



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 Event =



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, 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: FREE for members, \$10 for guests.

Karen Herrmann is compiling a sign-up sheet for you to help out with such things as set-up, tear-down, decorating, and food prep. Sign up to help, please!

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

Date and Time: **Saturday, September 20, 2025.** Doors open at 4:30; dinner ~ 6:00.

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

Notes from the Board

Dear GCGAC Members, hope you are all having a wonderful summer. Our next event after Oktoberfest will be Casino Night in October. Hope to see all of you there.

The Club still needs someone to replace our retiring Membership Committee Chairperson. This is an important role we need filled and consists of handling the existing membership stats as well as handling new memberships by providing the forms and processing them through the Board. It is not a difficult job but an important one. If you can help out and join the Club management please contact Ron Shaffer..

Thanks

Ron

Dear members,

We would like to try a new idea to raise money for the club. We propose a "Flea Market" of sorts. Members would bring items (ideally associated with Germany) that they would like to donate to the club for sale. I have attached a few photos as an example of items I would donate for sale.

Members would mark the items with the recommended sale price. Proceeds would be donated to the club. We would start this at the *Oktoberfest* meeting and continue at all future meetings. If you would like to participate, there will be a special table to place your items on. We look forward to your participation which will further support our club activities. Thank you.



Linda Shaffer

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. We're just starting to group-read our next book, *Momo* by Michael Ende. Now would be an excellent time to join the class! 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 dancer group is up to 4 couples and now is the time to join if you're interested! We're teaching some beginning dances and reviewing older ones. Practices are on hiatus at the moment. We will start up again as soon as we find a day/time that everyone can practice. Please contact Kristina Wetherbee, (916) 955-2878, for more information.

HAPPY WANDERERS' HIKING GROUP



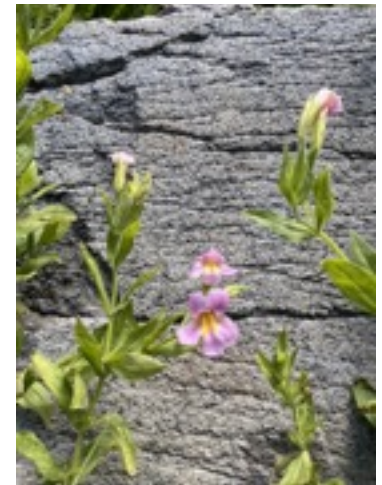
The last two hikes have been on parts of the Pacific Crest Trail.

July 24 was our sometimes annual trip to Barker Pass which is west of Lake Tahoe. One has to drive up a canyon to the ridge, there is plenty of parking. We walked north on the PCT for about three miles. There are open areas with fantastic views of the lake, forested areas of deep shade, dry slopes with mules ears, wet areas with many different wildflowers. This hike pretty much has it all.

Continued on page 6...



At Barker Pass, 24 July 2025



Wildflower specimens



The Peter Grubb Hut, see p. 6
(All photos by Kirsten Hebert)



On the way to Andesite Peak: Jeannie, Sue, Agnes,
Paulette, and Sharon, 14 August 2025

Upcoming Events

Be on the lookout for...

This Month:

Sep-04-06: Lakes Basin Event, see p. 6
 Sep-09: Board of Directors' meeting, see p. 7
 Sep-11: Happy Wanderer's hike, see p. 4.
 Sep-20: OKTOBERFEST, see p. 1.
 Sep-22: Intermediate Language Class, see p. 3
 Sep-25: Happy Wanderer's Hike, see p. 4.

Tentative Plans for 2025:

October: Casino Night!
 November: Advent Wreathmaking
 December: Holiday Dinner

More plans in the works!!



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!



Gute Besserung

Niemand?



Our **Casino Night Party** will be **October 10**. Mark your calendar! When we had a Casino Night in 2019 (pre-pandemic), it was great fun, and we want to do that again!

Help publicize our

Oktoberfest and get more folks to attend as guests! Click [here](#) for an Oktoberfest flyer to give to your friends and family!

Flyer looks like this, but bigger!



... Happy Wanderers report continued from page 4:

On August 14 we parked opposite Boreal Ski slopes and hiked up a fairly steep road to a ridge with a beautiful view of the northern Sierra. Straight ahead takes you to the Peter Grubb Hut, a right turn leads you up to Castle Peak, and a left to Andesite Peak. We went left; the path started off reasonably enough, but as we neared the peak the steep slope and crumbly trail discouraged us enough that we turned around and went back to the junction. The trail wanders down and through a treed area for a mile, then it flattens out and through the trees on the west you can see the hut, and to the east is a beautiful round valley. The diversity of plant life is incredible, in one square foot there were dozens of different species. Dragonflies and butterflies flitted around and hawks soared above. After lunch we wandered back up to the junction. Dear readers, I am sure you are wondering if we took the path up to Castle Peak; alas, we did not, but we spent a moment reflecting on all the hikes Fred had led us on in the past and being filled with gratitude.

Upcoming is our camping trip to the Lakes Basin Campground on Sep 2-4. I have been told that all the campsites are first come, first served after Labor Day. Hopefully someone can get there early and reserve the two big sites in the middle, if not, just get what you can find. I had hoped to go up on Monday afternoon, but there is not availability for my dogs at the boarding place until Tuesday morning, so I hope to get up there at noon. We will go on short hikes on Tuesday and Wednesday, and push for the summit of the buttes on Thursday. Afterward we like to hang out at Sand Pond for a bit before heading home. Hope you can join us!

Sue



More about the Peter Grubb Hut

The words "Grubb" and "Hut" conjure up a mental image of a rather primitive structure, but this hut is relatively sophisticated. Its main room has a wood burning stove, tables, and a kitchen area. The sleeping area in the loft has bunk beds to accommodate 15 guests. Firewood and supplies are stored in side rooms. Snow becomes the source of water for drinking or cooking when it is present; it is recommended to bring a water filter. There is a two-story outhouse located about 75 feet from the hut; bring your own toilet paper. In the photo at left, the sign above the back door says, "Peter Grubb Hut -- Sierra Club." The hut was built in 1938-9 in memory of Peter Grubb, who was an avid skier and who died at the age of 18 while on a bicycling trip in Europe in 1937. The hut is currently administered by the Clair Tappaan Lodge in Norden, California, and can be rented on a daily basis.

Teutonic Technology -- The Doppler Effect

Certainly we have all heard the Doppler Effect -- the effect that when a fast-moving train blowing its warning whistle or an emergency vehicle with a siren passes by, the perceived pitch of the warning changes from high when the vehicle approaches, to low when the vehicle recedes. This effect is named after **Christian Doppler**, an Austrian mathematician and scientist who lived from 1803 until 1853. During his life, there were scarcely any vehicles with sirens that moved quickly enough to hear the effect. How did he discover it? Through astronomy! In 1842, he gave a lecture and published a paper "On the colored light of the binary stars and some other stars of the heavens", in which he postulated that the color differences observed in stars was due to differences in the relative speed between the source of the light wave and the observer. This manifests in the "redshift" observed in light from distant galaxies that shifts the light's frequency toward the red end of the spectrum (lower frequency) because the galaxies are moving away from us in an expanding universe. In modern times, we use the principles of the Doppler effect to detect the speed of motorists (police traffic radar) and to detect the instantaneous speed of moving weather systems (Doppler weather radar). In these cases, the frequency of the radio wave reflected by the moving object shifts up when the object approaches the radio source, and the amount of the shift is proportional to the relative speed between source and measured object. Alles klar?

Christian Doppler



GCGAC Board of Directors

Officers (Elected -- 5 votes):

President: Ron Shaffer	(323) 797-6656
Vice President: Linda Shaffer	(714) 315-5754
Secretary: Renate Hettrich	(650) 207-3681
Treasurer: Lou Ann Schwartz	(530) 432-0690
Program: Karen Herrmann	(530) 615-6766

Directors (Appointed):

Membership: VACANT	
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 9, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

by

Zoom Conference Call

GCGAC Committee Chairs (appointed, non-voting)

Refreshments: Volunteers	
Get Well & Sunshine: VACANT	
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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