



# 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)

## Christmas Party



Next regular meeting is at Seaman's Lodge,  
**Saturday, December 3.**  
**Mark your calendar!**

Doors open at 4 pm and the bar is open - dinner will be served approx. 6 pm.

The "Happy Wanderers" are hosting the Christmas party and the food, which this year will be Fleisch-Rouladen with gravy, mashed potatoes, red cabbage and apple-sauce.

We need to know how many people are coming, so **PLEASE RSVP before December the 1st** to indicate the number of people in your party (members & guests).

**E-mail: [herrmann@colfaxnet.com](mailto:herrmann@colfaxnet.com) or call Fred'n'Karen Herrmann 530 346-7392**

We have app. 90 maximum table and seating availability, so make sure to RSVP to avoid disappointment. Guests are welcome. We will be having Santa visiting, so if you are bringing a child, please bring a wrapped present with the child's name on it.

Our own Walter Grob will provide us with wonderful Accordion Music for our enjoyment, and some of the former Germania Voices will lead us in singing our favorite Christmas Carols.

Please mark your calendar to **bring your favorite appetizers or cake or cookies to share with all the members.** Also bring your own festive dishes and utensils, (however we do have paper plates on hand).

The Bar will be open as always for you to purchase beverages.

This is a free event for members. Guests 13 and older are \$10. Age 6-12 are \$5. Under 5 are free.

Let's have a wonderful Christmas Party!

Fred, Karen and all the "Happy Wanderers"

## Notes from the Board

### December Newsletter

The club's equipment, decorations and property is now stored in a trailer on Dennis Naumann's property. In October, a tree limb fell on the trailer puncturing the top and allowing rain water to enter. Dennis has installed a temporary fix with tarps. The board will consider purchasing a shipping container to replace the trailer. Dennis has agreed to continue to store our property.

We were forced to move our parade float (The Chalet) because the property it was on was sold. Dennis Naumann with the help of Fred Herrmann moved the float to his property. He has constructed a temporary shelter. Does anyone have access to covered storage large enough to house the float? Dennis has gone overboard to our equipment. He would appreciate an alternate, secure place for the float.

Dennis Schuetzle, Paul Tretheway and Bob Scheetz have continued to refine the electronic version of the roster. PDF's of the full roster are now available. There will be printed copies at the Christmas Party. Shortly, we should be ready to publish rosters for Hiking, Dancing and Language.

The club will be collecting dues – \$30 per person – in January and February. You will get a separate notice.

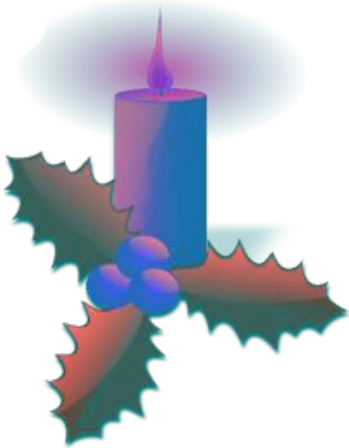
The Christmas Party is coming! December 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Hiking Group, led by Fred and Karen Herrmann, will host the big event. St. Nicholas (Santa Claus) will be there. Your Board of Directors hopes to see all of you there.

President	Bob Scheetz	<a href="mailto:bobscheetz@gmail.com">bobscheetz@gmail.com</a>
Vice-president	Dave Emanuel	<a href="mailto:daveandjess50@comcast.net">daveandjess50@comcast.net</a>
Treasurer	Christa Benson	<a href="mailto:cbenson1@suddenlink.net">cbenson1@suddenlink.net</a>
Secretary	Dave Moss	<a href="mailto:modavek@aol.com">modavek@aol.com</a>
Program Director	Leslie Parker	<a href="mailto:lesbug@icloud.com">lesbug@icloud.com</a>



## ***ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR OUR GERMAN CLASSES***

Coming *right on the heels* of the Club's big party on Saturday! Wir sind ja Partylöwen!



All three classes will meet for their Christmas Party at Rebecca's home Monday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. until??? It will be potluck dinner. Respond to Rebecca if you are coming or not.

Thank you, Rebecca, for opening your home for this festive event.

We would like to wish a wonderful blessed CHRISTMAS and a very healthy, happy NEW YEAR to all Members and Friends of the Club.

Merry Christmas,  
THE GERMAN CLASSES

### German Language Classes

Interested in learning German? There is **only one** (as indicated by Frau Zeigefinger at right) 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 under the direction of Rebecca Claus; Intermediate level is taught by Erica Meier. These two classes assemble at various class members' homes. For more information, call Rebecca at (916) 710-0033.



## December Birthdays

December 3 Carol Bader  
 December 3 Larry White  
 December 6 Tony Sackl  
 December 6 Holger Spranger  
 December 7 Heinz Acker  
 December 8 David Imgrund  
 December 13 Dianne Range  
 December 14 Bill Johnston  
 December 16 Ron Boies  
 December 17 Bob Anderson  
 December 18 Elany Prusa  
 December 21 Helmut Petereit  
 December 26 Dieter Papsch  
 December 31 Walter Grob

Tune to KNCO Radio AM 830, weekdays at 7:50 a.m. and 5:50 p.m. to hear your birthday greeting from

## Gute Besserung

Cecil & Maria Caballero  
 Otto Schulze



Please notify Christel Denzler when you are well or when you want to be taken off the Gute Besserung list. Thank you!

## Alpine Dancers

The Alpine Dancer practices at the Moss residence are suspended until April 2017. For those who may wish to learn the German/Austrian folk dances, call Kristina Wetherbee 432-9941 or Christa Benson 272-6095 to schedule practices from November 2016 through March 2017.

David Moss  
 Alpine Dancer's Director  
 432-2236



## Happy Wanderers

Stay tuned for special emailed announcements if weather permits, but most likely the hiking will resume in the spring of 2017.

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)

**About German Saunas:** The Finns don't have a monopoly on saunas. Taking a steam bath in a public sauna with naked strangers is part of the German culture. And, like many other aspects of life in Germany, there are rules governing one's behavior. A few of those rules are laid out below, in case you think you'd like to give a sauna a try the next time you visit Deutschland.



1. Take a shower *before* you go into the sauna.
2. As shown above, there are wooden benches and floors in the sauna. To protect the benches from your sweat (which the next guy doesn't want to sit in), bring a dry, not wet, towel large enough to sit on and also place your feet on while you steam bathe.
3. The sauna is a quiet place. No chatting; no cell phones. Silence is golden.
4. In some saunas, only the Bademeister (the sauna attendant) is allowed to pour water on the hot rocks (see photo, above) and thereby increase the heat and humidity of the steam bath. The Bademeister also twirls a towel over his head to distribute the new steam, making the place even hotter, and after this ritual you are expected to be grateful.
5. Eye contact is okay, but avoid staring at the other naked people. You're naked, too, by the way, and some saunas are "textile-free zones," i.e., nudity is not only permitted but also required.
6. If you're not in the sauna or the pool, cover up with a towel or a robe.
7. Wear flip-flops when you walk around.

*Editor's note: When I visited Germany in 2013, I was offered the opportunity to enjoy a German sauna, but I turned it down, mostly out of shyness. If there's a next time, I will certainly partake. --PT*

## Remember Oktoberfest? What a blast!



Above photos by John Hart of the *Grass Valley Union* newspaper



Photos by Dennis Schuetzle



Weinachten kommt bald!

# Upcoming Events

## This Month:

**December 3, 2016**

Christmas Dinner. Seaman's Lodge, 5 p.m. see page 1.

**December 5, 2016**

Language learners' Holiday Party at Rebecca Clause's. See page 3.

**December 14, 2016**

Board of Directors Meeting. 4 p.m. at Bret Harte.

**December 19, 2016**

Beginning/Intermediate German Language Class, 6:15 p.m. Place TBD. See page 3.



## Coming Soon, Keep a Look Out:

January 6. Theme: TBD

February 3. Fasching

March 3. General Meeting hosted by The Board of Directors

April 7. German Wine and Cheese Tasting  
Comments and suggestions please!!

See Board of Directors contact info below.

from our Program Director, Leslie Parker

### GCGAC Board of Directors

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

President: Bob Scheetz	(925) 518-9626
Vice President: David Emanuel	272-2017
Secretary: David Moss	432-2236
Treasurer: Christa Benson	272-6095
Program: Leslie Parker	(707) 738-6132

**Directors (Appointed):**


Membership: Dennis & Judy Schuetzle	271-5737
Dance: Dave Moss	432-2236
Happy Wanderers: Fred & Karen Herrmann	346-7392
Newsletter: Paul Trethewey	265-0763
Publicity: to be filled	
German Language:	
Conversational: Christa Benson	272-6095
Beg/Intermediate: Rebecca Claus	(916) 710-0033

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on :

**Wednesday, December 14, 2016, 4:00 p.m. at  
Bret Harte Inn, Grass Valley, CA**

#### GCGAC Committee Chairs (appointed, non-voting)

Refreshments: Volunteers	
Get Well & Sunshine:	
Christel Denzler	878-0504
Annaliese Grasshof	(916) 783-5411
Kaffee & Kuchen: TBD	
Inter-Club Liaison: Hank Stoffel	269-3137
Webmaster: Paul Trethewey	265-0763
Property: Dennis Naumann	477-1622
Historian: Kristina Wetherbee	432-9941



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Gold Country German-American Club is a Member of the German-American Heritage Foundation of the USA®  
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“Representing Americans of German Speaking Heritage”

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Please Forward

First Class Mail

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