



Mitteilungen

A publication of the

Sacramento Turn Verein

German-American Cultural Center

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April, May, June 2018

Come to the Bockbierfest It All Started with Bockbier!

Contrary to popular belief, Bockbier has nothing to do with a *Bock* (billy goat or buck). Its name is derived from *Einbeck*, a town in northern Germany (in Niedersachsen), where this very strong dark beer was first brewed in the 16th century.

In the spelling of that time it was *Ainpöckisch Pier* (beer from Einbeck), which, with the passage of time and the fading of memories of the original meaning, was changed to *Bockbier*.

Other, weaker beers were brewed locally for centuries, but in the 16th and early 17th centuries, Einbeck was the sole source of this delicacy which was imported by aristocratic courts all over Germany.

The Bavarian dukes first became customers in about 1550. In 1614, the first successful attempt was made to brew an *Ainpöckisch Pier* at Munich's Hofbräuhaus (the court's own brewery) for consumption at the court. Soon thereafter, when word of this achievement spread, the citizenry demanded their share of the brew, and the court, realizing the money to be made, began selling it to the public. This was at a time when Munich's 22,000 inhabitants supported 68 breweries.

'Liquid bread' of the monasteries

In 1823 the order of Basilian monks was asked by the Bavarian ruler to run the newly erected monastery in the small village of Au (which means riverside meadow) east of Munich across the river Isar. However the Basilians did not last for long. Due to their unmonk-like, worldly behavior (their abbot was aptly called "Hilarion"), they

were thrown out by Duke Wilhelm V.

In 1627-1629, monks of the order of St. Francesco de Paola (originally from Burgundy, France) took over the monastery. In German they were called *Paulaner Mönche*. Contrary to their predecessors, the *Paulaner* were vegetarians and also strictly adhered to their very severe monastic rules, which included extended periods of fasting.

To see them through these tough times, they found a loophole in their rules: The consumption of all kinds of liquids was allowed during fasting. So the monks resorted to brewing (and drinking) a beer with a very high content of malt – the *Bockbier* – which was also called "liquid bread." (*continued on page 2*)



The Ultimate Test

After some *Salvator* was poured on a bench, three drinkers sat down on it. If the bench stuck to their *Lederhosen* when they rose after about 15 minutes, the *Salvator* had passed the test.

The Sacramento Turn Verein's German-American Cultural Center is dedicated to preserving the same proud German heritage that was instrumental in the founding of the Sacramento Turn Verein in 1854. The Sacramento Turn Verein, a member of the German-American Heritage Foundation in Washington, DC, meets in the old "Turner Hall," at 3349 J Street in Sacramento, where its German-American library is housed. Visitors are welcome.

To brew beer, a license from the duke was required, which the Paulaner monks received in 1634 and which limited brewing “for their own consumption only.” Being not only pious but also good businessmen, the *Paulaner* got their privilege extended step by step to sell their beer to pilgrims visiting the monastery.

The Salvatorfest

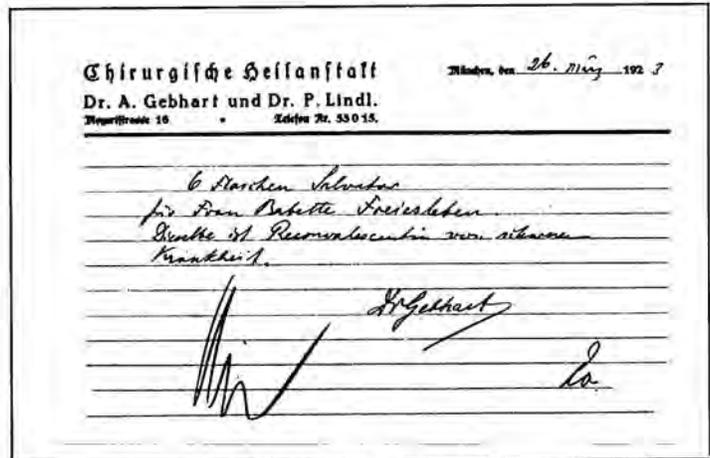
Predictably, the number of pilgrims soared during the season of Lent when the *Paulaner* sold their *Bockbier*. A beer festival was established and named *Salvator-Fest* after the *Salvatorkirche* (Church of Our Savior) nearby.

Starkbier (strong beer) is brewed in Bavaria during Lent, originally to give working people strength to do their daily work. By the way, *Bockbier* and *Starkbier* are synonymous.

(The above information is based on a report by Rainer Thumshirn, of München, Germany)

Beer types

- **Helles** (light): heavy on hops and light on barley
- **Dunkles** (dark): light on hops and heavy on barley
- **Bock**: heavy, sweet beer
- **Pilsner**: light with a hearty taste
- **Altbier**: highly fermented, slightly bitter
- **Berliner Weisse**: highly carbonated, low alcoholic beer with raspberry syrup
- **Radler**: a mix of light beer and lemonade



SALVATOR AS MEDICINE
Mrs. Babette Freiersleben's doctor prescribed a dose of six bottles of Salvator to aid her recuperation from a serious illness.

Varieties of Bockbier

Traditional Bock:

- Sweet, relatively strong
- Low to undetectable hops.
- Color can range from light copper to brown, with off-white head
- Just enough hops to offset some of the sweetness

Maibock:

- A helles bock, as strong as traditional bock but lighter in color and with more hop presence
- Frequently associated with springtime and the month of May
- Color ranges from deep gold to light amber; with creamy white head

Doppelbock

- Stronger version of traditional bock that was first brewed in Munich by the Paulaner Friars.
- Intensely malty aroma
- High in alcohol and sweet, thus serving as “liquid bread” for the Friars during times of fasting.

Eisbock

- Made by partially freezing a doppelbock and removing the water ice to concentrate the flavor and alcohol content

Weizenbock

- Brewed using wheat instead of barley.
- First produced in Bavaria in 1907, and named Aventinus, after a Bavarian historian.

Mitteilungen

Quarterly newsletter of the Sacramento Turn Verein's German-American Cultural Center – Library, 3349 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95816

GERMAN-AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER – LIBRARY OFFICERS

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50th Annual
Bockbierfest
April 13th & 14th



Friday & Saturday
Friday - 6:00 P.M. - Midnight Saturday - 3:00 P.M. - Midnight

Sacramento Turn Verein

@ 3349 J Street

BUY TICKETS @ www.sacramentoturnverein.com

916.442.7360

Live POLKA/ROCKBIERFEST Bands!

~Main Festhalle~

◆The Gruber Family Band◆

~Upstairs in the Festhalle~

◆AKA LIVE◆

~Traditional German Folk Dancing~

◆Alpentanzer Schuhplattler◆

~Traditional German Choir~

◆Turner Harmonie◆

~Biergarten~

Authentic German Food & Bockbierfest Bier

◆Wine◆Dancing◆Kaffeehaus◆

Admission at Door: \$20 Adult | \$5 Children (12 & under)

Valid Photo ID Required for Adult Beverage Wristband

COME EARLY FOR PREFERRED SEATING

◆Parking located 100 yards WEST down 'J' Street◆

~Herzlich Willkommen~



Ingrid Radke-Azvedo, Berlin-born, shares her new book, *Out of the Rubble*, with the Library's 'Friday-Programs' crowd

Ms. Radke-Azvedo, spoke to our Library audience in March about her adventurous wartime life in Germany – including the bombings in Berlin, the near famine conditions, the evacuation of children from Berlin, the “Candy Bomber,” and many other war-related experiences.

One of her topics was the post-war clean-up in Berlin following the horrendous Allied bombings. One presentation on this topic was so memorable that *Mitteilungen* follows up here with more information about the “rubble women,” at work following World War II, as she discussed them.

Note: The material on these pages is NOT from her book, *Out of the Rubble*, nor is it from her presentation. For her comments, go buy the book! (or read the copy in the STV Library!)

**War means rubble,
and victims must remove it.**

**In Germany, the job went to
the ‘Trümmerfrauen’**



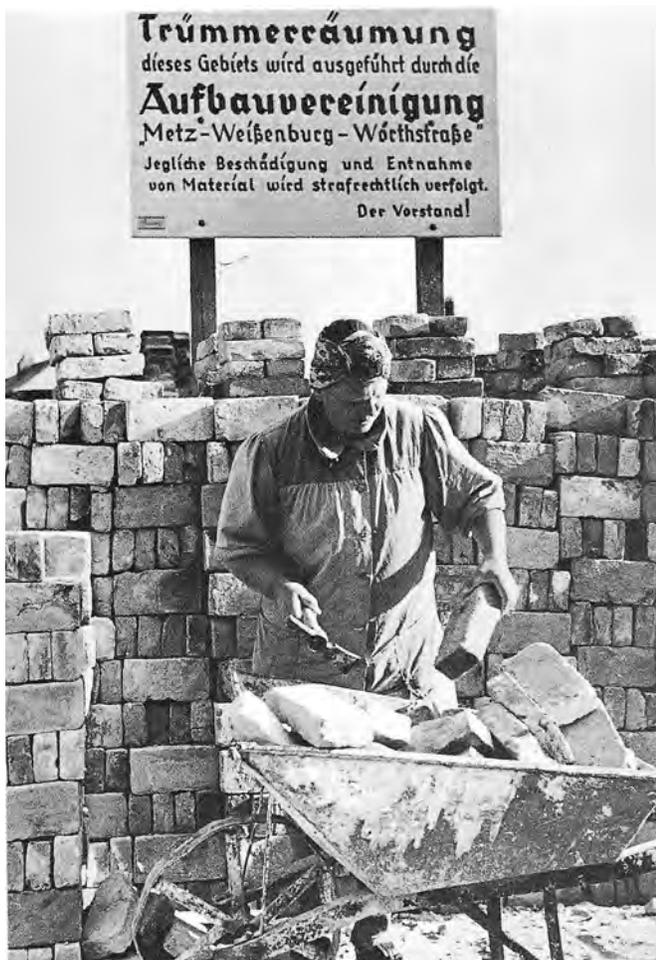
It was the *Trümmerfrauen*, or “rubble women” who were famous for the clean-up following the heavy bombing of Germany.

For some years after World War II, with men often missing – killed or still prisoners of war – they supplied much of the workforce for clearing the rubble in the destroyed cities, sorting out usable bricks for the eventual reconstruction work.

The exhausted *Trümmerfrauen* in their mended aprons and scarves became a symbol of Germany’s immediate post-war era.



Children playing in Berlin rubble



In 1946, a *Trümmerfrau* (rubble woman) cleaning up fallen bricks. The sign behind her, reading “Rubble Removal,” warns against removing or damaging material thus far saved and cleaned from the debris in the three-street work area – subject to penalty.

A brief history of rubble

Bombing of German cities in World War II resulted in veritable mountains of trash. Those mountains came to be known as *Schuttberge*, or “Debris mountains.” (*Schutt* = debris; *Berg* = mountain).

Allied bombings destroyed millions of homes and damaged millions more, leaving behind about 400 million cubic meters of ruins.

It is these *Schuttberge* (also called *Trümmerberge* (rubble mountains) that lead us to the work of the *Trümmerfrauen* (“rubble women”).

Between 1945 and 1946, the Allied powers in both West Germany and East Germany ordered all women between ages 15 to 50 to participate in the postwar cleanup. Therefore, previous restrictive measures protecting women in the labor force were removed in July 1946.

(By war’s end, there were seven million more women than men in Germany.)

The women’s main work was to tear down those



The destruction of German cities in World War II



parts of buildings that had survived the bombings, but yet were unsafe and unsuitable for reconstruction. The main tools were picks and hand-winchers.

After tearing down the ruins, the remnants had to be further demolished, down to single bricks that could be used later. A chain of women would transfer the bricks to the street, where they were cleaned and stacked.

Trümmerfrauen, both volunteers and regular workers, stayed at work in all kinds of weather. They were organized in *Kolonnen* (columns) of ten to twenty people.

Come to the Maifest!

Sunday, May 6

Noon to 5 p.m.

ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

- Children learn the Maypole dance
- Authentic Schuhplattlers performing the Maypole dance
- Children's games
- Face painting
- German music
- Crafts for children
- Parents dance with their children



FREE ADMISSION

- German beer
- Wine
- Soft drinks
- Non-alcoholic beer
- Maibowle
- Apfelschorle
- Coffee, tea, water
- Bratwurst
- Potato salad
- Sauerkraut
- Salads
- Combination plates
- Ice cream
- Homemade cakes

Der Maßkrug

Wirtshausschlägereien gab es vor der Fernsehära wie in den Städten ebenso auf dem Lande mehr als heute. So manchmal entwickelte sich daraus ein gerichtlicher Streit. In Lemgo war um die Jahrhundertwende ein Bauer angeklagt, weil er einem Wagenbauer aus seinem Dorf einen Bierkrug über den Kopf geschlagen hatte.

„Es hat doch gar keinen Sinn zu leugnen,“ rief der Richter ihm zu, „es gibt drei Zeugen, die die Version des Betroffenen bestätigen! Sie haben den vollen Maßkrug Knut Gellesen auf dem Kopf zerschlagen!“

„Herr Richter,“ antwortete der Übeltäter, „wie falsch das ist, können Sie schon daran erkennen, daß unser Gastwirt noch nie einen vollen Maßkrug ausgegeben hat.“

A side-by-side story



The beer mug

More so than today, there were pub brawls in the days before television, in the cities, and out in the country as well. So sometimes a court dispute developed. In Lemgo, around the turn of the century, a farmer made the accusation that a cartwright from his village had hit him over the head with a beer mug.

“There is no reason to deny the charge,” the judge said to him, “as there are three witnesses to confirm the accuser’s version of the charge. You smashed the mug full of beer over the head of Knut Gellesen!”

“Your honor,” answered the accused man, “that is so false, you already know that our tavern keeper has never poured a full mug of beer.”

Winners of the three Rustmann German Language & Culture Scholarships

The founder and first teacher of the Sacramento Turn Verein’s German Language School (GLS), Irmgard Schlenker, funded the first scholarship for summer language study, putting to work the profits from various fund-raising activities in the early years of the school.

At that time, only one scholarship was awarded. The funds remaining eventually became the “Irmgard Schlenker Memorial Fund,” creating the basis for an expanded German Language School scholarship program in the fall of 2013.

Now, three separate scholarships have been established, based on interest in German language and culture:

- the GLS Tuition Scholarship (four annual GLS tuition scholarships for one session),
- the GLS Rustmann German Language & Culture Scholarship (three annual \$500.00 scholarships for high school seniors),
- the GLS German Language Summer Study Scholarship (awarded every three years to a GLS student.)

Although the GLS Rustmann German Language & Culture Scholarship initially awarded only one annual \$500 scholarship to one high school senior, each of two other STV Sections expressed interest in sponsoring

additional \$500 scholarships.

Thus three annual scholarships are now awarded through the German Language School.

The GLS is proud to announce the following winners of the Rustmann German Language & Culture Scholarship for 2018,

- **Alyssa Jayne Perez** from Liberty Ranch High School in Galt (Parents: Christy Alexander-Perez and Robert Perez) – Scholarship sponsored by the STV German Language School Section
- **Jayden Rose Schultz** from Casa Robles High School (Parent: Jennifer Schultz) – Scholarship sponsored by the STV Actives Section
- **Emily Rosa Smith** from Sacramento Waldorf School (Parents: Dean and Rita Smith) – Scholarship sponsored by the STV German-American Cultural Center – Library Section

All winners will be honored at the Sacramento Turn Verein’s annual Maifest on May 6, 2018:

Karneval in Namibia! Really?



Markus Geissler

Who would have believed it – that the wild German festivity that we’ve long known about as “Karneval” was and continues to be, a big, long-continuing celebration in that far-off African country of Namibia.

STV’s own Markus Geissler was there!

Through a program of the G.ACC-Library in February, he brought back for us a colorful and dis-maying presentation that introduced us to “Karneval in Namibia” – showing the

popular Karneval events as they play out every year in Namibia.

Of course the big question about that gala atmosphere in a country so far distant from Germany must be this: How did it happen?

It started with Bismarck. As of 1884, German chancellor Otto von Bismarck claimed the country as a colony – then called German South West Africa (Deutsch-Sudwestafrika).

Then by 1966, the United Nations General Assembly decided to end the mandate, declaring that South Africa had no further right to administer the territory, and that henceforth South West Africa was to come under the direct responsibility of the UN.

The German traditions stuck – every year since..



Namibia – a country situated at almost the southernmost tip of Africa – far, far from Europe’s Germany.



Christuskirche, Lutheran church in Windhoek



Gala Karneval groups in Windhoek, the capital

Markus Geissler is a familiar and always popular presence around our Sacramento Turn Verein.

He holds the position of Artistic Director for the STV Alpentänzer Schuhplattler (Austrian and Bavarian folk dance troupe), which we frequently see in performance at Sacramento Turn Verein events – including performances at the upcoming April 13-14 Bockbierfest at the Turn Verein.

In addition, it’s not unusual to find Markus playing German accordion music at our STV events – always with gusto.

Karneval – a German tradition



Back in Germany

In the photo above, Markus Geissler (center) participates at a *Karnevalzug* in Germany a few years ago – in his home village of Brühl-Pingsdorf, part of the city of Brühl, just south of Köln (Cologne). His brother Christoph is at right, above.

Karneval, as it is called in Cologne, is known as *Fasching* in Bavaria and Austria.

In Franconia, it's *Fosnat*. In Swabia, it's *Fasnet*. And in Mainz it's *Fastnacht*.

The traditional special days of *Karneval*, starting with November 11 of the previous year, until its end on Ash Wednesday, include the following:

- Heilige Drei Könige/Three Kings Day/ Epiphany – on January 6
- Mariä Lichtmeß/Candlemas/ (Groundhog Day), on February 2
- Weiberfastacht (women's Fastnacht)/ in February
- Rosenmontag (Shrove Monday), in February
- Faschingdienstag / Shrove Tuesday, in February
- Aschermittwoch / Ash Wednesday, signaling the beginning of Lent

'Women's Karneval'

One of the six days preceding Ash Wednesday, one of the 'crazy days' of *Karneval*, is "*Weiberfastnacht*" (Women's Fastnacht), or "*Women's Karneval*," practiced in Rhineland and Bavaria.

Women literally assume power and symbolically storm the town halls.



Men are advised to wear an old tie because the women are likely to cut it off on that day and compensate the bereft wearer with a kiss.

Men may be kissed without permission, and rudely remarked upon.

JOIN A GERMAN LANGUAGE CLASS AT THE SACRAMENTO TURNVEREIN

**SUMMER SESSION FOR ADULTS
BEGINNING, INTERMEDIATE,
AND ADVANCED CONVERSATION
JUNE 4 TO JUNE 25**

Beginning Conversation.....Monday, 6:00 - 7:30.....June 4

Intermediate Conversation..... Tuesday, 7:45 - 9:15.....June 5

Advanced ConversationMonday, 7:45 - 9:15.....June 4

- Fee; \$55, for the four-week session, due on enrollment, and non-refundable
- Minimum number of students: 4 (first come, first served)
- One may register on the first day of classes and pay the tuition by check or cash
- Please arrive 30 minutes prior to the start of classes.
- Those who wish to register earlier may do so using a credit card or PayPal account on the school’s website: <http://stv-germanlanguageschool.org>

What’s going on at the Turn Verein?

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
A	1	2 STV Harmonie Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Banquet Room	3 STV Library Open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Library	4 STV Membership Meeting. 8:00 p.m.	5 STV German Language School Meeting 7:30 p.m.	6	7 STV Library Open 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Library
P	8	9 STV Harmonie Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Banquet Room	10 STV Library Open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Library	11 STV Soccer Meeting 7:00 p.m. Club Room	12 Stammtisch 6:00 p.m. STV Library Meeting 7:30 p.m. Library	13 Bockbierfest 6:00 p.m.	14 STV Library Open 12 p.m. - 2 p.m. Library Bockbierfest 3:00 p.m.
R	15	16 STV Harmonie Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Banquet Room	17 STV Library Open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Library	18 STV Membership Meeting. 8:00 p.m.	19	20 STV Library Program/Event 7:30 p.m.	21 STV Library Open 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Library
I	22	23 STV Harmonie Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Banquet Room	24 STV Library Open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Library	25 STV Board Meeting. 8:00 p.m.	26 STV Actives Meeting 8:00 p.m.	27	28 STV Library Open 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Library
L	29	30 STV Harmonie Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Banquet Room	31 STV Library Open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Library				

M A Y			1	2	3	4	5
				STV Membership Meeting. 8:00 p.m.	STV German Language School Meeting 7:30 p.m.		STV Library Open 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Library
Y	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Maifest 12 p.m.	STV Harmonie Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Banquet Room	STV Library Open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Library	STV Soccer Meeting 7:00 p.m. Club Room	Stammtisch 6:00 p.m. STV Library Meeting 7:30 p.m. Library		STV Library Open 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Library
J U N E	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		STV Harmonie Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Banquet Room	STV Library Open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Library	STV Membership Meeting. 8:00 p.m.		STV Library Program/Event 7:00 p.m. Library	STV Library Open 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Library
J U N E	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		STV Harmonie Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Banquet Room	STV Library Open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Library	STV Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.	STV Actives Meeting 8:00 p.m.		STV Library Open 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Library
J U N E	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
		STV Harmonie Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Banquet Room	STV Library Open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Library				STV Library Open 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Library
J U N E	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Founders Day Dinner	STV Harmonie Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Banquet Room	STV Library Open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Library	STV Membership Meeting. 8:00 p.m.	STV German Language School Meeting 7:30 p.m.		STV Library Open 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Library
J U N E	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		STV Harmonie Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Banquet Room	STV Library Open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Library	STV Soccer Meeting 7:00p.m. Club Room	Stammtisch 6:00 p.m. STV Library Meeting 7:30 p.m. Library	STV Library Program/Event 7:30 p.m. Library	STV Library Open 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Library
J U N E	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		STV Harmonie Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Banquet Room	STV Library Open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Library				STV Library Open 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Library
J U N E	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
		STV Harmonie Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Banquet Room	STV Library Open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Library	STV Board Meeting. 8:00 p.m.	STV Actives Meeting 8:00 p.m.		STV Library Open 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Library
J U N E	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		STV Harmonie Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Banquet Room	STV Library Open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Library	STV Membership Meeting. 8:00 p.m.	STV German Language School Meeting 7:30 p.m.		STV Library Open 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Library
J U N E	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		STV Harmonie Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. Banquet Room	STV Library Open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Library	STV Soccer Meeting 7:00 p.m. Club Room	Stammtisch 6:00 p.m. STV Library Meeting 7:30 p.m. Library		STV Library Open 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Library

Keep up with Turn Verein events! www.SacramentoTurnVerein.com

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Komm mit zum Turn Verein



Bockbierfest
April 13-14
See page 3



Maifest
May 6
See page 6

Want to learn more about German traditions and ways of life? You can help keep such memories alive by joining and participating in activities of the German-American Cultural Center –Library. Membership is only \$15 per year. To join, send your check for \$15, payable to "GACC-L" and mail it to GACC-Library, Sacramento Turn Verein, 3349 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95816. We meet at 7:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month in the Turn Verein Library. Welcome! Join us!

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