



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



The **GCGAC Summer Picnic** was a success! Combined with the socializing and the games and the wonderful food was a general membership meeting (left) where Lou Ann Schwartz was officially confirmed as Treasurer, and awards were presented to John and Renate Hettrich, Paul Trethewey, and Erica Meier in appreciation for their service to the Club. As seen in the photo, everyone wore hats, but no one wore masks.

What? No Fourth of July Parade for us?!

Alas, no! At the Summer Picnic, club president Ron Shaffer announced that the city would hold a parade, but that "marching is not permitted," ostensibly because of coronavirus restrictions. Although we had a volunteer to tow our Chalet float, nobody stepped forward to follow though with an entry that would have no dancers and no dressing up to march as shown at right. Okay, next year for sure!



July 4, 2017 -- Remember?



Refurbished Storage Container for Club Equipment is Ready

We plan to move the equipment from its old trailer to the new storage container in mid-July. Dennis Naumann will need **5 or 6 volunteers** to move, clean, and label the club property, most of which is already in clear plastic containers. Margot Schulze said that several years ago she had helped to organize and label the club property in the old trailer. Photo at left shows storage container from last winter before finishing touches such as storage shelves and a secure door were completed.

Notes from the Board

Dear Members, Welcome back ! We all enjoyed the great June picnic where we once again got to see each other face to face at a Club activity. Starting soon, we will restart our monthly get togethers at Seaman's Lodge. John Hettrich needs volunteers to sponsor programs for these meetings, so please help him out. Stay tuned to the newsletter for the upcoming activities.

-- Ron Shaffer, Club President



COVID-19 Report: Almost everybody in the club has gotten vaccinated. No additional members have reported having been immunized since last month. Over the course of the pandemic, two or three members actually came down with the COVID disease, but we're happy to report they survived. We're all still here! Let's celebrate!



Don't forget the **Papa Oom-Pah-Pah Band!** They haven't met to rehearse for all of 2020 because of the coronavirus restrictions, but now they can bone up, because they have a new native German trombone player, Dieter Stenger!

Bring on Oktoberfest!!



HAPPY WANDERERS' HIKING GROUP

By Carol Yoder



Aeron Davis led the June 10 hike on the Tribute Trail in Nevada City followed by lunch at the Northridge. Thank you, Aeron!

Thank you to Tom Maher for taking the group on a new hike on May 27... The Pauley Creek Trail, Downieville. Here's Tom's report:

Ten Happy Wanderers met up at the parking lot on Main Street in Downieville. We began our hike here on a wonderful May morning. It was warm, but not hot, with gentle breezes. We walked 20 minutes through the historic old town across old Hospital Bridge and the Downie River to the trailhead. From the trailhead we began our trek up beautiful Pauley Creek in the shade of a wonderful forest with steep mountains and stunning scenery for about 90 minutes to a great creekside lunch on the creek. We then returned to town to enjoy well-deserved ice cream 🍦. Everyone enjoyed the hike.



Happy Wanderers crossing Deer Creek on the suspension footbridge during the Tribute Trail hike.



Larry Lund shot this photo of Happy Wanderers on another bridge during the Downieville hike described above. Everyone is wearing hats except the dog.

HAPPY WANDERERS' HIKING GROUP, continued

UPCOMING THURSDAY HIKES AND LEADERS

Our trip leaders will send out more details the week before the hike including meetup locations. At that time, you will have the opportunity to sign up for the hike. RSVPs are required.

June 24: Loch Leven Lakes: Sue Vogt

July 8: Penner Lake: Edgar Davidson

July 22: Azalea, Flora, Angela Lakes: Dave Costa



Photo: Elany Prusa



Photo: Tom Maher
Tom Dyer wearing his high visibility orange shirt!

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.

A Beginning level class will start in September under the direction of Susanne Bader and will take place at her cozy house in Grass Valley.

The Intermediate Class is taught by Erica Meier. The class has just begun reading a new German murder mystery novel, *Blutige Affäre* by Dörte Jensen. If you're waiting for a good opportunity to join the class, now is the time, at the beginning of the story. Intermediate students assemble in person at various class members' homes, now that members have become vaccinated. For more information, call Erica at (619) 335-6499

Conversational German Group

The German Conversational Class will meet Wednesday, July 14, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Christa Benson's. If anyone would like to join the class, give Christa a call at 530-913-1836. New members are welcome!

Your summer **Activities** might include a barbecue, conducted of course with due regard for fire safety! At right is shown a German-designed and manufactured suspended grill called a

Schwenker, with several Bratwurst, chicken, and marinated pork loin steaks in the process of cooking. The pork steaks are called *Schwenker* or *Schwenkbraten*, or *Schwenksteak*; and the person in charge of winching the grill to its optimum height and keeping the swinging grill in motion is also called the *Schwenker* or the *Schwenkermeister*. Alles klar? By keeping the grill moving, the heat from the fire bowl beneath tends to be more evenly distributed to the food above. Typically, guests stand around the Schwenker (grill), drinking beer and helping to keep the grill moving. The German verb for this activity is *Schwenken*. In Saarland or in Rheinland Pfalz, or in the Mosel Valley, you would not be invited to a barbecue, but rather to *Schwenken*.



Upcoming Events

This Month:

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

July 8, 2021: Happy Wanderers' Hike. Penner Lake. See p. 4.

July 14, 2021: Conversational German, see p. 5.

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

July 19, 2021: Beginning/Intermediate Language Class, see p. 5.

July 22, 2021: Happy Wanderers' Hike. Azalea, Flora, & Angela Lakes. See p. 4.

Tentative Plans for the Year:

Oktoberfest? September 24.

German-American Day November 5

Holiday Dinner December 3.

All at Seaman's Lodge!



July Birthdays

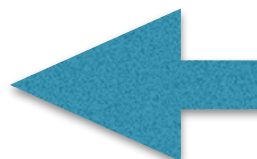
July 1	Susanne Shanelec
July 5	Larry Starn
July 15	Susan Vogt
July 20	Ronald Franceschi
July 21	Dennis Schuetzle
July 30	Barbara Perkins

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



Gute Besserung

Theresa Arth



The pot of flowers to the left aren't just any old flowers! They're "**Blaue Enzian**," and the seeds came from Austria by way of members Tony and Lilly Sackl of

Georgetown. Lilly has a special talent for making them grow. The brilliant blue display bowl shown here is currently on Fred and Karen Herrmann's deck.



The Stopwatch

The stopwatch built into your smartphone will probably outperform the 1970's vintage **Heuer** mechanical stopwatch pictured at left. The smartphone watch has 0.01-second precision and whizbang features such as multiple lap timers that would be very difficult to achieve with a mechanical watch. Still and all, there is something visceral and satisfying about operating a Swiss-made (see inscription at bottom of watch face!) stopwatch. You cradle the mechanical watch in your hand with your thumb or index finger on the start/stop button. When it runs, it has a ten-tick-per-second heartbeat. It becomes part of you. Unlike its smart phone counterpart, you don't need to search for the Start and Stop controls on some tiny touch screen. You can concentrate on the guy running the 100-meter dash! Another advantage; The Heuer mechanical stopwatch has no batteries to wear out. You wind it up.

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: Lou Ann Schwartz	432-0690
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, July 14, 2021, 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

Newsletter printed at: Walker's Office Supplies, 791 Maltman Drive., Grass Valley, CA 95945 530-273-2283



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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