



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

Einen Guten Rutsch ins Neue Jahr!



Here's an enthusiastic soul sliding into his new year with reckless abandon: "Look, Ma! No hands!" Also, no steering and no brakes on whatever kind of toboggan-for-one he's riding. So, that's the attitude to take on New Year's Eve! Another activity for your consideration is to watch a re-run of the British comedy sketch, "Dinner for One," which holds the Guinness World Record as the world's most repeated television program. The vast majority of those repeated viewings happen in Germany on New Year's Eve, where the program is a cult classic and for many, a yearly tradition. In 2018, 55 years after the first telecast of "Dinner for One," the German post office issued a commemorative stamp, at right, picturing Miss Sophie (played by May Warden) and her butler, James (Freddie Frinton) toasting one another. The 17-minute sketch is available on YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FksV_7ZYbhY



NOTES FROM THE BOARD

The Christmas Party sponsored by the Happy Wanderers hiking was a huge success.

No meeting in January. Next meeting **February 8**. The theme will be Fasching complete with Fuerzangenbowle

March 8 is the GCGAC Annual Meeting when will elect a new Board of Directors. Not simply an election!

The April meeting, on Friday **April 12**, will be another extravaganza sponsored by our language groups.

There is a movement afloat to impeach our President. He's been there too long. He's pushy; likes to do everything his way. Can't speak German. Plus, Bob *wants* to be impeached. However, the problem with removing him from office is no replacement. Volunteers step forward!

Also, Dave Moss, our Secretary, needs a replacement or at least someone who can share the job. Dave and Kay now spend six month each year in Arizona. Dave has to cover doing the minutes by conference call. Volunteers step forward!

Dues for 2020 remain at \$30 per person payable January 1 and past due March 1. You can mail your dues payments to the GCGAC PO Box (best) or bring to the February meeting. See the notice elsewhere in this newsletter.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Short **Treasurer's Report**: As of November 30 our club assets follow. If you want to see more detail, contact Paulette.

Petty Cash	\$50.00
Fidelity Investment (Q3 2019 statement)	\$5,233.74
<u>Chase Checking</u>	<u>\$9,192.30</u>
Total Assets	\$14,476.04

We have paid rent at Bret Harte (where we hold BoD meetings, \$10/mo) until July. Easier for us and for them!

The next Board of Directors meeting will be Wednesday, Jan/15, 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, complaints, 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 currently 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.

The Beginning/Intermediate Conversational German Class was started about 7 years ago by Rebecca Claus. The Intermediate section branched off in 2016 when Erica Meier agreed to join the teaching team. Rebecca is resigning her position as of January 2020. Susanne Bader and Renate Hettrich will be taking over the beginning class as co-teachers.

Conversational German Group

The German Conversational Class usually meets at Christel Hermansen's, but Christa Benson is undergoing surgery and rehab in January. Hope to see you in February, instead! If anyone would like to join the class, give Christa a call at 530-913-1836. New members are welcome!



Der Weihnachtsmann was a hit, not only for the kids who received presents, but also for many of the club's lady members: Rebecca, Carol, Karen, Catherine, and Elany. Scandalous!

Paul and Kristina led the crowd in some Christmas songs, with the Hannebrink Duo accompanying.

Upcoming Events

This Month:

- January 6, 2020: Beginning/Intermediate Language Class at Rebecca's see p.3.
- January 8, 2020: Board of Directors Meeting at Bret Harte Inn. See p. 7.
- January 9, 2020: Happy Wanderer's Hike, Tribute Trail, see p. 5.
- January 16, 2020: Happy Wanderer's Hike, Stagecoach Trail, see p. 5.
- January 20, 2020: Beginning/Intermediate Language Class at TBD, see p.3.
- January 23, 2020: Happy Wanderer's Hike, Empire Mine, see p. 5.
- January 30, 2020: Happy Wanderer's Hike, Quarry Trail, see p. 5.



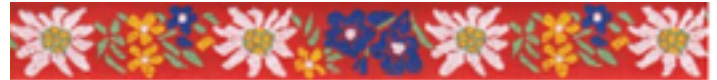
Coming soon, keep an eye
out for...

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

January Birthdays

January 7	Jamie Hogan
January 13	Phillip Takacs
January 24	Hildegard Kramer
January 25	Hank Stoffel
January 28	Daly Petereit
January 28	Helene Suess

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



Fred Herrmann
Theresa Arth
Christel Hermansen
Erika Nickerl
Margot Schulze
Christa Benson

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.



HAPPY WANDERERS HIKING SCHEDULE for JANUARY 2020

JAN. 9. Tribute Trail in Nevada City.

Fred Herrmann is our leader (346-7392)

This is a nice loop-hike over a suspension bridge.

It is an easy, enjoyable 3 mile hike.

Optional How about ending the hike going for pizza at "Northridge"?

We meet in Nevada City on the Parking Lot behind "National Hotel" at 10 am

JAN. 16. Stagecoach Trail (American River area)

Susan Vogt is our leader (648-0076)

More information to follow.

We meet at the Grocery Outlet in Auburn at 9am

JAN. 23. ... Empire Mine

Tom Maher is our leader (707-478-9627)

More information to follow.

Jan. 30. Quarry Trail

Fred Herrmann is our leader (346-7392)

We start hiking along the American River, and then on the Quarry Trail all the way up to the quarry. We then cross over #49 and back down to the highway, close to where our cars are parked. This hike is app. 5 miles long and fairly easy.

In order to save the \$10.- parking fee, we can park along #49 and walk across the street to start the the hike. We meet in Auburn at the Grocery Outlet at 9:00

Unsere Leute

Hank Stoffel Receives Distinguished German-American Award from German-American Heritage Foundation in Washington, D.C.



Kurt, Dore, and Hank Stoffel at the Sacramento Turn Verein on December 1, 2019. Hank's surprise award presentation party was couched as a beer tasting event (That's why there are so many sample cups of beer on the table!) The award was bestowed, and beer was sampled. A good day!



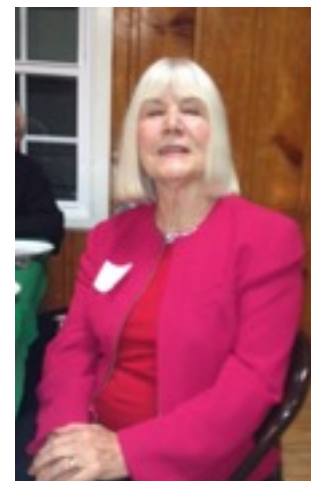
Hank Stoffel's award was bestowed in person by Hardy von Auenmueller, former president and current secretary of the German-American Heritage Foundation. Hardy also brought an expert in brewing science from Philadelphia with him for the tasting event. Many members of GCGAC also attended.



Dancing to the music of the Hannebrink Duo, it's John and Mary Jean Muff, and Dennis Naumann with Kristina Weatherbee. Pretty smooth!

New Member

Ulricke ("Ulli") Uehlin
getting a good start by attending the club's Christmas party on December 6.





MAYTAG: Character actor Jesse White (born Jesse Marc Wiedenfeld) portrayed the lonely Maytag washing machine repairman in television commercials for 22 years. Ostensibly, the repairman was lonely because nothing ever went wrong with Maytag washing machines, and the phone in his repair shop never rang. There was a grain of truth in this ad campaign, because the Maytag washers of the day (mid-1980's) were practically bullet-proof: Uncomplicated, sturdy, and "over-built," compared to what is on the market today. They were neither as water efficient nor as quiet as modern washers, but they win the endurance contest. The computerized, whiz-bang features on newer machines represent "more things to go wrong," and combined with the cheaper materials and foreign labor used at manufacture, a new machine typically lasts for only 5 or 6 years before an expensive repair is needed. The old Maytags last for decades.

The Maytag Company was founded by Frederick Louis Maytag, the son of German immigrants Amelia Tonebon and Daniel William Maytag (originally spelled "Maitag.") The company began in the 1890's building farm equipment, but branched into washing machines by the 1910's and became known then for their washing machines powered by small gasoline motors for rural customers without electricity. Maytag pioneered the agitator, metal tubs, the first stackable washer and dryer, and in 1997 the first domestically-produced high efficiency front-loading washer, the Maytag *Neptune*. Unfortunately, the *Neptune* had design faults that ruined the company's reputation, and in 2005 the Maytag Corporation was bought by competitor Whirlpool.

Do you remember Georg and Anneliese Krause? They were GCGAC members some time ago. Georg sold Maytag appliances at a store near Memorial Park in Grass Valley during the 1980's, Maytag's golden years.

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, January 8, 2020, 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

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“Representing Americans of German Speaking Heritage”

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