



Gold Country German American Club



P. O. Box 571, Grass Valley, CA 95945

Promoting German Culture and Stronger German-American Ties
in Northern California

Club President Returns from Heidelberg Travel in COVID-Conscious Times



Schloss Heidelberg, die Altstadt, und die Alte Brücke

In 2019, Chrysan and I made plans for travel in August and September of 2020 to Ireland for ten days, on to London for another ten days, then to visit our younger son's family in Germany for two weeks. Needless to say, the response to COVID-19 blew those plans sky-high! While the proprietors of the rented accommodations in Ireland and the UK, along with British Airways, credited money directly back to our credit cards, the only option Aer Lingus and Lufthansa offered were vouchers for future travel.

Two years later, airline schedules have been restored and COVID travel restrictions relaxed enough to permit booking flights between San Francisco, Dublin and Frankfurt with overnight stays in Dublin.

The reports of staffing shortages are not exaggerated! The check-in lines at San Francisco went smoothly, but there were delays, both outbound and inbound, due to lack of baggage handlers. In Frankfurt, the lines were long and slow but orderly. The real challenge in Frankfurt is the route from check-in to the departure gates winds

Continued, next page

Notes from the Board

For August, we continue the tradition of not holding a general club meeting.

The September meeting will be our annual Oktoberfest celebration. Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 24th at Seaman's Lodge. Watch your email and the monthly newsletter for more information.

Respectfully,
Mike Silence

Travel in COVID-Conscious Times, continued from page 1.

through the duty free shops. One needs to look carefully for the direction signs. The real challenge was Dublin International. The check-in concourse at Dublin airport is about half the size it needs to be. Also, departure gates are on two levels. Signs showing the escalators to gates on the upper level are easy to miss.

COVID rules are mostly relaxed, but vary from country to country. In Ireland, masks are recommended, but not required anywhere. This makes a ten to eleven hour flight much easier to bear. In Germany, masks are required on all public transportation, but only recommended everywhere else. And yes, the rules are strictly enforced on all planes, trains, and busses.

Reports of unusually hot weather in Europe are also not exaggerated. While we were there, most of the dangerously high temperatures were concentrated in Portugal, Spain, Italy, and Greece. In the Heidelberg region, we experienced two short periods of daytime temperatures above 90 degrees Fahrenheit; however temperatures did come down enough at night to cool off the house and make sleeping comfortable.

As with all our trips to Germany, the primary purpose is to spend time with our younger son, daughter-in-law, and the grandchildren. Chrysan and I usually allow for several days of sightseeing time on our own. This trip was a notable exception. We were in Germany when our son and daughter-in-law were blessed with the birth of their second child, Lara Sophia, 3470 grams, 52 centimeters long. Both Mother and Baby doing well.

Mike Silence



Solution to the cryptogram puzzle on page 7:

STUTTGART, BONN, BREMEN, COLOGNE, DRESDEN, DUSSELDORF, FRANKFURT, HANNOVER, HAMBURG, MUNICH



HAPPY WANDERERS' HIKING GROUP

The hiking group had a fantastic outing to Point Mariah. The trailhead is near Serene Lakes and wanders south to a point overlooking the American River Canyon, which I have read is one of the deepest canyons in North America.

"How deep?", you might ask. I have no idea, but it is deep and the air was clear and we could see a long way. The beginning of the trail is forested and ends up on exposed granite, breathtaking.

The next hike is going to involve a **lake**, by special request, quite possibly three, Lakes Flora, Fauna and Azalea, two of which are available for swimming.

If you are not receiving hike notifications by e-mail, please let me know. It is possible that some folks are not yet on the list.

Thanks, Susan Vogt susan.vogt@comcast.net

Photos from the Point Mariah outing. (All photos taken by Linda Snyder)



The View



Lou Ann and Lynn, enjoying the view (see left)



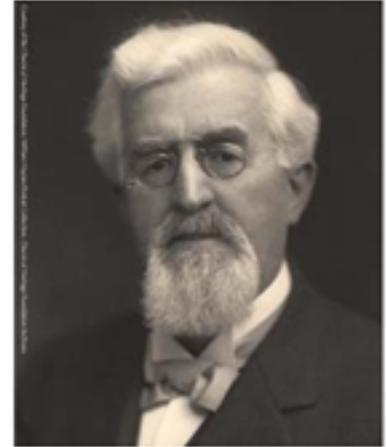
Karen, Kathleen, and Paulette taking refuge in the shade.



Sue, Jeannie, and Kirstin also in the shade. It must have been hot!

A German-American Confectioner

Henry Heide immigrated from Obermarsberg, Germany to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1866, at the age of 20. After two years as a grocer, he moved to New York where he began a specialty business making confectionary items. Over the years, Henry Heide received two patents for candy-making processes and became a founding member and early president of the National Confectioners Association in 1884. The business expanded steadily. In 1920, the Heide Company successfully introduced Jujufruits, called so because originally, the candies were flavored with the fruit of the Chinese date, also known as the jujuba tree. (The candy's name does not derive from "juice" or "Jew".) Over the years, the flavors have changed and the company also produced a variant called Jujubes. Both forms of the candy are popular with movie theater goers.



Henry Heide



Chewy Jujufruits, similar in texture to Gummibears



Jujubes were meant to be melted in one's mouth rather than chewed. A thin beeswax coating minimizes sticking together of individual pieces.

A side note: German-American Henry Heide was a contemporary of German Hans Riegel, who was the inventor of Gummibears, also a jelly-like soft candy and also introduced in the 1920's. However, Riegel's company, Haribo (derived from **Hans Riegel Bonn**), did not market Gummibears in the US until 1982.

A side note to the side note:

Hans Riegel, the German Gummibear entrepreneur, was also a badminton player. In 1953, he became the first president of the *Deutscher Badminton-Verband* (German Badminton Association), and he won German badminton championships in 1954 and 1955. Who knew? For more about summer racquet sports, see page 5.

Kristina Wetherbee needs **photos** to paste on the club's Facebook page! Please contact her with any GCGAC-related photos such as recent hikes, our summer picnic, friends, anything she might use. Also, We are still looking for a place where we could **practice** German folk **dancing** twice per month.

Activities



German Language Classes

Interested in learning German? There is **only one** (as indicated by Herr Erhobenem Zeigefinger at left) place in Nevada County to take classes, and that is RIGHT HERE at the Gold Country German-American Club!

Classes are FREE with club membership.

The Beginning level class has changed its direction. It now meets once per month under the direction of Susanne Bader at Kristina Wetherbee's house in Grass Valley to watch German movies, sing a few German songs, and learn some new words.

The Intermediate Class is taught by Erica Meier. The class is underway reading a German murder mystery novel, *Blutige Affäre* by Dörte Jensen, and studying some mind-bending German grammar. Intermediate students assemble in person at various class members' homes, now that the coronavirus risk appears to have subsided.

For more information, call Erica at (619) 335-6499

Conversational German Group

Greetings! The Conversational German Class will meet Wednesday, July 12, at 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. at 10078 Grinding Rock Dr. Grass Valley. Call me if interested to join the group at 530-913-1836. See you at 2 p.m. -- Christa.

Anyone for tennis? Here's a German-speaking world champion tennis player, **Roger Federer**, from Switzerland. During his career, he was ranked number 1 for a record 237 consecutive weeks by the Association of Tennis Professionals. He has earned more than \$130 million in prize money. He is a gracious sportsman on the tennis court and an active philanthropist. Unfortunately, at age 40, a knee injury has curtailed his participation in some tournaments to allow the knee to recover after surgery. Federer announced that he would return to competition this September at the Laver Cup, a tournament that pits six players from Europe against six from the rest of the world. Federer himself founded the Laver Cup in 2017.



Upcoming Events

Be on the lookout for...

This Month:

- Aug-15: Intermediate Language Class, see p. 5
- Aug-10: German Conversation Group at Christa's, see p. 5
- Aug-9: Board of Directors' meeting, see p. 7
- Aug-22: Intermediate Language Class, see p. 5.
- Aug-: Beginning Language Class at Kristina's, see p. 5
- August hiking to be announced on ad hoc basis.

Tentative Plans for 2022:

- September 17, GAHF Gala. see below
- September 24, Oktoberfest



August Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------|-------------------|
| August 1 | Karen Clark |
| August 2 | Paulette Berquist |
| August 2 | Lilly Sackl |
| August 7 | Marlee Chamberlin |
| August 8 | Tom Dyer |
| August 14 | June Anderson |
| August 19 | Richard Fuller |
| August 29 | Richard Snyder |

Tune to KNCO Radio AM 830, weekdays at 7:50 a.m. to hear your birthday greeting from GCGAC!



Gute Besserung



Gery Denzler
Christel Denzler





Enigma Machine, c. 1932

During World War 2, the German side used what was called the **Enigma Machine** to encrypt important military and diplomatic communications. The machine made a letter-for-letter substitution in the text of the message, using a method called a **cipher**, similar but much more complex than the Little Orphan Annie Secret Society Decoder Pin, below left. A puzzle that gives an encrypted text using a simple cipher for the reader to decode is called a cryptogram. Here is a cryptogram for ten German cities (e.g., BERLIN) that is relatively easy to solve by looking for patterns in repeated letters, the lengths of the names, etc. In this puzzle, the English spellings are used. The same cipher key is used throughout. Try it!



Little Orphan Annie Secret Society Decoder Pin, c. 1935

| | |
|------------|------------|
| FGHG GTNEG | QHFFRYQBES |
| OBAA | SENAXSHEG |
| OERZRA | UNABIRE |
| PBYBTAR | UNZOHET |
| QERFQRA | ZHAVPU |

GCGAC Board of Directors

Officers (Elected -- 5 votes):

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| President: Mike Silence | 530-477-6659 |
| Vice President: Kristina Wetherbee | (916) 955-2878 |
| Secretary: Linda Shaffer | 714-315-5754 |
| Mary Jean Muff | 273-8170 |
| Treasurer: Lou Ann Schwartz | 432-0690 |
| Program: John Hettrich | (650) 207-3681 |

Directors (Appointed):

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Membership: Susan Vogt | 432-0594 |
| Dance: Kristina Wetherbee | (916) 955-2878 |
| Happy Wanderers: TBD | |
| Newsletter: Paul Trethewey | 265-0763 |
| Publicity: to be filled | |
| German Language: | |
| Conversational: Christa Benson | 530-913-1836 |
| Intermediate: Erica Meier | 619-335-6499 |
| Beginning: Susanne Bader | 510-282-0721 |

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on :

Tuesday, August 9, 2022, 6:30 p.m.
by
Zoom Conference Call

GCGAC Committee Chairs (appointed, non-voting)

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Refreshments: Volunteers | |
| Get Well & Sunshine: | |
| Christel Denzler | 878-0504 |
| Kaffee & Kuchen: TBD | |
| Inter-Club Liaison: Hank Stoffel | 269-3137 |
| Webmaster: Paul Trethewey | 265-0763 |
| Property: Dennis Naumann | 477-1622 |
| Historian: Chrysan Silence | 530-477-6659 |
| Facebook Team: Kristina Wetherbee | 916-955-2878 |
| & Elany Prusa | 530-432-8736 |

Be sure to check out the official club web page! It has all kinds of interesting stuff, including photo galleries, links, and prior newsletters. It's located at:

www.goldcountrygermanamericanclub.org



Gold Country German-American Club is a Member of the German-American Heritage Foundation of the USA®
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“Representing Americans of German Speaking Heritage”

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