



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

Next Club Event is the **GCGAC Summer Picnic** at Fred and Karen's place at **14771 Mt. Olive Road in Chicago Park** on **Saturday, June 5, 2021!** Mark your calendar! Fred and Karen will be the "Observing Hosts." **John and Renate Hettrich** are the **Event Coordinators**. The Hettrichs need to know how many of us plan to come to the picnic so that they can be sure to have enough **FOOD** (pork loin and Bratwurst -- yum!) on hand! Setup, food, activities, games (see photo, below) will be handled by *volunteer club members*. Therefore we need volunteers! SO,

PLEASE RSVP TO RENATE HETTRICH NO LATER THAN MAY 15.

Everyone should bring a dessert or appetizer. Please email Renate (rhettich@gmail.com) what you would like to bring so we can make sure we have a good balance of desserts and appetizers. Also it will be BYOB. We will supply drinking water, ice and coffee. Social distancing will be observed and if someone wants to wear a mask or two it is fine.



Notes from the Board

Dear Members, our election this year failed to elect a new Treasurer for the 2021/2022 year, but great news ! Lou Ann Schwartz has stepped forward to fill this important position, and our Board of Directors is once again whole. Please thank Lou Ann when you next see her and welcome her to the Board.

Although we now have a large percentage of Members vaccinated, the Board decided that we will not plan any activities for April since State guidelines still make it difficult to hold large meetings in a small space. We are planning to have the annual picnic in June assuming no further restrictions are issued by the State Authorities. Much help will be needed this year to aid the Program Director to pull off the best picnic ever. Please email John Hettrich to volunteer. Can't wait to see you all again in person !

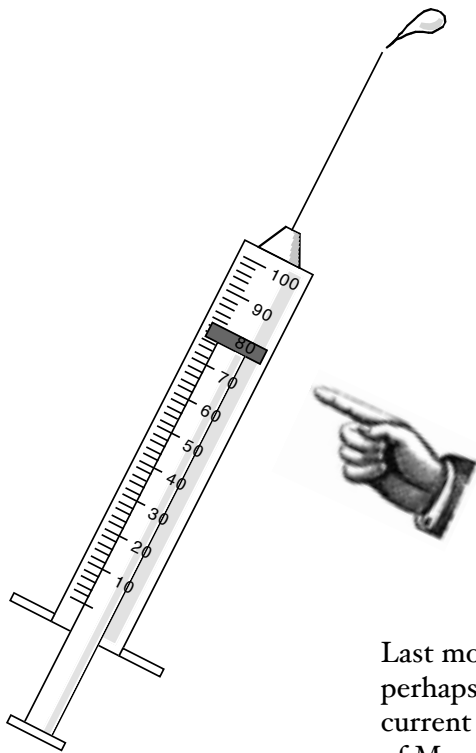


Our New Treasurer, Lou Ann Schwartz

Here's a short biographical introduction to Lou Ann:

Lou Ann was born and raised in the South – Texas and Louisiana. I came to California in 1986. In my former life I was a CPA/Tax Accountant. I joined the GCGAC in 2018 mainly as a member of the hiking group. I am a neighbor of Dave and Kay Moss. I took beginning German classes in 2019 prior to my first trip to Germany in September 2019. I think I was pretty hopeless but Rebecca did her best. I look forward to being your Treasurer and becoming more active in the club.

Lou Ann Schwartz near a Castle on the Rhine River near Kaub, Germany in 2019.



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,

Eighty GCGAC members out of a total of about 94 current members have received their covid-19 vaccinations. 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 64 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. A month from now, let's see how we all do.

Maifest at Turn Verein in Sacramento



Photo by Elany Prusa

The photo at left is related to the Maifest only in that Maifest is a celebration of the arrival of spring, and the photo shows two of our ladies enjoying the spring flowers on a recent hike to Table Mountain. The Maifest at the Sacramento Turn Verein is hosted by their Language School. The free-admission, family-friendly event includes a maypole with dancers, German music, special food, puppets and face painting, crafts, storytelling, an adult biergarten, Kaffe und Kuchen, and the "Maibowle" drink. Turn Verein's Maifest will be **Sunday, May 2, 2021**, from noon until 5 p.m., 3349 "J" Street, Sacramento.

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 have postponed in-person meetings and met by internet conference calling -- distance learning via "Zoom", but with more members vaccinated, that will change. For more information, call Erica at (619) 335-6499

Conversational German Group

Normally, the German Conversational Class would meet Tuesday, May 4, 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!



Dear **Happy Wanderers**,

Wonderful news! We will resume our hikes in May beginning with two Thursday hikes a month.

With the retirement of Fred and Karen Herrmann, we will be able to move forward with a hiking schedule only if we have trip leaders for each of the hikes. I will be reaching out to all Happy Wanderers individually, but it would be helpful if you would let me know you are prepared to lead a hike.

COVID-19: For the safety of all, our outings will be open only to those members who have completed a vaccination protocol. We will also have to limit the number of hikers.

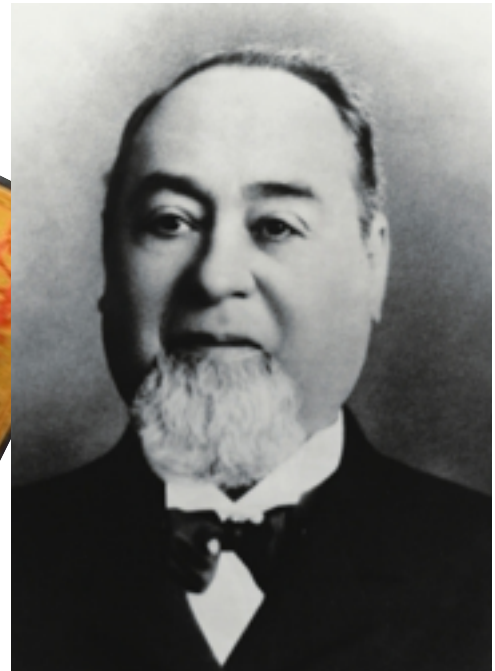
More details will be sent via email in the very near future.

Carol
Carolannyoder1@gmail.com

Everybody knows about Johann Strauss, the Waltz King, but do you know about these Strausses?



Joseph Strauss was the designer of the Golden Gate Bridge, and this statue near the bridge commemorates that. He was inspired by John A. Roebling, the famous German-American engineer who designed the Brooklyn Bridge.



Levi Strauss was the inventor of blue jeans. He was born in Buttenheim, Bavaria and immigrated to the US in 1847. His work jeans were patented in 1873 and Levi's achieved great popularity in the 1960's and 70's, explaining why so many older men wear them today.



Albert Straus (with one "s" at end) runs the Straus Family Creamery in Petaluma, California. The Straus Creamery was/is the **first certified organic creamery west of the Mississippi**. Albert's parents immigrated from Germany just before Hitler came to power. The creamery, founded in 1994, specializes in high-quality, organic, sustainable, environmentally-conscious dairy products; their ice cream is served in the Bay Area's finest restaurants.



Rolf Manfred,
former Club member

What do these Strausses have in common? They're all of German ancestry, they all achieved success in California, and they're all Jewish. Rolf Manfred would have been proud!



Albert Straus

Upcoming Events

This Month:

May 3, 2021: Beginning/Intermediate Language Class, see p. 4.

May 4, 2021: Conversational German, see p. 4.

May 12, 2021: Board of Directors' Meeting, see p. 7

May 17, 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! As Carol Yoder wrote, soon regular hiking outings will begin.

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

Oktoberfest? Maybe in late September!



May Birthdays

May 1	Bob Scheetz
May 22	Theresa Arth
May 22	Joseph Nanut
May 25	Mike Silence
May 26	Erica Meier
May 26	Gayle Nanut
May 28	Gery Denzler
May 31	Amber Lee Newman

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



Gute Besserung

Theresa Arth
Fred Herrmann

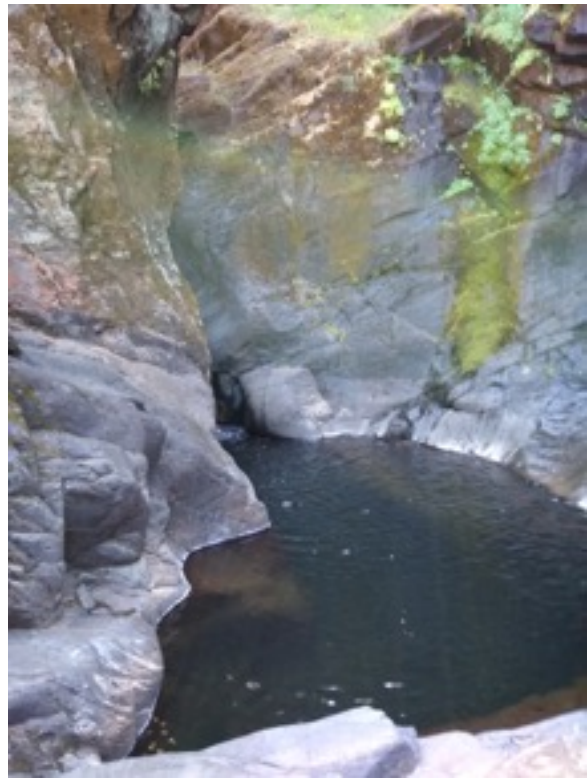
Dates when we have a tentative reservation at Seaman's Lodge:

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

And there might be a 4th of July parade.



Kathryn Schoensee Finn at Table Mountain, amidst the wildflowers! Photo by Elany Prusa.



View from the American Canyon Trail. Photo by Susan Vogt. She says hike was "not too tough."

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, May 12, 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

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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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