



Das Deutsche Echo

Mai 2001

Jahrgang 22/5

Maiball

Come join us May 12th for our annual Spring Celebration at the GAST Center, all decked out in its spring finery.

Social Hour begins at 6:00 PM
Dinner will be served starting at 6:30 PM.
Dancing commences at 7:30 PM

Your cost: \$15 for dinner and dance,
or if you prefer, \$7.50 for dancing only.

A GREAT Polka band to provide music for your dancing and listening pleasure: Karl Waldbauer and The Polka Kings.

The GAST Sanger and Folk Dancers will provide entertainment during breaks.

As always, make your reservations by calling 744-6998 no later than May 9th. **Please call if you need to cancel also.** Members, please don't forget to make reservations for any guest you may be bringing.

Many thanks also to "Class Act" for donating Table settings and Linens to the party.

—The Party and Entertainment Committee



Events Calendar

Tuesdays	Handarbeitsgruppe, 10– 2 PM	Nov 10	Coronation Ball
Apr 29	General Membership Meeting	Nov11	Konversationsrunde
May 4	Stammtisch	Nov 30 – Dec 2	Christmas Market
May 6	Konversationsrunde (first Sunday)	Dec 8	Christmas party
May 12	Maifest party	Dec 9	Konversationsrunde
Jun 3	GAST Picnic	Dec 16	Advent Service
Sep 9	Konversationsrunde	Dec 31	New Year's party
Sep 15	Weinfest party		
Oct 7	German-American Day		
Oct 14	Konversationsrunde		
Oct 27	Oktoberfest party		

This page is sponsored by GAST Members Paul and Hildegard Schaffrin and by the GAST Sanger

The President's Report to the Membership

The Board held their April meeting on Wednesday the 11th.

Have you signed up for May Fest? There are still several openings available on all shifts. Please call **Judy Lawson** 743-8429 or the GAST Message Center 744-6998.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Last call for "Mai Königin" nominations!
Please call **Maile Rough** 746-7625 or the GAST Message Center 744-6998 with your nomination.

For all of the very latest infor-

mation about GAST activities, please visit the GAST web site: (<http://www.gastulsa.org>).

As always, if you have a kind word, a suggestion, an idea, a constructive criticism or an inquiry directed to any committee, please contact the chair of that committee directly or the message center, 744-6998. The membership's ideas and opinions are important and always welcome.

For the past three years it has been my honor, pleasure and duty to serve as president of GAST, a service that I have most sincerely enjoyed. The outstanding accomplishments of the various boards during these three years will reflect in a most positive way upon

the future of GAST for many years to come. Although there are always some less than successful programs in any administration, I feel that the positive accomplishments have far outweighed these weaker areas.

The establishment and implementation of the "Endowment Trust", the first step toward full financial independence for GAST; our "Christkindlmarkt" (only two years old) now rivals our participation in "May Fest" for profitability; and GAST's participation in the establishment of a successful "Sister City" relationship with Celle.

Though this will be my last message to you, remember, if we all come together and work as one organization for the good of the whole, and not let any personal agendas cloud our judgment, there is little that we cannot accomplish.

—Don Wright

Don't miss the bus!
Echo Deadline is:

Apr 20



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Stammtischrunde

Hey, guys!

May 4, starting at 6:30 PM.
I'll be in Germany and miss this meeting. Claus Greiner will chair in my absence. I'll be thinking of you as I sip **Real Bier**.
Tschüß, till next month.



—Fred...

This page is sponsored by Siegi's Sausage Factory

News in Arts

Whether you are a new member or one who has been involved for a number of years, you may have asked the question: What is the German-American Society of Tulsa and the Arts Association all about? What is our mission? Are we doing a good job promoting cultural understanding? How can we improve?

If you have wondered about the future of our Society and you have some ideas, or just a general interest, we invite you to a brainstorming session sometime in early May. This session will most likely be off-site and will be moderated by a professional facilitator with experience in organizational workshops. Please call the GAST Office at 744-6998 and leave a message or call me at 357-9156 to discuss it. Remember, this is your organization and we want and need your input.

Did you know that a sizeable number of additional German books were donated to our library? We are in the process of cataloging them and will restart the library hours, every third Wednesday of the month, 2 - 4 PM, thanks to **Hildegard Schaffrin**, who has agreed to be our new librarian. Let us know if the hours are not convenient, so that we can make other arrangements. Here is a cultural treasure that few of us have taken advantage of.

On March 31, my wife and I and 32 additional members of GAST enjoyed a German-Austrian Variety Show in Lawton. It was a long trip, but well worth it. Unfortunately, we had several empty seats on the chartered bus, which was sponsored and subsidized by GAST. But we brought back some CDs and will play them at one of our Weinkeller-evenings for those of you who couldn't make the trip.

Last Sunday, Ensemble KOLORIT from Zeitz, Sachsen-Anhalt, entertained us with wonderful selections from popular German operettas ("Wiener Blut", "Die Lustige Witwe") and old and new films. Rotraud Denecke and Matthias Bega sang and danced right into our hearts and the piano solos by Thomas Volk were superb! It was another great afternoon of entertainment. Thanks to all the committee members, volunteers and contributors, especially our chairperson **Darlene Tegeler**, and the host families **Harold and Doris Wicks**, and **Ed and Rita Lenfestey**.

Many thanks also to "**Class Act**" for donating Table settings and Linens to the event

—Arnold Bieber

Konversationsrunde

Die Deutsche Konversations-Runde

Joerg Adlung was the speaker at our April meeting. He spoke with enthusiasm about his favorite subject: horses. Celle's horses are known all over the world and enjoy a long tradition of breeding and various disciplines of showmanship. Joerg served

his apprenticeship in Celle and is very knowledgeable in his field. Thank you Joerg for your interesting program. Also a big thank you to **Gertrud and Ortwin Schmidt** for being our hosts and serving delicious cakes, great wine and coffee and always supporting GAST ARTS. Our May meeting will be filled with spring music and a report by **Barbara Conrad** about "HUMMEL"—the delicate figurine that we all love. Please bring your favorite figurine to the meeting and share your story!

Ein Bericht über die Hummelfiguren von Barbara Conrad

DATE: FIRST SUNDAY - MAY 6, 2001 - 3-5 PM
PLACE: **MARGARET SCHMIDT**
3717 S 65TH WEST AVE.,
TULSA 446-0716 (call for directions)

Die Konversationsrunde is a program under the auspices of the German American Society of Tulsa Arts Association. It serves to promote the German language and other cultural interests of its members. For suggestions, information, or hosting one of our meetings, please call: **Jutta Tankersley** 742-9759(Chair) or **Barbara Conrad** 492-3273 (Co-Chair)

Please mark your calendar for upcoming events:
May 6 (FIRST SUNDAY), September 9, October 14,
November 11, December 9

THEMA: Der Frühling hat sich eingestellt

This page is sponsored by **Bea Shults** and by **Don and Carol Wright**

Membership News

We welcome these new members
into the GAST Family

Ruth Bly (Haar Germany)
2501 E. Tacoma St.
Broken Arrow, OK. 74014
Tel. 355-1371

Kevin Kesselring (MO.)
Teresa Kesselring (IA)
3011 South Cincinnati
Tulsa, OK. 74114
Tel. 743-6442

Damon Fell (LA)
Diane Fell (N.Y.)
4441 S. Gary
Tulsa, OK. 74105
Tel. 742-0488



The GAST Sänger

May Notes



The merry month of May is here
So is the end of our choir year.

On May 12 we'll sing again for you
Before we bid adieu.



In response to our SOS
Claus Greiner saved the day
To accompany us.
We hope he'll stay.

In mid-August we'll be back.
Enjoy the summer and relax.

For information about our choir,
please call me at 663-9573.

—Teresa Gallagher

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By GAST member
Tom Clark***

Actual Business Signs

On an Electrician's truck: "Let us remove your shorts."
On Maternity Room door: "Push, Push, Push."
At a Car Dealership: "The best way to get back on your feet - miss a car payment."
At an Auto Body Shop: "May we have the next dents?"
On a Music Teacher's door: "Out Chopin."
Inside a Bowling Alley: "Please be quiet. We need to hear a pin drop."
In the front yard of a Funeral Home: "Drive carefully, we'll wait."
In a Counselor's office: "Growing old is mandatory. Growing wise is optional."

The Chaingang

The Operating Committee held a work day on Saturday, March 31. Nineteen members attended. They washed walls, completed cleaning and oiling the upstairs woodwork, inspected all 209 rental chairs, rearranged the garage storage, accomplished over a dozen other items and began several more. This work would have cost the Society several thousand dollars if it were not for their contribution of time and effort. Sincere thanks to **Arnold Bieber, Jim Dittus, Jake Gumm, Josef Hardt, June Holmes, Fred Kailer, Nick Kerpon, John Millar, Dana Rosler, Harry and Irmgard Runyon, George Schaffner, Shirley Schelper, Charles Tegeler, John Toschik, Al and Lois Voeller, Warren Wilson and Jack Wynn.**

Weinkeller Abend

Friday, May 25th 5:00 - 9:30 PM

COME ONE - COME ALL! We'll have another fun evening in our beautiful Weinkeller. No hassle, no reservations. Snacks, soft drinks, wine, coffee and maybe a little something more substantial to eat. With good friends in our own clubroom, what could be better than this?

If you have a game you would like to play, a video to view, some music you would like to hear and share, bring them with you. Also see the folkdancers' article on page 7 for dance lessons that evening.

Hope to see you there!

This page is sponsored anonymously by a GAST member

Editor's Comments

By the time your read this issue, Irene and I will be enjoying our stay in Germany. One of the places we will be visiting this year before we relax in Bavaria, is my place of birth. I was born in the former province of Schlesien, which was detached from German after the war and annexed by Poland. Therefore, we will be driving into Polish territory to visit the places I so vividly remember.



We will be staying in a Hotel belonging to the adjacent Palace in the little town of Lomnica (formerly Lomnitz, in German). This place lies about a one-hour drive east of the German/Polish border. From there, we will make several side-trips to various places of personal interest. This area is located amidst a mountain range formerly called the "Riesengebirge."—meaning Giant Mountains. Lore cautions about an angry and giant mountain spirit who haunts this region and hates tourists; his name is Rübezahl. If you don't hear from us again, you'll know what happened. Otherwise, stand by for my complete trip report, which we will publish on our website—with a short version in the Echo.

Zum Wohl,

—Fred

Dresden



The

Frauenkirche in Dresden, which we will be visiting on our trip to Germany.

—Fred



German-language Movies

An Erwin Jerchau Presentation

Now playing at the GAST Theater :

Announcing:

Monday May 14, starting at 6:30 PM
Die Super Hitparade der Volksmusik

Starting at 8:00 PM
Ferien vom ich
Starring Walter Reyer, Hans Hold
and Elisabeth Flickenschildt



Let's pitch in!

The Saga of the Free Money

In January there was a anonymous bona fide "matching dollar" pledge submitted to the trustees of the GAST Endowment Trust of several hundred dollars. This matching pledge was simple. For each dollar that the general membership donated to the Endowment Trust, the donor would match (dollar for dollar) up to the limit of the pledge.



This pledge only requires each of our 450 plus members to donate less than \$ 2.25 each to fully subscribe the entire amount of the challenge pledge. This challenge was published prominently

in the February "Echo", and yet, as of this date, not one single dollar has been donated. Now is one of those times for the membership to join together, pledge a few dollars and take full advantage of this most generous challenge before it is withdrawn.

Please mail your tax deductible donation to the GAST Office at 1429 Terrace Drive, Tulsa OK 74104, and mark it "**Endowment Trust**".

Please call me at 299-2839 if you have any questions. Thanks.

—Don Wright



Folkdancers

Dancing Feet and Clapping Hands

The GAST Kindertanz Group stole the show at the April party. There were plenty of clapping hands in appreciation of their fine performance. Thirteen children and grandchildren from 4 to 10 years of age presented four dances as part of their close of the spring session of Kinderdeutsch. A big thank-you to **Jill Hammer-Schaffrin and Annette Varnell** for their hard work in making the children's presentation such a success. If you missed them you will have another opportunity to see them at the Maiball.

The Adult Folk Dancers have also been busy in April with two appearances on April 22. The first at St. Mary's Church where we joined other ethnic dance groups performing to benefit Neighbor for Neighbor, Western Neighbors and Neighbors Along the Line. This is the third year the GAST Folk Dancers have taken part in the Many-Neighbors- One-World fundraiser. We then appeared at the April GAST party with a short program. The Folk Dancers started a program with the Grand March and everyone joined in. Everyone seemed to enjoy taking part. Maybe we should start all our parties with a Grand March?

We will join the Kindertanz group in presenting a spring program for GAST members and guests at the Maiball on May 12. We will be closing out our spring season with a much-requested evening of **polka and waltz dance lessons** in conjunction with the Weinkellerabend on May 25. (See details on page 5)

If anyone is interested in joining the Kindertanz Group or the adult group please call the Message Center at 744-6998. We will resume practices in early fall.

—Carol Wright

The back page is sponsored by Kenneth and Lillian Renberg and by The GAST Sanger

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Mai 2001

Jahrgang 22/5



Cheese-making in the Allgäu region of Bavaria

German-American Society Arts Assoc.
Das Deutsche Echo
1429 Terrace Drive
Tulsa, OK 74104

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