



# Schwaben Athletic Club

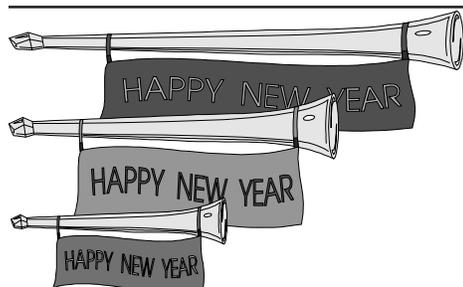
## NEWS



www.schwabensoccer.com

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December 2007 - January 2008



### FROM THE PRESIDENT.....Willy Schaeffer

On Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup> we had our annual Christmas Party, organized and hosted by Christy Thedorf and Becky Saul. It was well attended and fun for parents and kids alike. The adults enjoyed the scrumptious buffet and the kids waited anxiously and impatiently for Santa to show up. In the meantime they enjoyed a magic show. A blind auction and raffle left most of us with a Christmas gift as well!

Christy and Becky did a tremendous job on very short notice to make the party enjoyable and fun for everyone who attended.

We also thank the Schwaben Verein, who generously donated \$500.00 so Santa could bring some nice gifts to our youngsters.

On a personal note, Ann and I became grandparents on November 1<sup>st</sup>, our daughter Christina delivered twins at Prentiss Women's Hospital and my mother passed away on November 29<sup>th</sup> at the age of 85. Our family thanks everyone for the well wishes for the twins and the condolences expressed on the passing of my mom.

Most of our youth teams are already playing indoors and our First Team will start Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup> at the Odeum. Rocky and Tony are preparing the team and will have the boys ready for all challenges.

Hope to see many of you at the games.

**Please Note: Meeting of December 21 is cancelled to allow the board time to prepare for the Holidays**

### Schwaben 81st Anniversary Dinner

The Schwaben AC recognized and honored the following people for their long time dedication and loyalty to the club:

- Mr. Schwaben AC 2007: Marty Schuett
- Ms Schwaben AC 2007: Margo Schon
- Player of the year 2007: Martin Herholt
- Thea Award 2007: Leo Defort

Awards for contributing time and effort beyond any expectations for many years:

- Rudy Frank
- Ron Murray
- Nellie Hillenbrands

Membership Pins:

- George Herzog 40 years
- Lanny Gray 25 years

- Bill Horton 25 years
- Gary Lichtenberger 25 years
- John Schlenker 25 years (he was eligible last year and missed)**

- Gary Weiler 25 years
- Mike Winter 25 years
- Tom Condon 15 years
- Werner Fleps 15 years
- Charles Hughes 15 years
- Chuck Molitor 15 years

Special 70 year membership plaque: George Meyer

The dinner was family style and prepared and served to perfection by Chef Adam and the crew of Grove Banquets. After dinner the awards were presented to the honorees present (unfortunately not all were able to attend).

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2008

**May 16, 2008 Schwaben A. C. Election  
Schwaben Center 7 P.M.**

- June 13, 14 15, 2008 - Youth Tournament U15 –19
- July 12 & 13, 2008 - Senior Tournament
- July 27, 2008 - Schwaben A.C. Family Picnic
- August 22, 23 & 24 - Youth Tournament U 8 – 14
- November 1, 2008 - Schwaben A.C. 82nd Anniversary
- December 7, 2008 - Children's Christmas Party

### FROM THE TREASURER.....Rudy Frank

At the Anniversary Party, I was awarded a plaque to acknowledge my work as Treasurer and watching out for the monies of the Club. I accept, however I feel I've had lots of help from Arlene Lichtenberger, who reviews and processes numbers, Willy Schaeffer who makes good decisions, Udo Seidel who always gets a deal & I can go on. Thanks to all.

We are approaching year end and it is important that all 1099's (accounts earning interest) must be turned into me as soon as you receive them. All must be mailed by January 31, 2008.

**From the First Team.....Rocky Hughes**

After a rocky start to the Fall 2007 session of Metropolitan Soccer League action, we finished the way we would have liked to with points in three of our last four games. After losing to bottom-of-the-table Connection in Round Lake a hard week of training and self-reflection followed. We knew it would only get harder the following week as the first-place United Serbs were scheduled to visit.

Many things must have changed or been done right during that week because after 90 minutes of play at the Schwaben Center the following Sunday afternoon we walked off the pitch victorious 1-0. It was such a tremendous feeling to have beaten the Serbs as only a week before we seriously doubted ourselves, our abilities, and our capabilities. This was most uplifting.

We took this success into the following week against Polonia. At this point we were willing to roll the dice. Polonia, another strong team, always brings top talent in the Chicagoland area to the pitch. "Play like last week," coach Tony Dallas said, "and we will have no worries." So for about 75 out of the 90 minutes we did just that. We jumped out to an early 1-0 lead on a nice shot from 16 yards out. Polonia battled back and traded goals with us until the final whistle left us behind by a score of 3-2. The effort and heart involved in this game was most promising; different than that of the first half of the season.

Another tough test followed on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October as we were pitted against long-time rivals AAC Eagles. You can guarantee a good show every time our two squads match up. All in all, this match was considered a victory by our team as we led 1-0 for most of the game until a suspect call made by the referee gave Eagles a penalty kick equalizer in the 86<sup>th</sup> minute. Players are still talking about this game and how strongly they still feel about deserving the win. Nevertheless, 1-1 is better than a loss. At that point we were happy with any type of points to keep us in the middle of the pack.

The last Sunday of the Fall brought Vikings to The Center. Vikings feature an in-your-face style of soccer. They are chippy and do not give up. We knew this would not be an easy 3 points. We did know, however, that we were on the right track and capable of a win. And that is exactly what we did. A few late first-half substitutions gave us fresh legs and an eventual 1-0 lead. That was a lead we would never relinquish as we went on to be victorious by a score of 3-1.

We finished the outdoor season in the middle of the table. It was a good result for a team that is trying to explore some new options.

Indoor preseason is in full swing. More and more young and ex-Schwaben players are coming out every Tuesday and Thursday night. We're in the process of finding our squad for not only the Sunday games (which begin on 06.January.08) but for the next outdoor season as well. A good group of core players has emerged and can only be added to.

Articles for the Schwaben A. C. Newsletter may be sent to:  
Arlene Lichtenberger  
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Wheeling, IL 60090-4839.  
Faxed to: 847-537-3875  
or preferably  
e-mailed to: [alichtenberger@sbcglobal.net](mailto:alichtenberger@sbcglobal.net)

**FROM THE DUES COLLECTOR....Margo Schon**

Happy New Year! 2008 dues are now payable and may be mailed to me a 2 Secretariat Court, Grayslake, IL 60030. Please make your checks payable to "**Schwaben A. C.**" Dues may also be paid at any of our Friday night meetings. The following is our dues structure. We have a Golden Membership available for \$1,000. annually. This includes fee admission and dinner, plus \$50.00 worth of drink tickets at all of our dances, food and drinks at our tournaments and at all of our games at the Schwaben Center. If you would like more information regarding this type of membership, please give me a call at 847-231-4671.

- Honorary members and widows Free
- Retired members \$10.00
- Out of Towners (Newsletter only) \$10.00
- First, Reserve and Women's team Members \$30.00
- Members having no youth playing for us \$50.00
- Over 30 and 40 Team Members \$100.00
- Members with Youth Players \$150.00  
(payable through the youth program) plus \$50.00 for each additional player for a maximum of \$200.00 per family

There is a \$5.00 initiation fee payable at the time of application for new membership.

In order to keep our records current, I would appreciate being notified of any address, phone number or e mail address changes. It is a waste of time and postage when mail is returned "Forwarding Time Expired", indicating that the addressee has been at a new location for over one year. Please, take a moment and notify me of any changes.

**Member News**



On November 1, 2007, **Willi and Anni Schaeffer** became the proud grandparents of twins! Charlotte Elizabeth weighed in at 1 lb, 12 oz. and Lucas Mark is a little bit bigger than his sister weighing in at 4 lbs, 1 oz. Even though the babies couldn't wait to be born, they are doing well. They will have to stay in the hospital a while so that they can gain a little more weight. We hope that their stay is short and all goes well. The parents, **Christina and Mark Bailey**, are thrilled and can't wait to bring home 2 healthy babies. Lucas was able to come home the week of December 7 and Charlotte is expected home before December 30<sup>th</sup>. Oma and Opa Schaeffer can't wait to babysit and change double diapers. We congratulate them all.

On a sadder note we offer our condolences to **Willy and Ann Schaeffer** on the death of Willy's mom, **Elizabeth Schaeffer**. She was born on October 1, 1922 in Hungary and passed away on November 29<sup>th</sup> in Wheeling after a long illness.

**Harold O. Schubert** passed away on November 4, 2007. He was a long time member of the Schwaben A. C. and coach of youth teams. We offer our deepest condolences to his wife Nona and their children Paul, Pamela and Phillip and their families. Services were held November 7th in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin where they have lived since retirement.

## The U9 Boys Soccer.....Rob Rao

### Team finishes the Fall Tournament Season strong

Coach Eric Pingle's U9 Boys team recently completed their fall tournament schedule at the Libertyville Octoberfest Soccer Tournament. The boys went 3-1 in their Group in the Top Division, losing only a hard fought game to Ela's top team 4-3. The Schwaben U9ers were able to defeat the Bartlett Hawks, The Glenview Titans Gold, and Team Evanston Orange. The Team's success is in it's balance. The defense was strong in each game led by Goalie Andrew Groysman, and Defenseemen Allen Veksler, Edward Chuckman, and the midfielders Mattie Brickman, U8 call up Steven O'Reilly and Sean Kriner. Brickman and Kriner chipped in along with Andrew, and forwards Robert Rao and Dennis Gavrila to supply the goals in the tournament. Newcomers Sawm Chervets, and Jonathon Townsend supplied invaluable support both in the midfield and defense as well.

In September the U9 Team played in the Naperville Great Lakes Challenge at the Naperville Polo Grounds. In their first "championship" tournament, the boys beat the Crete Hawks 2-1 behind goals by Rao and Gavrila, and Zen United 5-0 thanks to the "catalysts" Brickman and Kriner, and tied the hometeam Galaxy blue to win their Group and move on to the Championship Round. Despite great defense and goaltending, Schwaben lost 3-2 to the NISL Platinum Division's LTSC Premier team in the semifinals, finishing 3rd in the entire tournament.

The team's first tournament of the year was the Schwaben Invitational. Returning Schwaben members Robert Rao, Sean Kriner, Dennis Gavrila, Andrew Groysman, Allen Veksler, and Matthew Brickman welcomed newcomers Jonathon Townsend, Shawn Chervets, and Edward Chickman, plus new U8 star Steven O'Reilly and they gelled quite quickly. Despite the horrendous rains, the fields were in great shape! The game of the tournament may have been the kids' first experience under the lights against the Chicago Kickers. Using shutdown goalkeeping by Groysman, a penalty kick goal by Rao and a clincher by Gavrila, Schwaben surged to a 3-1 victory. They followed that on Sunday with wins over 2 Park Ridge teams to finish with 3 wins and a tie. Sean Chervets made his debut in goal on Sunday afternoon and pitched a shutout. Sean Kriner and Matthew Brickman scored several times and Edward and Alan had great tournaments on defense as well.



## U8 Boys Dominate NISL Rob Rao

The U8 boys team had a great season in Fall of 2007 despite constant changes. As the Summer broke, the boys only fielded 8 players leaving only 2 subs. Led by holdovers Michael Bukhalo and Leo Frank plus U9 teammates (U8 by age) Robert Rao and Matthew Brickman, the team headed into the NISL season as an unknown quantity. The rest of the league certainly got to know them quickly as they opened up the season with an 8-0 shellacking of Oak Park followed by a 7-2 victory over Chicago Lakefront and a 5-2 pasting of Elmhurst. While Rao and Brickman led the scoring, new U8 sensation Steven O'Reilly was not to be outdone scoring a hat-trick in the Elmhurst game. Bukhalo and Leo also chipped in seemingly a goal per game. New additions, Kyle Janmohammed, Daniel Powers, and Jeffrey Haham provided a steady influence in the midfield and defensive zones.

5-2 Victories over River Forest and EuroSoccer gave the "Schwaben eighters" a clean sweep through the division, ending the first half undefeated. Rao, Brickman, Bukhalo, Frank and O'Reilly continued the scoring spree, while Powers, Kyle, Jeff, and newcomer Guram Kevkhishvilli provided the backbone of the team, keeping the opponents off the board.

The team took time off in October to travel to Wisconsin to play up in the U9 division in the Racine Lighthouse Classic. The boys lost a heartbreaker 3-2 to the Rasa Green Storm before crushing fellow U8 team United FC Academy Black. During the tournament, Matthew's little brother Nickky joined the club to give valuable rest time to the "older" players. Sunday brought perhaps Schwaben's best game against the home Racine U9 club. O'Reilly and Brickman led the boys to a quick 3-0 lead before Racine rallied to tie at halftime. Goalie Guram Kevkhivilli provided a heroic effort to keep the team in it, but despite a late goal by Rao, the team tired in the second half losing 10-6.

The second half of the NISL season looked much like the first half as the Schwabeneighters defeated Oak Park 6-0, and Chicago Lakefront 3-2 before tying Elmhurst 3-3. Frank and Bukhalo provided important punch on offense. Kyle, Guram, and Jeff continued their improvement offensively while Rao and Brickman concentrated more on defense and goalie. O'Reilly's energy and speed continued to overwhelm the opponents.

The final weekend of the season brought victories games against River Forest and EuroSoccer. Kyle netted 2 goals and Brickman 3 assists as the team clinched First Place in the division. There was some work still to be done as the team wanted to finish undefeated. The team traveled to second place EuroSoccer and coasted to a 4-0 shutout. Kyle continued his hot day with a lefty goal and Mattie scored on a breakaway and Robert netted 2. Steven was a "wall" in goal and Michael and Leo dominated in the midfield. Jeff, Nickky, Guram, and Daniel played their usual solid games both up front and on "D". Finishing with 28 out of a total 30 points, the boys enter the Winter Season on a roll.

### **SCHWABEN CENTER PET POLICY**

For safety and health reasons, NO PETS are permitted on Schwaben property. This includes practices, games, and tournaments. Also, members are asked to help enforce this policy regarding our visiting guests by politely asking them to either place their pet in their vehicle or leave the property.

**SCHWABEN A.C. CHRISTMAS PARTY**  
FROM: CHRISTY THEDORF & BECKY SAUL

The Schwaben Christmas Party was held on December 9 at the Schwaben Center. Over 100 people attended and enjoyed a good meal with friends and a magic show given by Magic Mike. Children who attended visited with Santa and received a special gift. The kids also enjoyed playing Guitar Hero & Dance Dance Revolution projected on an 8 foot screen! Next year, we hope to have more support from our youth teams.

We wanted to say a huge thank you to all the local businesses that supported our raffle and live auction: Soccer Plus, Yen Yen, Zimmerman True Value, Great Frame Up, Nino's Pizzeria, Outback Steakhouse, Culvers, Venture Hobbies, Wa-Pa Ghetti's, eEscape Entertainment Center, Dorfler's Meat Market, Buca Di Deppo, Village Bar & Grill, Kaleidoscoops Ice Cream, Candy Bouquet, Giordano's and Sam's Club, Golf place, Esdale Commercial Sound Inc., Arboretum Club, Best Salon & Spa, Deerfield Bakery, Dunkin Donuts, Merle Norman, Berruiti's Restaurant, Pastabilities and John Anthony Salon.

We'd also like to thank all our members that donated items. Donations baskets were assembled from the Boys U14 Nationals, Boys U13 Olympics, and boys U10 team.

We hope that all families that attended had a great time.

**F**or **Y**our **I**nformation

**Indoor Season begins on January 6, 2008 at the Odeum in Villa Park. We were unable to obtain a full schedule to post in this Newsletter but all games begin at 3:00 P.M. We will post a schedule on the web site as soon as we are able to get the information**

**SCHWABEN MEMBERS SIGNING UP FOR THE HANSA CAMPS RECEIVE A 15% DISCOUNT**

Schwaben Athletic Club  
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**FIRST CLASS MAIL**