

German-American Club

"Zu jeder Zeit, an jedem Ort, sei frei das Lied und frei das Wort"

"In every hour, across every sea, let song and speech be free"

Spring Quarter

2017



"Viva la France"

March 18, 2017

Go French for a night! Enjoy the music of
The Casuals!

Savor the délicieux French food by *Erika's Catering!*

CHICKEN COQ AU VIN WITH PETITE NEW POTATOES
ROASTED ASPARAGUS PROVENCAL w/SALAD NICOISE
LOCAL ATRISAN BREADS & CHEESES
CHOCOLATE MOUSSE

April Sunday Brunch

April 9, 2017

11:00-3:00

Enjoy our Sunday together!
Special food, easy conversation!
Please bring your appetite!

Menu by ERIKA:

Spinach and Mushroom Quiches
Roasted New Potatoes
Berry and Yogurt Parfait Cups
Breakfast Croissants w/ Ham & Cheese
Dried Cherry Scones and Blueberry Muffins
Orange Juice, Coffee, Tea



- Call early for reservations: Club number (831-420-2084), Doris Williamson (831-722-4476)
- Entrance and meal: \$15/member, \$20/nonmember
- Door opens at 6:00, dinner served at 6:30 (for evening socials)
- Buffet style, paperware provided

Local Californios

May 20, 2017

Learn about the earliest Mexican settlers and their lifestyle!

MENU BY ERIKA'S CATERING:

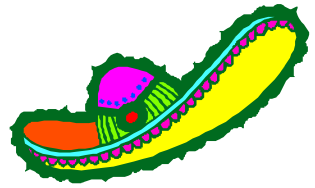
Carne Asada w/ Spanish Rice & Black Beans

Corn Tortillas

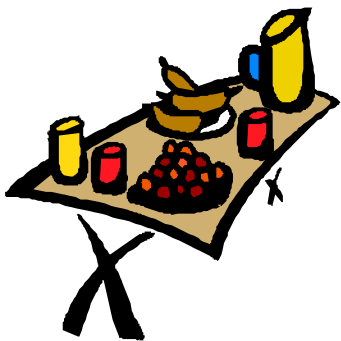
Avocado Salad w/ Tomato, Lime, Toasted Pepitas

Chips and Salsa Fresca (on the tables)

Leche Cake w/ Berries



This slide presentation will be given by Charlie Kiefer, a descendant of the Castro family, who with his wife Patti tell the story of the first immigrants to this area. Dressed in the clothes of the period they have an authentic display of artifacts and even perform a dance from the period.



June Potluck in the Park

BBQ at DeLaveaga Park

June 11, 2017 (Sunday) 1:00-5:00

FREE

BBQ meat provided by the club

Share your favorite foods with others!

**Fun & Games for all ages,
including Bocce Ball!**

**You will be contacted at a later date with directions
and further details. Mark your calendar!
Be thinking of your own culinary choices
and show up with an appetite.**



President: Traude Boisvert (429-5904)

Vice-President: Desiree Popkin (319-6198)

Secretary: Birgit Berr (916-955-7173)

Treasurer: Nancy Gubash (651-402-1694)

Membership: Doris Williamson (722-4476)

Trustees: Edward Berr (916-709-7173)

Hall Manager: Rick Gubash (952-240-9527)

Kim Schultz (336-4562)

Newsletter: Dennis Reader (728-1988)

Botschaft des Präsidenten/President's Message

Dear Members and Friends . . .

Our German-American club has existed in Santa Cruz for 140 years or more and thanks to your enthusiastic participation the club is still alive and well at this time. Of course this could not have been without the labor and dedication of the many members who came before us. It is my hope that this beacon of Germanic tradition and culture will continue on for many years. To make this happen, however, commitment and active participation of ALL members is essential.

Special thanks to those who took part in last month's "brainstorming" session. New ideas and suggestions for the enrichment of our programs were shared and the delicious potluck was enjoyed by everyone. We are planning to add as many of the suggested activities as possible to the club's calendar, starting with a Kaffeeklatsch in March and launching a book club in April. (See details in the Info Corner.)

We welcome new club board members Ed and Birgit Berr, and Kim Schultz. Also we very much wish to thank retiring board member Hildegard Wiedemann. Danke Hildegard!

Traude Boisvert

P.S. I urge you to make your reservations for socials by Wednesday prior to the event.

Kurzberichte/Board Briefs

The club's executive board holds its business meetings at 7:00 pm in the club hall. These meetings normally take place on the last Monday of each month and are open to all members. Some selected board actions:

- ✓ **A special election was held after the regular board meeting in January 2017. See the top of this page for a list of the current 2017 club officials.**
- ✓ **2017 membership renewals are now past due. The amount is \$25.00 per person.**
- ✓ **Due to significant rises in the costs for funding our socials, reluctantly the club is forced to increase ticket prices. Beginning in September 2017 the charge for dinner and entertainment will be \$20.00 for members and \$25.00 for nonmembers.**
- ✓ **The board approved and welcomed the following new members: Floyd Bolton, Derek Schultz, Kim Schultz, Ed Kersten, David Reetz, Christel Hinton, Gabriele Williams, Ruth Martin, Victoria Gonzalez, Steven Hatton. Grüße an alle! Greetings to each of you!**

Vorschau/Preview

Mar. 18: "Viva la France." Music by the
Casuals. Doors open @ 6:00.

Mar. 27: Business meeting. 7:00 @ club hall.
All members welcome.

Apr. 09: Sunday brunch. Club hall @ 11:00 am.

Apr. 24: Business meeting.

May 20: "Local Californios." (Local history.)
Doors open at 6:00.

May 24: Business meeting.

June 11: Sunday potluck. Free with own dish.
DeLaveaga Park @ 1:00.

June 26: Business meeting.

Summer Break

July 31: Business meeting.

Aug. 28: Business meeting.

Sept. 16: September event.

Sept. 25: Business meeting.

Oct. 21: October event.

Oct. 30: Business meeting.

Nov. 18: November social.

Nov. 27: Business meeting.

Dec. 16: Holiday Celebration.

Dec. 18: Business meeting.

Info Ecke/Info Corner



**The next newsletter appears in September. For information
in the interim, contact any board member.**

There are several existing and upcoming activities that our club offers to expand its outreach, for members and non-members alike. Please feel free to give them a try:

1. Kaffeeklatsch on March 26th (a Sunday), 2:00-4:00, at the club hall. There will be light refreshments with coffee/tea. Here is a chance for simple relaxed conversation, informal sharing of memories, maybe even singing a German song or two. Whatever we choose to do! Men and women equally welcome. PLEASE RSVP so we can plan the refreshments. Phone Traude Boisvert at 831-429-5904 or leave a message at traudeboisvert@aol.com.

2. Book Club or reading group, to be arranged during the month of April. This group would be reading the same work in German or in English translation. It could be fiction or non-fiction, as agreed upon by the participants. Contact Traude for further details.

3. An existing German-language class for beginners. Contact Desiree @ 319-6198 for information.

4. Like to sing? Some people have expressed an interest in a singing group. Contact Traude.

Weihnachts Markt

December 4, 2016

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The 4th annual Weihnachts Markt and Gingerbread House Contest proved to be another success. Here are two of the gingerbread houses—too bad we can't eat them!



These two pretty ladies were selling plants for a good cause: Tyler's Heart.



Verkäuferin Kim bei der Arbeit.



Desi sold the sweets.

Christmas Social

December 10, 2016



(L) Betty Maugari helped with the singing.

(R) Karen Reader was once again our pianist.



Ines Marshall sits at the head of her table. At the left is son Glen. Both arranged for our January "Red Baron" speaker, who was also a guest at the table (middle right).



**(Above) Love this classy outfit. See it in color @ germanamericanclubsantacruz.com
(Left) The Merry Christmas Trio**



Christmas Social

December 10, 2016

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Karen Wolf mit der Mutti.



Edward and Toni made a chess contest challenge.



Jeff & Hazel: now here's a handsome Christmas couple!



Kim Claus & son Zach: a mother knows just what to do.



Fasching

February 18, 2017



(L) Party streamers go flying through the air.

(R) Mallory was our charming 9-year-old costume winner.



(L) The Conga Line in action.
(R) The Circle Dance.



(L) To see Doris in color go to germanamericanclubsantacruz.com

(R) The winner takes a dance with Dad.



Fasching

February 18, 2017



The señor(ita) with her postal package.
Kaum zu glauben but this USPS costume is self-made!



(L) Die Zigeunerin
und die Hexe.

(R) The chauffeur is
on duty.

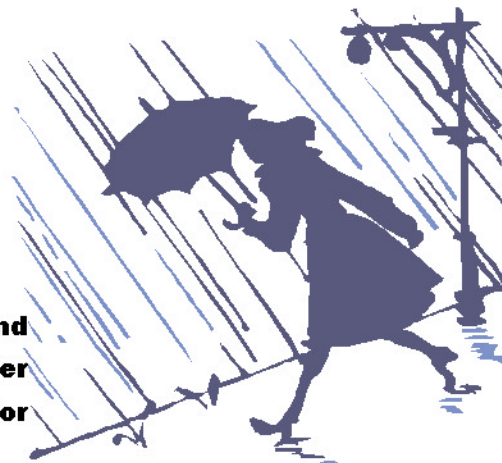


(L) Unser bester
Schiedsrichter.

(R) Irish from
top to bottom.



The Great Flood of 1955



With our wet winter of 2017, as the media report flooding and mudslides here in Santa Cruz County, memories go back to December of 1955, when the city of Santa Cruz was itself inundated by a major flood. Fully in the middle of this serious disaster was the former Arion Hall (our German-American Club), located at the time on Short Street directly next to the San Lorenzo River. The full story of this event—and how it meant the eventual removal of the hall—is detailed in the club newsletter of October 1994.

On the following page is an aerial photo of Santa Cruz, taken not long after the flood in 1955. (For much clearer versions of the picture contact the editor.) The photo shows not only the extent of general damages, but, as well, a rare view of the German-American Club building. By examining the picture carefully various features old and new are recognizable:

At the bottom of the photo is the Soquel Avenue bridge, intersecting on the left with Front Street, which already has some auto traffic on it. The large rectangular building at the head of Front Street (converging with Pacific Avenue) is the main post office. A lake of storm water sits behind the post office, at the present-day site of several banks. Up at the picture's top is the Water Street bridge. On the right side of the San Lorenzo River can be detected open fields awash with sand and debris. Today Ocean Street runs along here, and the County Governmental Center, and many businesses, have been built on this flood plain.

Returning to the corner of Soquel Avenue and Front Street, on the present first block (now occupied by a drug store and upscale food stores) was property once owned by the Santa Cruz German-American Club. In 1929 the club began the process of selling off portions of the land to finance a new club house. By 1955 there were five separate parcels, with the Arion Hall on its own lot. However, the landscape next to the river would be drastically altered with the construction of levees and a flood protection program.

The Arion Hall was directly in the path of redevelopment (see Pointed Finger mark on the photo). In its place would go a levee and the new River Street, paralleling the left bank of the river. The street the Arion Hall faces, Short Street, vanished. The diagonal street above it, a continuation of Cooper Street, also was removed. Collapsed in the river can be seen a bit of the old Cooper Street footbridge. The German-American Hall, proudly build in 1929, and its scenic spot beside the San Lorenzo River, would be gone forever.



For clearer detail go to germanamericanclubsantacruz.com

