



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

CHRISTMAS - PARTY

Friday December the 6th at Seaman's Lodge

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

The "Happy Wanderers" are hosting the Christmas party, and on the menu this year will be ham with scalloped potatoes, red cabbage, apple-sauce and rolls. Beverages will be available as usual.



We need to know how many people are coming, so **Please RSVP before November the 30th** to indicate the number of people in your party (members & guests).

E-mail: herrmann@colfaxnet.com or call Fred'n'Karen Herrmann 530 346-7392

We have app. 80 maximum table & seating availability, so make sure you RSVP to avoid disappointment. Guests are welcome. We will be having Santa visiting, so if you are bringing a child, please also bring a wrapped present with the child's name on it.

The **Hannebrink Duo** will provide us with wonderful music for our enjoyment, and some of the former 'Germania Voices' 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, family and celebration.

Mark your calendar and if possible, please bring your favorite cake or cookies to share. 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 \$15.- Children are free

Let's have a wonderful Christmas Party!

Fred, Karen and all the "Happy Wanderers"

NOTES FROM THE BOARD

Hank Stoffel – Distinguished German-American of the Year

Coincidental with our November 8 meeting, our long-time member Hank Stoffel received the Distinguished German-American of the Year award from the *German-American Heritage Foundation of the USA* at banquet held in Philadelphia. Although Hank could not attend in person, he was connected via Skype. **Congratulations Hank!**

Our club meeting on **November 8** was themed ***The 30-Year Anniversary of Berlin Wall Fall***. John and Renata Hettrich provided a great video of the 10th anniversary. Four of the 6 or 7 photo albums that have been held by Karen and Fred were available for viewing. Wonderful. They will be back at future meetings!

A highlight of the GCGAC year, the Christmas Party sponsored by the Happy Wanderers hiking group will be held on Friday, Dec/6. Don't miss it!

Short **Treasurer's Report**: as of October 31 our club assets follow. If you want to see more detail, contact Paulette.

Fidelity Investment (Q3 2019 statement)	\$5,233.74
Chase Checking	\$9,636.67
Total Assets	\$14,980.41

Paulette also reports that she has paid Bret Harte Inn six months' meeting space rent in advance.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be Wednesday, Dec/11, at Bret Harte in Grass Valley. Board meetings are open to all members. Not required, but we would like to see you there. Your Board would like to receive feedback from you – questions, comments, suggestions, criticism, complements, etc. Send an email to any board member.

President Bob Scheetz	bobscheetz@gmail.com
Vice President Kris Wetherbee	mkwetherbee@juno.com
Program Director John Hettrich	jhettrich@gmail.com
Treasurer Paulette Berquist	chiliette@gmail.com
Secretary Dave Moss	modavek@aol.com
Membership Sue Vogt	susan.vogt@comcast.net

Activities

German Language Classes

Interested in learning German? There is **only one** (as indicated by Herr Erhobenem 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.



Conversational German Group

The German Conversational Class will meet December 10 from 3 to 5 p.m. at Christel Hermansen's, 150 Sutton Way, Apt 32. Hope to see you there! PLEASE call her if you are coming 530-274-2715. If anyone would like to join the class, give Christa a call at 530-913-1836. New members are welcome!

The Germania Voices



At the Club's Holiday Party in 2018, the remnants of the Germania Voices glee club sang a selection of *Weihnachtslieder*. If we're lucky, they'll do it again this year. The ensemble could benefit from some tenors and basses, but the male club members are too shy to sing. C'mon, you guys, man up! Shown behind the singers is the Hannebrink duo, Patsy and Ben, who will provide instrumental music at the holiday party again, this year.

Upcoming Events

This Month:

December 2, 2019: Beginning/Intermediate Language Class at Rebecca's see p.3.
 December 6, 2019: CLUB MEETING at Seaman's Lodge, see p. 1.
 December 10, 2019: Conversational German at Christel Hermansen's, see p. 3.
 December 11, 2019: Board of Directors Meeting at Bret Harte Inn. See p. 7.
 December 16, 2019: Beginning/Intermediate Language Class at TBD, see p.3.
 What? No Happy Wanderers? There's nothing scheduled, but it's possible that an impromptu hike might be announced by email if conditions are right.



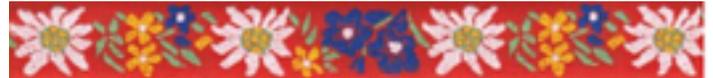
Coming soon, keep an eye
out for...

February -- Fasching and Feuerzangenbowle
March -- General Membership Meeting

December Birthdays

December 3	Carol Bader
December 3	Larry White
December 6	Tony Sackl
December 8	Larry Lund
December 13	Kathleen Kelly
December 14	Bill Johnston
December 16	Ron Boies
December 17	Bob Anderson
December 18	Elany Prusa
December 21	Helmut Petereit
December 23	Anneliese Frankel

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



Gute Besserung



Theresa Arth
 Christel Hermansen
 Erika Nickerl
 Margot Schulze

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



Our Club receives a weekly newspaper, the "Neue Presse USA" in the German language. Please contact David Moss at modavek@aol.com or 432-2236 to get the newspapers we receive.

How to Make Quark

Just in time for the holidays, here is a recipe for that creamy cheese-like stuff that is so good with Kartoffelpuffer and Apfelmus.

Here's a batch of Quark draining over the kitchen sink. See instructions, below, regarding use of faucet as a hanger for dish towel...



Quark is similar to Crème Fraîche, except with The German Touch. Although Quark is common in the German speaking countries of Europe, it's almost impossible to find in stores in the US. So, we need to make our own at home. Fortunately, it's easy to do. Here's how:

Ingredients:

- (1) 1 quart milk. Any kind will do, EXCEPT "ultra-pasteurized" milk. Prefer non-homogenized, organic, grass-fed, flavorful milk.
- (2) Starter. This can be about 1/2 cup of cultured buttermilk, or some freeze-dried "mesophilic" bacteria culture (available at *Wheyward Girl Creamery* in Nevada City). In either case, the operative bacilli are *streptococcus cremoris* and *lactobacillus acidophilus*. These are different from the bacilli used in making yogurt.
- (3, Optional) A tablet of rennet, pulverized. This is an enzyme that adds more curdling action. Available at most grocery stores.

Equipment:

Lidded saucepan to hold the quart of milk, above.
 An immersible thermometer that will measure in the range of 85°F to 160°F.
 A sieve or colander to aid in separating the curds from the whey, and a bowl for saving the whey.
 "Cheesecloth", but the stuff you are probably imagining is too coarse. We need something finer, like a loosely woven cotton dish towel (also available at *Wheyward Girl Creamery* in Nevada City).

Procedure:

"Re-pasteurize" the milk. Heat it to 160°F, then cool it to room temperature.
 After the milk is cooler than 90°F, add the buttermilk or the bacteria culture. Mix it in.
 Cover the mix in the pan, and set it aside overnight in a place where the temperature is 65°F to 90°F -- no hotter than that, though, because the mesophilic bacteria like it cooler than what is used in, say, a yogurt maker.
 After about 14 hours, the mix should have curdled. Now, make a sack of the dish towel, put it into the colander, place the whey catching bowl underneath, and pour the milk mixture into the towel sack to separate the curds and whey. Suspend the sack above the whey bowl and let it drain for about 12 hours. I use the kitchen faucet as a hanger. About a pint of Quark is in the sack and should end up about the same consistency as sour cream. The whey is in the bowl below. Don't throw out the whey. It's nutritious and is good on dry cereal. The Quark is great with berries, or spread on toast. To make Sahnequark, stir in some whipping cream with the Quark. It's decadent.

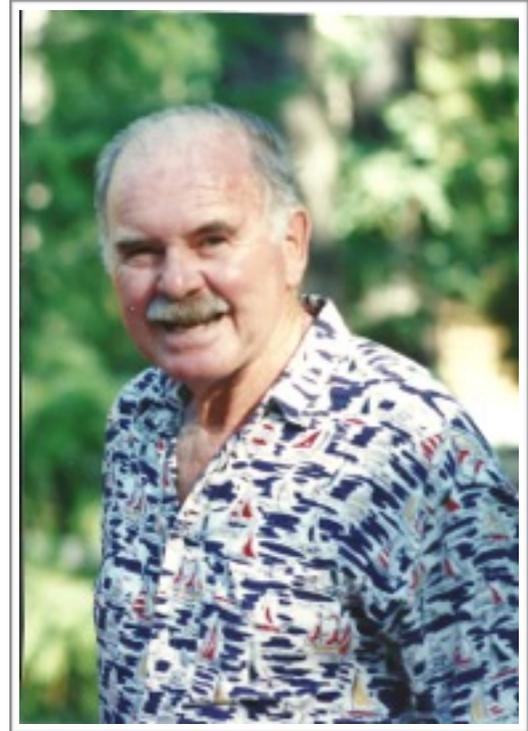
Unsere Leute

Stefan Arth

Long time club member Stefan Arth passed away peacefully at the age of 91 on October 25, 2019 surrounded by loved ones. He will always be remembered by those who knew him as "the first one to arrive, and the last to leave," whether it be for work, for fun, or to lend a helping hand.

Stefan was born to Wilhelm and Barbara Arth on February 27, 1928 in what was then a German settlement of Zemun, Yugoslavia. He was the oldest son of seven children. In 1947 he met the love of his life, Theresa Beranek, in a post WWII refugee camp. Barely out of their teens, they married at the camp and embarked on a marital journey that lasted 72 years. In 1952 Stefan and Theresa immigrated to Cleveland, Ohio and shortly thereafter moved to Los Angeles, California where they became US citizens and made their home in the San Fernando Valley. Stefan was apprenticed in his early years in Yugoslavia in the house painting trade. In Los Angeles he became known to high profile home designers with celebrity clients, and he was often sought after for his "old world" custom painting techniques during his 35 years of working in the area.

After raising their three daughters, Stefan and Theresa moved to Grass Valley, California, where they built their dream home and resided for nearly 30 years. There they quickly became members of the Gold Country German-American Club where they lovingly participated in German folk dancing and served as club officers. In addition to their club activities, Stefan loved to fish, make wine, and along with Theresa, entertained at their home. Spending time with children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren was a favorite pastime. "Papa"/"Opa" was always so fun. Stefan is survived by his wife, Theresa, and a large and loving family. He will be missed.



Stefan Arth



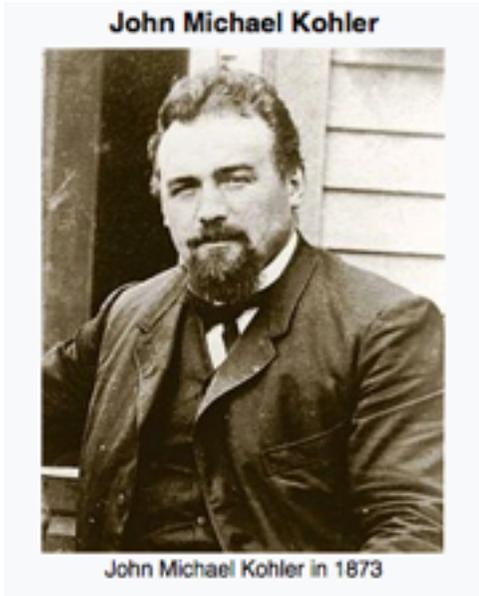
Many thanks to long time club charter member **Erica Nickerl**, who made a very generous contribution to the Gold Country German-American Club last month. Thank you, Erika, you have left a lasting legacy, not only from this gift, but by all you have done for the club in the past.



THE BOLD LOOK
OF **KOHLER**.

Anyone who knows kitchen and bathroom fixtures recognizes the name, "Kohler." The Kohler Company in Kohler, Wisconsin produces a huge variety of designer porcelain (tubs, toilets,

sinks), as well as faucets and even industrial products such as generators. How did this all start? John Michael Kohler emigrated to America from Schnepfau, Austria in the 1860's. He established a dairy farm business, then worked in iron and steel, and then had the seminal idea of attaching decorative feet to a cast iron watering trough and selling it as a bathtub. By 1888, he had established the Kohler Company in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, which specialized in plumbing products and enamelware. While in Sheboygan, Kohler served as mayor, and he made several generous contributions to the arts and culture of the city, including what is now the John Michael Kohler Arts Center that occupies a square block there. Subsequently, in 1899, he moved the company to a plot of farmland west of Sheboygan, which has become known as Kohler, Wisconsin. John Kohler died in 1900, but the business remained in the Kohler family and has thrived to this day.



John Michael Kohler in 1873

GCGAC Board of Directors

Officers (Elected -- 5 votes):

Acting President: Bob Scheetz	(925) 518-8626
Vice President: Kristina Wetherbee	432-9941
Secretary: David Moss	432-2236
Treasurer: Paulette Berquist	913-8976
Program: John Hettrich	(650) 207-3681

Directors (Appointed):

Membership: Susan Vogt	432-0594
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
Intermediate: Erica Meier	619-335-6499
Beginning: Rebecca Claus	(916) 710-0033

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on :

**Wednesday, December 11, 2019, 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

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

Newsletter printed at: Advantage Print & Marketing, 528 Auburn Ravine Rd., Auburn, CA 95603 530-885-0464 Dean Wood, President



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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