



Weihnachtsfeier

Please join us at our annual Christmas Party on Saturday, December 10th.
Social hour commences at 6:00 PM; dinner is served at 6:30

Menu by Ludger's

Roast Beef with Gravy and Garlic Mashed Potatoes
Green Beans
Salad
Coffee/Tea
Bread and Butter
Homemade Desserts

Gene Hembree's Band "MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC" will play for our dancing pleasure
and the GAST Choir will perform our favorite Christmas carols

Baby-sitting will again be available in the Weinkeller for children of members
up to ten years of age for \$5.00 per child w/Pizza dinner.

Cost of dinner and dance: \$15.00/person, dance only \$7.50.

Please come dressed in your holiday finest

and join your friends for a fun and festive Holiday evening in the Great Hall
of the GAST Center.

Please call in your reservation to the GAST office by Wednesday, December 7th at 744-6998.

– The GAST Party Committee

GAST Happenings

Handarbeitsgruppe Tuesdays at 10 AM	2006	Mar 3	Stammtisch	Jun 23	Weinkeller
Nov 25 Weinkeller	Jan 6	Mar 24	Weinkeller	July 7	Stammtisch
Dec 2-4 Christkindlmarkt	Jan 14	April 2	Piano Festival	Jul 28	Weinkeller
Dec 10 Christmas Party	Jan 27	Apr 7	Stammtisch	Aug 4	Stammtisch
Dec 11 Adventsfeier	Feb 3	May 5	Stammtisch	Aug 25	Weinkeller
Dec 31 Weinkeller	Feb 24	May 26	Weinkeller	Sep 1	Stammtisch
	Feb 25	Jun 2	Stammtisch	Sep 3	Ice Cream Social
	Feb 26	Jun 4	GAST picnic	Sep 22	Weinkeller

...FROM THE GAST PRESIDENT

We again lost a GAST member. On Tuesday, November 8th, 2005 **Margaret Hembree** passed away. **Gene Hembree**, her husband, is the leader of the Band "Music, Music, Music" which played on several occasions for our parties. The couple were long-time members of GAST. You saw them often at parties, even when Gene's Band was not playing. The last time we had both in our building was at the Oktoberfest Party just three weeks ago. Please keep Gene and the family in your prayers.

Oktoberfest 2005 is over. Many thanks to all the volunteers who supported us to make this biggest fundraiser a success.

We also had a big Oktoberfest party. This was the first occasion to utilize the kitchen in our building. As you might remember we added some appliances to the kitchen to make it to a full kitchen. Thanks again to the people who volunteered to prepare the dinner for the evening. It's quite a job to cook for 170+ people, and the Schnitzel were great.

The next big event will be the Christkindlmarkt on

December 2nd to the 4th. This event has grown every year and is now one of our bigger fundraisers.

I would like to talk a little bit about our GAST Blaskapelle. Remember when this group was founded about 2½ years ago? Have you heard them lately? They really sound good. This year they played at the Tulsa Oktoberfest for the first time—and they were very successful. Then they played at the new Riverwalk in Jenks and also at a German Fest in Bixby. They are getting well known around town. Make sure next time they play (at the GAST Christkindlmarkt) you listen to them.



The GAST Board is still working on the review of the By-Laws. GAST and Arts has been reviewed, Building still has to be done. We are planning a special Board Meeting to finish this task.

The By-Laws will have to go to the membership for approval. If possible, we would like to do this in January. Since we also had a resignation from the Endowment Trust Board of Trustees the election of a new member could be combined with the By-Laws meeting. This would be a special membership meeting. We will keep you posted about this issue.

On another note: In one of my previous reports, I mentioned that we had an offer to buy the house next door to our building - the O'Brian house. At that time we couldn't reach an agreement with the owners. We were too far apart to even negotiate a purchase. In the meantime we learned that they have a contract on the house. I just wanted to keep you updated.

We are still doing renovation work in the building. classrooms and rest rooms are currently getting the most attention. Keeping up the property and the building is the major purpose of our fundraisers.

Until next time- Auf Wiedersehen

—Claus Greiner

**Now always on the Wednesday after
the Board meeting**

**Echo Deadline is:
Wednesday, December 21**

Das Deutsche Echo

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Message Center - 744-6998

The German-American Society, Arts Association
and Building Corp. do not necessarily endorse
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...from the Arts President

The Association was represented at the November 13 observance of Volkstrauertag by **Fred and Irene Rother, Barbara Conrad** and myself. This was the fifth annual observance of this occasion. The event commemorates German prisoners of war who died while being held in Oklahoma. This event is produced by the German American Heritage Association of Oklahoma City and is held at Ft. Reno. The ceremony was conducted in the Ft. Reno chapel and at the post cemetery. This was very touching and I urge you to consider attending it next year.

Adult and children's language classes will have concluded when you read this column. Both classes were well attended and benefited from the enthusiasm of teachers and students alike. Many thanks to our teachers **Marianne Strong, Angelique McLaurin, Frieda Odell, Grete McNac, Doris Gallagher, Jutta Tankersley, Hildegard Schaffrin, Carol Wright and Becky Adrian.**

Members and guests are invited to a solo piano recital by Sophia Muñoz on December 9 at 7 PM in the Great Hall.

Adventsfeier will be celebrated at 3 PM on Sunday the 11th. This is a very special event for our membership and always well attended. We hope to see you there.

The coming year will bring new events including a possible performance by Kolorit, the return of the Amadeus Piano Festival's recital series and the "Kindheit im Berliner Westen" exhibit from the Heimatmuseum in Charlottenburg-Wilmersdorf. We have received word from the Houston office of the General Consulate of the Federal Republic of Germany that they will be a sponsor for this exhibition. We are indebted to Consul General **Rainer Muenzel** and his staff for their generosity.

Best holiday wishes to you and your family,

—John Millar

Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde



Instead of a Konversationsrunde, several of us attended the annual, and very moving "Volkstrauertag" Memorial service in Ft. Reno last Sunday. As representatives of GAST, we laid a wreath in the cemetery where 70 German POWs died and were interred during the war. We will describe this important Arts function in future issues of the "ECHO" in the hope that more members will choose to participate next year in this trip to Ft. Reno, located just west of Oklahoma City.

We will hold our next meeting on December 18th at 3 p.m. in the home of **Gerald & Barbara Taron**, 6562 S. 218th East Ave in Broken Arrow. This is our annual Christmas meeting, where we celebrate Christmas with traditional German songs and merriment. Please feel free to bring any Christmas material that you have and wish to share with the group. Moreover, please also bring some Christmas goodies for all to share. We hope you will attend.

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).

Adventsfeier

Sunday, December 11, 3 PM at the GAST Center.

Pastor Adolf Beecken from Celle, our sister city in | Germany, will officiate at this non-denominational Advent Service, which is held entirely in German.

The GAST choir under the direction of **Susan Burch** will sing your favorite German Christmas carols.

All donations received will be given to Meals on Wheels.



According to legend, there was a most wise king, known as Gambrinus, in an area that is now known as Flanders, about the time of Charlemagne, and is said to have invented beer as we know it today.

Therefore, be it known that **King Gambrinus** is therefore to be held in great esteem and to be revered as the patron of brewers.

Therefore, we, **The Loyal Order of Gambrinus**, disciples of this great, wise, and noble King, do hereby vow and pledge to perpetuate this 1400 year old legend of **King Gambrinus** and the tradition that accompanies the legend.

Rod Mitchell being inducted into The Loyal Order of Gambrinus.

ATTENTION ALL GOLFERS

Please be aware that we are currently having a special raffle for **Two Rounds of Golf at Battle Creek Golf Club**. Tickets are \$2.00 each and have already been sold at our Oktoberfest Party. They will be available again at our Christmas Party December 10th, 2005.

The drawing will also be held during our Christmas Party. Winner needs not to be present - you can check with the GAST Office on or after December 12th. (phone: 744-6997)

The proceeds from this Raffle will benefit our GAST ARTS Association

FASCHINGNEWS

COMING FEBRUARY 25th

Costume Contest

Knee Dance Contest

Special Performance by

THE WHISTLERS

Presented by the Elferrat



You Don't want to miss this one!

Now Playing at the GAST Theater

An Erwin Jerchau Presentation

Monday December 5



starting at 6:30 PM

Die lustigen Musikanten

Starting at 7:30 PM

Alpengluehn

Starring: Christine Hoerbinger, Goetz George and Fritz Karl

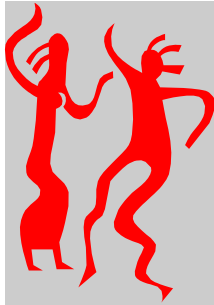
Youth News

Friday, December 2 - Essay's due for High School essay contest.

Monday, December 12 - 6:00 P.M. Student Christmas Party and Movie Night.

Thank you to **Linda Adams**, and all the many volunteers who make our youth program a success!

—Rusty Seelye, Chair



Dear GAST friends:

I would like to let you know that I have accepted a new position of Associate VP for International Programs at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester, NH. We will not move immediately as my new position starts in January 2006. Renate and I have enjoyed our membership in GAST, and we will miss all our friends in Tulsa. We extend our thanks to all the members, and would like to express our wishes for the continued success of the society's great work.

Best regards,

—Jorge and Renate Garcia

Weinkeller needs a Chairperson

If you've enjoyed our Friday night Weinkeller gatherings over the years, and you'd like to have it continue, **you might want to chair the event**. They are always scheduled for the 4th Friday of every month from 5:30 PM to 8 PM. You would need to assemble a team of two or three persons to work with you.

For more details on what this job entails, please call **Helga or Claus Greiner** at 455-3096 or e-mail: gast@tulsacoxmail.com or cgreiner@cox.net or simply call the GAST office at 744-6997.

—Helga Greiner



Stammtisch

Friday evening, Dec. 2nd, 6:30

SPECIAL LOCATION this month

At the home of Braumeister David Marshall,

2424 E. 46th Pl., Tulsa

Hope to see you there.



Zum Wohl,

Dann Björklund, Chair



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

Holiday Party

The Tulsa-Celle Partnership will hold their annual holiday party on Sunday, December 11 at 6 PM at the Timberbrook Club House, 6400 Timberbrook Trail, Broken Arrow. GAST members are cordially invited. For reservations please call **Barbara Taron** (355-2370) no later than December 4

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St. Nikolaus is coming to town!

Saturday, December 10, 2005
Time: 11:30 AM - 1 PM
In the Gast Weinkeller

Please call in your reservation for children and grandchildren, 13 years and under, by Wednesday, December 7,

2005, listing child's name and age, to the GAST Message Center (744-6998).

There will be gifts for every child and pictures with St. Nikolaus. Please bring a plate of your favorite cookies to share.

—Angelique McLaurin

We welcome these new members to the GAST Family

December 2005

Gerhard W. Hill Jr. (NY)
Diane Hill (TX)
6702 E. 113th S.
Bixby, OK 74008
Tel. 299-2477

Billy Wideman (OK)
Karen Wideman (OK)
1328 E. Lincoln Ave.
Sapulpa, OK 74066
Tel. 227-5075

THANKS TO ALL GAST VOLUNTEERS AT OKTOBERFEST 2005!

I cannot begin to say 'thank you' enough to all of you who volunteered to help make GAST's food tents at Oktoberfest a success. Everyone worked very hard and it took all of us as a team to get the job done. All of the final figures are not in yet, but it does look good at this point. We grossed less than 2004, but our expenses were reduced in several areas, so we feel we will actually net more \$\$\$ than last year. Once all the bills are paid and final figure is available, we will let you know that through this publication.

I want to give a special thanks to my coordinating team: **Elam Blank, Erika Hartman, Charles Tegeler, Jim Walker, Lois Voeller and Ushi Mueller**. They all worked hard in different areas to make this effort successful. Elam and Erika put in many hours searching out sources of our food products that allowed us to reduce our costs. Jim was a big help to me in getting through my first year as chair. Charles took care of all of our logistic needs and Ushi along with **Christi Collins** came up with a new lighting scheme for the fronts of both of our tents to really show off where we were located. It looked real good. Lois did an excellent job of organizing the shuttle and the drivers.

I give special thanks to Elam for all his long hours of working with us at the festival site. He did a lot of cooking for us at his restaurant ahead of time, so we could be ready to open each day and keep up with the food demands. He brought these items out to us hot and ready to serve. Thank you Elam! - you made my job so much easier with all of your knowledge and expertise and then sharing it with us.

I also want to thank those who worked so hard on set-up and tear-down. I found out that this is a very difficult task. **Arnold Bieber, Jack Wynn, Ludwig Obermaier, Al Voeller, Jake Gumm, Luke Nation and Ed Westenhiser** put in many long hard hours getting all the things in place, the plumbing running and the electric working. THANKS!

Moreover, I thank each of you as a volunteer who worked a shift at Oktoberfest. Without each of us doing our part, we could not do a function like this. Without our volunteers, we would have to hire more help and that takes away our profit. SO MANY, MANY THANKS TO YOU FOR HELPING MAKE THIS GAST FUNCTION A SUCCESS!!

—Leon Boggs
GAST Oktoberfest Chair

This page is sponsored by Arnold & Gwen Bieber

The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



New Year's Eve Party

We hope to see many of you at our informal New Year's Eve Party on December 31st from 9 PM till ? in the GAST Weinkeller.
Admission: bring your favorite snack to share!

A complimentary glass of Champagne will be served at midnight.

Other drinks are available as always.