



Das Deutsche Echo

November 2003

Jahrgang 24/11

GAST Choir Hosts Fund-raising Dinner

In the last Echo we mentioned the fundraising dinner, which the GAST Sanger are hosting on November 8th from 5 pm to 10 pm in the Great Hall of the GAST building. This event is intended to raise money to enable all of the GAST choir members to take part in the 58th National Sangerfest in Peoria, Illinois, May 21st and 22nd, 2004. The November 8th GAST Sanger fund-raising event is open to the public. We hope all GAST members will consider supporting this event and will invite friends, co-workers and neighbors to attend. In addition to preparing the meal, GAST choir members will be performing the roles of waiter and waitress at this sit-down and relaxing evening of food, fun, song and dance. All proceeds after expenses will go toward the trip-fund.

German choirs from throughout the nation will participate. We, the Tulsa GAST Sanger, are excited that we may have an opportunity to attend this festival for the first time, which is sponsored by the Nord-Amerikanischer Sangerbund (NAS).

To that end, GAST Sanger director, **Leon Boggs**, is even now practicing songs with the choir, which will be sung in assembly at this event. The NAS reports they have shipped over 2200 songbooks across the nation. If that is any indication of the actual participation at this event, it will indeed be a tremendous experience for all who attend. In addition to group-singing, each choir is allocated a number of slots to highlight tunes from their own personal repertoire.

The menu for this fundraiser was established under the direction of **Irmgard Toschik** and her food committee. It includes: Kassler (smoked pork cutlet), Bratwurst, potatoes, sauerkraut, rolls, cheesecake for dessert, and coffee, tea, or water. The cost of this dinner is \$15 for adults and \$7.50 for children under 12 years of age. The bar will be open for the purchase of beer and soft drinks at additional cost.

We hope you will plan to attend. **RESERVATIONS ARE NOT REQUIRED**, however, we would appreciate it, if **GAST members** would inform the GAST office of their intentions, because this will help the food committee ensure that the right amount of food is available to serve all who participate.

— Uschi Mueller

What's happening at GAST?

Handarbeitsgruppe—Tuesdays, 10AM	Dec 21	Konversationsrunde
Heinzelmannchen—Wednesdays, 10 AM	Dec 31	New Years Eve Party
	2004	
Nov 2 Sonntagskaffee	Jan 11	Konversationsrunde
Nov 7 Stammtisch—see page 5	Feb 8	Konversationsrunde
Nov 8 Folksanger fund-raiser	Mar 14	Konversationsrunde
Nov 9 Konversationsrunde	Apr 11	Konversationsrunde
Nov 28 Weinkeller Abend	May 2	Konversationsrunde
Dec 5-7 Christkindlmarkt		
Dec 13 Christmas Party		
Dec 14 Adventsfeier		

This page is sponsored by GAST Members Paul and Hildegard Schaffrin

The President's Report to the Membership

Dear Members,

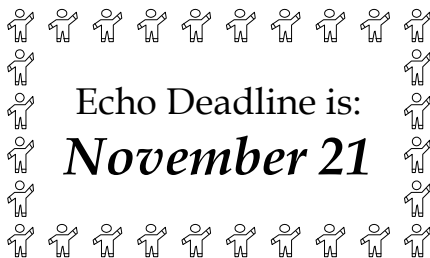
As an update to my message regarding the reorganization of GAST in the August ECHO, I'm pleased to report that the Reorganization Committee is moving forward with the development of a Resolution for a future vote of the members to effect changes outlined and discussed during the June 27 Special General Membership Meeting. The Resolution will amend the By-Laws of GAST, GASSA and GASBC to coincide with the organization outline presented to the membership on June 27.

The committee has spent considerable time these last weeks in an attempt to address every aspect surrounding this special undertaking to streamline the administration of GAST including amendment of the By-Laws, legal, officer's liability and other issues. Members' inquires/questions that surfaced during the June 27 Special General Membership Meeting have been very much a part of the Committees' consideration while undertaking this task.

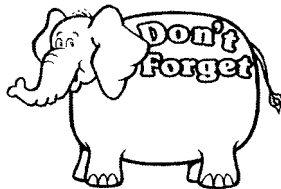
The committee advised me that they would be most pleased to meet with any member for further discussion and clarification of your concerns regarding this reorganization. The next scheduled meeting date is **Wednesday, November 5, 2003 at 6 pm in the GAST Weinkeller**. Should you have unanswered questions, please plan to attend this meeting or feel free to contact the committee for clarification. Committee Members are **Claus Greiner, Bill Leitch, Siggi Grimm, Jim Thomason and John Toschik**.

Another Oktoberfest is behind us. I am not able to give you a report at this time of the degree of success but I would like to thank all you members and friends of GAST whose help and participation were necessary for the success of this event. The response from our members when asked to volunteer for working at Oktoberfest was very positive. When we have such good volunteers it makes the Committee's job so much easier. A special THANKS again goes to the **Oktoberfest Committee chaired by Jim Walker**.

We still need a volunteer to serve as Party and Entertainment chair. This position requires someone willing to plan



Echo Deadline is:
November 21



and organize 4 or 5 parties a year and co-ordinate with the other groups within the Society the execution of 4 or 5 other parties. I would like very much to get increased input and participation from more members of the Society.

As the year draws to an end GAST has many fund raising activities planned. Please read the ECHO thoroughly to stay informed on the past and future activities of our membership. Learn about many things that are happening that you will not want to miss. If you have not taken the opportunity to look at GAST's web site) lately please do so www.gastulsa.org. Thanks to **John Toschik** it has a new look and there have been many additions and revisions.

Till next month,

—Carol Wright

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News from the Arts President

German-American Day is one of the most popular events on the ARTS calendar each year. It has become a tradition for the German American Society of Tulsa to celebrate this day on the first Sunday in October in recognition of the achievements and contributions to the American way of life by German immigrants for more than 300 years. The official date, October 6, was first proclaimed by President Reagan in 1987.

This year's festivities commenced with the playing of the German National Anthem by our own **GAST Blaskapelle** and the American National Anthem played by our guest band from Celle/Germany, **Grass 'n Groove**. Chairman **John Millar** then read the proclamations by Governor Brad Henry and the mayor of Tulsa, Bill LaFortune.

Keynote speaker Chris Nickel, a Tulsa businessman, gave an inspiring and sometimes amusing account of his experiences as a young immigrant to this country. We learned that success is just another word for hard work and a positive attitude.

The musical entertainment by the four-member string ensemble, **Grass 'n Groove**, was a wonderful mixture of old German folk songs, regional favorites and American country music. For the third year in a row, Tulsa's sister city in Germany and Tulsa Global Alliance has supported our German-American Day program by sending some exceptional talent to entertain us.

The band sounded great in our Great Hall thanks to the donation of time and equipment by GAST member **Aaron Veale** and the able assistance of **John Toschik**. **Barbara Conrad** coordinated the band's activities, which consisted of numerous appearances in Tulsa, Moore and Ponca City. **Lois Voeller** was in charge of refreshments with the help of **Christel Harms**, **George Starch**, **Irmgard Toschik**, **Louise Reed**, **Jinny Wynn** and **Gina Therion**. GAST host families were **Fred and Irene Rother** and **Ed and Rita Lenfestey**. Many others helped with set up, publicity, transportation, instrument rental, etc. Thank you all very much. It would not have been possible without you.

Please remember Volkstrauertag (German Memorial Day), Sunday, November 16. A delegation from GAST will travel to Fort Reno for a memorial service in honor of German prisoners of war interred at the Fort Reno Cemetery. Call Barbara Conrad or the Message Center for additional information.

— Arnold Bieber

Speaking German

Die
Deutsche
Konversations-
Runde

If you missed our last Konversationsrunde, you truly missed a memorable occasion. We wish to thank Gertrud Schmidt for her excellent guided tour of the Remington Exhibit at the Gilcrease Museum, followed by refreshments at her home. Our next meeting will be at the home of **Gabi Richardson** on 9 November 2003 at 3 pm. Gabi lives at 5827 S. Maplewood (telephone number 494-3762). Our speaker will be **Doris Wicks** who will present a talk about Quebec, Canada.

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).

We wish to thank the membership of GAST for their unconditional acceptance of Thomas and the many kind deeds that they have done to make him feel like a member of our extended family. Words cannot express what this means to us and especially to Thomas.

— Stan and Barbara Conrad

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



The GAST Sanger



November Notes

Oktoberfest has once again passed.
 The holidays are approaching fast!
 We'll be busy during November
 Working on our Christmas songs
 To sing in December.

Be sure and come to the GAST Center November 8
 For an evening that surely will be great!
 With good food to "whet your appetite";
 Singing, dancing & other events
 Will make everything "Gemutlichkeit"!

When Thanksgiving Day comes around
 We're thankful for the many blessings that abound.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Questions/Information call me at 663-9573

—Teresa Gallagher

German-American Society of Tulsa (GAST)

President	Carol Wright	299-2839
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2nd VP	Dean Butler	747-0306

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*Treasurer	Robert Schein	252-2350

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**We welcome these new members
to the GAST Family**

Joe Metzeler (OK)
1906 E. 73rd Apt. 16-D
Tulsa, OK. 74136
851-8364

Tanya Romero (Canada)
Carlos Romero (Venezuela)
9916 S. 78th E. Ave.
Tulsa, OK. 74133
299-1264

Stammtisch

Gents, come enjoy lively
conversation and
thanksgiving around the last
Stammtischrunde of 2003.
Friday, November 7th at 6:30
pm.
Prost!



—Dean Butler



German-language Movies

An Erwin Jerchau Presentation

NOW PLAYING AT THE GAST THEATER:



Monday November 3, starting at 6:30 PM

Musikalische Sonntagsgruesse

Eine Musikalische Reise
von Muenchen nach Bad-Toelz

Starting at 7:30 PM

Zwei Knallkoepfe auf Sonderkommission

Starring: Willi Millowitsch and Vico Torriani

Youth News

Our next Youth Movie Night will be on Monday, November 17 at 5:30 PM we will be showing the very popular movie—"The Lord of the Rings - The Two Towers" in German with English subtitles.

We will be serving all you can eat Mazzio's pizza with refreshments at \$2 per person.

Our youth movie nights continue to grown quite rapidly with 70 students attending our last movie. We have organized a Student Representative Committee that helps to plan and implement their events. The high school essay contest is under way and the deadline is December 5, 2003.

—Rusty Seelye

Folk Dancers' Feet Keep Moving

The GAST Folk Dancers have had a very busy schedule in October. We welcome three new dancers to this year's group, **Belinda Fricker, Helen Cohea and Kristopher Hadley.**

For our first appearance of a very busy weekend on Friday, October 3 we were welcomed for our annual appearance at Franciscan Villa. We had pleasant weather and a friendly crowd of residents and their families.

On Saturday morning, October 4 we packed up and drove to Ponca City. There we performed two sets to a very enthusiastic crowd at the Ponca City Oktoberfest and received a nice donation for GAST.

Now it was time to rush back to Broken Arrow to the Miller Farm to dance and enjoy some more Oktoberfest fare as we entertained the members of the Fellowship Lutheran Church. We also received a nice donation from this group.

Of course, the weekend was not over. Sunday evening, October 5 found some of our dance members attending Oktoberfest at St. Henry's Catholic Church in Owasso, where we "danced for our supper".

This gave us only a week to rest and polish up for the Tulsa Oktoberfest. The GASTS Folk Dancers provided entertainment at the Thursday opening ceremony. Later that evening and again Sunday afternoon we danced in the Esszelt, accompanied by the Kinderdeutsch Folk Dancers on Sunday. During the balance of the Festival many of the Folk Dancers volunteered in the GAST food booth and served as Hosts and Hostesses in the Biergarten.

Now, this was not the completion of the Folk Dancer's season. The GAST Center was (will be) transformed into a Biergarten for the Oktoberfest party by the Folk Dancers. The decorations went up and another short program was danced at the

GAST Party. Again we were joined by the Kinderdeutsch Folk Dancers to the delight of the members.

Our season is not over. More next month.

— Carol Wright

The Salvation Army Help

The holiday season has already started at The Salvation Army. If you would like to be involved in a Christmas Program — other than Bell Ringing — the Angel Tree and Toy shop programs provide an excellent opportunity for group involvement.

Simply call our volunteer coordinator Sharon Staires at 567-7801, extension 120 and she will be happy to make arrangements with you.

Thank you,

Major Marshall Gesner
Tulsa Area Commander.



Sonntagskaffee

*(Sunday Afternoon Coffee
is a German ritual)*

***We hope you will join us for
Coffee, cake and conversation
on November 2nd,
starting at 3 PM***

Hosted by Helga Greiner
Barbara Hunsberger and Fred Rother,

German Memorial Day

We've received an invitation from the German-American Heritage Association to participate in a special memorial service to honor the German and Italian POWs who died and were buried in the cemetery at Fort Reno, Oklahoma.

The service commences on Sunday, November 16, 2003 at 2 PM in the Chapel on the grounds. Various dignitaries and the media will be in attendance.

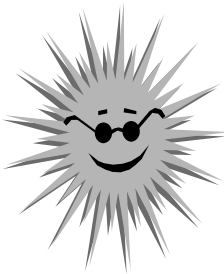
If you wish to participate, or want more information, Please call **Barbara Conrad** at 492- 3273

Host Families Needed

Tulsa Global Alliance is pleased to announce the upcoming visit of a delegation of ten entrepreneurs from Saratov, Russia. All of the visitors have some knowledge of English.

TGA seeks families to host these people for about two weeks. If you wish to participate in this opportunity to contribute to global understanding by opening your home to an international visitor, please contact Bob Lieser at 918 591-4750 or via e-mail at boblieser@lakewebs.net

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

A special thanks to all Oktoberfest workers

I want to thank each and everyone of you for so graciously agreeing to work a shift (or two, or three) at Oktoberfest 2003. It is a big job scheduling workers, but you have made my job easier. The bonus for me was, that I got to talk to each and every one of you and got to know our membership better.

The Oktoberfest committee has worked very hard for the past several months prior to the festival and it makes the work more pleasant when we have a membership that is so willing to volunteer. Getting involved is what makes us the German-American family that we are.

On behalf of the committee thank you again.

— Irmgard Toschik

Jackie Cooper

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