

The Bavarian Schuhplattlers of Edmonton



Wishing you
all the best
in 2003
from our families
to yours.



*The
Bavarian
Schuhplattlers*

2002
The Year
in Review

The Plattler Report

by Frank Friesacher

We welcome all friends and past members of the **Bavarian Schuhplattlers of Edmonton** to our seventh annual newsletter, reporting on the group's activities during 2002!

People

2002 was **Bernd Kallenbach's** second year as President, as well as his second year running the **Alpenspatzen** children's dance group.

Our probationary member

The Bavarian Schuhplattlers of Edmonton have been in existence since 1971. Our organization preserves the German tradition of folk-dancing and also provides an atmosphere of fun and Gemütlichkeit for its members.

from last year, Ole Berger, has since become a full-fledged member, and also has greatly enhanced our web site by taking it over!

We are pleased to have our longtime member **Marion Fritz** returning to active duty with the group.



FORMER PLATTLER
CELEBRATES 25 YEARS
STORE IN CALMAR



Rudi and Rosemarie Seneka, longtime members of the Bavarian Schuhplattlers of Edmonton, celebrated 25 years of their drug store in Calmar in June. The group was there to perform at the Calmar fair in celebration, and the Senekas hosted us for a steak on the BBQ afterwards. We even got Rudi to slap his thighs for an impromptu performance!

Our accordion player **Joe Niederleitner**, despite his work out of town, continues to come as often as he can, and has supported us through the busy Oktoberfest season.

Two of the young girls from the Alpenspatzen kids' group, **Francesca Fritz** and **Melissa Wagner**, have moved from that group to practice with the adults.

James Konkin has decided to take his leave this year, but continues to host

our website and manage the new "members-only" section which we use to inform members of upcoming performances and activities. **George Lauf** and **Marta Laube** remain on leave as well, she finishing her studies and he dedicating time to work and family.



Oktoberfest 2002



The Bavarian Schuhplattlers
present...

Heimatabend 2003



at the German-Canadian
Cultural Centre
Saturday, April 12, 2003
for tickets call Ronny & Marion Fritz
at 438-5425

**The GOOD, the BAD,
and the PLATTLER**



Verein Enzian at the first **Western Canada Schuhplattler Workshop & Dance** this March!

Finally, **Heimatabend 2003** is scheduled for April 12, 2003... what more can I say?

We hope you enjoyed the 2002 report of the Bavarian Schuhplattlers of Edmonton. Let us know how you are, and don't be strangers!

Happy plattling!

Website: schuhplattler.edmonton.ab.ca
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Edmonton AB T6E 6E3

Treu dem guten alten Brauch

trip, and a return trip to one of our favourite Oktoberfests, Usona.

Alpenspatzen

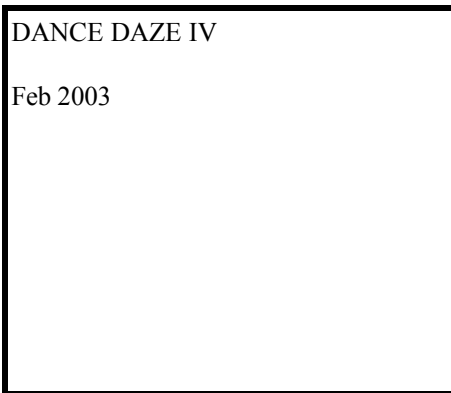
The children's group *Alpenspatzen* continue to thrive. Beyond performing at this year's Heimatabend and German Club Oktoberfests, the kids have also done a couple of shows on their own, including a wedding in June and a nursing home. As well, the kids dance at our regular Dance Daze family events at the German club, held last February, May



and September, with the fourth event scheduled for this coming February 22, 2003. See our ad in this

newsletter, and we look forward to seeing you there!

Other Stuff



Gaufest 2003: Yes, our group has decided to head off to the biannual North American Gaufest again this coming year, this time in Philadelphia! We can expect upwards of 80 Schuhplattler groups from Canada and the US to be represented, and we are all excited to be participating.

On a smaller scale, but just as exciting, we and the the AVC Vancouver group, and perhaps other groups, will be hosted in Calgary this year by the Schuhplattler



Ronny and Eric in midair

Our present membership of sixteen (16) is as follows: **Ole Berger** (webmaster), **Kathryn Calder, Robert & Lisa Friedl** (Lisa is VP public relations, and Robert is equipment manager), **Frank & Loretta Friesacher** (Frank is secretary and Loretta is *Vormädel*), **Ronny & Marion Fritz** (Ronny is treasurer, and Marion is *Trachtenmutter*), **Bernd** (the "Prez") **Kallenbach, Sylvia Kiel** (VP membership & *Heimatabend* director),

Joe Niederleitner (accordionist), **Brandi Pagee** (music director), **Marvin Schaaf, Charlene Schmidt, Eric Seneka** (*Vorplattler*) and **Sylvia Unterieser**.

Our Events

Our Heimatabend 2002, "The Sound of Plattling", was our tribute to (or parody of) the Rogers & Hammerstein musical "The Sound of Music". The story? A happy wandering Schuhplattler finds himself in Kleinville, where the late mayor's mourning widow

has declared that there be no singing or dancing in the village. After some trouble with the authorities, the plattler succeeds in getting the widow to change her mind, and soon the village celebrates with (what else?) some traditional folkdancing. Highlights include the Alpenspatzen children, and the "Lonely Goatherd" puppet show.



Lloydminster Oktoberfest

[As an aside, we received an email from the Bavarian town of Plattling, wondering what the title of our event had to do with their village!!]

We also held our first ever "Brettljausen" in May, as a way for our members to chat, munch and drink after our hard work at the *Heimatabend!* As well, our annual picnic was back at Rainer & Anne Hartl's Alpine Farm, always a treat!



BLOOMERS... our girls like to show them off...

Always experimenting with new ideas, the group also held a *Heurigen*-style evening called "An Evening in Grinzing", in November, in the German club Rathkeller. We were pleased to have three accordion players and an excellent "Hans Moser" impersonation by Eugene Eggers, in addition to some funny skits, an excellent meal, and some finely-chosen wines.

Other Events

Wow, what a year! Activities this year included the Dutch Club Variety show in March, the GCCA Open House event in April, the GCAA German Days and a Rotary Club event in June, the Calmar fair on June 15 (**see page 2**), the Vegreville Pysanka Easter Egg Festival in July, the FIFA International Under-19 Women's Soccer Championship Opening Ceremonies in August, the GCBPAA Saxony Flood Relief Fundraising Event in September, and to round



No, it's not one of our girls... it's Ole having fun at an event!

up the year, the U of A AIESEC multicultural event in December. Not to forget our belles on the cow bells (**Glockenspiel**), the girls performed at the Ukrainian Men's Choir Christmas Concert as well as the GCCA German club Adventskonzert.

Our Oktoberfest season shows included four nights at the GCCA German club in Edmonton, the Harry Ainley high school, the ever-popular Lloydminster

**Practices:
Thursdays
@ 7:30 pm**