



GAST Anniversary Party

*Please join us for our 24th Anniversary party
on Saturday, January 17th, starting at six o'clock;
Dinner will be served at six-thirty*

Our Menu:

Gefüllte Hähnchenbrust (Cordon Bleu)
Reis (Rice Pilaf)
Gemischtes Gemüse (Mixed Vegetables)
Brot & Butter (Bread & Butter)
Anniversary cake

“The Lighter Side” will provide the music for our dancing pleasure.
The cost for this event is \$15 per person for dinner & dancing, \$7.50 for dancing only.

We will present awards to our high school contest winners. Moreover, we will present the Directors’ and the President’s awards to our members for their dedication to the mission and goals of the German-American Society of Tulsa .

As a special event, we will hold the drawing for the tickets to Germany, plus a three-day stay in our Sister City, Celle, Germany.

Please make your reservations for the party no later than Wednesday, January 14th. If subsequently you are unable to attend, please cancel your reservation to avoid unnecessary meals charges.



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Special point of interest

**Who
is going to win
the trip to Germany
?**

What's happening at GAST

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|--------------------|--------|--------------------|
| Handarbeitsgruppe—Tuesdays, 10AM | Feb 8 | Konversationsrunde | May 2 | Konversationsrunde |
| Heinzelmännchen—Wednesdays, 10 AM | Feb 21 | Fasching party | May 2 | Sonntagskaffee |
| | Feb 27 | Weinkellerabend | May 7 | Stammtisch |
| Dec 31 New Years Eve Party | Mar 5 | Stammtisch | May 28 | Weinkellerabend |
| 2004 | Mar 7 | Sonntagskaffee | Jun 6 | Sonntagskaffee |
| Jan 2 Stammtisch | Mar 14 | Konversationsrunde | Jun 25 | Weinkellerabend |
| Jan 4 Sonntagskaffee | Mar 26 | Weinkellerabend | Jul 23 | Weinkellerabend |
| Jan 11 Konversationsrunde | Mar 27 | Garage sale | Aug 1 | Sonntagskaffee |
| Jan 17 GAST Anniversary party | Apr 2 | Stammtisch | Aug 27 | Weinkellerabend |
| Jan 23 Weinkellerabend | Apr 4 | Sonntagskaffee | Sep 24 | Weinkellerabend |
| Feb 1 Sonntagskaffee | Apr 11 | Konversationsrunde | Nov 7 | Sonntagskaffee |
| Feb 6 Stammtisch | Apr 23 | Weinkellerabend | Nov 26 | Weinkellerabend |

...from the GAST President

Dear Members:

As we greet 2004 it is with much sadness that I am again expressing condolences to members of the GAST family. On November 27 **Elizabeth Allen**, wife of Leland Allen passed away and on December 18, **Franz Harms** also passed away. Both had been long time members of GAST and will be missed. Sincere condolences to the Allen and Harms families.

Please remember that GASAA has a "Memorial Fund" account available for those who would like to make a donation in the name of a deceased member. These funds are utilized when the need arises to obtain something that will have a lasting effect for GAST. Most recently the Memorial Fund was used to rebuild and restore the GAST Grand piano.

I know there are many out there who are ailing to one degree or another and I hesitate to start naming names because I know there will be many who will be left out. The first hardworking, longtime members who come to mind are our own "Sunshine Lady", **Reba Schaffner, Charles Byrd and Jim Dittus**. They are seriously ill and might appreciate hearing your best wishes or a visit. If any of you know of a member whose illness or loss should be acknowledged by GAST please inform the GAST office or contact **Rita Lenfestey** who is filling in for the "Sunshine Lady" until Reba feels better.

Christkindlmarkt was again a success. The final figures are not yet in but it appears that even though the proceeds did not indicated much growth over previous years as we expected. It was nonetheless a wonderful and successful event in light of the current economic climate. I want to thank all the volunteers who participated in this, our 5th successful year.

The GAST Christmas Party planned and orchestrated by the **GAST Sanger** (choir) was enjoyed by 100 members and guests. The entertainment by **the GAST Sanger under Leon Boggs** direction sounded wonderful. The music provided by **Gene Hembree** of Music, Music, Music was very danceable and not so loud that having pleasant conversation at your table was possible.

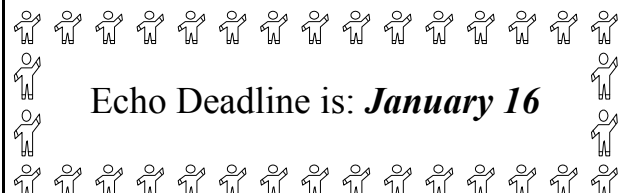
The Anniversary Ball is our next dinner-dance. January 17 will be a very busy evening with many activities. There will be awards given to the winners of the High school Essay Contest as well as the Officer's and Director's and Presidents' awards to members for outstanding service and dedication to GAST. This evening is also when the drawing will be held to award the two round trip tickets to Germany courtesy of Lufthansa Technik and 3 nights hotel in Celle, Germany courtesy of the City of Celle, Germany. Don't forget to make your reservations.

The date for a Special General Membership meeting for the purpose of voting on the adoption of a resolution to amend the GAST By-Laws regarding the organizational structure of GAST has been set for January 25. Please watch your mail for the notice and plan to attend. Your vote on this issue is very important.

And now a little more news from the board. The efforts of a committee to analyze our liability and comprehensive insurance coverage resulted in a savings of several thousand dollars at renewal time. We have a committee who is working on the feasibility of an on-site festival as a future activity and fundraiser. More about that later. Funds were approved for the purchase of a Ping Pong Table for the Weinkeller. Budgets for the various committees and activities are being prepared for 2004.

Till next month.

—Carol Wright



Echo Deadline is: **January 16**

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...from the Arts President

Our Adventsfeier on Sunday, December 14, was truly a festive and inspirational event. Violin duos by Amy Lui and Ian Peake and an organ prelude by **Leon Boggs** set the mood for this annual pre-Christmas celebration. Pastor Udo Titgemeyer who recently retired from the Stadtkirche in Tulsa's Sister City, Celle/Germany, conducted the interdenominational service, which was held entirely in German. The Great Hall of the German-American Society of Tulsa was decorated beautifully.

The GAST Choir sang many of the traditional German Christmas carols, some of them with the sizable congregation of GAST members, guests and friends. The Violino e Pianoforte Duo by Karen Sullivan and Ian Peake "Ave Maria" was a special treat. Thank you, **Barbara Conrad** for coordinating the event and hosting the pastor and his wife and **Ursula Anders, Hannelore Hall, Fred Rother, Doris Wicks** and **Doris Gallagher** for your help with set up, reading, program design and publicity. All donations collected at the Adventsfeier are given to Meals on Wheels as in previous years.

The ARTS committees have already met to plan several public events for 2004. Carson Wagner, a well-known local young pianist, has agreed to hold a concert at GAST on Sunday, February 15. We are keeping our fingers crossed for good weather, but just in

case, we booked a snow-day for the following Sunday.

The ARTS organization has been actively working with a number of local cultural and educational organizations for the benefit of the community. ARTS is a member of the Philbrook Museum of Art. Two membership tickets are available in the GAST office for members who would like to attend the museum. Currently it offers a display of etchings by Matthäus Merian, *Topographia Germania*, a view of European cities, including Berlin, on loan from the estate of **Dr. Charles E. Weber**, a long-time GAST member. It will be on display at Philbrook until January 25, 2004.

We dearly miss the members who passed away last year, **Herb Felkel, Kay Kerpon, Hans Richrath, Leland Allen's wife and Franz Harms** and close relatives of several other GAST members. They were all instrumental in building our organization and contributed their time and/or money to make it successful.

I sincerely hope that 2004 will be year of good health, happiness and success for all of you.

—Arnold Bieber

Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde

Since we have not had our **December meeting as I submit this notice, we would like to thank Elfriede and Harry Rogers** in advance for their hospitality and opening their beautiful home to us and providing great refreshments. Our next meeting will be at the home of **Barbara and Gerald Taron** at 6562 South 218th East Avenue, Broken Arrow on January 11, at 3 PM, phone 355-2370. In response to the requests of several members, Barbara will, with the aid of numerous slides, tell us about their recent trip to Alaska. We hope to see you there for

what promises to be a most interesting program.

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

The GAST Sanger

January Notes

The holidays were great!
Now it's time to take a break.

We'll take a "hike"
And return some future Thursday night.

Congratulations to Choir members
Harry & Irmgard Runyon,
Prinz & Prinzessin
For Fasching 2004.

Questions/Information
Teresa Gallagher
663-9573

—Teresa Gallagher

Sonntagskaffee

*(Sunday Afternoon Coffee
is a German ritual)*

*We hope you will join us for
Coffee, cake and conversation
on January 4th,
starting at 3 PM*

Hosted by Helga Greiner, Barbara Hunsberger,
Claus Greiner and Fred Rother,



Now Playing at the GAST Theater

An Erwin Jerchau Presentation

Monday, January 5

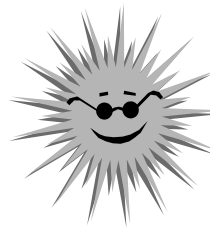
Starting at 6:30 PM
**Fruhlingsfest der
Volksmusik**



Starting at 7:30 PM
Wo die Liebe wohnt
Starring: Hansi Hinterseher
and Toni Sailer
(This movie is from German TV)



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

Youth News

A BIG thank you to the members who baked cookies/cakes for the Youth Holiday Party. The students loved it and appreciated all your efforts.

Our next Youth Movie Night will be **Monday, January 12th at 6:00 PM.**

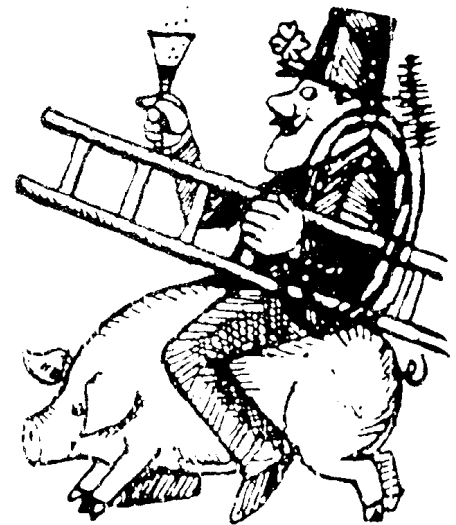
We will be showing the very popular movie "**Minority Report**", starring Tom Cruise and Colin Farrell. In German with English subtitles. We will be serving Mazzio's pizza and beverages - \$2.00 per person.

Thank you also to **Linda Adams** and **Kyle Page** for your help at Movie Nights!

The winners of the High School Essay Contest will be announced at the Anniversary Party on January 17th. We received 49 entries! Good luck to all of those who entered.

—**Rusty Seelye**
Youth Chairman

Happy New Year



GAST Folkdancers Resume Practice

Come join us. New dancers are always welcome. A partner is not compulsory. Wear comfortable shoes. We meet from 7 till 9 pm in the Weinkeller at GAST.

We will have practices on Jan 9 and 23. Weekly practice sessions will begin Feb 6. We will have no practice on April 9 (Good Friday)

We end the season with Mozartfest in Bartlesville on June 13 and then host the National Lehrgang (workshop) of the North American Federation of Germany Folkdance Groups the weekend of June 18, 19, 20. in the GAST Center.

—Carol Wright

In Germany, the
chimneysweep
and the pig
are symbols of good luck
for the new year.

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

Marja Willis (Netherlands)
James Willis (MO)
6122 E. 107th St.
Tulsa OK 74137
Tel. 298-6921

Mit Dampf durch Deutschland

I have a duplicate copy of this book. It relates to the process of phasing-out Steam engines and replacing them with Diesel or electric traction in West-Germany. **The text is in German.** Each page contains fantastic color action-pictures of the various types of steam engines with their trains that roamed the countryside after the war until their demise in 1978. They are depicted in their scheduled activities and settings.

Even if you can't read the text, the pictures alone tell a fascinating story of those "black men and their smoke-belching machines". The book is in immaculate condition; I'll bring it to the Stammtisch in January, if not sold by then. Meanwhile, please call me at 299-4814, if you're interested in buying it for \$10.

—Fred Rother

Franz Harms

8-5-39 to 12-18-03

Born in Midlum, Germany. A Member of GAST since 1980. Long-time active Board member, Operations Committee, Leasing Committee, Oktoberfest, Mayfest. Past Fasching Prinz. Married to Christel



40 years. Survived by Christel, one son, Bill and wife Lisa, Daughter Andrea, son-in-law Kevin and two granddaughters, Danielle and Jenna.

German-American Society of Tulsa (GAST)

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| President | Carol Wright | 299-2839 |
| 1st VP | Claus Greiner | 455-3096 |
| 2nd VP | Dean Butler | 747-0306 |

| | | |
|------------|---------------|----------|
| *Secretary | Ginny Greek | 299-3282 |
| *Treasurer | Robert Schein | 252-2350 |

***German-American Society Arts Association**

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| President | Arnold Bieber | 357-9156 |
| 1st VP | John Millar | 481-0614 |
| 2nd VP | Barbara Conrad | 492-3273 |

***German-American Society Building Corporation**

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| Director | Teresa Gallagher | 663-9573 |
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Information and Message Center
744-6998

Stammtischrunde

Gentlemen, join in some New-Years cheer 'round the Stammtisch on Friday, January 2, starting at 6:30 PM.



Prost the New Year!

—Dean Butler



Das Deutsche Echo

Januar 2004

Jahrgang 25/1

In Memoriam

Franz Harms

1939 — 2003

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