



# Das Deutsche Echo

March 2003

Jahrgang 24/3

## Three Cheers for George and Tom

Hip-Hip-Hooray--Hip-hip-Hooray—Hip-Hip-Hooray !

The wine tasting evening at GAST was great. Nine, count them, nine different types of German white wines from several river valleys and each with its unique color, aroma and flavor. Wow, what an evening and Tom Clark's explanation of the differences in the wines was interesting and informative.

After the tasting and a few questions it was time for George's "finger food buffet" (great as usual) and an opportunity to enjoy an additional serving of your evening's favorite wine. The small group of attendees created an atmosphere that was just right.

George and Tom, if you ever do this again, please put our names at the top of the reservations list.

—Carol and Don Wright

## Fasching Party

Helau, helau, helau!

Charming Prinzessin Joy II and Noble Prinz Jim II invite you to **join us on March 1<sup>st</sup>, for our annual Fasching party.** Dress up in costume for the chance to win a prize in the costume contest.



The cost for this fun evening is: \$ 12.00 per person. Doors open at 6:30 PM. The Walburg Boys will provide for our music.

Enjoy a light Snack ( no dinner). Please call in your reservations at 744-6998 by Wednesday, Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>.

—Your hosts: The Elferrat



## What's happening at GAST?

Handarbeitsgruppe Tuesdays, 10-2 PM	Apr 25 Weinkeller	Sep 20 ??
Feb 28 Weinkeller	Apr 27 Gen. Membership meeting	Sep 26 Weinkeller
Mar 1 Fasching Party	May 2 Stammtisch	Oct 24 Weinkeller
Mar 2 Sonntagskaffee	May 4 Konversationsrunde	Oct 25 GAST Oktoberfest
Mar 7 Stammtisch	May 4 Sonntagskaffee	Nov 2 Sonntagskaffee
Mar 9 Konversationsrunde	May 10 Maiball	Nov 15 ?
Mar 12 Heinzelmännchen—see page 7	May 23 Weinkeller	Nov 28 Weinkeller
Mar 21 Garage Sale—see page 3	Jun 1 Sonntagskaffee	Dec 5-7 Christkindlmarkt
Mar 28 Weinkeller	Jun 27 Weinkeller	Dec 13 Weihnachtsfeier
Apr 4 Stammtisch	July 25 Weinkeller	Dec 14 Adventsfeier
Apr 6 Classical Piano Concert	Aug 3 Sonntagskaffee	Dec 31 New Years Eve Party
Apr 12 Lumpenball	Aug 22 Weinkeller	<b>2004</b>
Apr 13 Konversationsrunde	Sep 7 Sonntagskaffee	Jan 17 GAST Anniversary Party

This page is sponsored by GAST Members Paul and Hildegard Schaffrin

## The President's Report to the Membership

### Greetings Members and friends,

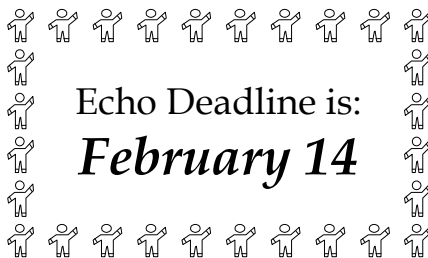
It is that time of year again. We have heard the State of the Union message and the State of the State message. Here at GAST it is the time to take stock of the past year's progress, programs and activities, to look seriously at the financial condition of the Society and give you a State of the Society report.

First of all I would like to thank all of you have served as officers or directors in the past 23 years, as well as those who have served on committees. Without you as leaders GAST would not be where it is today. We are envied by those sister, German-American organizations who have had an opportunity to visit our GAST Center. Of course, I don't mean to leave out those of you who choose not to lead but serve the needs of the Society by participating in our activities. You are also a valuable asset.

During 2002 GAST was able to make monetary contributions to the German Language programs at Tulsa Community College and Tulsa University. We provided the funds for the Tulsa Public Schools to purchase equipment to enable them to continue broadcasting German language television programming. We contributed to the Tulsa Philharmonic to enable their special German night program.

The past year has been punctuated by continued progress, in implementing the ideas that developed from our "Think Tank" sessions. We have a renewed mission Statement. We have a Welcoming Committee to greet new members and extend personal invitations for them to attend social functions. We have a committee looking into restructuring the organization. We have a new monthly social function called Sontagskaffee that has proven quite popular as is the monthly Weinkellerabend. There is still more to be done.

The internal "groups", Choir, Folkdancers, Stammtischrunde, Lesegruppe, Handarbeit, Konversationsrunde, Speakers Bureau, Language Classes, Landscaping and Grounds Keepers, Building Lease Committee and Youth Group are always open to receiving more participants in their activities. More participation increases the effectiveness of the group



Echo Deadline is:  
**February 14**



GAST is operating with board approved Budgets for all Society operations. This year, our three major fundraisers, fell short of what was expected or hoped for. There was little change in Mayfest from previous years and Christkindlmarkt did not increase as much as we anticipated. Of course, there is no question that Oktoberfest was a disaster financially due to the weather. This was a "wake-up year" for GAST. We must not "carry all our eggs in one basket. GAST must search for and implement new sources of revenues. We must strive to build our Endowment Trust to a point that it assists in self perpetuation of our Society. By doing so will improve our ability to maintain our GAST Center and continue our cultural programs.

We must be mindful of our past, aspire anew and receive support from all. The State of GAST is strong. Our foundation is great. Continued participation and support of GAST, by the membership, will move GAST ahead as the premier cultural and social ethnic organization in the Tulsa Community.

—Carol Wright

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**Message Center - 744-6998**

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## News from the Arts President

As of this writing I am still looking forward to the "Tulsa Talent" Show on Sunday, February 23, 3:00 PM at the GAST Center with 14 year old concert pianist Carson Wagner, who is well known locally for his performances in churches, retirement centers and other events. He has appeared on TV and at the OK Mozart International Music Festival in Bartlesville and the Spartanburg Choral Festival. What a great talent! Then we are treated to a performance by the Tulsa Children's Chorus and Tulsa Youth Chorale, under the direction of Ms. Ginny LeDoux and Scott Zenthoefer. The choruses have performed with numerous Tulsa music organizations and have taken several out of state trips. Each year they sponsor a choral camp at Kendall Whittier Elementary School. It is a wonderful organization. Rebecca Cook, who is part of the Tulsa Youth Chorale, is scheduled to sing a solo, "Widmung" by Robert Schumann. I hope you were able to enjoy this wonderful free Sunday afternoon concert.

I would like to thank **Jutta Tankersley** and her crew of volunteers for setting up and serving the refreshments, **Fred Rother** for designing the program and **Doris Gallagher** for publicity. Where would we be without our volunteers?

Our next musical event will be the Classical Piano Concert by Mr. Ruediger Steinfatt from Augsburg, Germany on Sunday, April 6 at 3 PM. His program will include works by Mozart, Schubert, Beethoven and Kempff. Please mark your calendar and invite your friends and neighbors.

Saturday morning Kinderdeutsch classes are now in full swing. The kids are having fun thanks to our volunteers **Carol Wright, Jill Hammer, Hildegard Schaffrin** and **Marianne Strong. Angelique McLaurin** is doing a wonderful job with the little ones. I believe we had a record turnout for our Conversational German Language classes. Good job, teachers **Marianne Strong, Doris Gallagher, Frieda Odell** and **Patricia McLaurin**.

Our Speaker's Bureau continues to get a lot of requests. **Barbara Conrad** and **Barbara Taron** spoke about Berlin and Celle at the Senior's Lunch Program at the First United Methodist Church on January 28. We will have a booth for the Global Festival at Tulsa Community College, Metro Campus, on March 6 and also at Bacone College in Muskogee on March 28. If you have items of interest you would like to show or would like to volunteer your time, please call the Message Center, 744-6998.

Speaking of volunteering, don't forget our Garage Sale, March 21 and 22. We need your help for this important fundraiser. Donations are tax-deductible under the IRS provisions of Section 501(c)(3). Thank you very much.

— Arnold Bieber

## Speaking German

Die  
Deutsche  
Konversations-  
Runde

Even though the weather looked a little scary at first, we had a great turnout for our last meeting. We like to thank **Sonja and Peter Ahrenkiel** for opening their beautiful home to us, giving us a great presentation about Luebeck and having KAFFEEHAUS style home-made refreshments for us. The next meeting will be on 9 March at the home of **Doris and Harold Wicks** 5606 S. Trenton (phone 743-0359) at 3 pm. Ralf Kaestner, a young lawyer from Selb Germany will talk about the differences between higher education in Germany and the USA. He is currently studying at the University of Tulsa TU law school to add an American degree to the one he has already received in Germany. He likes Tulsa very much, please

give him a warm welcome and mark the date and join us.

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 SOUPER SOUP PARTY!

We'll have our Soup/Lumpenball party again on April 12 this year. If you would like to donate soup or dessert for the party, please contact me, (free party admission for donors) **Teresa Gallagher** at. 663-9573, or E-Mail [JNGTMSG@aol.com](mailto:JNGTMSG@aol.com). **Thanks!**

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



## *The GAST Sanger*



### March Notes

March winds will "blow" us back  
From our nice winter nap!

Thurs. March 6 (7:30 p.m.) we'll return  
With some new songs to learn.

Choir members please  
Brings some cookies or  
other goodies  
For our "sweet tooth" to appease!

We invite new members to come  
And join in our fun.

Be sure to "wear the green"  
On Mar. 17th!  
Happy St. Patrick's Day!

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

— Teresa Gallagher

## We welcome these new members to the GAST Family

Michelle Burkett (IL)  
4340 E. 72nd Pl.  
Tulsa, Ok. 74136  
Tel. 496--1909

Fernando Moreno (Mexico)  
Birgit Andersen (USA)  
8415 E. 81st. St.  
Tulsa, Ok. 74133

Rebecca Newman (TX)  
10737 S. Sandusky Ave.  
Tulsa, Ok. 74137  
Tel. 810-4154

### From the Membership Desk

A friendly reminder!

In case you have not yet paid your dues for the  
year, please submit your 2003 membership dues  
now.

Vielen Dank,

—Irmgard G. Toschik  
membership chair.

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## The GAST Blaskapelle

It's official! The GAST Blaskapelle (Brass Band) will be starting rehearsals in March.

**Mike Stoops, Charles Tegeler, Earl Johnston and Max Tankersley** met at the January Weinkellerabend to begin formation of the band. Earl Johnston was drafted as Kapellmeister (Bandmaster).

Kapellmeister Johnston has proclaimed, the guiding principle of the band will be "Don't take things too seriously, let's just have fun." For all of those who responded to the ECHO article in the December 2002 issue, which announced the exploration to form a band, please contact me at 742-9759 to provide phone numbers, emails, etc.

If you play or have played a brass instrument, please give me a call — we could use more power.

— **Max Tankersley**



## German-language Movies

An Erwin Jerchau Presentation

NOW PLAYING AT THE GAST THEATER:



Monday March 3, starting at 6:30 PM  
**Die Strasse der Lieder**  
Eine musikalische Reise den Neckar entlang

Starting at 7:30 PM  
**Ich denke oft an Piroshka**  
Staring: Lieselotte Pulver, gunnar Moeller  
und Gustaf Knuth

**The Youth Fasching Party** will be Monday, March 3 at 6:30 PM. Costumes are encouraged - prizes for best costumes. Games, food, music - free to all. This will be a large scale fun event!

— **Rusty Seelye**  
GAST Youth Chairman

## Stammtisch

Bring your thirst and a good story or two to the Stammtisch on Friday, March 7th at 6:30 p.m. Prost!

— **Dean Butler**, your friendly neighborhood Stammtischmeister



## Sonntagskaffee

(Sunday Afternoon Coffee)



March 2, 2003, from 3 - 5 PM in the GAST Weinkeller.

We would like to stress once again that this is an event for **all** our members, even though it is a very nice German tradition that we are sharing with our American friends. You will always have **English and German speaking** people there. Please give it a try! This event is becoming very popular. We welcomed 50 guests in February! Consequently, we will be getting two more round tables for

downstairs to seat everyone comfortably!

We are also very grateful for the many of you who helped with the dishes and cleanup. We found, however, that the "Kitchen" space in the so-called Kaffeestube is limited to only two people. In order to avoid collisions, we therefore ask all our willing helpers to sit and relax and let us do the work, so that you can enjoy the afternoon with your friends. The team will discretely clean off the tables when indicated to give you more elbow-room — please do not feel pressured to get up and leave at this point, because sitting and talking is part of the Sonntagskaffee ambiance.

Since a Piano Concert is scheduled for April 6th in the GAST Center with a reception following, we cannot have a Sonntagskaffee on that Sunday. We hope to see everyone at this high-quality concert and then again at our next Kaffee on the 4th of May.

The Kaffee Team:

— Helga Greiner, Barbara Hunsberger, Fred Rother.

## Soccer in Tulsa!

On April the 5th at 2:00 PM we will have the opportunity to watch an exhibition game between Dallas and Kansas City.

Adult tickets \$13.00, Child tickets \$ 7.00.

For groups of 25 or more \$ 6.00

We are looking to gather a group of 25 or more to join us in the fun we could have and the support we could show for Professional Soccer as members of GAST. If you would like to participate in this venture, please call me at 627-5521 by the 10th of March and indicate how many tickets you need. If we have 25 or more we'll have a month to buy the tickets and to plan our invasion of Skelly Stadium.



—Ed Lenfestey

Our **WELCOME COMMITTEE** is alive and well, thanks mainly to our volunteers **Rita and Ed Lenfesty**. They faithfully attend every Weinkeller Abend and Sonntagskaffee, and they cheerfully welcome everyone. They also pay special attention to our new members and make sure they are being introduced. After new members have joined GAST and their names have been published in the ECHO, we send them a one-time special invitation to the next Sonntagskaffee.

As many of you have already found out, we are wearing nametags at the Sonntagskaffee and at the Weinkeller Abend. Our new members have specially marked name tags so everybody recognizes them as new members. We realized that these name tags work very well for the "downstairs" events but not real well for the upstairs parties. At the upstairs parties, we just check the guest list for new names and make sure first time visitors do not sit by themselves.

Since last spring we had several new members that started out "downstairs" and have become regular attendants at most GAST events now. They liked the idea of meeting some friendly faces that they could recognize the next time they came.

— Helga Greiner

## The Operating Committee says "Thank You"

to all who participated in the January 25 Work Party. They did a great job and attended to many details inside and outside of our wonderful facility.

Many thanks to: **Roger Bey, Arnold & Gwen Bieber, Teresa Gallagher, Franz & Christel Harms, June Holmes, Jim Randall, Harry & Irmgard Runyon, Shirley Schelper, Rusty Seelye, George Starch, Charles Tegeler, John & Irmgard Toschik, Harold Wicks and Jack Wynn.**

— John Millar

### Why just be a tourist, when you can also be a houseguest ...

and benefit from the Celle hospitality. A group trip to Tulsa's Sister City "Celle" is being organized by the Tulsa-Celle Sister City Partnership. Celle will be 'celebrating' anniversaries with all six of its Sister Cities from May 5-11, 2003. Tulsans are invited to participate. Mayor Bill Lafortune will head the "official delegation", and an invitation has been extended to ALL of our Partnership members and friends.

For those who have never been to Celle, you are in for many pleasant memorable experiences: In a Europe-wide contest, France nominated Celle "the most beautiful European City" in 2001. Half-timbered houses line cobble stone streets leading to a magnificent baroque castle. Celle is home of the world famous Hanoverian stud farm; it lies at the southern fringe of the Lüneburger Heath; Another day excursion could be a beautifully landscaped bird sanctuary where 850 species of birds roam almost free in a nature-like habitat. For more information call Wolfgang Becker at 637-9025 or e-mail him at [wbecker@sstelco.com](mailto:wbecker@sstelco.com).

## The Heinzelmännchen Gruppe

will start **March 12th at 10 AM** and continue each following Wednesday. According to German lore, these are little people, who discreetly appear in the middle of the night to do work that needs to be done for people in need, then disappear again before anyone realizes what happened.



Well, GAST needs help! This group of intrepid helpers is going to meet, have some coffee and donuts sit around and bullsh... for a while and then do some much-needed work in the GASThaus. If you wanna be a Heinzelmännchen, just show up.

—John Toschik, chief Heinzelmännchen

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# Das Deutsche Echo

March 2003

Jahrgang 24/3

## GAST GRAND GARAGE Sale

The date is definitely set for the 21st and 22nd of March. We will collect donations at the GAST Center on Wednesday, March 19th from 9 am till 3 pm. On Thursday the 20th we will finish pricing and setting up in the upper part of the building, starting at 9 am until we are finished. If we have enough help, it should not take very long.

The sale will start on Friday morning at 9 am and will last until 5 pm. For Saturday, we will be open from 9 am to 3 pm. We will need enough help for two shifts at each day. Even if you only can work a couple hours, your help will be greatly appreciated. If you need help transporting or storing your donations, please contact me at 492-3273 or **Erica Hartman** at 272-7903. The Arts Association is counting on the membership to make this event a great fundraiser for GAST.

Let me close one more time with somebody's wise words "MY JUNK MIGHT BE YOUR TREASURE". I hope to see many of you at the garage sale.

— **Barbara Conrad**

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