



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

OKTOBERFEST KOMMT GLEICH!

Yes! The Gold Country German-American Club's Oktoberfest is **just around the corner!** We'll have authentic food, authentic music by the Papa Oom-Pah-Pah Band, dancing, sing-alongs, a little ceremony, raffle prizes, a multi-media presentation, and, oh yeah, did we mention **beer**? The Alpine

Dancers will be performing, and Kristina will teach everyone the Offner Waltz. We want to fill the Seaman's Lodge with people, even more than last year. The event is private, for Club members *and their guests*, so you are welcome and encouraged to bring guests. Dirndls and Lederhosen optional: Wear 'em if you got 'em! Admission: \$10.



Rebecca Claus has circulated a sign-up sheet for you to help out with such things as set-up, tear-down, decorating, and food prep. There is a link in your email to a shared spread sheet on Google drive, called "OKTFEST volunteers". Click on the "Open" button in that email and sign up to help, please!

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

Date and Time: **Saturday, September 21**, 2024. Doors open at 4; dinner ~ 6:30.

Wir werden alle tanzen, essen, singen, und trinken!

Notes from the Board

Our annual Oktoberfest celebration will be held Saturday, September 21st at Seaman's Lodge. Oktoberfest is one of our two big celebrations each year and we need your help in making it success. Rebecca Claus has created a spreadsheet in Google Sheets where you can sign up for the tasks needed to make the celebration happen. A link to the spreadsheet is included below. If the link does not respond, simply copy and paste it into the search bar on your web browser. Google Sheets automatically saves your changes.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1p0xhx_yOIIyaPG_jwa-h-nCWNqfK64c6XwGD-OIQuAY/edit?usp=sharing

Respectfully,
Mike Silence
President



Our Stammtisch: We had a good time at the Nevada City Brewhaus last August 2. We brought playing cards but ended up with only the table talk!



Larry W., Paul T., Kris W., Chrysan S., James H., Mike S., Karen H., Karen C., Tom D.



This sign announced in German we were judging their beer:
"Preisgericht der Bierbewertung"

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 nearly finished with 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 September 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.



Our dancers are up and running! (Well, dancing, actually.) 😊 We now have 5 couples in the dance group and now is the time to join if you're interested! We're teaching some beginning dances and reviewing older ones. Practices are usually Tuesday evenings, about every other week. See "Upcoming Events" on page 5. Please contact Kristina Wetherbee, (916) 955-2878, for more information.

HAPPY WANDERERS' HIKING GROUP



We had another absolutely beautiful day for our hike on 15 August, 2024. It took about 1.5 hours to drive to the trailhead of the Lower Carpenter Valley north of Truckee. The trail wanders on the west side of the North fork of Prosser Creek, sometimes above the meadow on boardwalks. A lot of the hike is in the shade with pleasant views in every direction. We lunched at the top end of the valley and were intrigued by a sound coming from some kind of critter, Ron was able to see that it was a grouse. It would not be unpleasant to bring a book and spend hours at this site. We only got a tiny bit lost on the way back to our cars.

We spent a little time talking about the upcoming campout to the Lakes Basin Campground on Sep 3-5, we still have a pot luck one night. On Thursday we plan to hike to the top of the Sierra Buttes!

Upcoming hikes are 12 Sep and 26 Sep, back to our regular 2nd and 4th Thursdays.

Sue

susan.vogt@comcast.net



Lunch at the upper end of Lower Carpenter Valley



Above: Karen Herrmann is hiking with us again! Jeannie Rodriguez is wearing the colors of the Deutsche Bundesflagge.

Upcoming Events

Be on the lookout for...



This Month:

- Sept-2: Intermediate Language Class, see p. 3
- Sept-3: Board of Directors' Meeting, see p. 7
- Sept-10: Alpine Dance Practice at Kristina's see p. 3
- Sept-12: Happy Wanderer's Hike, see p. 4.
- Sept-16: Intermediate Language Class, see p. 3
- Sept-21: OKTOBERFEST, Seaman's Lodge, see p. 1
- Sept-26: Happy Wanderer's Hike, see p. 4.

September Birthdays

- Sept 21 John Muff
- Sept 26 Michael Camerlingo

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

Tentative Plans for 2024:

- Dec-6: Christmas Holiday Dinner at Seaman's Lodge
- We ought to plan something for November!



Gute Besserung

Alle sind gesund und munter.

Club members Christel and Gery Denzler live far away in Lincoln and so don't come to as many Club events as they used to, but Christel advises that there is a great Oktoberfest scheduled in Lincoln on October 5. Contact Christel for more information: (916) 409-5413.



If you want to attend an Oktoberfest that lasts **four days**, consider making the trip to Mt. Angel, Oregon, 40 miles south of Portland. <https://oktoberfest.org/> Their Oktoberfest party lasts from Thursday, September 12, until Sunday, September 15. There are several venues, several bands, several dance exhibitions, wiener dog races, golf tournament, car show, and lots of food and beer. Some of our Club members are planning to go. Contact Kristina Wetherbee for more information: (916) 955-2878.



Yes, wiener dog races!

Unsere Leute

Margot Schulze

September 22, 1935 - July 18, 2024

Margot Helene Schulze (Bader), born on September 22, 1935, in Vaihingen/Enz, Germany,

passed away on July 18, 2024, in Rohnert Park California. She died of a heart attack and a broken heart, having had to move out of her beloved home in Grass Valley, due to old age.

Margot lived a vibrant and fulfilling life marked by her dedication to family, community, travel and culture. She was friendly, energetic and very industrious. She was a leader, a mover and a shaker.

When Margot and her late husband, Otto, moved to Grass Valley in 1991, they immediately sought out the Gold Country German-American Club and became very active and involved members.

Even after Otto's passing in 2017, Margot continued to volunteer her time and energy to the GCGAC. She always served on committees, helped plan events, gave her advice, and went on weekly hikes with the Happy Wanderers, where she shared many interesting stories about growing up in the Hitler era.

Margot was also a devout member of the Peace Lutheran Church where she volunteered in providing meals for the homeless, making gift packages to an African community the church was affiliated with, and sang in the church choir.

Margot also sang with Music in the Mountains and the Cornish Carolers Christmas Choir.

She was dearly loved by all and will be greatly missed.

There will be a Celebration of Life for Margot on September 21 from 2 to 4 p.m. at Cogir at Rohnert Park, 4855 Snyder Lane, Rohnert Park, CA 84928. That was her retirement home for the past 2 years.





Happy Wanderers Enjoying the view at Barker Pass on July 25. Photo by Alan Cary

GCGAC Board of Directors

Officers (Elected -- 5 votes):

President: Mike Silence	(909) 496-6468
Vice President: Kristina Wetherbee	(916) 955-2878
Secretary: Chrysan Silence	(909) 496-8776
Treasurer: Lou Ann Schwartz	(530) 432-0690
Program: Rebecca Claus	(916) 710-0033

Directors (Appointed):

Membership: Susan Vogt	(530) 432-0594
Dance: Kristina Wetherbee	(916) 955-2878
Happy Wanderers: VACANT	
Newsletter: Paul Trethewey	(530) 265-0763
Publicity: VACANT	
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, September 3, 2024, 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: VACANT	
Inter-Club Liaison: VACANT	
Webmaster: Paul Trethewey	(530) 265-0763
Property: Dennis Naumann	(530) 477-1622
Historian: Chrysan Silence	(909) 496-8776
Facebook: Kristina Wetherbee	(916) 955-2878

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”

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