



# Gold Country German American Club



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

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

[www.goldcountrygermanamericanclub.org](http://www.goldcountrygermanamericanclub.org)

## Our Picnic Rained Out? No way!

The annual club picnic went forward as scheduled! A grand time was had by all, in spite of the freak rainfall and the lack of lattice-top rhubarb pie. Karen Herrmann writes:

In spite of the weather that was a bit unpredictable, it turned out to be almost perfect -= not too hot and not too windy. Everybody seemed to enjoy the event immensely. There was such happiness and hugs seeing each other again. For some even 2 years had gone by since we last saw each other.

The Hettrichs cooked pork-chops and sausages on the BBQ. I believe we were 35-40 people. Just right. We even had a visitor Uli (Ulrich) Pelz from Germany. He is a friend of Dennis/Judie Schuetzle and an active member in the Sacramento Turn Verein.



We all huddled underneath the buffet tents to escape the downpour!

**What about the Fourth of July parade?** Well, nuts! For various reasons, we won't be marching in it this year, but you are welcome to come and watch and listen to the Ophir Prison Marching Band and Kazoo Society and all of the other parade entrants in Nevada City. Wear a hat, stay hydrated! Bring a little American flag to wave -- but leave the German Bundesflagge at home.

## Notes from the Board

1. 4th of July Parade: Due to the absence of many members, a general lack of interest, and the lack of a suitable tow vehicle for the float, the club will not participate in this year's 4th of July parade. V.P. Kristina Wetherbee suggests that now would be a good time to come up with some fresh, new ideas about the Club's participation in the parade next year. Please submit your ideas to our Activities Director, John Hettrich, at [jhettrich@gmail.com](mailto:jhettrich@gmail.com).
2. The translation of "Wahres und Legendäres" is nearly complete. However, at the request of Margaret Novak and her family, the translation will not be published. All requests outside of those directly participating in the translation work will be referred directly to Margaret.
3. There will be no general meeting of the club in August.

The Board is completing the update of the Club's By-Laws. The update must be approved at a general membership meeting. A quorum of the membership is needed to take action. The final draft of the By-laws will be sent to all members well ahead of the vote. Please watch your email and the newsletter for additional information.

To anyone having keys to Seaman's Lodge: We urgently need to update the records on who has them. The keys are numbered, and Nevada City Parks and Recreation charges \$100.00 each for lost key.

Respectfully,  
Mike Silence

---

It's not too early to start planning how we're going to celebrate Oktoberfest! It's actually only about three months away. Kristina Wetherbee is suggesting we revive some of the games, contests, and other activities that we did in pre-pandemic times, and maybe add some new ones. How about singing? Dancing? Yodeling? Home brew competition? Think about it, folks! Again, submit your suggestions to [jhettrich@gmail.com](mailto:jhettrich@gmail.com) or to Kristina at [mkwetherbee@juno.com](mailto:mkwetherbee@juno.com).





## HAPPY WANDERERS' HIKING GROUP

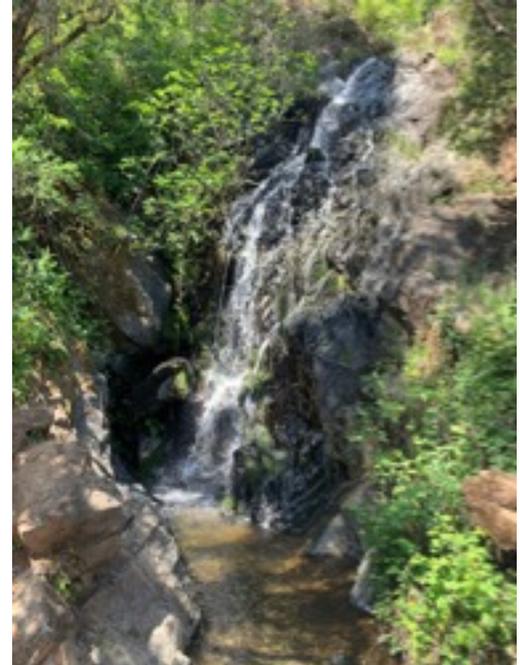
Hiking Report: Thursday, May 26, was supposed to be a hike without snow...I had originally hoped to do the Mt Judah Loop, but the news that there was still snow on the trail was disappointing, however we are adaptable!

We changed our plan to Loney Meadow and beyond, but rats, those bumpy dirt roads can fool you! We ended up at the trailhead by Carr Lake. We passed that lake with ease, but we encountered the dreaded white stuff at Feeley Lake, right on the trail. No matter, we went up, down over the river and through the woods. We might have turned left and headed towards Penner Lake, but we went straight to Island Lake. The south side of the lake is next to the north side of the mountain and the snow lingered. But we ate at a fabulous lunch spot and were fortified with Aeron's homemade peanut butter cookies, yum, and had no trouble retracing our steps. The hike for this week, Thursday June 23 will be to Penner Lake. We already have several excited participants signed up. We will be going up that same bumpy dirt road, so those with high clearance vehicles will be a welcome sight. This hike is 6-7 miles round trip and of moderate difficulty.

We are planning hikes in the Grouse Ridge, Truckee and Tahoe areas, exact notification will be much closer to the date due to road and air quality conditions.

If you want to be on the hiking list please notify me at [susan.vogt@comcast.net](mailto:susan.vogt@comcast.net)

Thanks



Jeannie Rodriguez, Tom Maher, Karen Herrmann, Arnette McClure, Dave Costa, Susan Vogt, Kirsten Hebert, Agnes Walker

# Picnic Pictures



Karen Clark and Tom Stone walking over the bridge after the rain. The air smelled beautiful and the soil was soft and nice for our walk around the lake...  
Submitted by Elany Prusa



Ulrich (Uli) Pelz and Dennis Schuezle. Isn't Flag Day June 14?



Aeron Davis and her long-haired doxie along with Sue Vogt's new shorthair dachshund Preparing to walk around the lake with Fred and Karen as our leaders...



Ulrich (Uli) Pelz and Fred Herrmannn



Too many cooks? Nope, just enough! John Hettrich and Tom Maher at the barbecue.

## 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.

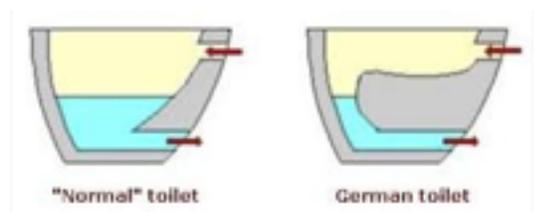
For more information, call Erica at (619) 335-6499

### 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.

Here's a word to add to your German **vocabulary** list:

**Flachspüler**, which translates to "Shallow flusher." It refers to a quaint design of toilet bowl that was once used in Germany and other European countries and can still be found today. It featured a dry shelf or "plate" onto which one's fecal matter landed before being flushed away. This would allow one to inspect one's excreta for such as parasites (worm infections were once common in medieval Europe) or accidentally-swallowed objects that might have passed through one's digestive system. What we consider the more conventional design is called a **Tiefspüler**, a "deep flusher," which tends to contain odors better than the *Flachspüler*, but also uses more water per flush, which we here in drought-stricken California should be mindful of.



# Upcoming Events

Be on the lookout for...

## This Month:

- July-11: Intermediate Language Class, see p. 5
- July-12: German Conversation Group at Christa's, see p. 5
- July-12: Board of Directors' meeting, see p. 7
- July-18: Intermediate Language Class, see p. 5.
- July-25: Beginning Language Class at Kristina's, see p. 5
- July hiking to be announced on ad hoc basis.

## Tentative Plans for 2022:

**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 Casino Night, friends, anything she might use. Also, We are still looking for a place where we could **practice** German folk **dancing** twice per month.



## July Birthdays

- |         |                   |
|---------|-------------------|
| July 5  | Larry Starn       |
| July 15 | Susan Vogt        |
| July 20 | Ronald Franceschi |
| July 21 | Dennis Schuetzle  |

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

# The Dremel Moto-Tool



If you have ever visited a hobby shop, you probably know what a Dremel Moto-Tool is. It's a small, hand-held electric motor that spins at about 35,000 RPM with a collet chuck that holds a large variety (about 150 different) cutting and shaping tools, a few of which are shown above right. The original Moto-Tool was invented by Austrian-American **Albert J. Dremel**, above left, in 1932, in Racine, Wisconsin. Over the years, Dremel acquired 55 patents for such inventions as the electric eraser, electric screwdriver, and walk-behind rotary lawn mower. In addition to hobby and craft applications, Dremel tools are used in electronic engineering hardware labs for cutting copper traces on printed circuit boards. The company also offers a tool for carving pumpkins and a tool for grooming pets' nails. The Dremel Company was acquired by the Robert Bosch Tool Corporation in 1993.

## 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, July 12, 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: Kristina Wetherbee	(916) 955-2878
Facebook Team: Kristina (above)	
& 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](http://www.goldcountrygermanamericanclub.org)



Gold Country German-American Club is a Member of the German-American Heritage Foundation of the USA®  
719 Sixth St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20001

“Representing Americans of German Speaking Heritage”

Ph: 866-868-8422 (toll free) email: [info@gahmusa.org](mailto:info@gahmusa.org) web: [www.gahmusa.org](http://www.gahmusa.org)



Gold Country German-American Club  
P.O. Box 571  
Graff Valley, CA 95945

*First Class Mail*  
*Please Forward*