



SCHWABEN KLUB

nachrichten

JULI 2025

50 Scheifele Place, Breslau, ON

www.kitchenerschwabenclub.com

Wichtige Daten/Important Dates 2025

Schwaben Picnic & Social: June 21

BBQ Fundraiser
(Schwaben Dancers)
August 8

BBQ Fundraiser
(Donau Dancers)
August 15

Members' Meeting: August 20

Weinlesefest: September 13

Members' Meeting: September 17

Biergartenfest
September 27

Oktoberfest
October 3 & 4
October 5 (Family Day)
October 10 & 11
October 12 (Family Day)
October 17 & 18

Oktoberfest Restaurant
October 9 & 16

IMPRESSUM

Für die Inhalte der aktuellen Druckausgabe:

Schwaben Club
50 Scheifele Place
Breslau, Ontario, Canada NOB 1M0
519-742-7979

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Please send all newsletter
submissions to: nachrichten@live.ca

Any submissions must be in by the
10th of the month, for the following
issue. Thank you.

**OKTOBERFEST
TICKETS
NOW
ON SALE**

CLICK
HERE





Oktoberfest Restaurant

Traditional Oktoberfest Cuisine

Thursday, October 9 & 16 5-8 pm

Music provided by
The Polka Maestre

**Schwaben
Club**
50 Scheifele Pl.
Breslau, ON
519-742-7979

Walk-ins or
reservations
welcome





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Subject line: "Email Nachrichten".

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Guten Tag meine liebe Schwowa,

Summer is upon us, and things are slowing down as members and their families go away to take advantage of the warmer weather. May was quiet month, with our Spring Clean Up and our Kaffee Klatsch hosting our members. I would like to thank everyone that came out to them. Your help and support is greatly appreciated. Although not many came out to our Kaffee Klatsch, we're hoping it was because we didn't announce the movie in advance. We might have another one in the future, giving our members another opportunity to come out and socialize, but we will let you know what is playing, so you can have another reason to come out!

Our next big Club event will be our annual Picnic and Social on June 21. The picnic starts at 3pm, and members are invited to bring their own picnic dinner, or purchase hamburgers, hot dogs or sausages from the Club beginning at 5pm. The Transylvania Hofbrau Band will also be playing, and there will be games for both kids and adults starting at 3:30pm. The patio will be open for the evening for those that want to stay and enjoy the Biergarten.

There will be Friday Fundraisers for various Untergruppen during the summer, so please check the posters to find out when you can come out to support them.

Our next major cultural event will be our Weinlesefest on September 13, 2025. This new event will be replacing Kirchweih for this year and is an event our own Club used to host 40+ years ago. With the emphasis on grapes and wine, beautiful decorations, and the opportunity for grape theft and jailtime (for fun!) - it should be a fun event for everyone to enjoy.

Music will be provided by the Edelweiss Trio.

And finally, Elizabeth Schiketantz has stepped back and resigned from the Board due to personal reasons. I want to thank her for the passion and enthusiasm that she brought to the Club and the Board. I wish her the best, and hope to see her on the Board again in the future!

As always, our Board is eager to engage with our members to make our Club better. Our doors are always open. We welcome your visit and your ideas.

Thank you very much,

Peter Speckner
President



The Schwaben Club proudly presents the return of

Weinlesefest

September 13, 2025

This harvest celebration includes dinner, live music and a game where attendees playfully "steal" bunches of grapes that decorate the hall. The "thieves" may be apprehended and placed in "jail".

MENU

Grape & Cheese Plate
Roast Beef *with*
Red Wine Sauce
or Chicken Schnitzel
Roasted Potatoes
Mixed Vegetables
Dessert:
Grape Pound Cake *with*
White Chocolate Sauce

KIDS MEAL
Chicken Schnitzel
Roasted Potatoes
Mixed Vegetables

BAND:
Edelweiss Trio

Member: \$40 (\$35.40 + HST)
Non-Member: \$45 (\$39.82 + HST)
Child (7-12): \$15 (\$13.27 + HST)

Schwaben Club
50 Scheifele Pl, Breslau
519-742-7979

Doors: 5:30 pm
Dinner: 6 pm

MEMBERSHIP AND SICK BENEFIT REPORT

Greetings,

It was a pleasure to support the Kinder/Jugendgruppe BBQ Fundraiser that was held at the Colour Paradise Greenhouses on May 19. I have to say the kids did an excellent job with the duties that were given to them. The sausage hotdog and pretzel were delicious. The Schwaben club, Donau dance group and Schwaben dance group will also have BBQ's and Fundraisers, throughout the summer, please come out and support them.

Elizabeth Schiketantz

Membership Director &

Sick Benefits Financial Secretary



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GEBURTSTAGE FÜR JULI

**Herzlichen Glückwunsch zum
Juli-Geburtstag!**

**Congratulations on your
July Birthday!**

Ingrid Drung	3
Nickolas Leipold	7
Philip Neidert	8
John Jr. Heffner	8
Ruth Prentice	8
Richard Neidert	9
Robert Foster	14
Glenn Peon	15
Barbara Schlosser-Hill	17
Katharina Markowiak	18
Juliane Hoeft	19
Richard Koenig	20
Kirk Hanke	20
Elisabeth Kiraly	27
Dan Dice	27
David Maurer	27
Monica Kauck	28
Nikolaus Lang	28
Ralf Doerr	29
Chris Nusca	30
Randy Betsch	31

HANS SCHAADT YOUTH CULTURAL AWARD 2025

The presentation speech for the Hans Schaadt Youth Cultural Award, as read by Lisa Schaadt at Gründungsfest, this past February.

Good evening! It is a wonderful feeling to be back at the Club again and celebrating another year of our culture and heritage. Congratulations to the Frauengruppe on celebrating a milestone of 90 years. Gründungsfest has always been one of my favourite events as we get to celebrate us... our Members. We honour where we came from and where we want to go, all with our continued traditions. Rick and I admit we don't know everyone here tonight as we don't make it out much but that is a good thing as it is a sign that we continue to invite new friends to our Schwaben Family.

I would like to start with a heartfelt thank you from the Schaadt family to those that submitted articles for this year's Hans Schaadt Youth Cultural Award 2025. The topic this year was 'WHY' you enjoy being a part of the Kitchener Schwaben Club. We were blown away after receiving 10 entries this year and I think it is because we can all relate to this topic. Each entry had a common theme of the Club being a safe, comfortable place to dance, eat & make new friends that end up becoming family! Some of the entries stated the club has helped them build confidence in themselves, their ability to dance and also ability to do public speaking! By far this year was my favourite year to read the entries... I could relate to the feelings of togetherness, the love for dance and the love for continuing our culture. Please be sure to check out the entries on the table just outside our hall tonight and we will make sure to post them in the Nachrichten in the months to follow. I love that these articles are now an addition to our archives and will continue to help our youth reflect on their culture and heritage.

This award was developed to honour my late father-in-law, Hans Schaadt. Hans was a kindhearted, hard working, caring and dedicated Schwaben member. His commitment dates back into the 70s as Youth Director. He served as Kitchener Schwaben Club President and Dachverband of Kanada President for many years. Hans was a man of tradition and held his Schwaben family close to his heart. He was a proud "Schwob" and I know would be proud of us honouring his heritage.

Today marks our 6th presentation of the Hans Schaadt Youth Cultural Award. I have asked one of our participants to read their submission tonight for us. Please welcome our Miss Schwaben Stefanie Kahnke.



Why Do I Enjoy Being a Part of the Schwaben Club? By Stefanie Kahnke

I have considered the Schwaben Club my second home for as long as I can remember, and being a Club member has taught me so much about the German heritage I am so proud to call my own. 17 years ago, when I was three, my mom saw an ad in the paper and forced me to start dancing in the Kindergruppe before I knew what I was getting myself into. I could not be more thankful for this.

Although my family's ancestry does not stem from the Donauschwaben community, I would consider myself an honorary Schwob. This community has been nothing but welcoming to me and my family. Being a member of the Kitchener Schwaben Club has allowed me countless opportunities, such as attending the annual Jugendlagers and Landestreffens, where I have made lifelong friends and memories with people from all over North America. I have also had the opportunity to learn how to cook authentic German and Schwebisch dishes and desserts, such as Wurst, Krapfen, Goulash, cabbage rolls and many more. This also allows me to appreciate and learn about my ancestors, such as my Opi whom I never got the chance to meet. Learning about the history of the Schwaben people and their expulsion from Hungary to then settle along the Danube is eye opening. Swabians were disenfranchised, endured mass exterminations, had their property seized and many were forced into Soviet Union labor camps. Most Swabians resettled in German speaking countries as well as the US, Canada, Brazil, Argentina and Australia.

Recognizing their hardships, will and determination makes me appreciative of the life we currently enjoy and gives me so much gratitude. Oktoberfest has always been one of my favourite times of year- the feeling of Gemütlichkeit, the dancing, the amazing food, family

days, getting to meet new people, new experiences, the So You Think You Can Tanz competition, the parade, and everything in between. Over the past year, the title of Miss Schwaben has provided me with so many new opportunities, like touring around in the Air Canada bus with the other Misses to visit all the other German clubs in the city, even getting to dance to Fliegerlied on stage at Bingemans! I never would have had this opportunity without the Schwaben Club. This opportunity of being Miss Schwaben and representing the club in the community has only deepened my love for it. I am so proud of this club and how far we have come, even surviving a location move! We have shown that we are able to experience countless decades of celebrating our culture and heritage, providing a home away from home for our members.

I have also been the Kindergruppe instructor for the last couple years. It has been so incredibly rewarding and has also provided me with the opportunity to be a mentor and leader for the newer generation of Schwobs. Even though I had to step down as the main instructor due to health reasons and school, I am able to see them some weeks and it warms my heart to see their dance abilities strengthen as each week goes on. Even when school gets hard, or my health is in a bad place, there is somewhere I can be myself. Dancing with the Schwaben dancers each week has been the best outlet for exercise, fun and socialization. We have so much fun, and I cannot imagine my life without it (literally I've been dancing since I was three and I can't stop).

I cannot begin to explain everything this club and community has provided for me. I would not be the woman I am today without the connection I have with each and every member of the club and all that I have experienced. Each time I walk in the door, I am always greeted with smiling faces and open arms. Each aspect of the club comes together to create a comforting, traditional, supportive, kind, warm and inviting environment to those who choose to practice their culture (and even those who aren't Schwobs like me!) I have been a part of the club for 17 years, and only alive for 20. This club has been and continues to be a major part of my life and I could not be more grateful for it.

Thank you Stefanie. It definitely feels like a full circle moment for us as I was the one to place that ad in the paper 17 years ago!! It has been a pleasure to see you go from that 3 year old learning to dance to being our Miss and also to helping our Kindergruppe! Thank You!

I would like to continue to acknowledge the remaining participants for this year's Hans Schaadt Youth Cultural Award and ask them to come to the stage when their name is called.

ERIKA HANKE; *For Erika the club has been part of her entire life. From dancing in the Kindergruppe, Jugendgruppe, and Schwaben dancers to serving at the*

bar for the past 6 years! She enjoys Oktoberfest the most as it incorporates both her love for dance and creating memorable moments for our guests by working at the special bar. She describes the Schwaben Club as warm and inclusive, a place she feels welcomed and connected!

SHAY HEROLD; *Shay's strong connection to the club would be the opportunity to preserve and share our traditions and culture. They are proud and passionate about their heritage and finds it rewarding witnessing younger generations embracing and carrying forward our customs. From wearing a traditional Tracht, exchanging a story or a warm smile... it's the pride of knowing that they are contributing to something bigger than themselves.*

ANGELE KILLINGBECK; *Angele started her article off with the most perfect quote. The quote was, "One of the marvelous things about community is that it enables us to welcome and help people in a way we couldn't as individuals." Credit to Jean Vanier. Her submission was full of emotion talking about the club giving her sense of home, belonging and purpose. I place she felt understood, a place she could be loved and give love!*

LAUREN KRAUS; *Lauren's submission was full of her love for dancing! She feels the club has given her an outlet for her energy and passion for dance. She enjoys learning to dance and has added some ballroom styles on top of her Schwaben dancing. She enjoys helping teach the Kindergruppe, as she wants to make sure the next generation has the same opportunities she had to dance of course!!*

LLEWELYN ROBINSON; *Llewelyn wrote about their time at the club and the feeling of a sense of family. They enjoyed dancing with the Schwaben Dancers and the travel opportunities they have had. Llewelyn feels our club has helped them embrace a new cultural family and better understands the value of community and heritage.*

DEANNA SCHAADT; *Deanna is not here tonight but Deanna's submission was our first submission written in German! She talks about how she has continued her studies in German at University of Ottawa and about the opportunity of travelling to Germany this summer with her university. She talks about her family connections to the club as a 4th generation Schwobe as well as the friendships she has made over the years.*

MATTHEW SCHAADT; *Matthew wrote about his opportunity to be a part of the TV Show "This is Scarlet" on Treehouse as he was the polka dancing partner with Scarlet. He became an instant TV sensation at age 4 at least he thought so! He also mentions his love for the beernuts during Oktoberfest and all the cherished memories he has made dancing. The family history at the club and the friendships formed have impacted him positively. He said the Schwaben Club will always hold a special spot in his heart!*

JAKOB SPECKNER; *Jakob likes our club for a few different reasons. He likes the events, the food, the people and having fun playing games. He likes the music (as long as it isn't too loud), the dancing as he is a member of the Jugendgruppe and gets to dance with his cousins, helping out his dance group with fundraising like their bbq fundraiser at Colours of Paradise, and lastly he enjoys that his family has been part of the Schwaben Club for a long time!*

KATHARINA SPECKNER; *Katharina likes being part of our club because her family is there. She enjoys watching the dancing and listening to the music. She enjoys the many functions at the club from Miss Schwaben and getting to dress up, to Oktoberfest for the pretzels and walking in the Thanksgiving Day Parade. She likes being able to travel with the club to new places to dance and wants to be a member of the Schwaben Club for the rest of her life!*

We are proud of each and every one of you and thank your from the bottom of our heart for your submissions. Your dedication and contributions tonight are a part of history and will keep our Schwaben heritage alive. As long term Schwaben Club members, we are proud tonight as all of the submissions had a common them... yes the food, yes the dance, yes the music but more importantly the sense of belonging, the friendships, the community. It's more than just the food, the dance, the music... it's the sense of togetherness and that is what we have created as members! We are welcoming, inclusive, willing to share and we open our home to new family members! So as much as we gather and dance, and eat and listen to music... it's bigger than that!

This year, Rick and I have chosen the recipient. This submission we were completely moved by and I literally cried... twice, as I read it more than once! There was so much raw emotion, openness and really portrayed our true sense of why we enjoy being a member of the Kitchener Schwaben Club. They absolutely nailed it!

So, the 2025 Hans Schaadt Youth Cultural Award recipient is Angele. Congratulations Angele!

Why The Schwaben Club Means So Much To Me **By Angele Killingbeck**

A quote that I revisit often reads like this; "One of the marvelous things about community is that it enables us to welcome and help people in a way we couldn't as individuals." – Jean Vanier

I joined the Schwaben Club under a family membership back when I was twelve years old. During a time where I never realized how much I needed it. As a young teen you could say I was rebellious, if you were to consult my mother, she'd tell you I was a brat. When in reality, I was just another young individual trying to find where I fit in the world. I hadn't felt a secure sense of self yet, and truly, I didn't want to. I was quite content with being

miserable. That was until I walked into The Schwaben Club for the very first time.



I remember it vividly, it was loud. Loud in the way that Christmas is when all of the cousins get together at grandma and grandpa's house. I remember the smell. A smell that can only be compared to Thanksgiving dinner. As if I could smell the hard work that had been prepared in the kitchen all day. And then I remember the feeling, like when you fall off your bike for the first time, and your mom picks you up to kiss your scraped knee. Walking into The Schwaben Club that day didn't feel like the first time. Overwhelmingly, it felt like coming home.



Soon after joining I started to find more reasons why I loved it so much. And why it felt like it loved me. In the walls of The Schwaben Club I found an immense understanding of belonging. Which is such a simple word for this life altering concept. What I learned was that a sense of belonging is a human need, just like the need for food and water. And I needed it badly. The Schwaben Club became more than a building, and even more than a membership. In some ways, even



more than I can explain. It became a feeling, as if I just walking through the doors changed me forever, allowed me to be loved, and to give love. To be understood.

When reflecting on why The Schwaben Club means so much to me, I couldn't help but smile. Because I will forever be grateful for my opportunity to grow up here. Alongside my fellow dancers, and their families and all of the Oma's and Opa's that always made me feel welcome. It has shaped me into who I am today, and it will continue to do so as I grow and age within the club.

So to answer the question, my "why" is the undeniable feeling of home that The Schwaben Club brings me. Because there's not many things that compare. And I have enormous gratitude for my time and experiences within this community.

For the Love of the Schwaben Club: Dance Through Life By Lauren Krause

The Schwaben Club has been a part of my life for over 7 years off and on and having been back for almost 2 years now there are a few things that really bring you back and make you want to be a part of things. One of the biggest reasons I came back is also the reason why I love the Schwaben club. The dancing. I don't think, for me personally, anything can hold a candle to that.



I have always been a energetic kid that was constantly on the move. The Jugendgruppe, growing up, really helped channel that and give me both an outlet for my energy, and a passion for dance. Being able to make friends and have incredible experiences was just a bonus to what

was already an incredible time. It also gave me the confidence to dance at club functions, and at school with anyone who was willing. I gained the skills to be able to teach others quickly and pull them through what they didn't know.

I kept up with dance and have since added a couple more ballroom styles on top of what the Schwaben dance group already teaches. I don't always have opportunities to dance and have always appreciated that the Club brings in bands that make sure dancing is a priority at events. Without the good tunes it can be really hard to get on the floor. And of course those classic dances that get everyone onto the floor to join in, young and old, good and bad dancers, couples and singles are really magical. There's nothing quite like

doing a Fliege with 40 people on the floor.

I love dancing so much that I want to make sure that the next generation has the same opportunities I had, so I started teaching. Helping the Kindergruppe figure out steps, skipping in a circle, and spinning, has been both incredibly fun and a challenge. I've never really taught dance before and especially not to children but slowly we're figuring it out and they're really getting the hang of it. I love that I get to pass on to them the knowledge I've gained over years of practice and, hopefully, the love of dance. If even just one sticks it out until they're in the Schwaben dancers I will be overjoyed. I want them to have a great experience with dance and with the Club. I also love the fact that I get to show them from this early age that dancing doesn't have to be hard or scary, that they can just shuffle and spin and have fun.



Overall I think the reason why I love dance at the Schwaben Club is because it sort of encompasses everything about the club. It's a safe place to learn (to dance), it's full of wonderful people who have become life-long friends (to dance with), it has activities for all ages (like dancing), there's always opportunities (to dance) and anyone is welcome (to dance). Dance and the Club have really developed my confidence over the years and have given me the space to then use that confidence to do wonderful things. I really believe the Schwaben Club is dancing and so that's why I love both so much.



...more Hans Schaadt Youth Cultural Award submissions to come, in future Nachrichten editions.

DONAU DANCERS BBQ FUNDRAISER FRIDAY AUGUST 15 5:00-8:00 PM

Join us on the patio for an evening
of good food & fun!

PORK KABOB	\$6 EA
VEGGIE KABOB	\$4 EA
HOT DOG KABOB	\$3 EA
1/2 CORN ON THE COB	\$1 EA
RICE	\$1
ICE CREAM	\$2

SCHWABEN CLUB 519-742-7979
50 SCHEIFELE PLACE, BRESLAU

KITCHENER • WATERLOO

OKTOBERFEST



Schwaben Club
2025

OPENING NIGHT	LIVE MUSIC
FRIDAY, Oct. 3	Weiss Blau
6 PM - 1 AM	
SATURDAY, Oct. 4	LIVE MUSIC
6 PM - 1 AM	Weiss Blau
FAMILY DAY	LIVE MUSIC
SUNDAY, Oct. 5	Golden Keys
11 AM - 4 PM	
FRIDAY, Oct. 10	LIVE MUSIC
6 PM - 1 AM	Weiss Blau
SATURDAY, Oct. 11	LIVE MUSIC
6 PM - 1 AM	Weiss Blau
FAMILY DAY	LIVE MUSIC
SUNDAY, Oct. 12	Golden Keys
11 AM - 4 PM	
FRIDAY, Oct. 17	LIVE MUSIC
6 PM - 1 AM	Weiss Blau
CLOSING NIGHT	LIVE MUSIC
SATURDAY, Oct. 18	Weiss Blau
6 PM - 1 AM	

Schwaben Club
50 Scheifele Place
Breslau
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**TICKETS ON
SALE MAY 15**

f t i



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Evenings**
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Breslau, ON
519-742-7979

By yourself or
as a couple

Member: \$100
Non-Member: \$150
Must be registered and paid in full
to the club by July 11 at 5pm.

**Cha Cha &
Advanced
Fox Trot &
Waltz**



JINGLE & MINGLE MARKET

Additional

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DECEMBER 6TH, 2025 9AM - 3PM

Please email us for booth inquiries:
kwschwabensocial@gmail.com

The Schwaben Club
50 Scheifele Place, Breslau

CULTURAL NEWS

Upcoming **Jugendlager in Akron, Ohio** will be attended by Emma Becker, Stephanie Kahnke, Shay Herold, chaperoned by Lena Herold. Our Mr. Schwaben, Cole Watson also plans on attending. We hope they have great time full of camaraderie and making wonderful memories.

Landestreffen, Mansfield, Ohio - Labor Day Weekend:

The club has a block of rooms booked at **Comfort Inn Splash Harbour**; the nightly rate is \$167.46 USD before tax.

To book under the club please call 419-886-4000 and book under Kitchener Schwaben Club Group.



The ribbons are \$25 USD for the 2-day pass or \$15 USD for the 1-day pass.

The current exchange rate would put the 2-day pass at \$34.17 CDN, and 1-day pass at \$20.50 CDN

Registration is due to the club by July 11, 2025.

If you are planning on attending if you could please let **Tracy Ruland, our Facilities Manager** know, what days you are attending as well as if you will be purchasing food for the following meals:

*Dinner Friday August 29
Lunch Saturday August 30
Dinner Saturday August 30
Lunch Sunday August 31
Dinner Sunday August 31*

This will help Mansfield prepare their meal numbers.

The Schedule of Events and Commemorative Information can be found on their website: <https://liederkranz.org/treffen-2025>

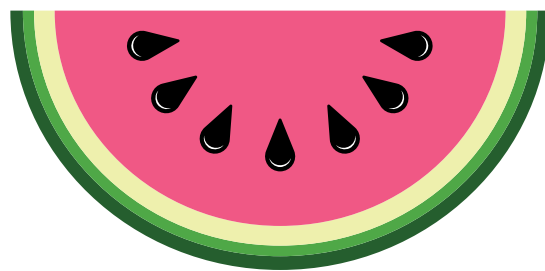
If you have any questions, please contact Tracy in the club office.

Cultural events are slowing down until the fall, but I'm sure we are all looking forward to the upcoming Summer Fundraising BBQs hosted by our various Untergruppen.

Enjoy the summer season!

*Monica Anstett
Cultural Director*

Hello
SUMMER



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Arbor Memorial Inc.

KINDERGRUPPE & JUGENDGRUPPE NEWS

Guten Tag from our youngest members!

Our kids have been working very hard the last few months and have started their well deserved summer break.

In April, both our Kinder and Jugend dance groups performed in Windsor for Landestrachtenfest and Teutonia Club's 90th Anniversary. They did a wonderful job, and the crowd loved seeing the young ones showing their stuff. They also participated in the traditional tracht parade. I want to thank the kids for their efforts in representing our Club.

On April 26th, the Spaghetti Fundraiser was hosted by the kids and their parents. It was a smashing success. The food was sold out after just an hour, with many compliments received. The kids helped serve dessert and clean up. There were lots of items for our Silent Auction, with lots of bidding going on. It was a great evening, and we want to thank all the people that came out to support our children's dance groups. They very much appreciate your support. Can't wait to do it again next year.

In May, we hosted a fundraising BBQ at Colour Paradise Greenhouses. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and came out to support us! The group also got to enjoy an End-of-Season party. It was a chance for the kids to get together and have fun, without having to stress about learning new

dances or trying to get everything right.

We look forward to starting back up in September, and hope that new dancers will join us then. You can never have enough cute, adorable kids dancing up a storm at a Club event. I will never get tired of that. If you know of any kids aged 4-15 years old who might interested, they are welcome to come out and give us a try. They'll have fun - we promise!

I want to thank all the parents that took the time to bring their kids out to practice and performances and for all their help at events and fundraisers. And thank you to our hardworking instructors. Your effort does not go unnoticed. Thank you very much.

Peter Speckner

Kinder/Jugendgruppe President



SCHWARZEN KLUB
nachrichten

