



Mitteilungen

A publication of the
Sacramento Turn Verein
German-American Cultural Center - Library

Volume XXII, No. 3

July, August, September 2023

A 25th Celebration of the German-American Cultural Center - Library

Contributed by Susie Pelz

Mitteilungen is proud to share a few photos of the 25th year of our GACC-Library's existence, which we celebrated on June 25, 2023, in the STV Library. Fifty-one people were in attendance and enjoyed Helga Hecht's informative historical displays, as well as a welcome by STV Trustee Ingeborg Carpenter, and reflections by Ilse Laudi, Uli Pelz and Helga Hecht. Additionally, member Barbara Mayer-Kielmann, who no longer lives in Sacramento, came all the way from Hawaii to present us with a beautiful album full of pictures from the past and other memorabilia. Guests enjoyed delicious food and beverage, and a champagne toast. We thank everyone who came... and we look forward to the next twenty-five years!



*Ilse Laudi speaks at the
GACC-L celebration*



*Jim Rogers, GACC-L
STV Representative*



*Hank, Curt and
Dore Stoffel*



*Ingeborg Carpenter speaks at the
GACC-L celebration*



*Uli Pelz speaking with the daughter-in-law of
Hans Raschack*



Celebrating 25 years of GACC-L!

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.

A Student of the Sword - Part 2

Contributed by Chris Carey

Traditional antagonist dueling with sharp-edged sabres in the German universities came to an end in the early 1900s, more or less concurrent with the advent of the First World War. Although even by the early 1800s antagonist duels were exclusively governed by decisions of a student 'honor court', by 1918 the entire process of redressing questions of honor by antagonist dueling with the sabre was relinquished in favor of decisions made in a civil court of law. One needs to remember that traditional German student organizations (fraternities) were highly political by nature, a characteristic going back centuries and related to the amalgamation of what became the German nation from hundreds of scattered, smaller duchies and kingdoms. Many of the student 'Burschenschaften' were of strong nationalistic sentiment, but a significant number held polar political viewpoints. It was for these reasons that student dueling and Mensur were banned (1940)



Im bunten Rock

after the *Third Reich* came into power. This political censure was strengthened by parallel opposition from the Roman Catholic Church, which had always held that dueling of any form was immoral behavior. At the end of the Second World War, the victorious Allied Powers continued the ban on student dueling and/or *Mensur*, but in 1953 the German Federal High Court declared the *Bestimmungsmensur* (the ritualized Mensur) did not equate to a duel with deadly weapons. The German penal codes were thus revised, and all provisions dealing with student *Bestimmungsmensur* were thrown out. In 1983, the Roman Catholic Church also revised its *Codex Juris Canonici* to no longer proscribe the student Mensur.

Today, the student Mensur has been reinstated at many German universities by the student 'connecting' fraternities ('Korporation'), and the Mensur has been characterised as having important character-building qualities that are worth noting here. Among the justifications given for today's highly ritualised *Schlägermensur* (the German word *Schläger* literally means 'striker') by the common convent of the student corporations are the following. 1) The Mensur obliges each participant to face his own fears and anxieties directly and bravely, and confront calculated risk in a calm manner (since although serious injuries are literally now impossible, the Mensur may still cause *some* pain and minor injury); 2) by agreeing to participate in the formalised Mensur, the *Paukant* (participant) learns to abide by normative conventions and general sanctions (a character building exercise); 3) the participant demonstrates commitment to a greater communal cause (in this case, the student social group, fraternity, organisation, region, and nation), which in turns initiates and promotes a lifelong association with the student group (and by extension, those causes they espouse); 4) commendable individual qualities such as a sense of

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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EDITORIAL STAFF

Ingeborg Carpenter, Susan Pelz, Markus Geissler

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fairness, emotional balance, mature reflection, and broader awareness are fostered and strengthened; 5) manly qualities useful in later adult life are formed and cultivated.

It should be noted that the Mensur is not by any means a 'fight' in the common or conventional sense. That is, there is no 'winner' or 'loser' as there are in sports competitions (in the traditional antagonist duel there was of course *BOTH* a winner and a loser). The Mensur is undertaken willingly as an act of personal self-development and group-identity affirmation. It should be noted here that the Mensur requires more than mere physical courage and emotional control, since it cultivates a sense of gentlemanly conduct, personal responsibility, and refined awareness of how the individual fits into the larger patterns of German life. All of these in turn promote personal growth in ways that will carry over into mature adult life.

Today, most Americans have no real sense of what the Mensur is historically, or what its social context means to German students. Most often an American thinks of the previously mentioned Sigmund Romberg musical (*The Student*

Prince) or recalls the vaunted 'sabre-scar' (known in German as the *Schmiss*) that was always seen on the actor playing the German villain in movies dealing with the Imperial Germanic period. The truth is that in today's Mensur, the sabre-scar is not regarded as a high-status trophy (although that definitely *was* the case in pre-1900 times); today the *Schmiss* is unintended and coincidental, although the Mensur's formally designated target area is indeed the exposed head and face.

Author J. Christoph Amberger, who is today one of the world's acknowledged authorities on the sword, has written extensively on use of the sword in all of its applications (including antagonist dueling, sport fencing, and the German Mensur). In his writing (One particularly excellent book by Amberger is his *The Secret History of the Sword: Adventures in Ancient*

Martial Arts, ISBN 1-892515-04-0, 1998.), he includes detailed insights into the complex German *Bestimmungsmensur*. Amberger participated in nine Mensuren himself, whilst studying in Germany in the 80s. Amberger delves deeply into the complicated psychology of individual combat and its extensions in ritualised Mensur. Since human beings are vastly complex organisms, with wide-ranging combinations of response possible to equally varied and wide-ranging stimuli, a subject such as this can be exhaustive in its philosophical reach.

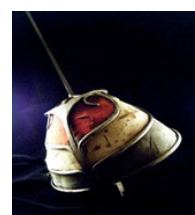
Among the fascinating lateral associations Amberger connects with are feelings and sensations that any combatant would face (whether a student fencer or a battle-hardened soldier), since the raw human response of fear is virtually universal at a certain level in all confrontations with the prospect of sustaining severe personal injury or death. One fact that soon becomes apparent is that no how skillful, how practiced, how well-trained a combatant may be, the effects of personal fear can never be underestimated in a full-proof prognostication of the end-result. For these reasons (among

many), Amberger is recommended reading for any student of the sword. In modern German Mensur, the range of regulations ('*Komment*') governing *Bestimmungsmensur* ('*Fechtkomment*') is quite broad and the *Coburg Convention* (the governing body of rules for all student *Mensurfechten*) contains no less than 100 paragraphs of commentary on the practice.

Please look for the conclusion of this article in the next edition of Mitteilungen.



Burschenschaftsfrau



Werners Tagebuch (Werner's Diary) - Episode 9

The diary of young Werner Zywitzka's coming of age during World War II

A continuing story featured in the *Mitteilungen*

In Episode 8, Werner had noted strange activity in the air above the fir trees while he was on patrol, which he reported to his superiors. The officers consulted with him about how to proceed, and he gained their trust. He also overheard some of the people speaking Polish, which he understands, and realized that there must be a traitor in his unit.

Wir meldeten uns zurück. Der Truppführer meinte ich sollte ihm bißchen zur Hand gehen. Der Waffenmeister gab mir Anweisung, ein Loch zu graben, vierzig mal vierzig mal vierzig. Als ich damit fertig war, da hatte er sein Paket auch fertig. Er legte es in die Kuhle, die ich gemacht hatte, deckte er alles schön mit Erde zu; nur der rotweiße Draht kuckte noch raus. Da kam ein Melder angelaufen, ging zu den Offizieren und meldete: der Ring sei geschlossen. Der Waffenmeister ging auf die Offiziere zu, machte Meldung: er wär soweit. Übrigens war der der Einzige im Lager mit Fronterfahrung; er war bei den Pionieren, ist Obertruppführer, ein halbes Bein weg. Er nahm seinen Batteriekasten, ich die Rolle mit dem Draht, wir gingen alle aus dem Wald zum Flugplatz. Unter einem Splitterwall nahmen wir Deckung. Der Waffenmeister schließt die Drähte an und sagt nur: "aufgepasst". Da fliegt auch schon der Dreck hoch. Wir laufen zu dem Loch zurück, ein zwei-mal-vier Meter großes Loch ist vor uns, aber keine Menschenseele zu sehen. Der Waffenmeister kommt als Letzter angehumpelt, gibt mir vier Handgranaten und sagt: "schmeiß sie der Reihe nach in das Loch, da wo der Gang weiter geht." Ich tat wie mir befohlen und siehe da, nach der zweiten Handgranate kam eine weiße Fahne zum Vorschein. Nacheinander kamen Männer und Jungen da raus. Als der Letzte raus war, waren es vierunddreißig Stück. Die drei Stablampen, die wir mitgebracht haben, taten jetzt gute Dienste. Hier Unten waren Waffen gestapelt in Hülle und Fülle, alles russischer Herkunft. Es hat Tage gedauert, ehe alles oben war. Jetzt erst konnten wir uns einen Reim draus machen, daß wir nie was gefunden haben nach dem

We reported back. The sergeant thought I should help him a bit. The master of ammunition instructed me the dig a hole, 16" square and 16" deep. When I was done, he also had a package ready. He laid it in the cool hole that I had dug and covered it with soil; only the red & white wire stuck out slightly. A messenger came running, went to the officers and said that the circle/ring was closed. The master of munitions went to the officers and announced that he was ready. By the way, he was the only one in the entire camp that had had experience on the frontlines; he was with the Engineers, was an *Obertruppführer*, and half of one leg was gone. He took his battery pack, I took the roll of wire, and we all left the woods for the airport. We hid behind a pile of rubble. The master of munitions connected the wires and said only: "Watch out!" The dirt flew into the air. We run to the hole and see a large 7' x 14' hole in front of us, but not a single soul. The master of munitions hobbles over to us, hands me 4 hand grenades and says: "Throw them in the hole, one after the other, there where the hole continues." I did as instructed, and amazingly, a white flag appeared. One after another, some men and boys came out...When the last one had come out (of the tunnel), there were forty-three of them. The three flashlights that we had brought with us now served their purpose: down below there were tons of weapons piled up, all from Russia. It took days to get them all out.

Not until this moment had we been able to figure out why we hadn't found anything after the air raid

Fliegeralarm. Wir haben die Fallschirme gesehen wo sie runter gingen, aber als wir dort hin kamen, war nichts mehr da, außer die Aufschlagstelle, wo die Kiste runter kam.

Nächsten Tag mußte ich zum Alten. Er hat weiter nichts gesagt, nur: "sind Sie mit acht Tagen Urlaub einverstanden?" "Jawohl" und schon war ich weg. Nach acht Tagen war ich wieder da, da erwartete mich eine neue Überraschung. Ich mußte auf Wachkommando auf ein großes Gut, es gehörte dem General Gouverneur von Warschau, Das mußte Tag und Nacht bewacht werden. Drei Monate ging es wunderbar, ein Leben wie der Graf von Danzig. Aber es kam schneller anders als ich dachte.

Ich habe mit den Polen gesprochen, unter Anderem habe ich sie gefragt, ob hier noch Wölfe sind. Sie fragten: "warum?" Ich sag "weil Abends so bei halbzehn Uhr läuft immer so'n Vieh hier rum, das könnte auch ein Silberfuchs sein, oder ein normaler." Na denn, dachte ich, ich werde dich schon kriegen. Nach drei Tagen war er wieder da. Ich lass ihn bis an's große Außentor, daneben ist der große Misthaufen. Jetzt stand er auf dem Misthaufen schön gegen den hellen Hintergrund am Himmel. Ich legte an und drückte ab, er blieb sofort liegen, aber ich konnte nicht aus dem Tor, es war verschlossen. Wir durften nur innerhalb der Umzäunung patrouillieren. Also mußte ich warten bis Morgen Früh. Und dann am Morgen kam die Überraschung.

Es war kein Silberfuchs und auch kein Wolf; es war der Schäferhund vom Generalgouverneur. Na -Prost Malzeit- Der Wachhabende hat mich zur Schnecke gemacht; ich mußte meine Klamotten packen und zu Fuß zum Lager marschieren. Allein und dreißig Kilometer und das alles durch waldiges Gelände. Vielleicht hatte der Wachhabende gedacht, wenn ich alleine gehe, legen die Partisanen mich um. Gott sei Dank nicht. Nachmittag war ich im Lager, hab mich gleich auf der Schreibstube gemeldet. Der Spieß sagte nur, "geh auf deine Bude, alles Andere machen wir morgen".

alarm. We had seen parachutes and where they landed, but when we had arrived at the landing places, nothing had been found other than the marks where the boxes had landed.

The next day I had to report to the "old guy" He said nothing else, except: "Would you agree to eight days of vacation?" "Yes, indeed" (I answered) and I was on my way. Eight days later I was back, and a new surprise awaited me. I was sent to guard duty of a large estate that belonged to the Governor-General of Warsaw, which had to be watched day and night. For three wonderful months I experienced the life of Reilly (the "Graf of Danzig"). But then something happened faster than I expected.

I talked to the Poles there, and one of the things I asked was if there were still wolves in the area. They asked "Why?" I answered, "Because in the evenings around 9:30 an animal that possibly might be a silver fox or something like it is hanging around. I thought I might shoot it. Three days later, it came again. I let it get close to the outside gate where there was a large pile of manure. He was standing on the pile, silhouetted against the lit background. I fired and he fell immediately, but I couldn't open the locked gate. The morning divulged a surprise.

It wasn't either a silver fox or a wolf; it was the governor's German shepard! Yikes, that did me in. The head of security made me feel like a worm. I had to pack my belongings and march back to my unit. Alone and 30 kilometers through a wooded area. Maybe he hoped that the partisans would kill me. Thank heavens that didn't happen. I arrived there in the afternoon and reported immediately to the main office. The sergeant major said only, "Go to your barracks and we'll take care of everything tomorrow."

To be continued.

Fortsetzung folgt.

Remember when...?



Do you remember when and where this was?
Do you recognize any of the people in the photo?
Tell us via email at gacclibrarystv@gmail.com.

Did you remember?



2022 STV Christmas Cocktail Party: Jake Wallrich, Irene Quinn, Erika Gaspar, William Stumph, April Stumph, Markus Geissler, Annette Geissler, Lila Wallrich, Brad Wallrich (Photo courtesy of Jake Wallrich)

German Language School Summer 2023 Cooking Class

Contributed by Susie Pelz and Sonja El-Heliebi Wissink

The STV German Language School offers not only language classes, but also cooking classes with teacher and director Sonja at least twice a year. Enjoy a few pictures of the most recent class in June 2023!



Maultaschen and Kasnudeln



Wiener Schnitzel



Weisheiten

Unter den Blinden
ist der Einäugige König.

Among the blind, the one-eyed man is king.

German Proverb



A Section of the Sacramento Turn Verein
3349 J Street, Sacramento CA 95816
www.stv-germanlanguageschool.org
director@stv-germanlanguageschool.org



“Devoted to the Promotion and Teaching of the German Language”

Early Fall 2023 Youth Program - August 2nd until September 30th
No classes on 8/30 (online) and during Labor Day weekend 09/02 (in-person)

Krabbelgruppe (ages 0-3)	Saturday, 9:30 am-10:00 am	08/05/2023 until 09/30/2023	In Person	TBA
Young children (ages 4-7)	Saturday, 10:15 am-11:00 am	08/05/2023 until 09/30/2023	In Person	TBA
Children's class (ages 8-12)	Saturday, 11:15 am - 12:15 am	08/05/2023 until 09/30/2023	In Person	TBA
Heritage Speakers Group 1 (Level A2) Online only	Wednesdays, 4:30 to 5:30 pm	08/02/2023 until 09/27/2023	Zoom	Jasmin gl.s.stv.jasminV@gmail.com
Heritage Speakers Group 2 (Level B1) Online only	Wednesdays, 5:30 to 6:30 pm	08/02/2023 until 09/27/2023	Zoom	Jasmin gl.s.stv.jasminV@gmail.com
Heritage Speakers In-person (Sat) + online (Wed) Group 1 – Level A2	Saturdays, 9:30 am - 10:30 am	08/05/2023 until 09/30/2023	In Person	Brigitte gl.s.stv.brigitte@gmail.com
Heritage Speakers In-Person (Sat) + online (Wed) Group 2 – Level B1	Saturdays 10:30 am-12:00 pm	08/05/2023 until 09/30/2023	In Person	Brigitte gl.s.stv.brigitte@gmail.com

Heritage Speakers:

This semester we are continuing with online instructions for Wednesdays. On Saturday in-person classes are offered at the Turnverein for all heritage speakers. The time is being used for fun projects, hands on activities, and games in accordance with the topics of the Wednesday classes. Children can choose to participate only online on Wednesdays or sign up for two classes a week = online classes on Wednesday and in-person Saturday classes.

Children's classes: Children German classes are offered in-person only for 0–3-year-olds and 4–7-year-olds, and for the 8–12-year-olds in-person participation is preferred – hybrid is possible. The minimum number of students per class is four. **Please contact teacher before classes start to receive Zoom link - if needed.**

Please register online. Our website is <http://stv-germanlanguageschool.org> **Thank you!**



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director@stv-germanlanguageschool.org



“Devoted to the Promotion and Teaching of the German Language”

Early Fall 2023 Classes (no classes during Labor Day week 09/03 - 09/09)

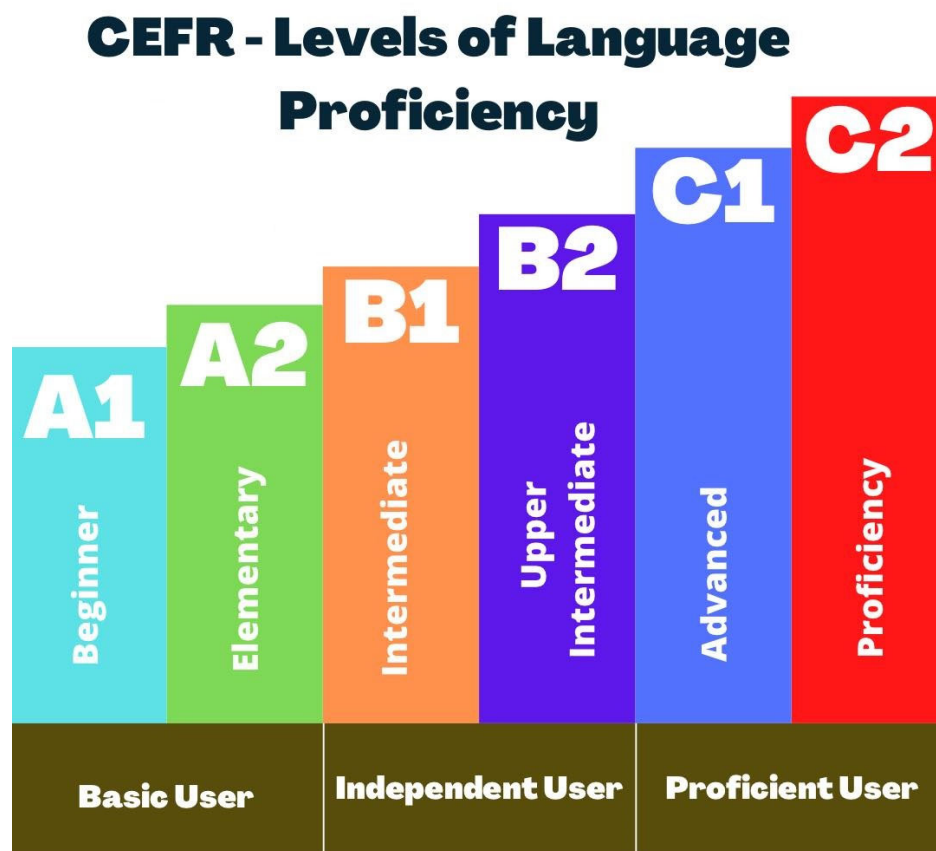
Class	Day	Dates	Place	Teacher	Book
Beginner A1.1 Part 1 of 3 (former Beginner A)	Tue 7:45-9:15	08/08 - 10/03	Lodge Hall	<u>Tina</u> gls.stv.tina@gmail.com	Netzwerk Neu A1.1 Chapters 1+2
Beginner A1.1 Part 3 of 3 (former Beginner C)	Wed 6:00-7:30	08/09 - 10/04	Schule	<u>Jeanette</u> gls.stv.jeanette@gmail.com	Netzwerk Neu A1.1 Chapters 5+6
Beginner A1.2 Part 2 of 3 (former Beginner E)	Mo 6:00-7:30	08/07 - 10/02	Lodge Hall	<u>Chad</u> gls.stv.chad@gmail.com	Netzwerk Neu A1.2 Chapters 9+10
Basic Conversation (Level A1, A2) (former Beginning Conversation)	Wed 7:45-9:15	08/09 - 10/04	Schule	<u>Jeanette</u> gls.stv.jeanette@gmail.com	N/A
Elementary A2.1 Part 2 of 3 (former Intermediate B)	Tue 6:00-7:30	08/08 - 10/03	Lodge Hall	<u>Tina</u> gls.stv.tina@gmail.com	Netzwerk Neu A 2.1 Chapters 3+4
Elementary A2.2 Part 2 of 3 (former Intermediate E)	Mo 7:45-9:15	08/07 - 10/02	Lodge Hall	<u>Chad</u> gls.stv.chad@gmail.com	Netzwerk Neu A2.2 Chapters 9+10
Upper Intermediate B2 (former Advanced P)	Tue 6:00-7:30	08/08 - 10/03	Schule	<u>Sonja</u> gls.stv.sonja@gmail.com	Sicher! B2 Chapter 7
Independent User Conversation (Level B1, B2) (former Intermediate Conversation)	Tue 7:45-9:15	08/08 - 10/03	Schule	<u>Sonja</u> gls.stv.sonja@gmail.com	N/A
Advanced C1/C2 (former Advanced Experts)	Mo 6:00-7:30	08/07 - 10/02	Schule	<u>Chris</u> gls.stv.chris@gmail.com	Sicher! C1 Chapter 10
Proficient User Conversation (Level C1, C2) (former Advanced Conversation)	Mo 7:45-9:15	08/07 - 10/02	Schule	<u>Chris</u> gls.stv.chris@gmail.com	N/A

The Sacramento Turn Verein (STV) opens to students 15 minutes prior to class. Students must leave the STV at the end of each class, no later than the teacher. The classes will be in person but if necessary Zoom access will be available. For online participants the teacher will send a Zoom link so you can log on to the class from your home computer or phone. **Please contact the corresponding teacher to receive a Zoom link, if needed.**

Please register for classes online. <http://stv-germanlanguageschool.org> Adult textbooks are additional and can be purchased at the website <https://www.stv-germanlanguageschool.org/books> and picked up in school on the first day of instruction. If students join on Zoom only, textbooks may be shipped to them. Fees are due on enrollment and are non-refundable. If enrollment does not meet the minimum number of four students per class, we will attempt to consolidate classes on a single day, change the class time, or- as a last resort - we may be forced to cancel the class for the session.

Students can register online with a credit card or PayPal approximately two weeks before classes start. Our website address is <http://stv-germanlanguageschool.org>. If you are unsure about which class to take, please contact the directors @ director@stv-germanlanguageschool.org. We make every effort to enroll all who come, we cannot guarantee that your first choice of class, date and time is still available. This applies especially to the beginning classes.

THANK YOU!



For more info on the CEFR levels visit: <https://www.eurolingo.sg/cefr-levels/>

What is Going on at the Turn Verein?

Below is a list of the main STV and the present Sections. Meetings or activities must be coordinated with the STV office in advance. It is not advisable to assume that the Sections will be hosting meetings at the exact times listed below. Please contact your particular Section for exact information and visit the STV website at www.sacramentoturnverein.com for general information.

Reminder to all Members: Annual membership dues for the STV and its Sections should have been paid by now. If you are in arrears, please contact your Section President.

SACRAMENTO TURN VEREIN (Main Club)

Meetings in the Ruhstaller Room

Membership Meetings

Sep-May: First and Third Wednesdays, 19:00;

Jun-Aug: First Wednesday, 19:00

STV Executive Board & Trustee Meetings

Sep-May: Fourth Wednesday, 19:00;

Jun-Aug: Third Wednesday, 19:00;

President: Freddie Diringer

Trustees: Ingeborg Carpenter, Gery Frankenstein,

Walt Zacharias

Contact: www.sacramentoturnverein.com

STV Actives

Membership Meeting: Fourth Thursday, 20:00, STV

President: William Stumph

Contact: williamstumph@gmail.com

STV Alpentänzer Schuhplattler

Membership Meetings: Check the calendar at
www.alpentanzer.com

Dance Practices: seasonally Thursdays, 18:30,
STV Banquet Hall

Band Practices: Check the calendar at
www.alpentanzer.com

President: Lila Wallrich

Contact: www.alpentanzer.com

German-American Cultural Center - Library (GACC-L)

Membership Meeting: Second Thursday, 19:30,
STV Library

Special Events: Third Friday at 19:30, unless otherwise
designated. Information will be sent twice via email
before each event.

Library Hours: Saturdays, 9:00-12:30,
and Tuesdays by arrangement

President: Susie Pelz

Contact: susipelz@yahoo.com

STV Handball-Racquetball

Court Games: Monday through Friday, 16:00

Membership Meeting: Second Thursday, 18:00,
Holzkiste

President: Dan Hagan

Contact: Visit <https://stvhandball.weebly.com>

STV Harmonie

Meetings: Fourth Tuesday, 11:00-13:00, Die Schule
The Harmonie, regularly accompanied by the
Alpentanzkapelle, brings music and singing to the
many events that are part of the cultural fabric of
the Sacramento Turn Verein. We are a friendly and
welcoming group, and all are invited to join us.

No previous musical experience is necessary.

President: Lorna Martens

Contact: stharmonie@gmail.com

STV Soccer

Membership Meeting: 2nd Wednesday, 18:00,
Trophy Room

Please find event information on our back cover page.

President: Kevin Poveda

Contact: presidentstvsoccer@gmail.com

STV German Language School (GLS)

Adult & Youth Classes meet in person at the STV, some
with Zoom. View the schedule in this newsletter or
online at www.stv-germanlanguageschool.org.

Membership Meeting: First Thursday, 19:30,
Die Schule

Executive Board Meeting: Third Thursday, 19:30,
Die Schule

President: Emily Via; GLS Co-Directors: Tina Bruno &
Sonja El-Heliebi Wissink

Contact: www.stv-germanlanguageschool.org

Co-Directors:

Tina Bruno: gl.s.stv.tina@gmail.com

Sonja El-Heliebi Wissink: gl.s.stv.sonja@gmail.com

What do Sacramento and Milwaukee have in common?

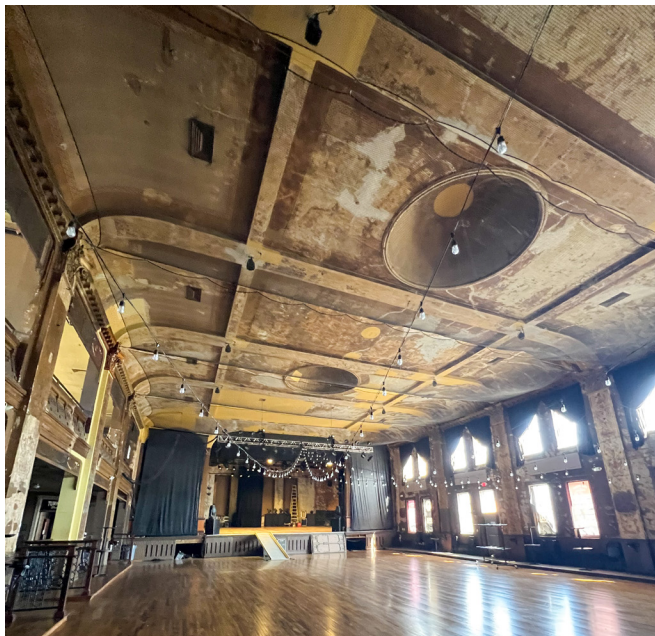
Contributed by Kevin Proveda, President of the STV Soccer Section

In May I had the opportunity to visit Turner Hall in Milwaukee, WI. The Executive Director of the Milwaukee Turners, Emilio De Torre, was kind enough to show my mother, girlfriend, and me around their historic building that was built in 1882. While the similarities between the building in Milwaukee compared to ours here in Sacramento were uncanny, the differences were equally astonishing. The similar exceptional brick-work and craftsmanship in the construction of the building was remarkable, and like many of the buildings in Milwaukee that were built during mid to late 19th century, the very noticeable cream colored brick that gave the town of Milwaukee the nickname “Cream City”, was amazing and really made the building stand out in an area that has flourished around it, with the Fiserv Forum (home of the Milwaukee Bucks) and the Deer District less than 300 feet from the front of the building.

When you enter the building, you are immediately greeted by stairs leading to a wrap around bar, and additional restaurant space, home of Turning Tables

Tavern & Eatery. The Historic Turner Ballroom (operated by the Pabst Theater Group) was a two-story 7,000 square foot space that is often a space for events and has even hosted Grammy Award winning artist Lizzo for a performance. The decor and historical artifacts throughout the building were also exceptional. The gymnasium, which costs members only \$35 per year, still provides instruction in children’s gymnastics, yoga, movement, rock climbing, and strength training.

Mr. De Torre was excellent in showing us around the entire building and providing wonderful insight on the history of the building and the Milwaukee Turners and their continued efforts in civic engagement that includes offering civic educational programs, and physical and mental wellness programs for the people of Milwaukee. As we left the building, we were each given a Milwaukee Turners sweatshirt with an Owl in the center of the chest. While there were many routes back to where we parked our car, we chose to walk down “Turner Alley” leading straight to Usinger’s Famous Sausage, Mader’s (voted the best German restaurant in Milwaukee) and the Hofbräu Old German Beer Hall.



The Historic Turner Ballroom in Milwaukee, WI



Turners' Alley in Milwaukee, WI

Sacramento Turn Verein
German-American Cultural Center - Library
3349 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95816

First Class
U.S. Postage
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Sacramento, CA
Permit No. 1315

Komm mit zum Turn Verein!

Upcoming German-American Cultural Center - Library Special Events:

Please visit our website at www.sacramentoturnverein.com for details.

Upcoming STV Events:

October 13th & 14th, 2023: STV Oktoberfest

Mark your calendar for an upcoming Special Event!

April 05, 2024: STV Alpentänzer Schuhplattler Fahnenweihe & Westbezirksfest

Keep up with Sacramento Turn Verein events at www.sacramentoturnverein.com.

Want to learn more about German traditions and ways of life? You can help keep such memories alive by joining and participating in the activities of the German-American Cultural Center - Library.

Membership is only \$20 per year. To join, send your check for \$20, payable to "GACC-L" to

GACC-Library, Sacramento Turn Verein, 3349 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95816.

We meet at 7:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month in the Turn Verein Library.

Welcome! Join us!

GERMAN-AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER - LIBRARY

Library Hours: Saturdays 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM, and Tuesdays by arrangement

Telephone: 916-442-7360; Email: gacclibrarystv@gmail.com

Web: <http://sacramentoturnverein.com/turn-verein-sections/cultural-centerlibrary/>