

The Edelweiss am Rio Grande Nachrichten



The newsletter of the
 Edelweiss am Rio Grande
 German American Club
 4821 Menaul Blvd., NE
 Albuquerque, NM 87110-3037
 (505) 888-4833
 (See last page for Business Address)



Website: edelweissgac.org/
 Email: edelweissgac@hotmail.com
 Facebook: Edelweiss German-American Club

February 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Irish Dance CANCELLED	4	5 Karaoke CANCELLED	6 Maskenball (Masquerade Ball) CANCELLED
7 Kaffeeklatsch CANCELLED	8	9	10 Irish Dance CANCELLED Essen und Sprechen CANCELLED	11	12	13 DamenBall (Sweethearts Ball) CANCELLED
14	15	16 Kehraus CANCELLED	17 Irish Dance CANCELLED	18	19 Karaoke CANCELLED	20
21 Jazz Sunday CANCELLED	22	23	24 6:30 GAC BoD mtngl & Irish Dance CANCELLED	25	26	27 Denim or Diamonds Dance CANCELLED
28	Mar 1	Mar 2	Mar 3 Irish Dance CANCELLED	Mar 4	Mar 5 Karaoke CANCELLED	Mar 6

**The GAC continues to remain closed due to COVID-19 restrictions.
 See the Notes & Reminders section on page 2 for further details.**

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Happy Valentines Day if I don't see you. I've had some offers to fix our plumbing problems once and for. It involves digging up and replacing the pipe that has corroded. Looking at \$2,000 to 3,000, or we can limp along as we have been. People with tools and expertise are out of work and available. Something to consider. Months ago I proposed leasing the kitchen to a restaurateur, perhaps someone that lost their business to the shutdown. In the meantime I've been experimenting with a new air fryer. We could create a bar menu of chicken wings, cheese fries, sauerkraut pierogies, etc. I don't know all the technical and legal aspects of starting a restaurant so I welcome your input.

—Lance

NEWS AND NOTES

Kaffeeklatsch

The Kaffeeklatsch is **CANCELLED** for February 7, 2020 & March 7, 2021 - Tentative for Apr 4th
For more information, please call Alexandra Mirabal at 505-480-0623
or Kathe Mirabal at 505-836-6182.

NOTES & REMINDERS

WEBMASTER UPDATE: A huge thanks to GAC member, Amanda Shaffer. She has experience with maintaining websites and has been gracious enough to volunteer her time to take on the maintenance of our GAC's <http://edelweissgag.org> website, in addition to already being our GAC Media Coordinator (see the left-side column on page 8). She is working on updating the website and should be finished shortly. Thanks, again, Amanda.

GAC CLOSURE: The restriction in the Public Health Order (PHO) continue to require the GAC to remain closed. They classify us as a bar and the PHO requires bars to be closed. Even if we did not open the bar and just wanted to open the club for a dance social that is also prohibited, first because the PHO specifically states that dance clubs must also remain closed and secondly because, currently, mass gatherings of more than 5 people are forbidden in our county. That includes a social, as we would have more than 5 people present. So, for now, we continue to remain closed for other than cleaning, repairs, and the person doing the accounting to keep the bills paid. So, due to the PHO restrictions all events and activities continue to be cancelled until after the restrictions are lifted. The current NM Executive Order, currently effective through February 5th and Public Health Order (PHO), continue restrictions which prevent us from being open and from having any dances. We do not know what the restrictions will be after February 5th or whether the restrictions will change after that, but even if they are lifted it would not give us enough time to make arrangements for and set up a dance in February, so dances continue to be cancelled for now. We apologize for any inconvenience, but we have no choice but to comply with the PHO. And, the health and safety of our members is paramount. When the current restrictions are lifted we will reassess when to re-open and will send an email when that happens.

Upcoming Activities

Events in the GAC and of Interest to GAC Members
Events and Dates are **TENTATIVE** and Subject to Change, depending on COVID-19 Restrictions

Events Tentatively Being Planned in 2021 **Most dates are still yet to be scheduled**

February:

Sat, Feb 6th, Maskenball (Masquerade Ball)—**CANCELLED**

Sat, Feb 13th, Damenball (Sweethearts Ball)—**CANCELLED**

Tues, Feb 16th, 5:30pm, Kehraus—**CANCELLED**

Sat, Feb 27th, Denim & Diamonds Dance—**MOVED**

March:

Sat, Mar 13th, GAC St. Patrick's Dance

Sun, Mar 14th, 1pm, Hungarian 1848 Revolution Remembrance

April:

Sat, Apr 3rd 3Vienna Ball

Sat, Apr 24th Walpurgisnacht Dance

Sun, Apr 25th, 2pm-GAC General Membership Mtng

May:

Maifest Dance

Cinco de Mayo Dance

Sock Hop

June:

Roaring 20s Dance

Strawberry Fest Dance

July:

GAC Anniversary Dance

Denim & Diamonds Dance

Sun, Jul 26th, 2pm-GAC General Membership Mtng

August:

Luau Dance

Blues Night Dance

Sun, Aug 22nd, 1pm, Hungarian St. Stephen's Day

September:

Weinfest Dance

GAC Picnic

All Day, GAC Oktoberfest Celebration - ???

Or, GAC Oktoberfest Dance - ???

October:

German Day of Unity Dance - ???

Sun, Oct 24th, 1pm-Hungarian 1956 Revolution Remembrance

Halloween Dance

Sun, Oct 31st, 2pm-GAC General Membership Mtng & Elections

November:

Thu, Nov 11th, 11am-Fasching Opening Ceremonies (door opens at 10am) (Potluck)

Fasching Opening Ball

December:

Fasching Royal Ball

Sun, Dec 12th, 1pm-Hungarian Holiday Season Party

GAC Christmas Dance

Fri, Dec 31st, 7pm ('til 1am) GAC New Year's Eve Ball



Next German Movie Day
TENTATIVELY
SCHEDULED FOR
2pm, Sunday, March 28th

Feature for March 2021:
Die Gustloff (2008)
-Drama, History, War

Movie and popcorn are free! Come out and enjoy a German language movie

Storyline: The tragic events surrounding the sinking of the Wilhelm Gustloff, a German passenger ship, at the end of World War II. On 30 January 1945, Captain Hellmuth Kehding was in charge of the ship, evacuating wounded soldiers and civilians trapped by the Red Army. Soon after leaving the harbor of Danzig, it was hit by three torpedoes from the Soviet submarine and sank in less than an hour...
Written by fippi2000



Essen und Sprechen

Unfortunately, the Public Health Order (PHO) continues to be too restrictive and currently does not allow indoor dining at restaurants. Even though the PHO does allow outside, patio dining at 25% capacity of the restaurants, it's too cold for outside dining. Even those restaurants that have installed heating on their patios have the problem of being too cold when the wind, or even much of a breeze picks up. Consequently, the February *Essen und Sprechen Treffen* (gathering) has been **CANCELLED**.

We'll see what the PHO permits for the second Wednesday of March.

(The Essen und Sprechen monthly dinner group is not affiliated with the GAC; but rather is a separate, autonomous group. The Essen und Sprechen Dinner is open to everyone and this notice is provided for the convenience of anyone who may wish to attend).

The GAC Yahoo web group, along with all other Yahoo Groups, was permanently closed on December 15, 2020 and is no longer available for use.

All future updates and notices to our GAC members will be sent out using our GAC membership list

Karneval Week in Germany (Slightly edited excerpts from)

What You Should Know About Carnival in Cologne and elsewhere

(Text: Sigi Lieb, Translation: Petra Plaum and Christian Werthschulte) – Version: January 5, 2017

When Does Carnival Take Place?

Carnival (Fasching) ends about forty days before Easter. That day is called Aschermittwoch (Ash Wednesday), which is the beginning of Lent (fasting time, similar to Ramadan) and lasts until Easter. In former times Christians were not allowed to eat meat or drink alcohol during this period. For children, fasting usually means living without eating candy. Today fasting is less common but some people use this period to renounce things of which they think that they are a bad habit, e.g. Facebook, smoking, etc.

Carnival takes place on the weekend before the beginning of Lent. The festivities begin on a Thursday and end the following Tuesday night. The days have different names in every region:

- Thursday: Weiberdonnerstag, Weiberfastnacht, Altweiber, Weiberfasching, Wieverfastelovend and others
- Friday: Karnevals-/Faschingsfreitag
- Saturday: Karnevals-/Faschingssamstag
- Sunday: Karnevals-/Faschingssonntag
- Monday: Rosenmontag
- Tuesday: Karnevals-/Veilchendienstag
- In Cologne, the whole weekend is called Fastelovend.

What Happens During Carnival?

There are regional differences. Almost everywhere, partying starts on Thursday - Weiberdonnerstag – at 11:11 am. People may go to work in costumes, at least in cities such as Cologne, where carnival is celebrated intensely. Don't be surprised when your bus driver or job center employee wears a red make-up heart on his or her cheek, a green wig or funny clothes. This tradition is called *sich verkleiden* and it's normal in Cologne on this day. Many people are dressed up as certain professionals, animals or popular characters, e. g. a sorcerer, a cowboy, a clown.

Most shops close at noon. The rest of the day is spent partying on the street, in cafes and bars, in costumes. Throughout the whole weekend there are carnival parades with decorated floats, dancing groups and music groups. In the streets, people are watching and dancing, they shout "Alaaf" and "Kamelle" and "Strüßcher" to ask for flowers and candy from the floats. "Kamelle" and "Strüßcher" is shouted during the parades, so that the musicians, dancers and their fellows will throw candy and give flowers to them. "Alaaf", "Kamelle" and "Strüßcher" aren't common German words, but words from the Cologne dialect called "Kölsch" (as the regional beer).

The biggest parade is called Rosenmontagszug, it takes place in the whole of the city center. The "Schull- und Veedel-szoch" on Sunday is also huge. In different quarters of Cologne and in the cities surrounding Cologne there are many small parades which might be more suitable for children, because they aren't that crowded.

There's traditional music in and from Cologne for carnival. Many texts aren't in German but in Kölsch. In many bars and pubs, there are no chairs and tables during this weekend. It's usually crowded in there and sometimes you can hardly breathe. Quite a lot of beer is consumed. For people who can go with the flow, it's fun and entertaining. For people who don't, it's better to stay at home, though. The city of Cologne's pretty crazy during these days.

Rosenmontag is a holiday (in the regions, where carnival is celebrated). Most shops in Cologne are closed. On Rosenmontag people with costumes are in the streets the whole day. During Tuesday night Cologne people burn the Nubbel, a doll made out of straw which you find over the doors of pubs and bars during carnival.

On Aschermittwoch everything has come to an end. Practicing Catholics go to Church, the priest puts a cross made out of ash on their forehead. Afterwards they eat fish together. The ash cross is a sign for the finite nature of life and reminds people of the importance of being humble.

Where Does the Tradition Come From?

Carnival (Fasching, Fastnacht or Fassenacht) is very old and has several roots. **(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)**

1. Before Christ: People wanted to expel the ghosts of winter to make spring arrive, so that there'll be grains, fruit and vegetables and everyone has enough to eat.
2. Christianity: Have some big party before the 40 days of Lent start.
3. The Old Romans: For one day, masters are servants and servants are masters.
4. In Cologne, there are certain uniforms to make fun of the French and Prussian occupants (which ruled the city during the 18th and 19th century)

Who Wears Costumes And Parties On Carnival?

In some regions, carnival is celebrated predominantly by children and teenagers. Not so in Cologne, Düsseldorf or Mainz. There everyone who likes to party does so, from the baby to the grandma, regardless of social and economic background. If you want to join carnival festivities, you should dress up at least a little, e.g. by having color in the face, wearing a wig or a costume. If you aren't dressed-up at all, others might feel offended.

Carnival For Families

Some carnival celebrations are suitable for children and others aren't. Please ask friends, neighbors, the Heimleitung or Willkommensinitiativen (welcome groups), which celebrations are right for you.

On Weiberdonnerstag and Rosenmontag you will observe many people dancing, singing and drinking in busses and trains, too. Public transport may be delayed. If you want to avoid this situation, better try to abstain from taking public transport during those days.

How to Have a Good Time

Cologne was founded by the Romans and from the beginning, people from different cultural backgrounds used to live here together. This is one thing, which is being celebrated during carnival too. The atmosphere is easy-going; things which are usually considered inappropriate are okay now. People are singing, dancing and flirting. It's normal and doesn't signal any further intentions or any closer contact. There are exceptions. But this doesn't happen often.

Be careful: Kisses in the air or real kisses, a deep look in the eye or hot dancing usually mean nothing. It's just fun. Don't feel hurt if somebody dances and flirts with you and then moves on to the next person. This is totally normal and part of the carnival tradition.

It's also normal that men dress up as women or vice versa or that some people are lightly dressed. Everyone is allowed to dress just as he or she likes. Before you take pictures, please ask the person whether she wants it or not.

Carnival is a celebration of togetherness. It's important to stay polite, though, and never to force others to do something they don't like. A NO has to be respected. Your NO has to be respected, too. To respect other people's boundaries is one of the few, but very important rules, especially during carnival.

Important Vocabulary

- Alaa! – This exclamation means: Great, we're celebrating carnival. (In Düsseldorf and Mainz, people shout „Helau!“ instead)
- Kamelle – chocolate, candy and other sweets which are given away during the parades
- Strüßcher – small bouquets of flowers given away during the parades
- Karnevalsumzug (Kölsch: der Zoch)– decorated floats, groups of musicians and dancers, who are singing and dancing in the street, on predefined routes
- der Jecke, die Jecken bzw. der Narr, die Narren – people who dress up and celebrate carnival
- der Nubbel – straw doll hanging over doors of pubs where carnival is celebrated
- bützen – Kölsch for: to kiss someone on the cheek
- sich verkleiden / sich maskieren – to wear funny costumes, paint your face, wear wigs or funny hats. Nouns: die Verkleidung, das Kostüm
- sich schminken – to use make-up or paint your face
- die Maske – a mask out of rubber or plastic to put over your face
- die Perücke – wig
- schunkeln – put your arms under those of your neighbors and dance together to the music

Members' Birthdays and Anniversaries

(Of those whose dues are paid up and current)

Geburtstage - Herren (Men's Birthdays)

Larry Jones
Mel Perea

Geburtstage - Damen (Ladies' Birthdays)

Rose Marie Keating
Mandy Garrett
Berta Parker
Rosalie Pfeiffer
Kathy Wilds

Jubiläen (Anniversaries)

John & Karin Waldrop

Membership As Of January 31, 2021

Total	113
Males	51
Females	62
Couples	32
Singles	49
Life Members	9

111 have not yet
renewed

Herzliche Wünsche zum Geburtstag

Best Wishes to Berta Parker on her 94th Birthday

Berta was born in February in 1927. She is a lifetime member of the Edelweiss am Rio Grande German American Club since its inception and is believed to be our eldest member.

Tentative Club Hours **(For after COVID-19 resolves)**

Sunday	12-6 pm
Monday	Closed
Tues thru, Sat	4-8 pm

(Addn'l hours when event is scheduled)

Happy Hour **4-7 pm** **(On Thursday,-Friday, &-Saturday Only)**

The club may be closed on some holidays.
For Info call 505-888-4833 Monday thru
Saturday between 4pm and 7pm

**NOTE: The Club may close an hour early
when there are no patrons left in the
Club**

Albuquerque Honorary German Consul Office Closure

The Honorary German Consul office in Albuquerque has closed.

When you need German Consulate assistance, you will need to contact the German Consulate in Houston, Texas. Their contact information is the following.

Phone: 713-627-7770

Email: info@houston.diplo.de

The phone number for the German Embassy in Washington, DC is
202-298-4000

EDELWEISS AM RIO GRANDE
GERMAN AMERICAN CLUB
Abbreviated PROFIT AND LOSS
December 2020

Income:

Donations	\$1,000.00
Office Rent	<u>500.00</u>
Total Income	\$1,500.00

Expenses:

Accounting	\$154.00
Corp Tax Rtn	299.00
Utilities	626.00
Phone/Internet	272.00
Prop Tax 2020(part)	2,020.00
Other	<u>91.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$3,462.00

Net Loss **(\$1,962.00)**

Financial Director's Comments:

- Paid part of 2020 property taxes and rest of corporate tax return prep. by CPA
- Seeking refund from SESAC about \$300 but no success so far. SESAC is music related for royalties

• Checking balance	\$2,161
• Savings balance	<u>\$9,596</u>
• Total Balance	\$11,757

Jeff

Tolling of the Ball and GAC Members' Health Issues

Fortunately, to our knowledge none of our GAC members have passed away and we have no knowledge of any new health issues to report this month.

Resources related to the Coronavirus

Stay at Home Order

(In case you may need them):

**** Coronavirus Health Hotline:
1-855-600-3453**

**** Coronavirus Info Hotline:
1-833-551-0518**

**** Senior & Disabled Adults Food
Access Hotline: 1-800-432-2080**

The 2021 Officers and Board

Chairman	Jay Vandersloot	505-362-1733
Vice-Chairman	Kenneth Blemel	505-293-5620
President	Lance Klafeta	505-480-2344
Vice-President	Dieter Fox	
Executive Secretary	Carolyn Gonzales	505 249-4669
Actng Financial Director	Jeffrey Hagemann	505-720-4926
Director-at-Large	Albert Arizmendi	505-582-4518
Director-at-Large	Eva McCabe	505-410-6214
Director-at-Large	Rosalie Pfeiffer	505-299-3951

Committee Chairs and Coordinators

German Culture Chair	Vacant	
Webmaster	Amanda Shaffer	626-818-2348
Website Contact Email:	<pandaleigh@gmail.com>	
Media Coordinator	Amanda Shaffer	626-818-2348
Media Contact Email:	<pandaleigh@gmail.com>	
Facebook Coordinator	Lance Klafeta	505-480-2344
Private Parties Coord.	Lance Klafeta	505-480-2344
Functions/Events Coord	Jay Vandersloot	505-362-1733
Entertainment Coordinator	Carol Stevens	505-280-6350
Membership Chair	Jay Vandersloot	505-362-1733
Membership Questions:	<JayVandersloot@yahoo.com>	
Newsletter Editor	Jay Vandersloot	505-362-1733
Newsletter Input:	<JayVandersloot@yahoo.com>	

NOTE: Deadline for Newsletter Input: 20th of each Month

Other Positions and Associate Groups

Past President	Miguel Mata	505-620-3666
Elferrat Chair	Peter Blemel	505-991-2112
Dinner Ticket Sales-GAC	Open Position	Pls Volunteer
Greeting Cards	Rosalie Pfeiffer	505-299-3951
Decorating Coordinator	Open Position	Pls Volunteer
Volksdance Teacher	Open Position	Pls Volunteer
Youth Activities Coord.	Open Position	Pls Volunteer
Kaffeeklatsch	Alexandra Mirabal	505-480-0623
Front Door Coordinator	Kathe Mirabal	505-836-6182
Duke City Creative	Chessa Leithmann	505-804-2963
Hungarian Club Rep	Steve Borbas	505-265-7088
Irish American Society Pres.	Ellen Dowling	505-307-1700
Jazz Society Coordinator	Casey Den Hollander	505-266-3148

Volunteers STILL Needed

It is thanks to our many volunteers that we are able to continue the many activities we have at the GAC (see the box on the left for a partial list of some of our many volunteers) There is always a need for volunteers and we still need a few more. Whether you're looking for a short-term or a long-term commitment, please take a look at the below list of needs and consider volunteering for any that fit your talents, If you think of anything you are interested in that is not on the list, please let us know. We always appreciate everyone who helps out.

If you would like to volunteer, **or just have questions about any of the positions**, please contact GAC Board Chair Jay Vandersloot, either at email [<JayVandersloot@yahoo.com>](mailto:JayVandersloot@yahoo.com) or call him afternoon or evening at 505-362-1733. We look forward to hearing from you.

Current Volunteer Needs:

- See the box on the left and below for open positions
- **Meal Preparation** for dances (see left column on page 3 for list of upcoming events). This is a good short-term commitment, whether for just one time, or for a number of dances
- **German Culture Chair**
- **Functions/Events Coordinator** for planning and scheduling events and reservations for renting the GAC
- **Decorations Coordinator** and other volunteers to help decorate
- **Librarian** to help further organize our lending library and recommend what should be kept or disposed of
- **Operations Committee Members** to assist our GAC President
- **Finance Committee Members** to assist the Financial Director
- **Dance Instructor** Volksdance, Waltz, Polka, etc., (any or all)
- **Youth Activities Coordinator** for teen & young adult oriented activities
- **Newsletter Editor** (to compile, prepare, publish & distribute)
- **Membership Chair**

We Send Cards!

Please notify **Rosalie Pfeiffer**, at **505-299-3951**

if you know of any Club Member who should receive a greeting card, i.e., get well, sympathy, congratulations, etc.

The Edelweiss am Rio Grande German American Club New Membership or Renewal Form

Dues are:	Single Membership	----- \$45	New Membership	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Couples Membership	----- \$80		
	Life Member Annual Fee (per NM Statute)-	\$5	Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please complete this form and mail it with your check for dues to the German American Club, 2609 Quincy St., NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110 Attn: Membership. If you pay your dues at the bar, please keep your receipt. **(PLEASE PRINT)**

Name _____

Spouse/Partner _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Primary: Cell Phone _____ E-mail _____

Partner: Cell Phone _____ E-mail _____

Primary's birth month _____ Spouse/Partner's birth month _____ Anniversary month _____

Your GAC depends on your participation to keep the club running smoothly. Please mark the task or tasks where you would be willing to help:

Recruiting _____	Decorating _____	Door Greeter _____	Kitchen _____
Clean Up _____	Event Planner _____	Contacting Members _____	Media Coord _____
Serve on Board of Directors _____		Serve on a Committee or as a Coordinator _____	

Thank you for your support,
JAY VANDERSLOOT
Membership Chair

For Office Use Only: Cash _____ Check _____ Date _____		
Receipt # _____		
Check# _____	Amount _____	Initial _____



Having a Party? Rent the Club!



Mon. thru Thur. Night	\$450
Friday Day	\$450
Friday Night	\$500
Saturday Day	\$500
Saturday Night.	\$600
Sunday Day Only	\$500

**Call Lance Klafeta
at 505-480-2344
for more information
and to reserve the Club
facility for your parties**

- ◆ Security \$135 extra per guard
- ◆ Use of Kitchen \$100 extra
- ◆ Use of Linen Table Cloths (incl cleaning them) \$100 extra
- ◆ Cleaning \$100 extra

**Please note that you must be a dues paying
GAC member to rent the club.**

If you have been a GAC member for more than 3 years you may rent the club for your functions, depending on availability, at a discounted rate (weddings excluded).

Business Address:
The Edelweiss am Rio Grande
German American Club
2609 Quincy St. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110

Phone (505) 888-4833