



SCHWABEN KLUB

# nachrichten

For the Kitchener Schwaben Club & Community

[www.kitchenerschwabenclub.com](http://www.kitchenerschwabenclub.com)

Januar 2014

## WICHTIGE DATEN 2014

January 11  
Kameradschaftsabend: Concordia Club  
January 18  
Miss Schwaben Schwaben Hall  
February 2  
Filmnachmittag: Die besten Schlager  
des Jahrtausends  
February 8  
4th Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser  
February 14  
Las Vegas Dream Team Tribute Concert  
February 22  
Gründungsfest  
March 2  
Filmnachmittag: Anna und der Prinz  
March 22  
Schlachtfest  
April 5  
Landestrachtenfest Kitchener  
April 11  
German Spring Show  
May 4  
Mother's Day Luncheon  
June 22  
Picnic  
September 13  
Kirchweihfest  
October 10-18  
Oktoberfest  
November 22  
Frauengründungsfest  
December 7  
Christmas Luncheon  
December 31  
New Year's Eve Ball

The Schwaben Club of Kitchener presents the

# Miss Schwaben Ball 2014

Saturday, January 18, 2014

with the *Golden Keys*

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Full Canadian Dinner  
Special Dance Performances  
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Doors open - 4:00pm  
Dinner - 5:00pm

Schwaben Club  
1668 King Street E  
Kitchener, Ontario  
519-742-7979

## IMPRESSUM

Für die Inhalte der aktuellen Druckausgabe:

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## President's Report

Willkommen im neuen Jahr mit der ersten Ausgabe der *Nachrichten*.

Ich moechte hiermit die Gelegenheit nehmen, meinen herzlichsten Dank an die ausscheidenden Vorstandsmitglieder Peter Speckner, Brandy Gellner, und Joe Adam fuer ihre geleisteten Dienste im Namen des Klubvorstandes auszusprechen. Anfang Januar debuetieren einige neue Vorstandsmitglieder und zwar Sheri Thompson als Kulturreferentin, Stefan Orsan als Archivar, sowie Philip Neidert als erster Kassierer (Schatzmeister). Alle neue Vorstandsmitglieder sind im Klubleben wohlbekannt und ich freue mich auf eine gute Zusammenarbeit im Neuen Jahr.

Ich moechte allen Freunden und Mitgliedern einen guten Rutsch ins Neue Jahr wuenschen, und hoffe, viele von Ihnen bei dem Sylvester-Galaabend begruessen zu duerfen. Ich bin mir sicher, der Abend wird ein voller Erfolg sein, da schon viel an Planung und Arbeit fuer den Abend geleistet worden ist.

Am 11. Januar wird der alljaehrliche Kameradschaftsabend im Concordida Club veranstaltet, ein Fest, wo Mitglieder der verschiedenen deutschen Vereine sowie anderer deutschen Organisationen der Region Waterloo einmal im Jahr zusammenkommen, um die deutsche Kultur zu hegen und pflegen. Die Golden Keys werden fuer lebhaftere Unterhaltung sorgen. Hoffentlich sehen wir uns an diesem tollen Abend.

Das kommende Jahr hat viele Veranstaltungen und ich moechte unseren Mitgliedern daran erinnern. Ohne Ihre Unterstuetzung koennen wir das Klubleben nicht weiterfuehren. Eine Vorschau fuer alle Klubveranstaltungen findet man in jeder Ausgabe der Nachrichten, sowie im Klubbuerer.

In 2014 haben wir uns entschieden, Monatsversammlungen vierteljaehrlich zu halten. Die erste Versammlung findet im Maerz statt. Mit dieser Aenderung hoffen wir auf eine bessere Teilnahme seitens der Frauen. In den Monaten ohne Versammlungen wollen wir einen Abend einfuehren, wo Mitglieder Karten spielen koennen, oder vielleicht auch nur plaudern (Gesellschaftsabend). Wir koennten auch Musiker oder Gastsprecher einladen.

Anlaesslich derer 78. Gruendungsfest moechte ich der Frauengruppe gratulieren. Wir freuen uns auf die Weiterbestehung dieser aktiven Gruppe und danken den Frauen fuer ihre Arbeit und Klubunterstuetzung.

Ich freue mich auch auf mein viertes Jahr als Praesident und auf eine gute Zusammenarbeit mit dem neuen Vorstand. Ich werde mich weiterhin einsetzen, den Klub als Kulturstaeette zu halten, unsere Jugend zu motivieren, sowie Kameradschaft unter den Mitgliedern zu gewahrleisten.

Ich und meine Familie wuenschen unseren Mitgliedern alles erdenklich Gute im Neuen Jahr!

## President's Report

*Welcome to the first Nachrichten newsletter of 2014.*

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a heartfelt thank you to our outgoing board members Peter Speckner, Brandy Gellner and Joe Adam for all their contributions to the Board and the Club. We have a few new board members that will be joining us officially as of January this year. We have Sheri Thompson coming on as the new cultural director, Stephan Orson as archivist and Philip Neidert as financial secretary. These individuals are faces that are not new but have been around for some time. I welcome the new board member's to the board.

I would like to say Happy New Year to all our members and friends. I hope many of you were with us at our 2013 New Year's Eve event. I am certain that the event will have been a great success. There has been much planning and work already completed by the Board as I write this before the event.

This year, on January 11th, the Concordia Club will be hosting Kamardschaftsabend, an event which brings all the regional German clubs and organizations together to celebrate the German culture in the K-W Region. The Golden Keys will provide live entertainment for the event. We hope to see many of you coming out and enjoying the evening.

The coming year will be filled with many more events and I hope I can rely on our members to continue to provide their support. The events are always posted in the newsletter and at the Club on the events calendar just outside the office.

This year our membership meetings will only be held quarterly with our first meeting scheduled in March. With the change to quarterly meetings we hope to have more ladies attend. We are also hoping that the dropped monthly meetings will be replaced with other events such as a card or game evening, or an opportunity to have a guest speaker or musician.

I also want to extend my congratulations to our ladies' Frauengruppe, who, in 2013, celebrated their 78th anniversary. I look forward to providing my support to these dedicated ladies and wish them many more years of future success.

I am excited about my fourth year as your president and to be working once again with the club's board of directors. I will work hard to ensure the Schwaben Club continues to be a place to celebrate our culture, celebrate our youth, and provide a sense of fellowship to our members.

To all our members, my family, and I wish you a very healthy and happy 2014.

**George Kraehling**  
President

## Manager's Report "What's Going On"

Welcome to the year 2014. I hope it is a wonderful year for everyone and I also hope it's a great year for the Schwaben Club. Our first event of the year will be Miss Schwaben with a Canadian theme on January 18th.

Then we have a very special Valentines event that I am really excited about. On Friday February 14th we host a Valentines Dinner and Show featuring the "LAS VEGAS DREAM TEAM". This show will include tributes to DEAN MARTIN, FRANK SINATRA, TOM JONES, FRANK VALLI, NEIL DIAMOND, and ELVIS. If you are planning on taking your Valentine out for dinner this year, this will be the place to be...get your table and tickets early as this will be a popular dinner and show. Don't miss this one, it will be fabulous....

It looks like we could be in for an exciting year here at the Schwaben Club. Enjoy.....

Drive Safe and Keep Warm and may your lights stay on.

**Don Egle**  
Manager

## Frauengruppe

Happy New Year to everyone!

We had a lovely evening Dec 18, of food and songs, bingo and socializing with a good number of our members. I hope everyone had an enjoyable time over Christmas.

With the changes to the Member's meetings there will be some changes to ours also.

**January our meeting will be January 8**

## Geburtstage Für Februar

*Allen Mitgliedern des Kitchener Schwabenklubs, die im Monat Februar Geburtstag feiern.*

*Herzlichen Glückwunsch und das Beste im neuen Lebensjahr.*

Name	Geburtstag
Kalau, Johanna	02
Gruber, Frank	02
Marzinko, Ruth Anne	02
Klenk, Michael	03
Speckner, Siegfried	03
Orum, Sven	04
Frank, Nicholas	05
Kraehling, Anneliese	05
Kauck, Ingrid	09
Heitmann, Michael	09
Hennessey, Owen	09
Frey, Julianne	10
Bruckhardt, Matt	11
Petsch, Katharina	16
Groh, Elisabeth	17
O'Reilly, Peter	17
Adam, Joan	17
Kraehling, Katharina	18
Grau, Christopher	23
Gellner, Rosemarie	24
Bowman, Laura	25
Putschli, John	28
Haas, Heidi	28
Beckett, Tim	29
O'Reilly, Elisabeth	29

## Mein Schienbein hilft mir im Dunkeln Möbel zu finden.

**at 7 PM. In February it will be February 5<sup>th</sup> and in March since the Club meeting is the first Wednesday, then our meeting will be March 12, so there will be just one meeting in March also.** Then we will look at whether we stay with one meeting.

Susan Cook  
President, Frauengruppe

# FILMNACHMITTAG ECKE

## FEBRUARY FILM February 2, 2014



Part 1

## MARCH FILM March 2, 2014



## Kindergruppe/Jugendgruppe

Wow! The Christmas season has come and gone so fast. Many families started with our annual Christmas Luncheon. All the dance groups came together and put on a spectacular skit reminding us of the of the true meaning of the holidays. The children enjoyed many crafts and activities, and of course a special visit from Santa! I hope that everyone had a happy holiday with family and friends.

The dancers have had some well needed time off and now are in full speed ahead as they prepare their new dances for the Miss Schwaben event.

Keep the date of February 8th open for the Annual Spaghetti Dinner! There will be a Silent Auction, great food, and of course our own dancers will be entertaining. Tickets are on sale now in the office. Don't be disappointed! Get them early before they're gone.

Our dancers are looking forward to a great 2014. I wish you all a very Happy New Year to come.

**Kathy Beckett**

Kindergruppe/Jugendgruppe President

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## Donau Dancers Dancing Into A New Year

It's not so much what's under the Christmas tree – but who is around it! Donau Dancers hope everyone was with loved ones –family and friends we are grateful to share our life with- during the Christmas season. By the time you read this newsletter - a new year will have begun- 2014! We wish everyone a Happy New Year and many blessings, joy, good health, and great dancing in the year ahead. May your dreams come true.

### ***Das Neue Jahr bringt Glück ins Haus***

***Das Neue Jahr bringt Glück ins Haus,  
und schenkt dir alles, was du brauchst.***

***Du musst auch etwas tun fürwahr,***

***Kraft und Liebe wünsch ich für das neue Jahr.***

*(© Monika Minder)*

We said good-bye to one of our group's strongest supporters and our videographer in December. Tony Sertic –father of our dance teacher – Monica Anstett-and Opi, Opa, father/ brother-in-law- , uncle, neighbour, “Mitglied (member)”, and friend who passed-away before Christmas. He will be treasured, remembered and loved for

a long time. We are grateful for his humour, attention, insight, ideas, care, and his sharing of the Schwaben history. He will not be forgotten! He is dearly missed.

As the New Year begins – we also remember and reflect on the love of those members, family and friends who have passed and are with us in spirit! You are missed in our circle.

The Donau Dancers take a moment to say “Herzlichen Dank-(Heartfelt thanks)-to all members of the Schwaben Club Board of Directors and all members who volunteered their energy, time, creative leadership, ideas, and helping hands to contribute to making the past year a successful club where memories are shared and our “Schwowa” culture is encouraged , cherished, celebrated and maintained. As a new year of club activities begin –it is a wonderful time to say thank you- (“Danke Schoehn”) to all you meet over the next months for all the volunteer and paid hours and help given to make our club strong over the past years.

Many activities can be found on our or other Schwaben Club internet sites, as well as on YouTube and Facebook. Landestreffen, Kierweih, Die Eisenbahnner, the Esslingen-Singen Trachtengruppe, Donauschwaben club events, dancegroup performances, music, pictures and videos are available. There are excellent documentaries in English explaining events of the past. The internet allows us to link with other Schwobs around the world quickly.

At our club we all have an opportunity to share our unique culture and create a new future, treasuring friendships and making new connections. If you wish to join the group –please contact us. The Donau Dancers look forward to 2014!

***Anneliese Kraehling***

*Donau Dancers*



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## Members' Meeting Dates 2014

**March 5                      7pm**

**June 11                      7pm**

**September 10            7pm**

**December 10            7pm**

**NOTICE:** With fewer Members' meetings, members will now have to go to the office to buy their tickets for events.

## 2014 Membership

Membership renewals are now due and can be paid at the Club office Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm.

**NOTE:** Due to the new Quarterly Members' meetings, starting March 5, 2014, membership payments will have to be paid at the Club Office during office hours.

Late fees of \$5.00 will apply after March 31st, 2014.

Membership prices remain the same for 2014.

**Family - \$75**

**Single - \$ 45**

**Seniors \$37.50**

**Student -\$22.50**

Also for Sick Benefit members who are not exempt, your annual \$12.00 fee is also new due.

Our Club has the lowest club membership rates! So encourage your friends and family members to join our club where there is a lot to look forward to this year!

Thank you to those who have paid your membership early.

**Heidi Peller-Oliver**

*Membership Secretary & Sick/Death Fund Benefits Finance Secretary*

## Liebe Freunde aus Amerika und Kanada,

wir danken euch für die große Freundschaft, die ihr uns während unserer Tournee im August und September 2013 entgegen gebracht habt.

Es hat uns sehr gefreut, dass wir bei euch Gäste sein durften.

Wir wünschen euch ein gesegnetes Weihnachtsfest und ein gutes Jahr 2014!

God bless you and your families!

**Herbert Koenig, Peter Koenig and Daniel Koenig; Eisenbahner-Musikverein Freiburg**

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# Kameradschaftsabend

Saturday,  
January 11,  
2014

presented by the  
Concordia Club

Cost: \$30

Music by:

Concordia Club

429 Ottawa St S

Doors Open: 6:00 pm *Golden Keys* Kitchener ON N2M 3P6

Dinner: 7:00 pm

(519) 746-5617

**A SPECIAL VALENTINES EVENING**

FEATURING:

**“THE LAS VEGAS DREAM TEAM”**

**STARRING TRIBUTES TO DEAN MARTIN**

**FRANK SINATRA**

**TOM JONES**

**FRANKIE VALLI**

**NEIL DIAMOND**

**ELVIS**



## SCHWABEN CLUB

1668 KING STREET EAST, KITCHENER, ON

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 14/2014

DINNER AT 7:00PM - SHOW AT 8:30PM

TICKET \$45 PER PERSON DINNER AND SHOW

\$25 SHOW ONLY



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# Christmas Luncheon



Im eisigen Winter geht ein Mann in ein Kleidungsgeschäft und spricht zur Verkäuferin: "Ich hätte gerne Unterhosen." Darauf fragt die Verkäuferin: "Lange?" Antwortet der Mann: "Ich will sie kaufen und nicht mieten!"



## Frauengruppe Christmas Party



## Merry Christmas to All!

It's that time of year again – to gather with friends and family and celebrate the season that is Weihnachten (Christmas). It's a time of good cheer, great food, and smiles on everyone's faces. It is not something that should ever be missed, but in case you did, here is what happened.

The afternoon started as it always did, with people arriving, saying hello, and finding their seats. The spirit of the season was everywhere. Miss Schwaben Ericha Schiketantz came up and said Grace, and lunch began. After the standard buns and butter, came the Caesar salad. The main course was next, and it was wonderful. Roasted Chicken Thighs, Ham, scalloped potatoes, and mixed vegetables. A wonderful Christmas meal. Dessert was the always popular Apple Strudel. All in all, it was a delicious and very filling meal. We were off to a great start.

Our Club President George Kraehling came up, and gave his Christmas wishes to everyone in a poignant speech. He was joined by Vice-President Kirk Hanke, and together they handed out the

Christmas bonuses to our club's employees. They are the ones that work behind the scenes to the Club going, so they were all well deserved.

Next came the entertainment, provided by a variety of groups and members from within the Club. The Kindergruppe came out first and danced a cute number, with the kiddies wearing antlers and red and green outfits. Adorable as always. The next presentation was a massive play put on by all the dance groups together. First, there was some of the story; about a young man that helps Santa Claus because he's broken his leg right before Christmas. The Jugendgruppe came out and performed one of their classic dances, but this time, to a Christmas dance song. It was stupendous! The story continued, with Santa and his assistant making presents with the elves, and getting the reindeer ready. Then the Schwaben Dancers performed their "Christmas Flinker" – a modern tradition now, with candy cane flying through the air. The play ended with everyone celebrating the special occasion with the birth of Christ – the reason for the season. It was great to see all the groups come together,



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and it was very enjoyable.

One of members, Catherine Thompson, came up and read a touching poem about a mother writing a special Christmas letter to Santa Claus. It was funny, moving, and made everyone smile by the end. After that, came our renowned Schwaben Sänger. With some new, younger members in the group, they sang a selection of Christmas carols, ending with the beautiful "Stille Nacht". With the lights turned down low, and the children sitting in front, it was a beautiful sight.

Overall, it was a lovely mix of dancing, singing, and poetry. There as a little bit for everyone. But that wasn't the end. Oh no! Just when you thought it was over, there was a special visit by everyone's favourite jolly person. Santa Claus! He was pushed into the hall by his trusted reindeer, and gave all the girls and boys a chance to share their wishes with him. All kids also got a treat bag courtesy of the Kindergruppe and Jugendgruppen Committee.

Another Christmas Luncheon has come and gone, and we'll have to wait until next year until the next one. It was great though, to see all the families come out and share an afternoon with

each other. To see the kids running around, the parents taking lots of pictures, and the grandparents bragging to each other about their grandkids. It could not have been any better. Merry Christmas to all, and to all, a wonderful new year!

**Peter Speckner**  
Editor, Nachrichten

## Christmas German Style

Friday, December 20; what a great evening it was. That was the evening of the Christmas German Show "*Alle Jahre Wieder*".

Dinner was tasty. I chose the schnitzel dinner, which was preceded by a house salad and followed by a lemon torte. Very well done.



The **Allgäuer Musikanten** opened the evening's show. Accordionist Simon Rädler has been at the Schwaben Club before and this time, he brought guitarist Oliver (who also plays the button accordion). *Trompeten Echo*, an Oberkrainer favourite, was their first number, followed by a singalong and "schunkel-a-long" to *Kufstein*. Oliver then threw the audience a curve with his joke about "20 cm Neu Schnee" (you'll have to hear the joke from someone who attended). Simon and Oliver then delighted the audience with a singalong medley; *In München, Lustig ist das Zigeunerleben, Bier auf Hawaii, So ein Tag, Fliegerlied*.



**Rudi Ecker** then came 'aboard' the stage in Seemannsuniform. What a mellow, sexy bass voice! Beautiful. He started with *Nordseewellen* and then sang his Lieblingslied, *Die Gitarre und das Meer* (a hit for Freddy Quinn). It was with



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this song that Rudi won his first Wettbewerb. After crooning a few more numbers for us, Rudi introduced the next act, **Manuela**.

*Schenk Mir ein Stern* was the opening song for Manuela; her lovely voice was delightful. She walked through the audience during some tunes, e.g. *Amore Blue*; she lacked the enthusiasm of many of the other female vocalists who strolled through the audience but it was a nice show. She did sit on a gentleman's lap and he certainly did not



want to let her go. Manuela comes from Salzburg and the great singer, Lolita, also lived close to Salzburg. To honour Lolita, Manuela sang a few of her hits and did a great job. Then, she sang a song made famous by "Ronda Linstat"; this was a slip of the tongue and Manuela meant to say Linda Ronstat. But the song, *Blue Bayou*, came out perfectly. She finished with *Que Sera Sera*.



The next performer, **Axel Becker**, has also visited us before and I am happy that he decided to return. His show is always upbeat, funny and lively. And his great voice did justice to the song *Blue Spanish Eyes*. Axel tends to dress like a Mafia boss but his singing is no crime. It is great. And, he serenaded a few ladies in the audience, to their delight.



To end the first half of the show, all performers came onstage and lead a singalong to *Sierra Madre del Sur*.

After the intermission, the house lights went down and the Christmas portion of the show began. The **Allgäuer Musikanten** gave us *Es wird schon glei' dumpa*.

At this point, I must end this article about a most wonderful evening. I was having so much fun that I forgot all about taking more notes. Let's just say that the rest of the evening was a Christmas charm.

Now, on a serious note. Attendance was down this year. It was an evening that was wonderfully priced, wonderfully cooked, wonderfully sung. What more could you want? And yet, you did not come out to such a great evening. Why?



I hope that the Christmas German Show holds true to its name and comes back *Alle Jahre Wieder*.

**Catherine Thompson**  
Roving Reporter

## A Golden Evening

On December 14 the Golden Keys celebrated their 24th Anniversary as well as the launch of their newest CD album. After previous celebra-



tions at the Hansa Haus and Donauschwaben Club in Toronto, we were excited to finally host

The Schwaben Club Kindergruppe & Jugendgruppe  
present their 4<sup>th</sup> annual



# Dinner

Saturday, February 8, 2014

Doors open: 4:30pm  
Dinner: 5pm  
Tickets: \$12 each

Kitchener Schwaben Club  
1668 King St. E.  
Kitchener, ON N2G 2P1

One of the highlights of the night was when Heidi Gregoric's children entertained the guests with 2 songs. Nicolas on the baritone, Jonny on the Button Accordion, Anthony on the guitar and Katharina on vocals and dancing. Thanks for sharing your talents with us and keeping the music alive for future generations.

A special guest making his 2nd appearance with the Golden Keys was "Heino" with a slight hint of Mike Offak - thanks for bringing the house down with your one solo song, Blau blüht der Enzian! I'm sure we'll see this version again at future events. Other special performances included Dave Borch singing Johnny Cash's "Ring of Fire" as well as a 3 piece trumpet solo of Amazing Grace with Kevin, Heidi and Eric, and finally a classical guitar solo by Andy to round out the variety portion of the evening.

Before the Tombola, guests were invited to try a piece of cake marking the band's 24th Anniversary. It appeared the guests enjoyed the cake as it disappeared quickly!

Despite the snow storm, it was a GREAT turn-

*continued on page 14*



this event at home in Kitchener at the Schwaben Club. Many guests arrived in Tracht, which was great to see, even in the snowy weather. A mouth-watering meal was available to those who were hungry! The program official began at 8:15, and the band played dance music to get people on the floor and create the right atmosphere.

At 9pm, our friend Paul Schneider from Radio Herz took over as MC and introduced each band member in a very special way! Thanks Paul for making us feel so special. We also took a moment to recognize the founding member of the band, Josef Offak for getting the band established. Then we celebrated 6 Birthdays in the hall - probably a record for one night!

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### **Wolf, Magdalena**

*Passed away peacefully in Toronto, with her daughters by her side, on Wednesday, November 20, 2013 at the age of 93. Predeceased by husband Martin Wolf (1986). Mother of Gerda Wolf (Bernhard Seipt) and Catherine Wolf-Becker (John Becker). Grandmother of Lori (Corey) Straus, Kristin (Michael) Werner, Michael Becker and Joanne Becker. Great-grandmother of Khristopher and Jonnathan Straus and Xander and Cody Werner. Sister of Anna Klein. Predeceased by her brothers Adam and Anthony Bortscher.*



### **Betke, Richard**

*Passed away suddenly on Wednesday December 4th, 2013 at the age of 51. Father of Destinee. Son of Adolf and Ludmilla Betke. Brother of David Betke and Sandra and her husband Donald Schwartzentruber. Fondly remembered by his aunts and uncles.*



### **Sertic, Anton**

*Passed away peacefully on Thursday, December 12, 2013 at the age of 81. Husband of the late Helma (nee Stock) Sertic (2009). Father of Monica Anstett of Kitchener and the late Edward (Ed) (1997). Opi to Danny Anstett (Barbara) and Billy Anstett (Tara) and Great-granddad to Anthony and Dominik. Tony will also be missed and remembered by dear friend Susan and his relatives in Germany and Austria. Predeceased by his parents Thomas and Katharina Sertic, his step-father Frank Melcher and step-sister Anna Morell.*

*continued from page 13*

out overall! Thanks to all who came, some who came from far away as Park Waldheim near Blackstock, Newmarket and even Detroit Michigan (and our fans who couldn't come!)... your support and kind words are greatly appreciated! Without you, 24 years wouldn't have been possible! We look forward to many more years of making music. Thanks,

*Eric on behalf of the entire band.*

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