

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

May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>FOR NOW, the GAC continues to remain closed due to COVID-19 restrictions. HOWEVER, see the Notes & Reminders section on page 2 for update</p>						<p>1 Maifest bei Cinco Dance CANCELLED</p>
<p>2 Kaffeeklatsch CANCELLED</p>			<p>5 Irish Dance CANCELLED</p>		<p>7 Karaoke CANCELLED</p>	
			<p>12 Irish Dance CANCELLED Essen & Sprechen See page 3</p>			<p>15 Roaring 20s Dance CANCELLED</p>
<p>16 Jazz Sunday CANCELLED</p>			<p>19 Irish Dance CANCELLED</p>		<p>21 Karaoke CANCELLED</p>	
			<p>26 Irish Dance CANCELLED 6:30 GAC BoD SCHEDULED</p>			
		<p>Board Vice Chair Ken Bleemel has volunteered to head up our Oktoberfest Committee and is already looking into possibilities we might pursue, in case the NM Public Health Order (PHO) restrictions are sufficiently lifted in time for us to get the celebration organized.</p>				

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Spring is here! Spring is here! Life is skittles and life is beer. I think the loveliest time of the year. Don't you? Of course you do. At the club the weeds are getting pulled and the swamp coolers are up and running. Bernalillo is in the green so we can reasonably expect to open in June. I took another trip to Florida last month and attended an event at the German American Friendship Club in Pinellas Park. Founded in 1951, their building is similar to ours with the addition of a huge outdoor beer garden.. They were very welcoming and we talked about accepting each others members. I hope a formal proclamation to that effect can be worked out soon, but in the meantime if you vacation in Florida be sure to check it out. I'm pushing ahead with my idea of opening a restaurant at the club that would serve members as well as carryout and delivery to the public. There are many details to work out and the restaurant would be a separate entity that would lease the kitchen. Any recipe ideas or suggestions are welcome. The restaurant would be able to advertise in ways the club can not so even if not terribly profitable it should bring in new members.

—Lance

NEWS AND NOTES

Kaffeeklatsch

The Kaffeeklatsch is **CANCELLED** for May 2, 2021 and **TENTATIVE** for Jun 6th
For more information, please call Alexandra Mirabal at 505-480-0623
or Kathe Mirabal at 505-836-6182.

NOTES & REMINDERS

GAC CLOSURE STATUS (newly updated):

The restrictions in the Public Health Order (PHO) continue to require the GAC to remain closed They classify us as a bar/club and the PHO still requires bars and clubs to be closed. The PHO goes on a **red, yellow, green, and turquoise** rating system.

Under red, yellow, and green the GAC must still remain closed and **as of this writing Bernalillo County is now rated GREEN.**

When our county eventually reaches **turquoise** the GAC will be able to open at 33% capacity (that is, once we have completed NM's virus safety training), but that takes at least four weeks at **green** before the county moving to **turquoise** is possible, so that will be a little while, yet, before that happens.

Even if we did not open the bar and just wanted to open the club for a dance, 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 10 people are forbidden in our county. That includes a social, as we would have more than 10 people present. At the green level the limit only rises to 20 people.

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 sufficiently eased. We do not know what the restrictions will be after when the PHO updates again, but **even if they are eased it would not give us enough time to make arrangements for and set up a dance in May and for June is questionable**, 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. We're watching the situation DAILY.

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

May:

Sat, May 1st, Maifest bei Cinco Dance—

CANCELLED

Sat, May 15th, Roaring 20s Dance—**CANCELLED**

Sun, May 23rd, 2pm-GAC General Membership Mtng—**CANCELLED**

June:

Sock Hop

Strawberry Fest Dance

July:

GAC Anniversary Dance

Denim & Diamonds Dance

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

August:

Aug 15th, Last day to submit letter of intent to run for election

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 - ???

Or, Both

October:

German Day of Unity Dance - ???

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

Remembrance

Halloween Dance

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

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, May 30th

Feature for May 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 Kending 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

Join us at the monthly *Essen und Sprechen Treffen* (gathering) to practice your German and socialize over dinner in German (with some English). This month will be at **6:30pm** on the **2nd Wednesday**, May 12th, at **The D.H. Lescombes Winery & Bistro (formerly St. Clair's Winery), 901 Rio Grande Blvd NW (from I-40 take the Rio Grande Blvd exit and turn south. It is on the west side of the street, about 1 block south of I-40)**

Phone: (505) 355-1418

NOTE: **Jager Schnitzel** is on the menu, or order it without Jager gravy and you get **Wiener Schnitzel**.

We decide at each month's dinner where to go the following month.

PLEASE, reply by Tuesday, May 11th, by email to JayVandersloot@yahoo.com or by texting or calling Jay afternoon or evening at 505-362-1733 to let us know whether you will be there, so we will know how large of a table to get; attendance lately has been 4 people.

(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).



Tolling of the Bell Berta Margarete Parker

April 6, 2021

Obituary

On Tuesday, April 6, 2021, Berta Margarete Parker, loving wife and mother of four children, passed away peacefully at the age of 94.

Berta was born on February 12, 1927 in Augsburg, Germany to Wilhelm and Paulina (Egelhofer) Seibold. She was trained as a Jeweler in Germany, and apprenticed and learned goldsmithing once in the U.S.

She met her first husband Abel Valdez Vallejos in Germany in 1947 while he was serving as a Sergeant in the U.S. Army. They married on May 4, 1948, and made the long trek from Germany to Bernalillo, New Mexico, a testament to her sense of adventure and her resilience. They raised three children, Dolores (Dodie), Paula, and Chris until their divorce in 1956. Berta became a naturalized U.S. citizen on April 28, 1952.

Berta met the love of her life, Richard Parker, a lifelong outdoorsman and owner of Dick Parker Construction. They married in 1961 and added another son, Klindt, to the family. Together they fueled each other's passion for travel and adventure. She also loved her 6 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren whom she was deeply connected with and who helped her keep her youthful spirit alive.

Berta was a prolific artist. She was a highly skilled craftswomen and owned her own custom jewelry business. She also enjoyed painting, sewing, stained glass and doing anything creative with her hands. She was especially fond of Mexico, spending as much time as she could in Puerto Vallarta. She was fluent in German, Spanish and English. She was always up for anything but never left the house without lipstick on. She loved a good joke, spoiling her dogs, dancing at the German Club and hanging out with her girlfriends. Berta never knew a stranger, and like it or not you had to have her sauerkraut.

Berta was preceded in death by her father, Wilhelm, mother Paula, brother Anselm, first husband, Abie Vallejos in 1975 and husband Dick Parker in August 2019. She is survived by her four children, Dodie, Paula, Chris and Klindt as well as her grandchildren and great grandchildren. She will be missed but leaves a rich legacy in those who knew her. There will be a small private memorial with immediate family only.

If you knew Berta, you know she would want you to dance a polka or do the "chicken dance" in her memory.



Tolling of the Bell

Ann Toya

Rio Rancho, New Mexico
April 28, 1924 - April 16, 2021

Annie Toya was a former, long-time member of the GAC and a member of the Edelweiss Dancers under Rudy Ulibarri. She and Berta Parker were great friends and it was something that they died so close to each other.

Obituary

Ann Toya, 96, a resident of Albuquerque, passed away peacefully with loved ones by her side on April 16, 2021.

Born Anna Maria Katarina Reiss-Koenig in Hallein, Austria, on April 28, 1924. Ann survived the WWII German occupation of Austria and met her sweetheart and future husband Anthony (Tony) Toya during the allied occupation after the war. Following the love in her heart, she left family, friends, and the beautiful mountains of Salzburg, to live in Jemez Pueblo, New Mexico. Ann and Tony were married in the San Diego Mission Church in Jemez Pueblo. She worked in the Pueblo with her in-laws and was welcomed by the people of Jemez, while Tony commuted every day to work at Sandia National Laboratory.

They soon moved to Albuquerque's North Valley where Tony built the home for his family, working nights after work and on weekends, a home she treasured because it was built with his love.

Only after her two sons were old enough to go to school did Ann work outside the home. She first worked for Amrep Corporation, the founding company of the new town of Rio Rancho. She also worked for the Gas Company of New Mexico and later with the Albuquerque High School.

Ann was active with the German Club of New Mexico performing Austrian & German folk dances and traditional New Mexico dances. She loved to travel, especially to visit her friends and family in Europe. As she got older she became even more active, participating in the Senior Olympics in both swimming and track & field events. She traveled with the Senior Olympics to other US cities representing New Mexico. She also enjoyed skiing and hiking.

Ann is survived by her sons Ronald Toya and wife Peggy of Albuquerque, and Robert Toya of Jemez Pueblo, who was also her caregiver; three grandchildren, Dena Blair and husband Nathan of Denver, CO, Darren Toya of La Cueva, and Ryan Toya and wife Felicia of Espanola; and four great-grandchildren, Rachael and Sarah Blair of Denver, CO and Trinity and Liam Toya of Espanola.

She was preceded in death by her husband Anthony Toya, her parents, her grandson Douglass Toya, and other precious family members.

She was easy to love with her smile, her laugh, and her yodel.

Special thank you to the staff of Roadrunner Hospice for taking great care of our Ann.
We also are grateful to Cece Cates and Victor Chung for all their love and support.

A rosary was held on Tuesday, April 27th at 9:30AM
at Aquinas Newman Center on the UNM Campus,
with a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:00AM.
Interment at the National Cemetery in Santa Fe, NM.

Members' Birthdays and Anniversaries

(Of those whose dues are paid up and current)

Geburtstage - Herren (Men's Birthdays)

Jim Brauer
Frank Jiron
Christopher Wright

Geburtstage - Damen (Ladies' Birthdays)

Anna Herrera
Janet Nielsen

Jubiläen (Anniversaries)

NONE

Membership As Of April 30, 2021

Total	115
Males	54
Females	61
Couples	33
Singles	49
Life Members	8

107 have not yet renewed

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 **Tuesday 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
March 2021

Income:

Donations	\$917.00
Dues	45.00
Office Rent	<u>500.00</u>
Total Income	\$1,462.00

Expenses:

Total Expenses	<u>1,480.00</u>
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Net Loss (\$18.00)

Financial Director's Comments:

As of April 29, 2020, we have

\$ 1,972 in checking and
\$ 8,597 in savings, for a total of
\$10,569.

Normal expenses. .

**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**

Tolling of the Bell

We have received notice that long time GAC member, **Sigrid (Ziggy) Wood**, passed away this March, and telling us she always spoke of all the good times she had at the GAC. Unfortunately, we do not have any further information at this time and we have not yet been able to find an obituary on her. We will provide additional information as we receive it.

GAC Member Health Issues

Jim Payne, was in a car accident and was in the hospital for 2½ weeks. He had two operations on his leg, one on the ankle and the other on the knee. Jim is now in recovering at Spanish Trails Rehabilitation. You can call him on his cell phone at **505-710-6663**. Cards can be sent to him at: **905 Georgia St, SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108.**

A Thank You Note

Louise Vandersloot would like to express her thanks for all the cards many of you sent her. Each and every one of them brightened her day.

She especially appreciated the plant one couple sent. It cheered her up while she was otherwise still in pain from the broken ribs she had suffered from when they had performed CPR on her.

Again, thank you to all for the many thoughts of kindness.

Louise is still weak and still suffers from pain, but is slowing improving. She is currently having both nurse and assistance home visits to check on her progress.

Cards may be sent to Louise at:
**12613 Indian School Rd NE,
Albuquerque, NM 87112-4719**

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

Oktoberfest Cmte Chair	Kenneth Blemel	505-293-5620
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	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:

Membership	Single Membership -----	\$45	New
	Couples Membership -----	\$80	
Renewal	Life Member Annual Fee (per NM Statute)-	\$5	Re-

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

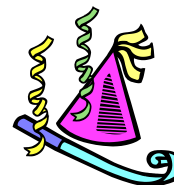
For Office Use Only: Cash _____ Check _____ Date _____

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