



GAST Lumpenball

Soup Party

Come and join us for this fun event on March 13!
Social hour 6:00, Soups on at 6:30 and Dancing begins at 7:30
Come one, come all and wear your "worst rags"!

Don't miss this opportunity to sample many tasty soups and desserts provided by some of our GAST "Chefs". If you would like to contribute soups and/or desserts, please contact **Lisa Murie** at 834-6745 or E-mail lamurie@cox.net.

Cost for this event will be \$7.50 per person; one free admission for each soup or dessert donated. Also, **please be generous and also bring canned goods to donate to the Community Food Bank to help those who are less fortunate than we are.** A box will be provided in the foyer for this purpose.

Entertainment for the party will be provided by Music, Music, Music.

Please call the Message Center 744-6998 for your reservations by Wednesday, March 10 and indicate whether you are donating soup or dessert. If you are unable to come after making your reservation, please be courteous and cancel.

—Lisa Murie & Dana Rosler
Co-Chairs

GAST Happenings

Mar 5	Stammtisch
Mar 7	Sonntagskaffee
Mar 13	Soup party
Mar 14	Konversationsrunde
Mar 19	Garage Sale
Mar 26	Weinkellerabend
Apr 2	Stammtisch
Apr 4	Sonntagskaffee
Apr 4	Konversationsrunde
Apr 10	Wine-tasting
Apr 18	Gen. Membership
Apr 23	Weinkellerabend
May 1	Germanfest
May 2	Sonntagskaffee
May 7	Stammtisch
May 9	Musical Program
May 16	Konversationsrunde
May 28	Weinkellerabend
Jun 6	Sonntagskaffee
Jun 25	Weinkellerabend
Jul 23	Weinkellerabend
Aug 1	Sonntagskaffee
Aug 20	Theater Organ Soc.
Aug 27	Weinkellerabend
Sep 24	Weinkellerabend
Oct 3	German-American Day
Nov 7	Sonntagskaffee
Nov 26	Weinkellerabend
Handarbeitsgruppe— Tue, 10am	
Heinzelmännchen—Wed, 10 am	

Garage Sale

Please be aware that the success of our annual garage sale lies with the membership. Our major collection day will be March the 17th at the GAST Center from 10-4. We will price and arrange the merchandise on March 18th from 9 AM until it is finished.

The sale will be Friday and Saturday 19th and 20th at the GAST Center from 9-5 each day. We will need help for all of these days. A shift should last about 4 hours but any time that you can contribute will be appreciated. We still have the opportunity to use **Don and Carol Wright's** warehouse. Please make use of this opportunity.

For any assistance please call either **Arnold Bieber** (357-9156) **Barbara Conrad** (492-3273). We thank you in advance for your assistance.

—Barbara Conrad

...from the GAST President

Dear Members,

Our President **Carol Wright** has asked me to write the report for this month, unfortunately, it will start on a sad note.

We again lost some members of the GAST family. In early February **Mr. David Brown**, a long time member, passed away unexpectedly at the age of 67. Also in early February we lost another longtime member: **Jim Dittus**. He lost his fight with cancer at the age of 76 years.

And another loss, mainly to the Wright family: Carol, our president, lost her father, Mr. **Henry Sievers** passed away at the age of 92. We wish to express our condolences to all the families.

Since the start of the New Year we all are busy working on routine tasks for the New Year.

- Budgets are being prepared to be approved by the board.
- Schedules for the various events are being finalized for the year. It does look like we will have a year full of activities.

The board has decided that GAST won't participate in the May Fest in Tulsa this year. Changes we had to make to our insurance policies require us now to pay insurance for any event in which we are involved outside of our property. This will cut down our net income from May Fest to almost nothing. In addition, the City could not provide us with a location for the booth for GAST since there is a lot of construction still going on in the area where Tulsa normally holds the May Fest. Instead, however, the board right away approved a new event for this year:

A German Fest

It will be a totally new one for us. We have a committee feverously working to get this party off the ground. The festival will be held in and around the GAST building. The scheduled dates for that are May 1 & 2.

More details will be announced in future issues of the *Echo*.

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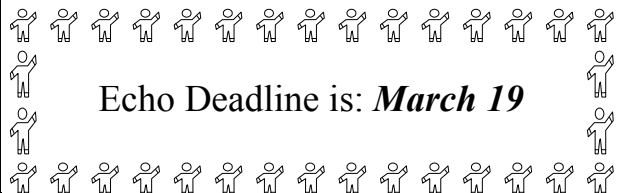
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Message Center - 744-6998

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We are continuing our more casual get-togethers, such as Weinkeller Abend, Stammtisch and Sonntags Kaffee). No reservation needed for any of these events. All dates are listed in the *Echo*.

—**Claus Greiner**
1. Vice President of GAST



Echo Deadline is: **March 19**

...from the Arts President

We were lucky! As you know, February weather can be unpredictable in Oklahoma. It was a little chilly, but fortunately there was no snow as more than 130 members and friends came to enjoy the performance of 15-year-old concert pianist Carson Wagner on Sunday, February 15, in our Great Hall. What a wonderful god-given talent! Carson played a variety of classical, jazz, gospel and popular music and entertained the crowd with a few personal stories. A special "Oklahoma Medley" and "Rhapsody in Blue" completed a delightful program. We hope that he will come back to play for us again next year.

I would like to thank **Dr. June Holmes, Col. Shirley Schelper, Irmgard Toschik** and my wife **Gwen** for setting up and serving the refreshments, **Fred Rother** for designing the program and **Doris Gallagher** and **John Toschik** for publicity. Excellent work, Committee Chair, **John Millar**.

On Sunday, March 28, at 3 PM, ARTS will sponsor a piano recital, arranged by Dana Maher from the Amadeus Piano Festival, with Jura Margulis, Professor of Music at the University of Arkansas and his students Sophia Munoz (who also played last fall) and Lyndon Meyer. Sophia is a student at Booker T. Washington and lives in Tulsa; Lyndon is a senior student at Bishop Kelley and is planning to continue his studies with Jura at U of A in the fall. They will play Wagner, Beethoven, Chopin and other classical pieces. Please mark your calendar and invite your friends.

Our Kinderdeutsch and Conversational German Language classes are filled to near capacity. It's gratifying to see the kids having fun and learning about German culture. The credit goes our volunteers **Carol Wright** and **Hildegard Schaffrin** and teachers **Grete McNac** and **Angelique McLaurin**. Teaching the adults this year are **Marianne Strong, Frieda Odell, Hannelore Hall** and **Patricia McLaurin**.

Our Speaker's Bureau, chaired by **Barbara Conrad**, continues its work within the community. I was invited to speak at a Tulsa Genealogical Society meeting about the "Meaning of German Names" on February 16. On March 4 we will participate in the Global Festival at Tulsa Community College, Metro Campus, and on March 26 we will be at the Multicultural Festival at Bacone College in Muskogee.

It's not too early to plan for Kid's World, an educational program organized by Tulsa Global Alliance and scheduled for November 4 -7, 2004. We need a chairperson for this event. Please call the Message Center at 744-6998 if you would like to volunteer or know of someone who would be interested.

And don't forget our Garage Sale, March 19 and 20. We need your white elephants and your help to make this event as successful as it was last year. Storage space has been donated by **Don** and **Carol Wright**. Please call the Message Center to make arrangements if you have some large items or need to get rid of your accumulated treasures now. Thank you very much.

—Arnold Bieber

Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde

We wish to thank the entire Marx family who went out of their way to make "A Day in Peking" a memorable occasion for all. W Avenue (telephone # 446-0716) for our annual sing-a-long before the summer break.

The next meeting will be 14 March at 3 PM at the home of **Ed and Rita Lenfestey** at 9209 E. 40th St. (telephone# 627-5521). Our speaker will be **Grete McNac** who will tell us about Wien (Vienna) Austria.

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.

Please make a note that our following meetings will be as follows: Due to Easter we will meet at **3 PM on 4 April at the home of Ortwin and Gertrud Schmidt**, 5133 E. 86th Pl. (telephone 495-3727) who will give us a preview of the Tulsa Opera "Tales of Hoffman". On 16 May we will meet at the home of **Margaret Schmidt** at 3717 S. 65th

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).

—Barbara Conrad

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

The GAST Sanger

March Notes

On Thursday March 25 we'll end our Winter break!
Now it's time for us to be awake!

We'll "March" into Spring
With many songs to sing.

Be sure to "wear the green" on March 17!

Happy St. Patrick's Day
Happy Spring

We extend our condolences to **Carol & Don Wright, Dottie Dittus, Jake Gumm &** their families for their recent losses.

Questions/Information
Teresa Gallagher, 663-9573

Sonntagskaffee

(Sunday Afternoon Coffee is a German ritual)

We hope you will join us for Coffee, cake and conversation on Sunday, March 7, starting at 3 PM

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

A heartfelt THANK YOU to all who sent get well wishes and flowers during these past weeks. Every day is looking brighter for me.

Danke Schon

—Edith Prill



Now Playing at the GAST Theater
An Erwin Jerchau Presentation

Monday March 1,
Starting at 6:30 PM

Goldene Berge # 3



Starting at 7:30 PM
Wir werden das Kind schon schaukeln
1950 Comedy with **Heinz Ruehmann, Hans Moser, and Theo Lingen**



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

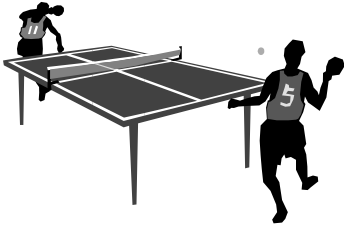
E-mail gastwo@aol.com
—Reba Schaffner



So, you wanna be a Heinzelmannchen?

Just call John Toschik for info at 749-5282

PingPong PingPong PingPong PingPong PingPong PingPong PingPong PingPong PingPong



At a recent board meeting, the board approved my request to purchase a Ping Pong table. To justify this expenditure, I need to take a survey to determine if enough members are interested in having a table available to play the game. Please call or e-mail me **only if you are indeed interested**.

If, however, someone would be in a position to make a tax-deductible donation of such a table—or for the purchase of such a table—we'd be glad to receive this generous offer, despite a low level of interest. Thanks.

—Fred Rother

ffrother@yahoo.com or phone 299-4814

An Invitation

The Tulsa Celle Partnership invites GAST members and their friends to our next meeting. The topic will be: "German Steins and Beer Brewing as a Hobby" Date: April 6, at 7 PM at the Hardesty Regional Library, - Maple Room 8316 East 93rd Street (on the east of Memorial, behind the Jackie Cooper car dealership near the Creek Turnpike)

We encourage all who have a beer stein to bring it to the meeting and tell us about its special meaning to you. Light Refreshments will be served. In addition, the Merrit Bakery operates a "café" at the library serving sandwiches, salads, cakes etc. for anyone who wishes to order something more substantial.

—Barbara Taron

Stammtisch

Let's do it again, people!
March 5, 6:30 at our private pub!
See you there!



—Dean

Children, get ready!

Peter Cottontail Plans to arrive at GAST on April 3!



Springtime is just around the corner and the Echo recently received an e-mail from Peter Cottontail indicating he will once again pay a visit to GAST children on Saturday, April 3 from 11:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. Our glorious rabbit has been busy gathering fabulous eggs and other goodies with which to surprise our children. In the event the children's German classes have a snow day, that day will fall on April 3 and will be a sharing situation with our furry friend. However, at this writing it looks like Peter will have the downstairs GAST area all to himself with plenty of time to prepare for this children's Easter-time event.

The April Echo will also include information regarding the children's Easter party; however, with the date so early in April we wanted to be sure you were aware of the event. We ask that you make reservations via our GAST reservations hot-line (744-6998) by March 31st, informing us of the names of the children and adults who will be participating, so that Peter will have plenty of Easter goodies on hand. The event is free to GAST members; however, we are requesting that accompanying adults bring cookies or tea sandwiches, since the event takes place over the noon hour.

Late reservations may also be made by sending me an e-mail at ursulagabriele@cox.net, or via my home telephone number (743-4353).

Peter insists that 'No child be left behind!'

Hope to see you there – Uschi (P.S. – **Help Wanted: Rabbit impersonator** – male or female – costume provided – must enjoy children – payment in children's smiles. Please contact Uschi at e-mail or phone noted above)

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Please visit these fine Sponsors
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**We welcome
these new members
to the GAST Family**

Hubbard, Daryl G. (OK)
Hubbard, Connie (OK)
6736 E. 65th St.
Tulsa, OK. 74133-4017
Tel. 494-2897

Neuendorf, Alan (IA)
Neuendorf, Tracy (OK)
1704 W. Winston Ct.
Broken Arrow, OK. 74011
Tel. 455-5245

Parrott, Steve (OK)
Parrott, Martha (OK)
3826 W. Galveston PL.
Broken Arrow, OK. 74012
Tel. 459-7805

Smith, Douglas J. (England)
Smith, Donna Moots (CA)
4300 W. Detroit Pl.
Broken Arrow, OK 74012
Tel. 252-2766

Rhine, Randy (OK)
Rhine Joan (CA)
14193 E. 445th Rd.
Claremore, OK 74017-3479
341-2750

Membership information

To bring our current membership policies into agreement with those of the past, the GAST Board of Directors has instituted the following policy change effective June 1st 2004.

“A former member may be re-admitted to active status without payment of initiation fee, **if request for reinstatement is received within three years of lapsed membership.**”

—**Irmgard Toschik**
membership Chair



**So, yah wanna run a
Store?**

The Web Store within the GAST Website could be expanded into a viable revenue stream, if a full-time Store Manager can be found. If you are interested, please e-mail your interest to the GAST Webmaster, webmaster@gastulsa.org.

—**John Toschik**

Youth News

On Monday, March 29 at 6:30 PM we will be showing "**Bruce Almighty**" starring Jim Carey, in German with English subtitles. We will be serving pizza and refreshments for \$2.00 per person. Come and join us for this great comedy!

—**Rusty Seelye**
Youth Chair

Editorial

The threat of change is one of mankind's most dreadful encounters. Our recent membership meeting served as an example of the struggle that ensued as a result of the proposed structural reorganization proposal of GAST.

Good for GAST or not, the proposal to adjust the GAST structure grew out of a membership survey. Consequently, a committee was formed and dutifully developed an outline on how to accomplish the requested suggestion. During its presentation at the membership meeting, the resulting—sometimes hostile—expression of opposing opinions made me want to cancel my membership.

We live in a democracy; and opinions count, even if based on ignorance of the facts. On this occasion, a simple vote, without the preamble of nastiness, would have sufficed to settle the issue—which it eventually did. Yet, “if it ain't broke, don't fix it”, is not an intelligent argument, seems to me!

I applaud **Katherine Curtis'** plea for civility to maintain harmony in the organization. Yet, I came out of the meeting shocked by the fury expressed by some members of the opposition, and I fear that an inherent sickness has developed within the GAST membership. The practice of gossiping, back-biting and power-play (my observations), I fear, heralds an imminent breakdown of any organization.

Let us spend some time and money to survey and repair the divisiveness that seems to have crept into our organization. I sincerely believe that we all want GAST to be a healthy, viable component of our community—and a fun-place to gather and enjoy each other's company.

Whether a founding member, a charter member, an old or a new member, we all pay the same dues and we all have the same rights to an opinion. Yet, as we vote on a proposal, let us be courteous and informed, then vote our conscience—and accept the results with equanimity and support.

Respectfully,

—**Fred Rother, editor**
Das Deutsche Echo



New Revenue Stream for GAST!

The Web Store within the GAST Website could be expanded into a viable source of income for GAST. We need someone with retail experience to manage this process.

If you are interested in learning more about what it would take to volunteer for this project, please contact John Toschik at 749-5282

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