittag

presented by
S.T.V. Bavaria

Sunday, April 14, 2024

2:30 p.m.

Donauschwaben German-American Cultural Center
7370 Columbia Road, Olmsted Township, OH 44138

Join us

for an afternoon of German and Austrian
folk songs, music, and comedy!

We'll have traditional Hausmusik, comedy sketches, and performances
by the S.T.V. Bavaria Sängergruppe & Schuhplattlers.

Coffee and homemade baked goods will be served and are included in your ticket price.

Tickets: Adults: \$15.00 - Children: \$8.00



For Tickets:

Text or Call: Anita Fjeldstad: 440-315-4566
or Monica Sako: 216-440-2179

www.stvbavaria.org

Ohio Arts
COUNCIL

