

# Edelweiss am Rio Grande

## German American Club

### Albuquerque, New Mexico

[www.edelweissgac.org](http://www.edelweissgac.org)



Dancing the Oslo Waltz at the Vienna Ball on April 9th, 2016

*Be sure to join us this month for*  
*Kaffeeklatsch—May 1st Page 4*  
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# May 2016

### **The 2016 Officers and Board**

Jay Vandersloot	Chairman of the Board	362-1733
Steve Borbas	Vice Chairman	265-7088
Miguel Mata	President	620-3666
Mark Meadows	Vice-President	238-2289
Kathy Wilds	Executive Secretary	388-6064
Christine Philips	Financial Director	710-3972
John Waldrop	Director-at-Large	298-5893
Michael Begay	Director-at-Large	304-1668
Rosalie Pfeiffer	Director-at-Large	299-3951

### **The 2016 Committee Chairs and Coordinators**

Christine Philips	Membership	710-3972
Membership Input:	<a href="mailto:christine.ann.philips@gmail.com">christine.ann.philips@gmail.com</a>	
Kathy Mueller	German Culture	856-6359
Britt Peters	German Culture	867-5969
Open Position	Entertainment Contracts	
Sheri Kraemer	Functions Coordinator	271-2634
John Waldrop	Newsletter Editor & Web	298-5893
Newsletter Input:	<a href="mailto:gacmagazine@live.com">gacmagazine@live.com</a>	

**NOTE: Deadline for Newsletter Input: 15th of each Month**

### **Other Positions and Associate Groups**

Miguel Mata	Past President	620-3666
Kenny Blemel	Elferrat Chair	991-6997
Rosalie Pfeiffer	Greeting Cards	299-3951
Open Position	Volksdance Teacher	
Madie Mirabal	Decorating Coordinator	839-0229
Luisa Gignac	Decorating	881-4847
Kathe Mirabal	Kaffeeklatsch	836-6182
Ellen Dowling	Irish American Society Pres.	307-1700
Kathe Mirabal	Front Door Coordinator	836-6182
Steve Borbas	Hungarian Club Rep	265-7088
Bruce Green	St. Andrew Scottish Society	270-6507
Norita Callahan	Dinner Ticket Sales-GAC	298-2708
Casey Den Hollander	Rio Grand Jazz Society	266-3148

# VOICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

As I write this, I'm wondering where spring has gone. It was here yesterday, but now it's no where to be found.

No matter what the weather, our club "waltzed" into spring at our annual Vienna Ball on April 9th. The mood was set by the elegant tables decorated by Madie Mirabal. Those who attended were treated to a wonderful meal prepared by Carol Eberhardt, assisted by Fritz, Steve Borbas, and Kathy Mueller. Jim Brauer and Die Schunken Bub'n kept us dancing with a great selection of waltzes as well as a variety of other music. The dance floor was never empty. Our own Edelweiss Dancers (so dubbed by Jim) performed the Polonaise, Die Fledermaus, the Oslo Waltz, and the Edelweiss Waltz. Though attendance was down, those of us that were there had, as usual, a wonderful time. Thanks to all who made the evening special. A special thank you goes to Kathy Mueller, our German culture chair, and Britt Peters, her assistant, who engineered the evening.

On April 7th, Rio Bravo Brewery hosted a German night complete with German food and music. The GAC sold Bratwursts and German potato salad and German music was provided by the Polka Schlingles. Many who attended wore lederhosen and dirndls. It was a fun evening and we hope to do it again.

Two favorite functions are taking place in May. On May 7th we have Maifest with Swingshift once again playing for us. There will be the crowning of the new Mai Queen and the Mai Baum and dancers will make an appearance.

On May 21st we have our ever fun Sock Hop with the new band, Hit Squad, playing for our dancing pleasure. So dust off your saddle shoes and your penny loafers and come and re-live the "good ole days".

Please remember to make your dinner reservations no later than the Thurs. prior to the event.

I would now like to take this opportunity to thank Kay Blemel for her tireless efforts as our membership chairperson for the last several years. Kay has done a wonderful job of organizing and maintaining the membership lists, spearheading the renewal process, and encouraging new memberships. Though at times a thankless job, membership chair is an extremely important and necessary job. Thank you Kay for all your work and support.

Well, I think that's it for now. I look forward to seeing you at the club

Miguel Mata

### **Kaffeeklatsch**

The Kaffeeklatsch will be held on May 1st at the club at 3pm. For more information call Kathe Mirabal at 836-6182.

### **John Waldrop**

He is the Gentleman whom you seldom see in pictures because he TAKES the pictures! John is our photographer, who places the photos on our website and into our magazine and has been doing this already when he was our Financial Director for many years.

Wearing many hats, John is also our Newsletter Editor and Web Master. Many hours are spent to keep us informed: Worrying that he receives all the inputs before the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month, getting it to the printer, mailing it on time, so all our members have their newsletter before the first of each month.

**THANK YOU JOHN WALDROP FOR A GREAT JOB!**

Kathy and Britt

# CULTURE CORNER

## MAIFEST

Maifest is the traditional German celebration of the arrival of spring. It is still celebrated throughout Germany with the maibaum (maypole) decorated to show off the history and crafts of the town.

Maifest – similar to Oktoberfest - has now become a popular celebration throughout the world. It has been celebrated in Cincinnati since 1873.

One of the most popular celebrations is that of Brenham, Texas, a town with heavy German ancestry. The first Maifest in 1881 has become an ongoing attraction yearly for an entire weekend – which highlights the town's proud German heritage with historical demonstrations and displays.

At the Edelweiss am Rio Grande, we will be celebrating Maifest with our own Maibaum and the crowning of our 2016 Maikoenigin (Mayqueen) on May 7<sup>th</sup>. We hope you will join us!

Britt Peters, German Culture

## Thank You

We would like to thank the Eberhardts & Friends for a wonderful meal. Always a Treat! Carol and Fritz are well known for their entertainment expertise. Assisting them – also expertly of course, were their friends Kathy Mueller and Steve Borbas. As good as it gets! Thank you Madie Mirabal and helpers for decorating the Ballroom.

Thank you Kaethe Mirabal for greeting and signing in members and guests at the door. Thank you Norita Callahan for taking care of dinner reservations and dinner tickets.

Sheri Kraemer, looking her very best, was our Director of the Polonaise and the Fledermaus Quadrille! We had a smaller group this year, but the effort is the same. We are proud of our Teacher: And we really appreciate the time she patiently spends with us! It is a happy experience for us dancers! We love you, Sheri!

Not to forget Jim Brauer for helping and editing the music. He is a genius and always ready to help. Thank you Jim!

We are so glad we had this time together.....Auf Wiedersehn!

Kathy and Britt

Also, thanks to Elizabeth Frey for taking pictures while I was dancing.

John Waldrop

Dear Fellow Members,

For those of you who did not make it to the Vienna Ball let me be the first, if not the last, to tell you that you missed a wonderful evening.

The band outdid themselves to fit the music to the occasion with a definite feel of Old Vienna.

The dancers looked absolutely stunning in their evening gowns and the men, well, what can I say? They were a vision of gentlemanly charm. Many thanks to you all for providing such a memorable evening.

I had the pleasure of cooking for the members who signed up for the dinner. I trust you all enjoyed a seafood entree for a change.

I must take this opportunity to thank Kathy Mueller for doing the salad and Steve Borbus for his taking charge of serving.

My very special thanks to a hero of our kitchen, Eric Pfeiffer. If you haven't done the cooking then you are not aware of how much help Eric gives in lifting and carrying. We are super lucky to have such a steadfast helper.

Sincerely,  
Carole Eberhardt

PS: Thanks too for Mark Meadows who knew how to turn the stove on.



# German American Club

## *Maifest*

**Saturday May 7th**

Members Door Fee \$10.00

Music by: Swingshift  
From 7:00 'til 11:00 pm

Maypole Dance

Presentation: Former May Queens  
Crowning of 2016 May Queen

All former May Queens should attend

Meal Served from 5:30PM to 6:45PM

Meal prepared by Britt Peters and Kathy Mueller

Menu

Wiener Schnitzel

Potato Salad

Homemade Apfelstudel  
mit Schlag (whipped cream)  
und Kaffee

All for \$10.00 Children under 12 \$5.00

Make Reservations by May 5th

888-4833

Please wear German Costume or Semi-Formal



**German American Club**  
***Sock Hop***  
**Saturday May 21st**

**\$10 Door Fee**

**Music by Hit Squad**  
**From 7:00 'til 11:00 pm**

**MENU**

**Prepared by Miguel and Sheri**  
**Served from 5:30PM to 6:45PM**

Hamburger and/or Hot Dogs  
Baked Beans  
French Fries  
Build your own sundae

**\$5 per plate**

**Please make your meal reservation no later than**  
**May 19th**

**888-4833**

**Dress like the you did in the '50's**

# UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Events and Dates are Subject to change

## June

5th Strawberry Fest-Swingshift  
11th Private Party  
18th Woodstock-Marty and the  
Triple Shots  
19th Jazz  
8th Private Party

## July

2nd Luau-Roger Burns  
16th Private Party  
17th Jazz  
23rd Membership Appreciation-  
Hit Squad

## August

6th Private Party  
20th Club Anniversary-Showcase  
21st Jazz  
27th Private Party

## September

3rd Winefest-Swingshift  
17th Club Picnic  
18th Jazz



## Jazz Sunday

May 15th, 2:00 pm 'til 5:30 pm

GAC Members Welcome!

Join us for some great music & dancing!

## Essen und Sprechen

This month we will gather at **6:30pm** on the **second Wednesday**, May 11<sup>th</sup> for our monthly Essen und Sprechen Treffen (gathering) at the Thai Spice Restaurant, 7441 Paseo Del Norte NE. (On Wyoming, go one block north of Paseo and turn west on Holly – turn left at either first or third driveway – it's a few doors west of the Mario's Pizzeria). Come join together at the monthly *Essen und Sprechen* to practice your German and socialize over dinner in German (with some English). We decide at each month's dinner where to go the following month. Please, PLEASE, reply by the prior Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, to Jay by email to [JayVandersloot@yahoo.com](mailto:JayVandersloot@yahoo.com) or call at 505-362-1733 to let us know whether you will be there, so we will know how large of a table to reserve. The Essen und Sprechen dinner is getting quite popular—attendance usually ranges 12-18 people, with our all-time high having been 28 in attendance.

(The *Essen und Sprechen* monthly dinner group is not affiliated with the GAC; rather it is a separate, autonomous group. This notice is provided for the convenience of anyone who may wish to attend).



## Cigar Evening

**Maker's and Macanudo**

**Friday May 27th**

**4pm—7pm**

**Bring your favorite cigar (BYOC)  
And enjoy your favorite bourbon or  
whiskey on this relaxing evening**

Hyunju is graduating from Eldorado High School on May 10th, and we would like to invite all club members to her graduation party on May 14th at the club from 7 - 11 pm. We will have a band and some food/snack.

Regards,  
Okmi Blemel  
505-991-2160



### **Es tut mir leid**

In the April newsletter not all of the April birthdays transferred from the membership list to the newsletter properly.

The editor regrets this malfunction and will endeavor to see it does not happen again.

John Waldrop



**Kickoff to the 28th Annual  
Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival and  
Highland Games!  
Friday, May 20th, 6:00 pm at the GAC**

In place of our regular monthly meeting, the Irish-American Society is pleased to host the traditional **Pot-Luck Kickoff Party** to the annual Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival (May 21st and 22nd at Balloon Fiesta Park.) The party will start at 6pm, with food being served at 6:30pm. Donations at the door is \$3 per person ( for hall rental and musicians).

Please bring a tasty dish for about 12+ people. The IAS will supply all paper goods, as well as coffee and tea. The GAC bar will be open. (Please be sure to mark your dishes and serving utensils so they will find their way back to you.)

Musical Entertainment

6:00 pm: Iscuma (Irish music with Bill McCoy and Kathy Wimmer)

6:45 pm: Mac-Tire of Skye Pipes and Drums

7:30: pm: Coleman Academy of Irish Dance Step Dancers

Everyone is invited—IAS and GAC members, guests, and Festival sponsors and volunteers. Spread the word to everyone you know! (Just remind them to bring a dish to share.)

*(excerpted from Irish Times, May 2016)*

## *We Send Cards!*

Please notify Rosalie Pfeiffer, at 299-3951, if you know of any Club Member who should receive a greeting card, i.e., get well, sympathy, congratulations, etc.

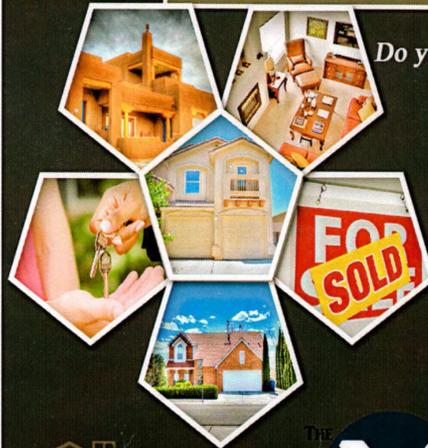
### **Cultural Exchange Library**

The bookcases in the hallway hold the library contents.  
Donations of cultural books, videos and DVDs will gladly be accepted.



Borrowing will be on an honor basis. If you borrow from the library please return the items in a timely fashion

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REAL ESTATE  
GROUP

**(505) 944.6918**

# Birthdays , Anniversaries, Membership

## Geburtstage - Herren (Men's Birthdays)

Mark Axe  
Jim Brauer  
Ron Friederich  
Richard Gido  
Frank P. Jiron  
Michael Lehmkuhl  
Marcus Mansfield  
Robert Ponto  
Gunter Reinke  
Michael Romero  
Andrew Willis  
Christopher Wright

## Geburtstage-Damen (Ladies' Birthdays)

Wanda Baca  
Maria Blemel  
Reyes  
Elizabeth A. Frey  
Elfriede Gabbett  
Anna Herrera  
Sabdra Payne  
Stephanie Reinhard  
Patsy Wallace  
Mona Wolfswinkel

## Anniversaries

Donny & Kate Johnson  
Randy Jordan and Sandra Payne



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## Membership : Updated as of April 2016

<b>Total</b>	<b>312</b>
<b>Males</b>	<b>144</b>
<b>Females</b>	<b>168</b>
<b>Couples</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>Singles</b>	<b>134</b>
<b>Life Members</b>	<b>14</b>



# Having a Party? Rent the Club!

Mon. thru Thur. Night	\$400
Friday Day	\$400
Friday Night	\$450
Saturday Day	\$450
Saturday Night.	\$550
Sunday Day Only	\$450

Call Miguel Mata at  
620-3666 or  
Mark Meadows  
at 238-2289  
For more information

- ◆ Security \$135 extra per guard
- ◆ Use of Kitchen \$100 extra
- ◆ Use of Linen Table Cloths \$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 member for more than 3 years, you may rent the club on availability for your family functions at discounted price (weddings excluded).

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**Our advertisers are very important to us.  
Please mention seeing their ad in the  
GAC newsletter when you patronize them.**

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Full Page	\$30.00	
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Insert	\$30.00	each, per edition

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