



Das Deutsche Echo

November 2002

Jahrgang 23/11

Do you have a yearning to hear some of your favorite
German folksongs from years gone by?

On Saturday, November 16, 2002, you'll have that opportunity,
when The GAST Sanger & Tanzer present "Heimatabend".

We invite you to join us for an evening's musical journey through Germany.
Social time: 6-6:30 PM, Dinner starts at 6:30
The cost for Heimatabend is \$12.50.

Menu:

Rouladen
Spatzle
Rotkohl (red cabbage)
Brot und Butter
Praline cake for dessert

Please make your reservations by calling the Message Center
at 744-6998 no later than Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2002.

—Teresa Gallagher
Chair

What's happening at GAST?

Nov 1 Stammtisch	Dec 27 Weinkellerabend ??	May 4 Konversationsrunde
Nov 3 Sonntagskaffee—Page 6	Dec 31 New Year's Eve party	May 10 Maiball
Nov 10 Konversationsrunde—Page 3	2003	
Nov 11 Youth Movie night— page 5	Jan 12 Konversationsrunde	
Nov 16 Heimatabend	Jan 18 Anniversary party	
Nov 22 Weinkellerabend	Feb 9 Konversationsrunde	
Nov 24 General membership meeting	Feb 15 Wine-tasting party	
Dec 6 – 8 Christkindlmarkt	Mar 1 Fasching	
Dec 14 Christmas party	Mar 9 Konversationsrunde	
Dec 15 German-language Advent Service	Apr 12 Lumpenball	
Dec 22 Konversationsrunde— Page 3	Apr 13 Konversationsrunde	

This page is sponsored by GAST Members Paul and Hildegard Schaffrin

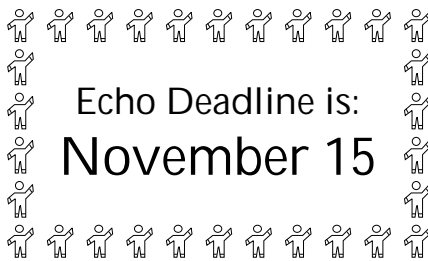
The President's Report to the Membership

Fellow Members,

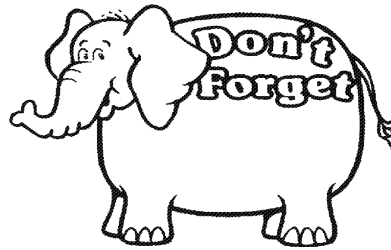
The first thing on everyone's mind right now is Oktoberfest. I want to thank everyone who participated in this event. Especially the Committee headed by **Jim Walker, Erica Hartman, Irmgard Toschik and Leon Boggs**. Oktoberfest is one of our more important activities and is normally our largest fundraiser. This year's proceeds were well below what we expected and hoped for. I realize that is very disappointing to all those who put so many hour and days working into make it happen. It just didn't, because of the weather. This may be our "Wake-up Call" that we have feared for many years. Just remember, you have all done your very best and there is always next year. Also remember the wonderful sounds of the live German Fest music, the smell of the Brats and Kraut cooking and the Gemütlichkeit experienced while volunteering in the GAST booth. This is a time when we can get to know fellow members better while working side by side in the GAST booth. We must continue to work together to continue the success of our next fundraising event, Christkindlmarkt.

GAST continues to be a very visible, active and respected organization in the Tulsa community. We have received a lot of local media coverage recently of individuals, as members of GAST, as well as the Society's activities. Three of our members' childhood wartime experiences were related in a published book, **Dave Schoneweis's** Stein collection and the GAST Cookbook were both featured in Oklahoma Magazine. Moreover, our guests, the Salinia Blassorchester, presented several free public performances and the GAST Folkdancers made a short, very early morning, television appearance. Many articles and notices appeared in publications regarding GAST including, GAST's language classes, the German- American Day program and GAST's participation in Oktoberfest.

GAST made a donation to the Angus Valley Elementary School of Sand Springs to make it possible for 60 chil-



Echo Deadline is:
November 15



dren, who would not otherwise been able, to attend Kids' World.

The GAST Finance Committee has been working very hard finalizing a budget for next year and we will soon be implementing the use of a new form to be used in reporting income and expenses related to the various GAST activities.

We have scheduled the General Membership Meeting to report on the past year's activities of GAST, GASAA and GASBC for November 24th at 3 PM; please mark your calendar and plan to attend. Also, please read the ECHO to learn about other planned activities and keep it handy as reminder.

We, Americans, Tulsans and as a GAST family, have much to be thankful for. Happy Thanksgiving to you all.

—Carol Wright

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News from the Arts President

Our German-American Day celebration and the book-signing were a huge success, thanks to the hard work of the members of the Cultural & Educational Committee and **Doris Gallagher**, who ordered the books, contacted the media and organized the book signings. Thank you, Doris.

I would also like to thank **Fred and Irene Rother** who invited and hosted our keynote speaker, Col. Wolfgang Samuel. More than 200 members and guests enjoyed the inspiring speech and the entertainment by Blasorchester Salinia from Sülze (Celle) Germany. **Ruth Bly** and **Lou Bonham** did a fantastic job with the refreshments and decorations. Thank you both!

The 19-member Blasorchester Salinia and four escorts had a great time in Oklahoma. It would not have been possible without the efforts and cooperation of the host families, some hosting three and four people for the ten-day stay. It was a wonderful cultural exchange which we

will remember for a long time. We kept them busy performing at Tulsa Community College, the River Parks Amphitheater, Ponca City Oktoberfest, at Bartlett Square and McKinley Elementary School, and they kept us busy shuttling them to all of these events plus Woolaroc, shopping trips, the Tulsa State Fair, football games and a boat ride on Grand Lake, courtesy of **Jim and Marja Willis**.

Thank you very much, hosts and drivers. We appreciate your generosity.

Our next event is Kids' World, November 14-17. If you would like to be booth volunteer or have items you could lend us to show at this event, please call the Message Center, 744-6998.

—**Arnold Bieber**

Speaking German

Die
Deutsche
Konversations-
Runde

We wish to thank **Claus and Helga Greiner** for a most interesting and entertaining film about their recent trip to Australia. For a short time I was tempted to change my confirmed flight from Germany to Australia.

Our next meeting is scheduled for 3 pm on November 10th at the home of **Ortwin and Gertrud Schmidt** who live at 5133 East 86th Place, telephone 495-3727. The topic will be "Bach, His life and Music". Please join us for this enlightened presentation concerning one of the giants of music.

The 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: **Barbara Conrad** 492-3273 (Chair) or **Gertrud Schmidt** at 495-3727 (Co-chair).



The GAST Sanger

November Notes

Oktoberfest has come and gone
Soon we'll begin our Christmas songs.

Our November engagements will be few.
Right now, just two!

Nov. 02, 2002 Broken Arrow
Centennial's "German Day"
Nov. 16, 2002 Heimatabend--GAST Center

We wish you and your families a very Happy Thanks-
giving. We all have much to be
thankful for.

For questions or further information,
please call me at 663-9573.

—Teresa Gallagher

We welcome these new members to the GAST Family

Andrew & Nancy Frank (OK)
9911 S. 93rd E. Pl.
Tulsa, OK. 74133
Tel. 252-9814



Hey Guys!

Stammtisch gathers on Friday,
November 1, starting at 6:30
PM.

Be there!

—Dean Butler

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Mon-Thur. 10 AM—5 PM
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GAST Youth Activity Report

⇒ On Monday October 14, we had an excellent turnout at the first Youth Movie Night of the year. We had 70 total in attendance and enjoyed viewing "The Matrix" in German. Our next Youth Movie Night is scheduled for Monday, November 11 at 6:30 PM.



⇒ The GAST Youth Oktoberfest Party will be held on Monday, October 28 at the GAST Center—free admission to all of the students who volunteered at Oktoberfest and a nominal fee for those who did not volunteer.

⇒ The High School Essay Topic has been announced by the committee. The topic is: **Tulsa's German Sister City, Celle: What does this partnership mean to me?**

Please turn in your essays to the GAST Center by December 6. The winners will receive a certificate of achievement.

—Rusty Selye



German-language Movies

An Erwin Jerchau Presentation

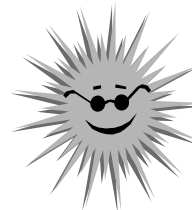
NOW PLAYING AT THE GAST THEATER:

Announcing:

Monday November 4, starting at 6:30 PM
Carolyn Reiber Präsentiert
Die Goldene Hitparade 7

Starting at 7:30 PM

Das Wandern ist Herrn Mueller's Lust
Starring: Ekkehard Fritsch, Kurt Sobotka,
Eddi Addiarent and Gisela Schlueter



The Sunshine Lady

Please call or E-mail me if you know of a GAST member who is ill. Also, please let me know if it is appropriate to send a Sympathy card.

Thank you.

Phone 496-2304

E-mail -- GASTwo@aol.com

—Reba Schaffner



Sonntagskaffee

(Sunday Afternoon Coffee)



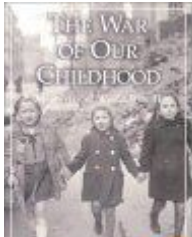
Please join us in the GAST Weinkeller
on **Sunday, November 3, 2002, at 3 PM,**
for some home-baked cake, good coffee and soft music.

This is a great opportunity to visit with old friends or to make some new ones. We hope to see many of you there—since this will be our last Kaffee in 2002, because the building will not be available for a Sonntagskaffee in December due to Christkindlmarkt.

The Kaffee Team:
Helga Greiner
Fred Rother

The War of our Childhood

By Wolfgang W. E. Samuel



The GAST Arts Association had the pleasure of having Author Wolfgang Samuel as our keynote speaker at our recent German-American Day celebration, who had recently published his own harrowing account as a child in immediate post-war Germany in his book: *German Boy*. This year he published a book, which features the memories of 27 children as they and their families struggled to survive the horrors of war-torn Germany. Of special interest are three accounts in this book by three of our GAST members: **Arnold Bieber, Irmgard Toschik and Fred Rother.**

Both books can be purchased locally at **Steve's Sundries and Books**, at 31st and Harvard, or at **Amazon.com**, on the internet.

Humanity at its Best

"If we could shrink the earth's population to a village of precisely 100 people, with all the existing human ratios remaining the same, it would look something like the following:

There would be: 57 Asians, 21 Europeans, 14 from the Western Hemisphere, both north and south, eight Africans;

52 would be female, 48 would be male;

70 would be non-white, 30 would be white;

70 would be non-Christian, 30 would be Christian;

89 would be heterosexual, 11 would be homosexual

6 people would possess 59% of the entire world's wealth and all six would be from the United States;

80 would live in substandard housing;

70 would be unable to read;

50 would suffer from malnutrition;

1 would be near death; 1 would be near birth;

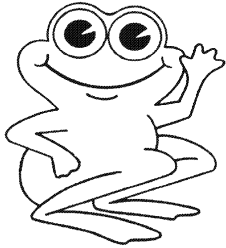
1 (yes, only 1) would have a college education;

1 would own a computer.

"When one considers our world from such a compressed perspective, the need for both acceptance, understanding and education becomes glaringly apparent."

Phillip M Harter, MD, FACEP
Stanford University

Frogs...



A group of frogs was traveling through the woods, when two of them fell into a deep pit.

All the other frogs gathered around the pit.

When they saw how deep the pit was, they told the unfortunate frogs they would never get out. The two frogs ignored the comments and tried to jump up out of the pit.

The other frogs kept telling them to stop, that they were as good as dead.

Finally, one of the frogs took heed to what the other frogs were saying and simply gave up. He fell down and died. The other frog continued to jump as hard as he could.

Once again, the crowd of frogs yelled at him to stop the pain and suffering and just die. He jumped even harder and finally made it out.

“Why did you continue jumping? Didn't you hear us?” The frog explained to them that he was hard-of-hearing. He thought they were encouraging him the entire time.

This story teaches two lessons:

- There is power of life and death in the tongue. An encouraging word to someone who is down can lift them up and help them make it through the day.
- A destructive word to someone who is down can be what it takes to kill him. Be careful of what you say. Speak life to those who cross your path.

The power of words ... it is sometimes hard to understand that an encouraging word can go such a long way. Anyone can speak words that tend to rob another of the spirit to continue in difficult times.

Special is the individual who will take the time to encourage another. Be special to others. Send this to someone you like.

I did!

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