



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

Important Club Meeting Friday, March 3:

In addition to the usual fun, food, drink, and merriment, we are holding our yearly election of officers. For that purpose, we need to have a quorum to vote for the new Board of Directors and approve By-Laws. Please attend! Your vote matters. -->

Schedule:

5:00 p.m. Set-up. Your help is appreciated!

6:00 p.m. Meeting -- Election of Officers for 2023

6:30 p.m. Pizza, beer, appetizers and refreshments socializing, dancing. Bring dancing shoes!



Please also bring appetizers or desserts to go with the pizza!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL -- \$30 FOR THE YEAR 2023

(MARCH 2023 -- FINAL NOTICE!)

January 1, 2023 begins the club membership year. Thank you for your support during 2022. We look forward to your renewal as a member in 2023 for enjoyment of meetings, events, and activities. If you attend events that are no cost for members, but a charge for guests, you can benefit more than a 100% return on your dues investment. The renewal period is January and February, and dues are delinquent March 1, 2023. However, we'll accept last minute dues payment at the March 3 meeting.

Please help the Membership Director save time and club expenses by mailing your check to "GCGAC" soon, for \$30 per person. Thank you! Send to:

Gold Country German-American Club

P.O. Box 571

Grass Valley, CA 95945

Notes from the Board

As of the publication date of this March newsletter, four of the current officers have agreed to run again for their current offices. The present slate of candidates is:

President - Mike Silence
Vice President - Kristina Wetherbee
Secretary -
Treasurer - Lou Ann Schwartz
Program Director - John Hettrich

As you can see, we are in need of a candidate for Secretary. Nominations may be submitted in person at the March General Membership Meeting.

A vote on the revision of the club's By-Laws will also be held at the March general meeting. A formal notification of the vote and a copy of the proposed revision was sent to all members January 24, 2023.

A quorum of members is necessary to conduct any club business. Please make a special effort to attend.

Mike Silence
President



What's a **Stammtisch**? The word means "Regulars' Table," typically a large table reserved for regular customers of a restaurant, bar, or beer hall in Germany. The Stammtisch is marked with an ornate tabletop sign as shown at left. Historically, high social status community members such as mayors, doctors, teachers, and rich landowners were the only people allowed to sit at the Stammtisch, but in recent times, the purpose has shifted to general social interaction, community, shared interests, and card games. We in the GCGAC plan to set up a Stammtisch at a local brewery or bistro (just for one night, April 7) and hold our club meeting there instead of Seaman's Lodge. The April newsletter will provide details. Does anybody know how to play the card game, *Skat*? How about *Uno*?





HAPPY WANDERERS' HIKING GROUP

Our March 9 hike will be to **Bullards Bar Reservoir** in Yuba County. The map calls it the New Bullards Bar Reservoir, I have no idea what happened to the old one. There was a big flood in 1955 that wiped out a lot of Marysville, the reservoir was built in response to that water event. Started in 1959, it was finally completed in 1969. Elevation is 2000 feet.

In the past few years the lake has been quite low, it should be higher due to our recent wonderful rains. Our trailhead starts near the dam and meanders north to the peninsula near Dark Day. That is where the boats put in. The lake is about 20 miles north of Nevada City. I would recommend carpooling as I don't have exact mileage to our parking spot. We will hike one way send drivers back for their cars. This is close to Karen Herrmann's birthday, so we will celebrate her arrival on the planet at lunch time.



The **Cronan Ranch** is a recreational area west of hwy 49 and south of Cool. There are multiple trails here that for the most part lead to the very full American River. On Feb 9th we took one of these trails and hiked several miles to our lunch spot. We saw other hikers and mountain bikers and some folks claim their small dogs were nearly carried away by large raptors! One could continue along the river all the way to Folsom Lake. We, however, turned around and headed back to our cars, passing by a building that looks older than it is, that was once on a movie set for a sappy film that no one remembers. This is a great area for hiking in the winter and spring. It gets incredibly hot here in the summer, but I am told the rafting can be wild.

A Link to the GCGAC Membership Application

There are many reasons to become a member of the Gold Country German-American Club. One of the most popular reasons is to go on hikes with our illustrious and adventuresome Happy Wanderers group. We welcome and embrace guests, of course, and after a few trial hikes, we ask guests to become members. A Membership Application is available at <https://www.goldcountrygermanamericanclub.org>

Unsere Leute New Members!



Rudy Darling After studying German for 4 years in high school, Rudy spent 15 months in Germany, including 2 semesters at the Universität Tübingen. Photo at right shows Rudy on scientific expedition while at the Uni in 1967. He looks forward to getting a chance to renew his Deutschkenntnis. Rudy is a long-time area resident who worked as a chemist for Cranmer Engineering and for County of Nevada. He plays the fiddle and enjoys photographing birds using that big telescopic lens. Welcome, Rudy!



Linda Terrell (left) writes: Five years ago my husband and I decided to move to Nevada County. We found a wonderful log home in Timbuctoo, of all places! We both enjoy the outdoors and this has been a great spot for us.

Hiking has always been a passion of mine & joining the Happy Wanderers has been a great experience finding new trails & hiking with great club members. Looking forward to many more great adventures with the American German Club!



Leslie Lambeth and husband David (left) live happily on 42 acres near Smartsville, along with their animals. During her career, Leslie designed clothes and wardrobe for such as Universal Orlando, City Walk, and Hard Rock. She and David enjoy hiking, kayaking, horseback riding, and scuba diving, and they're grateful to be living active lives here with folks who share their interests. She's a Happy Wanderer. Welcome, Leslie!

Candy Howell retired from teaching third grade in Galt, CA for 25 years. She and her husband have lived in Alta Sierra for the past 5 years, really enjoy it, and are raising a few chickens there. Candy enjoys hiking and is one of our new Happy Wanderers. Welcome, Candy!

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 is on hiatus.

The Intermediate Class is taught by Erica Meier. The class is embarking on another German murder mystery novel, *Blutiger Verrat* by Dörte Jensen; Now would be an excellent time to jump on board, if you're interested! The study of mind-bending German grammar is ongoing; and the class is finishing up the translation of *Wahres und Legendäres*.

Intermediate class sessions take place in person at various class members' homes.

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

Conversational German Group

Servus! The Conversational German Class is taking March off. Normally they meet from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. at Christa Benson's place on second Wednesday of the month at 10078 Grinding Rock Dr. Grass Valley. If you're interested in German conversation, call Christa at 530-913-1836.

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 Oktoberfest, holiday parties, friends, anything she might use. Also,

We are still looking for a place where we could **practice** German folk **dancing** twice per month.



The price of eggs in Germany.

Certainly you have noticed the soaring price of eggs at our local supermarkets. Even the cheapest store in town has posted a sign apologizing for charging more than \$7 for a dozen eggs, citing the ostensibly world-wide avian flu as the cause of the egg shortage and higher prices. Trader Joe's in Roseville has held their prices to pre-avian flu levels, but their egg supplies are typically snatched up by bargain hunters shortly after the store opens each morning.

How are our friends in Germany faring during the avian flu crisis? In December, with the flu at full chat, according to www.globalproductprices.com, the price for a dozen large eggs in the USA was \$5.06. In Germany, those same eggs cost 2.61 Euros (about \$2.77), about half the US price. What!? Are we being diddled?

Upcoming Events

Be on the lookout for...

This Month:

Mar-3: Club Meeting -- General Membership and Electing New Officers See p.1.

Mar-6: Intermediate Language Class, see p. 5

Mar-14: Board of Directors' meeting, see p. 7

Mar-20: Intermediate Language Class, see p. 5

March hiking, snowshoeing, or skiing to be announced on ad hoc basis.

Tentative Plans for 2023:

April 7 = Stammtisch at a local Bistro or Brewery TBD

May 5 = Language Class Extravaganza

June = Summer Picnic

July 4 = Parade Participation

September 23 (Saturday) = Oktoberfest

November 3 = TBA

December 1 = Christmas Holiday Dinner



March Birthdays

March 10	Karen Herrmann
March 11	Mark Schilleman
March 11	LouAnn Schwartz
March 20	Sabine Schweter
March 21	Rebecca Claus
March 25	Thomas Spol

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

Gute Besserung



Niemand?



Paul's Potent Pepper Pickles

There is some talk that, for the May 5 Language Class Extravaganza, we will obtain some of the legendary **Spreewald Gurken** (pickles) from Germany to offset the home baked Brezeln, deutsche Bier, and other taste treats. In case we can't get genuine Spreewald pickles, we have a backup, shown at left, of home made "Killer Diller" pickles liberally spiced with dill, garlic, and tiny but potent peppers. Pickling is an inexact science, however, and these will be brought to the party only if they turn out well.

Teutonic Technology: Eco-Friendly Viscose Clothing Fibers



What is a conscientious consumer to do when considering the environmental impact of the fibers used in clothing? It has been recently reported that polyester, often combined with cotton and used ubiquitously for clothing fabric, is not bio-degradable: Every time you wash and dry a cotton/polyester T-shirt, microscopic pieces of polyester are released into the environment, into the water, and into the food chain. An alternative to

polyester is Rayon, also known as Viscose in Europe. Viscose uses cellulose from wood fiber as its building block. Viscose is biodegradable, but unfortunately, the conventional chemical process for making Viscose/Rayon is also horribly polluting and uses vast quantities of fresh water. Furthermore, all too often, non-renewable stands of timber have been indiscriminately converted to wood pulp for Viscose.

The **Austrian** company, **Lenzing**, has developed a new process for manufacturing Viscose that sidesteps the pollution and uses far less water. The company claims to use certified renewable wood sources from sustainable forests; Lenzing's manufacturing process is a "closed loop" that recaptures, neutralizes, or re-uses the toxic chemicals. The waste water is treated so there is no pollution. Lenzing's ECOVERO (tm) product also carries certification from the European Union's Ecolabel agency.

Fabrics made of bamboo have become popular recently, not only for the way they feel, but also because bamboo is a more efficient and rapidly-regrown source of cellulose for Viscose. However, not all bamboo Viscose Rayon is produced with the same regard for the environment as Lenzing's. If you have a choice, go with the Austrians!

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, March 14, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

by

Zoom Conference Call

GCGAC Committee Chairs (appointed, non-voting)

Refreshments: Volunteers	
Get Well & Sunshine:	
Christel Denzler	916-409-5413
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®
719 Sixth St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20001

“Representing Americans of German Speaking Heritage”

Ph: 866-868-8422 (toll free) email: info@gahmusa.org web: www.gahmusa.org



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P.O. Box 571
Graff Valley, CA 95945

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