



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

Our Oktoberfest

From the Club's Oktoberfest party on September 21, here are some photos from Karen Herrmann:



Notes from the Board

Since the end of the Covid pandemic, the Board has been struggling with the club's finances. Decreasing membership, embarrassingly low attendance at monthly club meetings, and higher rental cost for Seaman's Lodge have all contributed to a steady decrease in the club's bank account. In order to stabilize the situation, two actions were taken at the September 3, 2024 Board of Directors meeting.

First, by a vote of five ayes to zero nays, effective January 1, 2025, the annual club dues will increase to \$40.00 per year.

Second, I have taken the action to search for a less expensive venue for our club meetings. As of today (September 20, 2024) I have met with representatives of the Northstar House, The Nevada County Contractor's Association, and Peace Lutheran Church. I have contacted the Nevada County Horsemen's Association and am waiting for a reply.

Respectfully,
Mike Silence



HAPPY WANDERERS' HIKING GROUP

September hiking group report from Sue Vogt:

The weather on September 2nd, 3rd and 4th was nearly perfect for our annual campout to the Lakes Basin Campground in Plumas County. Some folks arrived as early as 10:00 am and the rest trickled in throughout the day. On Tuesday we took a warm up hike to the little waterfall past Grassy Meadow and enjoyed the sound of the water cascading down the rocks. We had a pot luck dinner that evening, thanks to Ron for cooking those fabulous tri-tips. Strange that the special bottle of port vanished so quickly, but the margaritas were great!

Some of our people stayed at the Gold Lakes Lodge: they took their meals there and joined us later at the campfire. The S'mores were fabulous, along with the popcorn and lemoncello.

Continued on page 4...

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 has finished the German murder mystery novel, *Blutiger Verrat* by Dörte Jensen, and the group choosing a new book to read; 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 October 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



Continued from page 2:

On Wednesday 15 of us took off for a hike around some of the many lovely lakes. We passed Big Bear Lake, Little Bear Lake, Cub Lake, Silver Lake and Round Lake. Some folks went swimming in Round Lake, which is below an abandoned gold mine. We returned to Silver Lake and Long Lake. Some of the hikers went back to the campground at this point and some continued along the east shore of Long Lake and swam again at the dam, then back to the campground, nine miles in total. An impromptu pot luck meal sprung up with all the leftovers from the previous night, and another campfire, more lemoncello!

Thursday morning found some of us packing up early and heading to the climb up the Sierra Buttes. What luck, Jamie Hogan was able to join us (all the way from Tennessee) and we made it to the top! There were a few who were not sure they would make it, but employed the "just one more step" tactic and it worked. There was some haziness in the air because of the fire in the valley to the east, so we could not see the far distant peaks.



The grand finale was a dip in Sand Pond, always a refreshing event.

The very next week, on September 12, our group hiked the Mt Judah Loop, which includes part of the Pacific Crest Trail. It starts near Sugar Bowl, goes south, then east, then north, and as luck would have it, west. It is close to 6 miles. There are some interesting geologic formations along the way. The top itself is a bit uninteresting but the 360 degree view is fantastic.

Our next hike is September 26th, location to be determined.

Sue

Happy Wanderers at Long Lake on 05 September 2024.

Upcoming Events

Be on the lookout for...

This Month:

Oct-01: Board of Directors' Meeting, see p. 7
 Oct-08: Alpine Dance Practice at Kristina's see p. 3
 Oct-10: Happy Wanderer's Hike, see p. 4.
 Oct-21: Intermediate Language Class, see p. 3
 Oct-22: Alpine Dance Practice at Kristina's see p. 3
 Oct-24: Happy Wanderer's Hike, see p. 4.

Tentative Plans for 2024:

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



**NATIONAL
GERMAN-AMERICAN DAY**

Sunday, October 6, 2024 is German-American Day.
 Think about your heritage! We're all good people!



October Birthdays

October 4	Linda Snyder
October 19	Kristina Wetherbee
October 24	Renate Hettrich
October 25	Kathryn Schoensee Finn
October 28	Leslie Lambeth
October 29	Christine Weber
October 30	Dennis Brunnermeyer
October 30	Chrysan Silence

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



Gute Besserung

Alle sind gesund
 und munter.

Bundesflagge decoration
 was sewn by Theresa Arth
 many years ago.
 Club history!



More Happy Wanderers -- Climbing Mt. Judah



Upper left: Sue, Kathleen, Karen, and Renate
Upper right: Ron Shaffer preparing for the final push!
Left: Yes, that's Jamie Hogan. Below: Summit is marked with orange sign and pole. Congratulations!



Teutonic Technology: Giga-Train



Compare these two commuter trains. On the left is the standard S-Bahn electric train in Munich, using the standard overhead wiring and "catenaries" held high by somewhat unattractive towers. On the right is a new train, developed by Tesla, that is entirely battery-operated. It is called the Giga Train, and it carries passengers, most of whom are Tesla employees, from Erkner station east of Berlin, Germany, to the Tesla factory 20 miles south. This train route has no catenaries; it formerly used diesel locomotives. It is anticipated that the Giga Train will transport 4,500 workers to and from the factory every day, 500 riders per trip. One can only imagine the bank of lithium-ion batteries needed to propel a train, and how such a bank of batteries would be recharged.

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, October 1, 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"

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

First Class Mail
Please Forward



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