



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

Next Meeting:

CHRISTMAS -PARTY

Friday December the 1st 2023 at Seaman's Lodge

Doors open at 4:00 pm - dinner will be served at 6:00

The "Happy Wanderers" are hosting the Christmas party, and on the menu this year will be

Ham, scalloped potatoes, red cabbage, sauerkraut and apple-sauce. Beverages will be available as usual.

Non-hikers are encouraged to bring an appetizer or a dessert

We need to know how many people are coming, so indicate the number of people in your party (members & guests).

Important- is anyone bringing children? If so, bring a wrapped gift for that child for Santa to present.

E-mail RSVP to susan.vogt@comcast.net

The *Hannebrink Duo* will provide us with wonderful music for our enjoyment, and we hope some of the former 'Germania Voices' and others will lead us in singing our favorite Christmas Carols.

We like to keep alive some of the traditions of our homeland, when Christmas was a time for reflection, for family and celebration.

You are encouraged to bring your own festive dishes and utensils; we do have paper plates though.

This is a free event for members. Guests pay \$10.- Children are free. Let's have a wonderful Christmas Party!

The "Happy Wanderers"



Notes from the Board

Board Notes for December 2023

Over the next few months, important club dates fall as early in the month as possible.

First is our annual Christmas celebration on Friday, December 1st. As of this writing, that's only nine days away! The Happy Wanderers have been working hard to pull it all together. If you have not sent your RSVP to Sue Vogt (susan.vogt@comcast.net), please do so so. She needs an accurate attendance count to order food. I hope to see you all there.

Second is the election of club officers. In 2024, the first Friday in March falls on March 1st. To meet the notification requirements in Article V, paragraph 4 of the club By-Laws, nominations need to be submitted no later than January 31, 2024. Nominations may be submitted to my email address, noted below. HINT: You can nominate yourself.

Respectfully,
Mike Silence

If you're looking for a sweet dessert to bring to the annual Christmas party, try this
Persimmon Pudding:

Zutaten (Ingredients):

Ripe Persimmons,
enough to make 2-1/2 cups of persimmon pulp
1/4 cup melted butter
1 cup heavy cream
1 cup buttermilk
2 eggs
1/2 tsp vanilla
1-1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1 tsp. baking soda
2-1/2 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp salt
1 tsp cinnamon
1 c. brown sugar
1/2 c. white sugar



Zubereitung (preparation):

Combine all dry ingredients in a bowl. In another larger bowl, combine half-and-half with eggs; beat until smooth. Gradually add the flour mixture to the liquid, alternating with the persimmon pulp in several additions, mixing well after each addition. Add the melted butter. Transfer the batter to a greased baking dish. Bake in a 300°F oven for 1 hour or until a toothpick inserted into the pudding comes out clean. Cool before serving with Schlagsahne (whipped cream).

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 about 70 pages into another German murder mystery novel, *Blutiger Verrat* by Dörte Jensen; It's always a good time to jump on board, if you're interested! The study of mind-bending German grammar is ongoing; Party food and social lubricant make it easier.

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 December 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, 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.



Once again this year, the GCGAC Language Classes plan to be part of the all-German-language Christmas service on Sunday, December 17, at 4:00 P.M. at **Peace Lutheran Church** in Grass Valley! This year's event will feature modern, as opposed to Biblical, German with some role-playing [*Why are my palms sweating, already? -- PT*] It's still in the planning stages, but it's going to be fun and will usher in Christmas Eve which will happen only a week after.



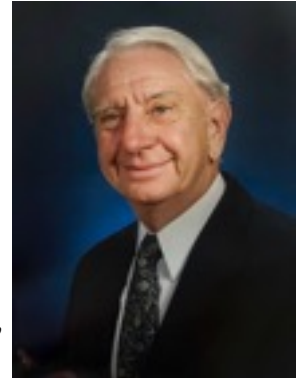
Obituaries

David Arthur Emanuel

November 12, 1935-October 27, 2023

David Arthur Emanuel, 87, of Grass Valley, passed away peacefully at his home under the loving care of his family and Partners in Care Hospice.

Dave was the son of Eda and Henry Emanuel of Fairchild, Wisconsin. He grew up on a dairy farm, graduated from the University of Wisconsin Madison and served four years as an officer in the U.S. Navy. He spent his career as an aerospace engineer on a variety of satellite projects, including four adventuresome years in England. He married Jessie Gray in 1961 and they recently celebrated their 62nd anniversary. Their life was full of family, friends, music, travel and service to their community—especially Habitat for Humanity.



Dave enjoyed tinkering in his workshop, hiking with the German American club, singing with the Grass Valley Male Voice Choir and his church choir.

He was an active member of Peace Lutheran Church and served on the Grass Valley Planning Commission. He was a founding member and driving force behind the Nevada County Habitat for Humanity.

He is survived by his wife Jessie, three children, Dave (Maria), Ken (Barbara) and Kate (Ken), six grandsons, many wonderful nieces and nephews, his brother Ed and sister Doris and his beloved cat Buddy. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Nevada County Habitat for Humanity (www.nchabitat.org) or Peace Lutheran Church (www.peacelutherangv.org).

[Apologies for repetitiveness, but this obituary arrived from Hildegard's family after publishing date for last month's newsletter. -- Paul]

Hildegard Kramer passed away on October 18, 2023, and was 87 years old. She was a German immigrant who was a Registered Nurse and began her nursing career as a midwife in Germany, then a labor and delivery nurse and finally a surgical nurse before retiring. She was very driven, nothing stopped her from achieving her goals. It didn't matter what it was, she even did construction on her house. Hildegard was best known for her amazing cooking skills, huge gardens, sewing & knitting skills and her full-hearted laugh. She was such a strong, independent and highly intelligent woman who will be remembered and admired always.



Hildegard is survived by her 5 children, 9 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband Frank, her son Rolf and grandson Nikolaus.

Upcoming Events

Be on the lookout for...

This Month:

December-1: Club meeting: Christmas Dinner at Seaman's Lodge. See p.1.

December-4: Intermediate Language Class, see p. 5

December-12: Board of Directors' Meeting, see p. 7

December-14: Possible Happy Wanderer's Hike, TBA

December-18: Intermediate Language Class, see p. 5

Tentative Plans for 2024:

February-4: First Club meeting of 2024 at Seaman's Lodge.

All over Germany, there are Christmas Markets like this one in Nuremberg:



Christkindlmarkt in Sacramento

On December 2 & 3, the Sacramento Turn Verein will hold its 22nd Annual Christkindlmarkt. benefiting multiple charities in the Sacramento area. Christmas Music, Arts, Crafts, Ornaments, Cookies and Cakes for sale, Nurnberg sausage dinner, Gluhwein, Authentic Saint Nicklaus. More information at:

<https://sacramentoturnverein.com/events/>



December Birthdays

December 3	Larry White
December 6	Tony Sackl
December 13	Kathleen Kelly
December 14	Bill Johnston
December 15	Christian Schweter
December 18	Elany Prusa
December 19	Margaret Novak
December 23	Anneliese Frankel

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



Gute Besserung

Fred Herrmann
Karen Herrmann





HAPPY WANDERERS' HIKING GROUP

October 26 was the last official hike of the Gold Country German American Club for 2023.

Eight hardy souls hiked from the Emerald Pools parking lot up to Lake Spaulding along the Pioneer Trail.

The woods are so sparkly in the fall and we have been blessed with an exceptionally beautiful fall this year.

After a leisurely snack at the lake we retraced our steps and joined four others for a delightful potluck picnic lunch by the discovery trail.

There may be some impromptu hikes in December, or not.

Regular hikes will resume the second Thursday of January 2024. Yikes, can't believe the year is almost over.

Sue



Interesting rock formation. How did it get there? By glacier?



Year end hiking potluck at Discovery Trail on October the 26th
Just have one picture from that event of Sue receiving a plant and a card where all 15 hikers (I believe) signed a little note expressing their gratitude to Sue Vogt being our fearless leader throughout the year.

--Karen Herrmann

Teutonic Technology: The Wilesco Locomobile

Wilesco



This isn't exactly high technology, but it typifies exquisite attention to detail that is quintessentially German. The company, Wilhelm Schröder GmbH & Co KG, also known as Wilesco, manufactures a range of model steam engines that provide fascination for young and old alike. Pictured at left is their model D430 Locomobile, a replica of the tractors that were used in the late 19th and early 20th century on German farms. Like the tractors themselves, the Locomobile runs entirely on steam power and is self-propelled. There are no electric or internal combustion motors. Instead, the model has a firebox in which specially-designed pellets are burned, a boiler to make steam, pistons and cylinders to transform the steam to mechanical motion, plus a throttle, pressure gauge, safety pressure release, and a tiny shrill whistle. All parts for these educational toys are made of brass, steel, and aluminum in Wilesco's factory in Lüdenscheid, Germany. The company also makes replicas of stationary steam engines that were used during the industrial revolution to power machine shops via long belts and pulleys. You can buy a new Locomobile today at a special price of 464 Euros (includes shipping and VAT, they say). What a fine Christmas present for somebody, don't you agree?

GCGAC Board of Directors

Officers (Elected -- 5 votes):

President: Mike Silence	(909) 496-6468
Vice President: Kristina Wetherbee	(916) 955-2878
Secretary: Ron Shaffer	(714) 315-5754
Treasurer: Lou Ann Schwartz	(530) 432-0690
Program: John Hettrich	(650) 207-3681

Directors (Appointed):

Membership: Susan Vogt	(530) 432-0594
Dance: Kristina Wetherbee	(916) 955-2878
Happy Wanderers: TBD	
Newsletter: Paul Trethewey	(530) 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, December 12, 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 (530) 269-3137

Webmaster: Paul Trethewey (530) 265-0763

Property: Dennis Naumann (530) 477-1622

Historian: Chrysan Silence (909) 496-8776

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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