



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

Our Next Event: Christmas Party

Get dressed up in red and green -- or the colors of the German flag -- for our Christmas Party at Seaman's Lodge on December 3! More details to come in next newsletter. Stay tuned!



Paul Trethewey in flag colors, Karen Herrmann and John Hettrich in red, Dave Emanuel red and Christa Benson in green

October Notes from the Board

Dear Members, once again the pandemic has laid waste to our traditional activity of celebrating Oktoberfest and has cancelled the November Club meeting. However, We are having our annual Christmas Party no matter how many or how few attend !! Karen and Fred and the Hiking Club will be organizing it again this year and a sign-up list will be emailed to all sometime in December.

The Club has lost another long time member, Dave Moss, as he and his wife have moved to Arizona permanently. This is a big loss not only of a great and enthusiastic member but also a major loss to the Board of Directors since Dave has been our excellent Secretary for many years. Therefore, we need to replace Dave as Secretary as soon as possible. We need someone to volunteer for this position immediately. If you are interested in joining the Board as Secretary please email me at shaffam@outlook.com.

Stay healthy and hope to see you all at the Christmas Party.

Ron Shaffer, president

Unsere Leute



Here are some of our people in a composite of two photos from the Lower Carpenter Valley hike. These Happy Wanderers are, left to right, Aeron Davis, Paulette Berquist, Susan Vogt, Kirsten Hebert, Elany Prusa, Kathleen Kelly, Ron Shaffer, Karen Herrmann, Bill Johnson, and Agnes Walker. Behind the camera is Kathryn Schoensee Finn.



You thought Leonardo DiCaprio was of Italian descent? Well, not totally! Although Leonardo ("Leo" to his friends) is not a first-generation immigrant from Germany, his family is of mostly German stock. His mother, Irmelin Indenbirken, was born in a German air raid shelter during World War 2. She immigrated to the US with her family in the 1950's. His father, George DiCaprio, is half Italian and half German. Doesn't that make Leo a 75% Deutscher? He speaks German, but not as well as Sandra Bullock, *nur ein Bisschen*.

Leonardo DiCaprio is mostly known for his role in *Titanic*, but he has starred in *The Aviator* (where he plays Howard Hughes, poster at left), *What's Eating Gilbert Grape?*, *Catch Me If You Can*, and many other movies. He has received many film awards and nominations. He is extremely popular in Germany, especially among the *junge Frauen* fans.



HAPPY WANDERERS' HIKING GROUP

The Happy Wanderers are back to happily wandering throughout the lovely Sierra Nevada mountains.

On 23 September 2021 eight of us completed the Mt Judah Loop. Not surprisingly this trail goes around Mt Judah. We started at the parking lot near Sugar Bowl, hiking south for a bit along the Pacific Crest Trail. We headed out on a little spur trail to Roller Pass where in the 1800s the westward wagon trails "rolled" up and over the pass. Not an easy feat. We then left the PCT and headed east and north, stopping for lunch at the top of Mt Judah. We then headed down the east side of the mountain and veered off on another spur trail to a rocky point overlooking Donner Lake where we met a young rock climber. The last bit was downhill to the cars and home. Absolutely beautiful!

On 14 October 2021 twelve of us hiked the spectacular Lower Carpenter Valley north of Truckee, including our heroes, Fred and Karen Herrmann! This trail is part of the Truckee Donner Land Trust and has only recently been opened to the public. The trail wanders along the west side of the valley to a small loop at the north end where we stopped for lunch. Several of us fell asleep in the almost warm noon sun. This is a leisurely hike about 5 miles round trip. The aspens are beginning to glow and some of the higher peaks had a light dusting of snow. Karen and Fred provided an apple cake and coffee to the cheerful group. It was great to get together again!

The Happy Wanderers will continue to meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays throughout the winter, weather providing. We don't plan to do any driving that involves snow. A light rain might not deter us. Always bring appropriate gear. We plan to hike at higher elevations as long as the weather holds.

Our next hike will be 28 October 2021. Carol Yoder had planned to lead a hike in the Hidden Falls Park in Auburn on that date, but has discovered that upon moving to Roseville a few months ago her dance card is already full! Congratulations on your move Carol. We know you will be an asset to your new hiking community but we are hoping you can find time to squeeze in some hikes with us!

If anyone did not receive notification of the hikes and wants to be on the list, I apologize, I may have messed up. I was not able to copy and paste the list that Paul sent me and I had to put them in manually. Send your e-mail address to me, susan.vogt@comcast.net and I will get you on the list. I am hoping no one wants to be dropped.

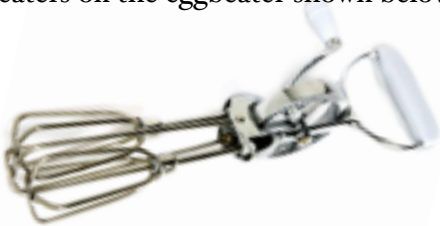
Stay tuned to the weather forecast, NOAA is a good site to keep your eye on. I will start to come up with a plan around Sunday, 24 October.

Hope to see you on the trail, Sue

Evolution of the Kaman Helicopter



This rather stern visage is that of Anton Flettner, a German aeronautical and hydrodynamic engineer who designed the helicopter with two overhead counter-rotating rotors that meshed like the beaters on the eggbeater shown below.



The FL-282, designed by Anton Flettner for the German *Kriegsmarine* (navy) in 1942 as an anti-submarine patrol. It was nicknamed the *Kolibri*, which means "hummingbird" in German.



After the war, Flettner immigrated to the United States, where he continued his design work and



developed what became the Kaman HH-43 "Huskie", above, which rescued more Americans during the Viet Nam war than any other helicopter type. Flettner was the founder and chief designer at Kaman Aircraft. Note the similarity to the *Kolibri*!

Counter-rotating rotors cancel the torque that a conventional helicopter generates, eliminating the need for a tail rotor. As a result, the so-called "synchrocopter" is actually easier to fly than a conventional helicopter. There is also a marked increase in efficiency and stability. In fact, the modern-day Kaman K-Max helicopter (below) can carry a 6,000-pound load, which is more than the helicopter itself weighs. Kamans like this have seen service in precision logging, heavy construction, and in carrying water to fight forest fires. So, thank you, Anton Flettner, **German-American** engineer, for your marvelous invention that helps to extinguish wildfires!



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.

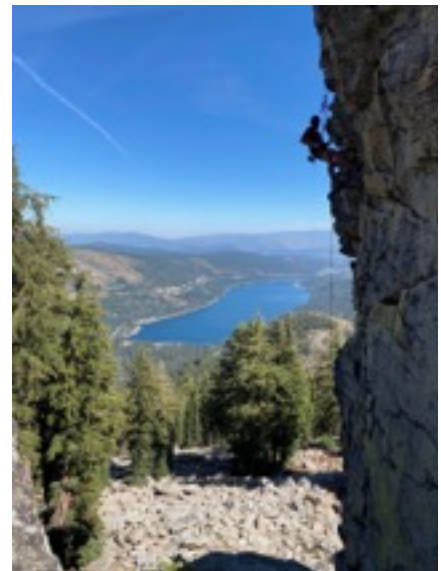
A Beginning level class meets on second and fourth Mondays of the month under the direction of Susanne Bader at her cozy house in Grass Valley.

The Intermediate Class is taught by Erica Meier. The class is underway reading a German murder mystery novel, *Blutige Affäre* by Dörte Jensen, and studying some mind-bending German grammar. 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

Greetings! The Conversational German Class will meet Wednesday, Nov. 10 at 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. at 10078 Grinding Rock Dr. Grass Valley. Call me if interested to join the group at 530-913-1836. See you at 2 p.m. Aug. 10th. -- Christa.



On the Hike to Donner Peak, there was a mountain climber scaling a cliff, at right. Not one of us.

Upcoming Events

This Month:

November 1, 2021: Intermediate Language Class, see p.5.
 November 8, 2021: Beginning Language Class, see p. 5.
 November 10, 2021: Conversational German, see p. 5.
 November 11, 2021: Possible Happy Wanderer's Hike TBA.
 November 10, 2021: Board of Directors' Meeting, see p. 7
 November 15, 2021: Intermediate Language Class, see p.5.
 November 22, 2021: Beginning Language Class, see p. 5.

Tentative Plans for the Year:

Holiday Dinner December 3.
 at Seaman's Lodge!



Gute Besserung

Fantastisch das
 keiner krank ist 🙏

And, speaking of Gute Besserung, here is Club member **Dr. Alan Carey**, posing with a hypo's worth of Pfizer booster shot at Dokimos Pharmacy in Nevada City. During the course of the pandemic, Alan has administered at least as many doses of vaccine as the entire population of Nevada City, which is about 3,200. Well done!

[Notice also the blauen Gummihandschuhen, just like Gunnar in Blutige Affäre! (See p.5). Whoa!]



November Birthdays

November 12	David Emanuel
November 12	Jessie Emanuel
November 23	Agnes Walker

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





Tom Mayer shot this great photo of Agnes Walker, on the "optional side trip" to Donner Peak on the way back from Mt. Judah on September 23. Those of us who didn't go on this hike missed out!

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, November 10, 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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