



# 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)

## Recognize this place?

Sure you do, it's Fred and Karen Herrmann's "picnic area" by the pond at their lovely home in Chicago Park. This photo was taken this winter after a recent snowfall. Fast forward to this coming summer, and the scene changes to what is shown below (same pond, different photo angle).



## Blue skies and green lights!

We're going ahead and planning the

### **GCGAC Summer Picnic**

at Fred and Karen's place at 14771 Mt. Olive Road on **Saturday, June 5, 2021!**

Mark your calendar! We'll provide more details as the event approaches. Plans can change during the pandemic, but at this point in time, two-thirds of the club members have already received their vaccinations. At the current rate, we'll have everybody immunized by June. What's more, it's an outdoor event, as covid-safe as a gathering can be. Let's do it!

## Notes from the Board

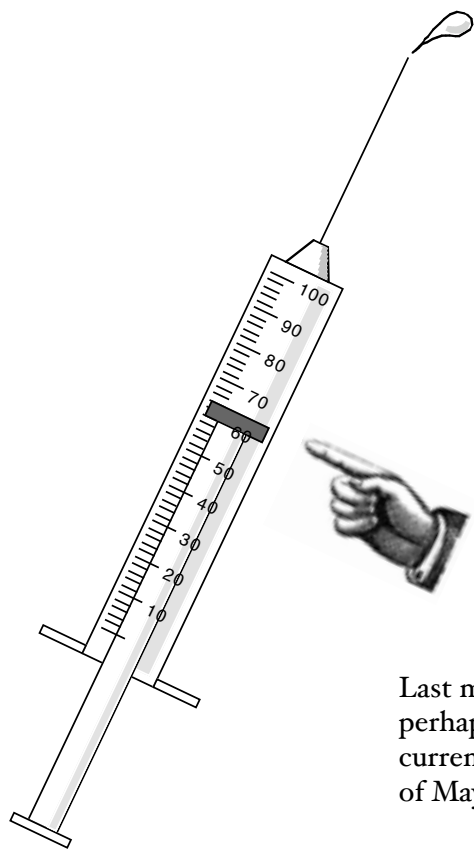
Dear Members, our new year is now officially off and running with having completed our Annual Meeting and election of Club Officers. At the General meeting, the Club approved the proposed 2021/2022 budget and re-elected the incumbent Board of Directors for another year of service, with the exception of the Treasurer. Fortunately, Lou Ann Schwartz has stepped up to fill the Treasurer's position so we are now complete.

Everyone is looking forward to a year of resuming group activities, but unfortunately, it seems we are still under the curse of Covid 19 and as of today the Club is still operating with caution regarding group activities. At our upcoming Board of Directors meeting [April 15<sup>th</sup>] the main topic will be reinstituting normal Club activities. We [the Board] would like to hear everyone's opinion on restarting Group activities now [such as meetings at Seaman's Lodge, or group hikes] so feel free to send emails to any of the Board members expressing your opinion prior to April 15. As of today, the Board is planning the June picnic as the first Group activity, as long as it makes sense for everyone's safety.

So, keep the Club spirit up and hope for a return to some kind of normalcy in the near future.



Fred Herrmann in the kitchen showing off home made, freshly baked authentic German Schwarzbrote. Fred will freeze the half-loaves and ration them out to himself and Karen over the next few weeks. These are not "bunny bread," they're dense, rye-rich, seeded sourdough perfect with herring, stinky cheese, and schnaps. The sourdough starter for this bread was handed down from a German friend whose father owned a bakery in Berlin, Germany. He immigrated to the US in the 1950's, and brought the starter with him! So, that batch of starter has been kept alive for almost 70 years.



Let's keep track of how many Club members have received a covid-19 immunization!

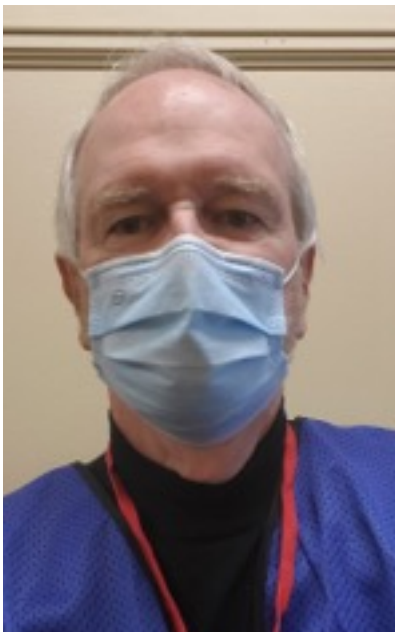
If you get your shot(s), please report the event to Paul the Newsletter Editor. He will respect your privacy, but he would like to publish a TALLY of HOW MANY of us are among the Ranks of the Vaccinated!

Sound like fun?

So far, as of the date of this writing,

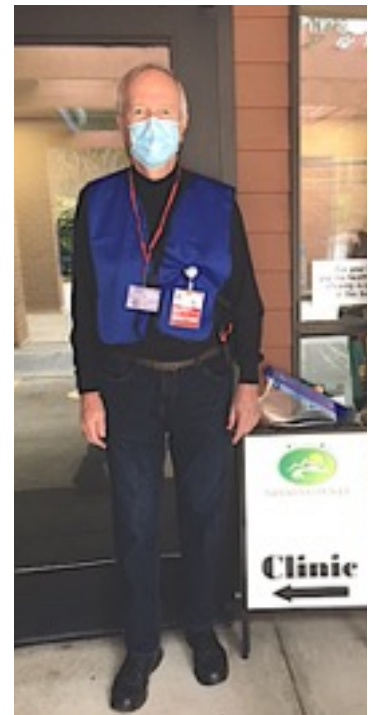
**Sixty-four** GCGAC members out of a total of about 94 current members have received their covid-19 vaccinations. The plunger is two-thirds of the way through the hypo! Each month, we'll show the plunger making its way a little farther along to track our progress toward **gathering as a group** again.

Last month, there were 44 members vaccinated. We now anticipate steady, albeit perhaps slower progress as the vaccines are distributed. It is still the goal of the current administration in Washington to immunize all American adults by the end of May. Two months from now. Let's see how we all do.



### "Who was that masked man?"

That's what the rustics used to ask at the end of each episode of "The Lone Ranger." Here, however, we know who he is in these photos: It's club member **Dr. Alan Cary**! Alan retired from regular practice as an anesthesiologist and internist and joined the club in 2018. Today, he is putting his medical experience to good use by volunteering to help with the administration of covid vaccines at the Nevada County Public Health clinic at Whispering Pines and at the Dokimos Pharmacy clinic. He's licensed and registered. Sometimes, he gives the shots, and sometimes he observes people afterwards. Important roles in the battle against the virus!





## 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 currently under the direction of Susanne Bader and Renate Hettrich; Intermediate level is taught by Erica Meier. Normally, these two classes assemble at various class members' homes, but during this time of corona virus risk, we are postponing in-person meetings. We have met by internet conference calling -- distance learning via "Zoom"! For more information, call Erica at (619) 335-6499

### Conversational German Group

Normally, the German Conversational Class would meet Tuesday, April 6, from 4 to 6 p.m. at Christa Benson's, but some other arrangements will be made. If anyone would like to join the class, give Christa a call at 530-913-1836. New members are welcome!

## TRADER JOE'S

### a German Company?

Well, sort of... The first Trader Joe's was opened in Pasadena, California (shown right), in 1967, by the store's namesake, Joe Coulombe. In 1979, German entrepreneur Theo Albrecht bought the Trader Joe's business. Over the years, Coulombe remained the company's manager and built the store's image and product line to the point where Trader Joe's in 2008 had the highest sales per square foot of any grocer in the United States -- and there are over 503 TJ's nationwide. The Albrecht family also owns the German supermarket chain ALDI Nord, so Trader Joe's is part of the ALDI Nord family. Nice investment, Theo! Does that make Trader Joe's German? *Ich glaube, Jawohl!*





Dear Happy Wanderers,

We can almost see the light at the end of the tunnel. Hiking will be resumed just as soon as the club reopens for activities. In the meantime, here is an idea for an informal hike with a few friends some time in the next month... Bullards Bar Reservoir is always a great hike. Photos are from that trip in 2019. -- Carol



# Upcoming Events

## This Month:

April 5, 2021: Beginning/Intermediate Language Class, see p. 4.

April 6, 2021: Conversational German, see p. 4.

April 14, 2021: Board of Directors' Meeting, see p. 7

April 19, 2021: Beginning/Intermediate Language Class, see p.4.

## Tentative Plans for the Year:

Be ready to spring into action if and when the opportunity arises!

After Pandemic is Over: Impfstoff Fest with unabashed touch dancing. No face masks, please! We want so see your smile.

Saturday, June 5, Summer Picnic at Herrmann's.

Oktoberfest? Maybe in late September!



## March Birthdays

April 3	Arnette McClure
April 14	Aeron Davis
April 17	Elinor Barnes
April 19	Ronald Shaffer
April 26	Paul Trethewey

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



## Gute Besserung

Theresa Arth

... and she didn't even tell anybody!!!

Hildegard Kramer was experiencing heart palpitations and atrial fib, went in for surgery last November. All fixed up, heart is now pumping steadily, but secondary problems kept her in the hospital until Thanksgiving. Being a stoic German, she didn't complain. A belated welcome back from the Krankenhaus, Hildegard!

Dates when we have a tentative reservation at Seaman's Lodge:

April 9  
May 7  
September 24 (Oktoberfest)  
November 5 (German-American Day)  
December 3 (Holiday dinner)

And there might be a 4th of July parade.



## Old School Internet

Here's something you don't see every day. It's a German soldier during World War 2, with a special collapsable pigeon cage in the form of a backpack. The pigeons were carrier pigeons (or homing pigeons) of course, used for carrying tiny paper messages back to headquarters from military operations in the field. Somebody had to carry the carrier pigeons out there, away from their home, and here he is.

Reportedly, the inscription on the back of this photo read,

"Brieftauben werden im Traggestell Vorgebracht."

One had to be careful when releasing one of the pigeons not to let the others escape. Ooops!



### GCGAC Board of Directors

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

President: Ron Shaffer	323-797-6656
Vice President: Mike Silence	530-477-6659
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: Carol Yoder	530-210-0215
Newsletter: Paul Trethewey	265-0763
Publicity: to be filled	
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 :

**Wednesday, April 14, 2020, 4:00 p.m. at  
Bret Harte Inn, Grass Valley, CA, or by  
Zoom Conference Call**

### 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

Facebook Team: Kristina (above)  
   & Elany Prusa      530-432-8736

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)

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®  
719 Sixth St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20001

“Representing Americans of German Speaking Heritage”

Ph: 866-868-8422 (toll free)    email: [info@gahmusa.org](mailto:info@gahmusa.org)    web: [www.gahmusa.org](http://www.gahmusa.org)

*First Class Mail*  
*Please Forward*



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