



# 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)

## Next Meeting: Movie Night at Seaman's Lodge

**Date: Friday, May 5, 2023**

**Time: 6 p.m.**

**Place: Seaman's Lodge at Pioneer Park Nevada City, CA**



Originally, this meeting was to have been the language class's yearly extravaganza, but because of conflicting schedules with vacation plans, we moved the extravaganza to November. Instead, for May, we'll show this fine movie from John Hettrich's prodigious video collection. It's called "The German Americans" and it originally showed on Public Television. Here's the official description of it:

### "The German Americans"

Explore the immigrant experience and celebrate the cultural ties that still bond generations after 400 years in the United States. Vintage film footage, family photos, and personal recollections reveal the unheralded story of the largest ethnic group in our nation. 55 min.

This Movie Night happens to fall on Cinco de Mayo, a national holiday in Mexico. To honor that holiday, we will be having nachos and Mexican beer at the event. Mexican beer at a meeting of the German-American Club? "Blasphemy," you say? Well, just remember that the breweries in Monterey, Mexico were established in the 19th century by immigrant *braumeisters* from Germany and Austria during the reign of Emperor Maximilian. In fact, the malty, dark versions of Negro Modelo and Dos Equis Ambar are called "Vienna style."



## Fourth of July Parade



If there is sufficient interest, we will participate in the 4th of July Parade. The parade begins at 10 a.m. in Grass Valley this year. **If you are interested in participating with the GCGAC's parade float, please contact John Hettrich as soon as possible. [jhettrich@gmail.com](mailto:jhettrich@gmail.com)**

**Just in time for summer!** The European Union recently approved flour made from powdered, dried crickets as a food item. The approval also includes whole, dried crickets. The rationale is that food derived from insects is environmentally sustainable and a nutritious source of protein. In Rottenburg, Germany, Thomas Micolino (right), proprietor of the Eiscafe Rino ice cream parlor, has invented cricket ice cream using cricket flour, cream, vanilla, and honey. As you can see, the ice cream is topped with dried, whole crickets, the crowning touch. According to reports, the bizarre ice cream has generated great interest, and those curious first-adopter types who have tried it are giving mixed reviews.

Could we make some cricket ice cream here, in the Gold Country? Maybe. Micolino says he worked all last winter developing the ice cream, so apparently it's not as simple as it might appear. However, cricket flour is available on the internet; so are dried crickets. Also, our very own SPD Market in Nevada City keeps live, still chirping crickets in a special refrigerator and sells them as fish bait.





## HAPPY WANDERERS' HIKING GROUP



Finally we were able to celebrate Karen Herrmann's birthday! After two attempts in March (her actual birth month) we hiked along Bullard's Bar Reservoir on April 13th for about six miles, from Vista Point to Dark Day boat launch. The lake is much fuller this year than in the past several years. Temps were cool and wildflowers just beginning. There were ten of us and we ended our hike with sweet and savory goodies and Karen's fabulous blackberry and raspberry pies. What a treat!

Since this hike is on the shady side it could probably be done comfortably until early summer.

Our next hike, April 27, will be on the sunny side, the South Yuba Trail starting at the campground and ending at Humbug Creek. It is about nine miles, out and back, rated moderate. Details will go out in the mailing to the folks in the hiking group.

--Susan Vogt

---

### 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>

---

## Unser Stammtisch

On Friday, April 14, our "group of regulars" met at the Ribald Brewery in Nevada City, had some of Ribald's local brew, brought our own eats, made a lot of noise, and played the card game, Uno. It was a whole peck of good fun!



Photo by James Huber



## 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 May 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.

Here are Kathryn Schoensee-Finn and Susan Vogt chatting by the side of the Bullard's Bar Reservoir during the hike on April 13. Doesn't that water look beautiful? Still, greenish-blue, and full! Eleny Prusa took the photo.



# Upcoming Events

Be on the lookout for...

## This Month:

- May-1: Intermediate Language Class, see p. 5
- May-5: Movie Night at Seaman's Lodge, see p. 1
- May-9: Board of Directors' meeting, see p. 7
- May-11: Happy Wanderer's Hike, details to be emailed
- May-15: Intermediate Language Class, see p. 5
- May-25: Happy Wanderer's Hike, details to be emailed

## Tentative Plans for 2023:

- June 4 = Summer Picnic at Herrmann's Place
- July 4 = Parade Participation
- September 23 (Saturday) = Oktoberfest
- November 3 = Language Class's "Bier und Bretzel Abend"
- December 1 = Christmas Holiday Dinner



The GCGAC summer picnic has been scheduled at the Herrmann's house for Sunday, June 4.



## May Birthdays

May 22	Joseph Nanut
May 25	David (Mike) Silence
May 26	Erica Meier
May 26	Gayle Nanut
May 28	Gery Denzler
May 31	Amber Lee Newman

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

## Gute Besserung



Bis jetzt sind noch  
Alle gesund 🍷



## Teutonic Technology: Nasal Spray for Covid

You might recall that the Pfizer vaccine for covid-19 was developed primarily by two Turkish-German scientists at BioNTech in Mainz, Germany, where Paxlovid® was also developed. There are now some other players in the battle against covid-19.

One of the shortcomings of the messenger RNA vaccines was that when a new variant of the virus mutated, the vaccine formula would need to be modified. A team led by Prof. Dr. Klaus Überla and Prof. Dr. Mathias Tenbusch at Friedrich-Alexander-Universität in Erlangen, Germany, have developed a nasal spray called Carragelose® that comprises iota carrageenan, a natural ingredient from red algae, and operates on a principle different from the mRNA method. Sprayed into the nose, Carragelose® forms a protective film that neutralizes and helps prevent the spread of all of the variants of covid-19, along with other SARS-CoV-2 viruses, including some viruses responsible for the common cold. The spray is used mostly by hospital workers who come into contact with infected patients. In late 2021, Carragelose® was clinically shown to be about 80% effective. It is safe and well tolerated, and it is made of natural materials and has no side effects. Why hasn't this treatment been in the news? Perhaps because the spray must be administered four times per day as a preventive, and the risk reduction is less than 100 percent. Nevertheless, a great discovery! Here's a link to more information: <https://www.npr.org/podcasts/583350334/science-friday>

### **GCGAC Board of Directors**

**Officers (Elected -- 5 votes):**

President: Mike Silence	530-477-6659
Vice President: Kristina Wetherbee	(916) 955-2878
Secretary: Ron Shaffer	714-315-5754
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, May 9, 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](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*