



Twenty-five years of GAST in Tulsa!

Please join us on January 15 at the beautiful GAST Center for our 25th anniversary party .

Attitude adjustment period commences at 6:30,

dinner is served at 7 PM

The Rhythmaires will play for our dancing pleasure.

Special performance by the reigning Miss Tulsa, Rachael Poling—
a very talented Performing Arts Student

Menu

Ludger's Prime Rib

Baked Potato with Butter and Sour
Cream

Grilled Vegetables

Salad

Bread and Butter

Anniversary Cake

Special raffle prizes

Admission \$15 for dinner and dance, \$7.50 for dance only.

Please make your reservations by calling the Message Center at 744-6998 by Wednesday, January 12th. **Since we are offering a Prime Rib Dinner our caterer will not accept orders after January 12, 2005. We ask that you mark your calendars right now and make sure you call in as soon as possible**

Child-care will be available in the Weinkeller for members' children. If you plan to bring children, please give their names and number when you make your reservations.

We look forward to celebrating this auspicious occasion with you **in style—formal wear is welcome.**

GAST Happenings

Handarbeitsgruppe Tuesdays at 10 AM	Jan 29	Kinderdeutsch	March 5	Wine Tasting	Apr 29	Germanfest begins	
Dec 31	New Year's party	Feb 4	Stammtisch	March 6	Sonntagskaffee	May 15	Konversationsrunde
2005		Feb 5	Fasching Party	Mar 13	Konversationsrunde	May 27	Weinkeller
Jan 7	Stammtisch	Feb 6	Sonntagskaffee	Apr 1	Stammtisch	Jun 3	Stammtisch
Jan 9	Konversationsrunde	Feb 13	Konversationsrunde	Apr 1-2	Garage Sale	Jun 5	Sonntagskaffee
Jan 14	Trans Euro Mix Party	Feb 20	Concert	Apr 3	Sonntagskaffee	Jun 24	Weinkeller
Jan 15	25th Anniversary Party	Feb 25	Weinkeller	Apr 9	Soup/Western Party	Jul 1	Stammtisch
Jan 28	Weinkeller	Mar 4	Stammtisch	Apr 10	Konversationsrunde	Jul 22	Weinkeller
				Apr 22	Weinkeller		

...FROM THE GAST PRESIDENT

The year has come to an end. Let's review what has happened through this past year:

We did have our first GermanFest in May. It was a success. It seems that we might be able to grow this festival over the next years. For 2005 (also in early May) we have already planned to extend it by half a day.

The latest Oktoberfest numbers, still our biggest Fundraiser, show that it was kind of an average festival. We had one rainy day, which got us down from the previous year. But those things cannot be changed. The festival was well organized and executed under the leadership of **Jim Walker**. He deserves our appreciation for his effort.

Our new Party committee, currently putting the last touch on the Christmas Party, has now organized three parties. The former Party Chair, **Irmgard Toschik**, handed this job over to a group of people under the chair of **Helga Greiner**. Irmgard has handled the parties for many years and deserves a very big "Thank You" for her effort to keep those parties going.

Echo Deadline is: January 14

Das Deutsche Echo

Das Deutsche Echo is published monthly by
The German-American Society of Tulsa
1429 Terrace Dr., Tulsa, OK 74104

Office hours: Mon. Wed. Fri. 10am - 4 PM
Office Phone 744-6997—Fax 744-6998
Library hours: the third Wednesday, 2 - 4 PM

Claus Greiner, President
Fred Rother, Editor 299-4814
Editor E-mail address: ffrother@yahoo.com
GAST e-mail: gastulsa@att.net
GAST Web page <http://www.gastulsa.org>

Message Center - 744-6998

The German-American Society, Arts Association
and Building Corp. do not necessarily endorse
advertisers and/or ad content.

The new Blaskapelle officially performed for the first time at the GermanFest in May and then again at the German American Day in October.

Also a first time was the performance of all three of our "musical" groups together in the "Musical Memories of Germany" evening. The Blaskapelle, the GAST Choir and the GAST Dancers performed at this evening. We all hope this will become an annual event of our organization.

Christkindlmarkt, chaired by **Darlene Tegeler**, was well attended. The net profit number is not yet available, but it will prove profitable.

The first party we will have in January will be our 25th Anniversary Celebration. 25 years German American Society! A quarter Century has passed since some of our founding members decided to create the German-American Society of Tulsa. Do you think they ever anticipated that 25 years later the membership would have grown to 460 members?

Also a new experience for us this year was the offering of babysitting during the parties. We needed to find out if this would draw more of the younger families to the organization. The first two events looked promising. The parents of the children who participated in the Kinderdeutsch program really enjoyed this new opportunity.

This is one of the projects which could help us to get younger people interested in our organization and this would support a big overall project: to lower our average age of the Society.

The New Year will present more challenges for the Society. Please be ready to help out when needed.

My thanks go to everybody who dedicated their time and talents to the Organization and I wish all of you a very healthy and prosperous New Year.

—Claus Greiner

...from the Arts President

As we look back on 25 years of service to the community with some pride and a lot of appreciation and gratitude to our membership and friends for financial support and many volunteer hours, we should ask ourselves: What can we do to improve? Although the Arts Association was not officially established until 1981, the spirit of community service was there when the Founding Members met to form the German American Society of Tulsa. From a small beginning we have become one of the premier cultural organizations in the state of Oklahoma. Let's not rest on our laurels. We need to get our heads together and plan for the next 25 years. We owe to our children and grandchildren and the Tulsa community.

Pastor Bodo Wiedemann from Tulsa's Sister City Celle, Germany, officiated at our Adventsfeier on Sunday, December 12. After a message of greetings from Lord Mayor Martin Biermann he conducted the inspirational Advent service entirely in German. More than 130 members, guests and friends enjoyed the traditional German Christmas carols sang by the **GAST** Choir and the duo by Karen Sullivan and Donna King, accompanied on the violin by Ian Peake, who also played a prelude on the piano prior to the service. Choir director **Susan Burch** did an outstanding job directing and playing the keyboard for the choir and the congregation.

Thank you, **Barbara Conrad**, for chairing the event and for hosting the pastor and his wife. Other members who helped with the planning, scripture reading, program design and publicity were **Ursula Andress, Fred Rother, Doris Wicks, Doris Gallagher** and **John Toschik**. As in previous years, all donations collected at the Adventsfeier are given to Meals on Wheels.

The ARTS Cultural & Educational Committee has been busy planning several cultural events for 2005. One return visitor will be Carson Wagner, who has agreed to hold another concert at GAST on Sunday, February 20. And in April we are hosting a group of Swiss Yodelers. Watch the ECHO or the GAST website (www.gastulsa.org) for details.

Our hearts go out to the families of the members and close relatives of members who passed away last year, **Jim Dittus, Guenter Roepel**, the father of **Carol Wright**, the brother of **Irmgard Toschik** and others. We miss them dearly.

My best wishes to all of you for a happy and healthy year 2005.

—Arnold Bieber

Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde

As we go to press, we have not had our annual Christmas meeting at the home of **Harry and Elfriede Rogers**. However, based on a long and delightful past history, I feel safe in thanking them in advance for a wonderful afternoon of music and fellowship.

The next meeting will be at 3 PM on Sunday, January 9th at the home of **Stan and Barbara Conrad** who live at 7837 South 70th East Avenue, telephone 492-3273. Our speaker will be Kathrin, a Duisberg Gesellschaft young professional exchange student, who is currently a house-guest of **Gerald and Barbara Taron**. Katrin will share with us the differences that she has observed between the educational and work-place environments of Germany and USA. Please join us for what promises to be an interesting and informative discussion.

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).

—Barbara Conrad

'tis the season...

Heavenly Father, help us remember that the jerk, who cut us off in traffic last night, is a single mother, who worked nine hours that day and was rushing home to cook dinner, help with homework, do the laundry and spend a few precious moments with her children.

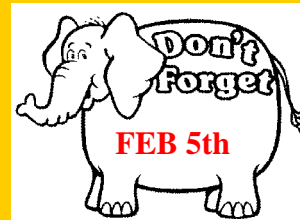
Help us to remember that the pierced, tattooed, disinterested young man who can't make change correctly is a worried 19-year-old college student, balancing his apprehension over final exams with his fear of not getting his student loans for next semester.

Remind us, Lord, that the scary looking bum, begging for money in the same spot every day (who really ought to get a job!) is a slave to addictions that we can only imagine in our worst nightmares.

Help us to remember that the old couple walking annoyingly slow through the store aisles and blocking our shopping progress are savoring this moment, knowing that, based on the biopsy report she got back last week, this will be the last year that they go shopping together.

Heavenly Father, remind us each day that, of all the gifts you give us, the greatest gift is love. It is not enough to share that love with those we hold dear. Open our hearts not just to those who are close to us but to all humanity. Let us be slow in judgment and quick in forgiveness and patience and empathy and love.

Fasching Party



Our Annual Costume Party

Prizes * Entertainment * Music

Hosted by the Elferrat



Details follow

Youth News

We had an excellent response for the High School Essay Contest—there were 90 essays submitted! The winners will be announced at the Anniversary Party in January.

The topic was “Plan a trip to Germany”. All of the students were enthusiastic about their future travels to Germany. Good luck judges!

The next student movie night will be on **Tuesday, January 18th.**

—Rusty Seelye, Chair



Come join us at the Stammtisch to usher in the new year – Friday evening, January 7th, 6:30 PM

Zum Wohl,

– Dann Björklund, Chair

Love is:



When my grandma got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandpa does it for her now all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love.

Rebecca- age 8

Congratulations to all those
 “GAST Elves”
 who made “Christkindlemarkt”
 such a great success!

—June Holmes

Did you know?

When you have your prescription filled at any Walgreen's you can ask that the label instructions be printed in German!

Garage Sale

We now have firm dates for the annual Arts Association garage sale. It will be Friday and Saturday 1-2 April with details to follow later. Please keep this in mind as you rearrange your closets after Christmas to accommodate some gifts that you really don't know what to do with.

Now Playing at the GAST Theater

An Erwin Jerchau Presentation



Monday January 3
starting at 6:30 PM

**Jubiläumsfest der
Volksmusik**

Starting at 7:30 PM

Pfarrer Braun

Das Skelett in den Dünen

Starring: Hans Michael Rehberg,

Otfried Fischer

and Gilbert von Sohlen

Jackie Cooper

Imports of Tulsa Ltd.

Paulstephen Schaffrin
Sales Consultant

PORSCHE INFINITY NISSAN VOLVO

918.249.9393 (main)
918.902.3320 (cell)

www.jackiecooper.com

9393 S. Memorial
Tulsa OK 74133

Thunderbolt Welding

Lawn Furniture, Fences & Gates,
Miscellaneous Repairs, Fabrications
Scrap metal hauled free!

Ask for John

Phone 260 1229

Rheingarten

Restaurant



911 S. Main St.
Grove OK 74344

(918) 786- 8737
WWW.Rheingarten.com

Fine Dining — German Cuisine

SOUTHWOOD

Landscape & Nursery
91st and Lewis
Joe & Ginny Schulte

Rosita Karin Golz-Martin

German Master Tailor

Haute Couture for ladies

Tailoring & Alteration for ladies and men
by Appointment only (918) 496-0313

Please visit our fine Sponsors

who help support the publication of
Das Deutsche Echo



Class Act

Party & Wedding Supply Rental



Bill & Nancy
6520 E. Skelly Dr. Tulsa, OK 74145
(39th St. & Sheridan)

Phone 663-7997



CHRIS HAYES

6535 East Skelly Drive — Tulsa, OK 74145
918.665.7229 – Fax 918.665.7308

PICTURES PLUS

Digital Imaging
& Custom Framing

3620 E. 51st Street
Tulsa OK 74135-3517

Phone: 918/749-4549
FAX: 918/749-4589

Picturesprinting@aol.com

- Catering
- Amish Program Available
- Banquet Facility Available



(Tulsa Regional Medical Center)
744 West 9th Street
Tulsa, OK 74127

Elam Blank
582-1607 • Fax 584-7464
Cell Phone 625-7629

Help wanted!

Would you like to be, not rich, but famous, like our public relations member, **Doris Gallagher**? Well, she's had enough fame and intends to retire on her laurels.



If you wish to enter her realm of intrigue and mystery, Doris could be convinced to pass on her vast knowledge and her treasured "press pass" to the intrepid member who signs up for this job.

Can't you just see yourself, mingling with the press corps, vying for position to bring a scoop to the newspaper:
"GAST PRESENTS CHRISTKINDLMARKT".

Well, hurry and call the office at 744-6997 and ask Becky to put you in touch with Doris, our roving reporter.

We welcome these new members to the GAST Family

Januar 2005

Julie and David O'Brien
1257 E. 30th Pl.
Tulsa, OK 74114
Tel. 747-1856

Membership 2005

Dear Members!
Watch your mailbox for your 2005 membership dues statement. Membership dues are due and payable upon receipt of the statement.

—**Irmgard Toschik**
membership chair

Quilt winner 2004

The quilt made by the Handarbeitsgruppe was won by a lucky lady named Peggy (pictured on right). Five crafty ladies in the Handarbeitsgruppe worked very hard on this quilt throughout the year.



The quilt, made mostly from men's ties, brought a smashing \$793.00 at the Christkindlmarkt raffle. I wonder if **Jim Giles'** ties had something to do with it! **Lou Bonham and Ruth Bly** not only helped with making the quilt, but also sold all the raffle tickets. Lou is pictured on the left.

—**Irmgard Toschik**

We have received donations from
John and Teresa Gallagher
in loving memory of:
Heinz Broweleit, brother of Irmgard Toschik
Heinrich Sievers, father of Carol Wright
James Dittus
and Guenter Roepel

Trans Euro Mix Party

GAST presents another meet-and-greet party on January 14 from 8 PM to midnight.

Members and their guests (18 and over) are invited to enjoy snacks and drinks while we rotate German language videos and CDs.

Feel free to bring along snacks, CDs, games or entertainment you'd like to share.

If you need further info, please contact Greg Bernhagen at seafury@gmail.com or call 292-5177

This page is sponsored by Arnold & Gwen Bieber

The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



Das Deutsche Echo

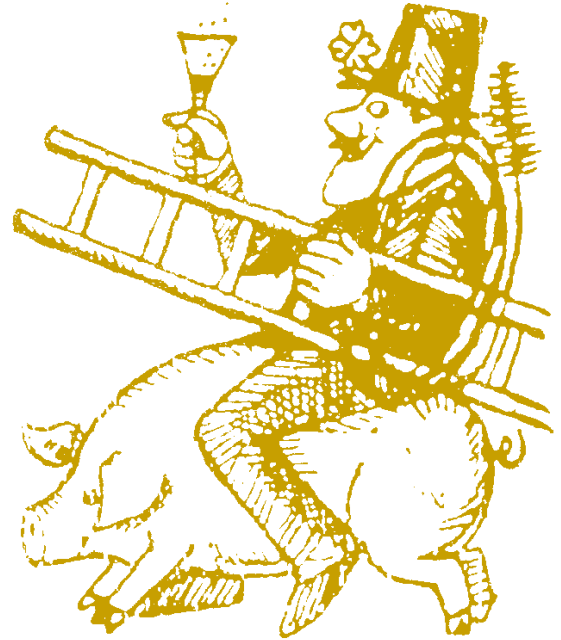
Januar 2005

Jahrgang 26/01

From the Officers and Directors
of the German-American Society:

We wish all our members
and friends
“A Happy, Healthy
and Prosperous New Year.”

The chimney sweep and pig are symbols in Germany of a
prosperous New Year.



Happy New Year

NON-PROFIT
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit 528
Tulsa, Oklahoma

German-American Society Arts Assoc.
Das Deutsche Echo
1429 Terrace Drive
Tulsa, OK 74104