



## GAST PICNIC 2006

Sunday, **June 4th** 2:00 - 6:00 P.M.

At the Dizzy G Ranch, home of **Hannelore and Jim Giles**

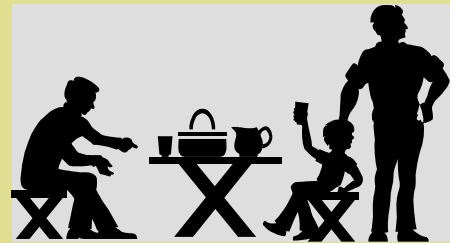
Please mark this date on your calendars since the next ECHO may reach some of you too late!

Bring lawn chairs and a card table if you have one. If you wish to ride with someone or you can provide a ride, please call Becky at the office, 744-6998. **THIS IS A WORKING RANCH - WEAR COMFORTABLE AND WASHABLE CLOTHES AND 'CLOSE GATES' IF YOU GO THROUGH. EXPECT TO GET YOUR SHOES DIRTY.** Small children should be monitored.

We will have a similar menu as last year with Hamburgers and Hot Dogs, cooked on site! Details will be in the June ECHO. GAST member **Tom Bordner** will provide the music.

\$ 5.00 for Germanfest workers and children under 12  
\$ 10.00 for other adults. - No charge for children under 2.

Reservations to 744-6998 by Wednesday, May 31st.



### Directions to the Dizzy G. Ranch:

South on Highway 75 to the Beggs (Highway 16) Exit. Exit **RIGHT** or **WEST** onto **Highway 16**. You will travel **7.5** miles to your next turn. (This puts you through Beggs, across two small creeks, (Checkerboard Creek and Tiger Creek). Immediately past Tiger Creek you will turn **SOUTH** or **LEFT** onto **Dentonville Road**. If you missed your turn you'll see a filling station and feed store to your left. Follow Dentonville Road for **4.8 miles**. Turn **RIGHT** or **WEST** on to the first dirt road past all the curves called **Kennedy Road**. After 1 mile Kennedy Road makes a turn to the **LEFT** or **SOUTH**. The first place on your **LEFT** or **EAST** side of **Nuyaka Road** will be the **DIZZY G RANCH**.

It was a great afternoon last year - let's make it an even better one this year!  
See you there!

—The Party Committee

## GAST Happenings

Handarbeitsgruppe Tuesdays at 10 AM	Jun 4 GAST picnic	Sep 1 Stammtisch
Apr 28 Germanfest begins	Jun 23 Weinkeller	Sep 22 Weinkeller
May 5 Stammtisch	Jul 2 Sonntagskaffee	Oct 8 German-American Day
May 7 Sonntagskaffee	July 7 Stammtisch	Nov 12 Piano recital
May 21 Konversationsrunde	Jul 28 Weinkeller	
May 26 Weinkeller	Aug 4 Stammtisch	
Jun 2 Stammtisch	Aug 25 Weinkeller	

## ...FROM THE GAST PRESIDENT



We came back from our month-long trip to hear some sad news.

**Paul Schaffrin** passed away on April 1, 2006. Paul and his wife Hildegard are longtime members of GAST and have been involved in many activities of our organization. Hildegard is still in charge of our library and also helps with the Kinderdeutsch classes. And on April 11, 2006, **Jim Jamison** passed away, also. Jim and his wife Helga have been attending our parties, especially the Sonntagskaffee and Weinkeller. Jim was 69 years old. Please keep both families in your prayers.

We are getting slowly to the end of this Party Season at GAST. After the Fasching Party in February and the Musical Party in March, presented by the members of our Choir, we are now working on the last preparations for the upcoming Germanfest. The Fasching Party had, as usual, a full house. There was a great program for that evening with a lot of nice costumes. The highlight was again the performance of the members of the Elferrat with the "whistlers"! If you did not see it you missed a hilarious show.

The party of our GAST Choir was also a success. Unfortunately, we missed it because we were out of the country at that time. As I understand, they also had a full house.

The next big event will be the Germanfest at the end of this month. We are still looking for some volunteers to help us with this three-day event. We will have several well-known "Bavarian Type" bands on our stages, and Hannelore and Jim Giles will be the MC's. That is also the time when our new May Queen will be crowned. Germanfest should bring in some money for GAST and your help will be greatly appreciated.

Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup> is the date for our annual Picnic. As last year, the **Giles** have offered to host it at their Ranch near Beggs—a beautiful place for this picnic. Please check this Echo for more details.

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

**Echo Deadline is:  
Wednesday, May 17, by 6 PM**

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**Claus Greiner, President**

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GAST Web page <http://www.gastulsa.org>

**Message Center - 744-6998**

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By the time you get this Echo our membership meeting will be over and the GAST board will have changed somewhat. Also, the revised By-Laws have come before the membership for approval.

After the By-Laws have been approved GAST has to put a committee together to write and review the policies of all three organizations. This is a very important task and ensures that there is continuity in leading the organizations. We still have policies in place which are not written down.

I just hope, too, that the future Boards put the same high priority on the upkeep of our property and the building. As I have often said before: the building is our biggest asset after the membership. Recently, we have spent more money on the maintenance of the property and the building than during the previous years. A building like this which is used as frequently as ours requires quite a lot of maintenance.

Auf Wiedersehen

—Claus Greiner

## ...from the Arts President

The "Kindheit im Berliner Westen" exhibit closed on March 25. This was one of our most ambitious undertakings and a great success. The estimated attendance was in excess of 850 viewers. We are indebted to Consul General Rainer Muenzel and his colleagues in the Houston office of the General Consulate of the Federal Republic of Germany for their generous sponsorship of this event. We are also indebted to Ms. Barbara Slagle of the TCC Southeast Campus Student Activities Center for hosting the exhibit and the opening reception. We thank Ms. Birgit Jochens, curator of the Heimatmuseum Charlottenburg-Wilmersdorf, for making this unique exhibit available.

The annual garage sale was our best ever. Net receipts were slightly over ten percent higher than last year, which was the previous best. Our members donated a large amount of desirable items and the customers responded. So many members were involved in this that I will not attempt to list them all in this column. Many thanks to those who donated goods, furnished storage space, transported the items, set up, operated and tore down the event.

April 2 saw the second recital in the 2006 Piano Power series arranged by the Amadeus Piano Festival. Members and guests enjoyed an excellent program performed by Dr. Jeongwon Ham, Assistant Professor of Piano at the Oklahoma University School of Music and several of her most advanced students. Thanks to **Ursula Andress, Lois Voeller and Gwen Bieber** who handled the receptions for the recital series. Piano Power will return on November 12 for a recital by Swiss pianist Hanny Schmidt Wyss.

The first four months of the year were very busy for Arts Association events. We are now entering a quiet period with no musical performances presently planned for May, June and July. The Cultural and Educational Committee remains at work planning for more events in late summer and the fall. Planning is well along for German-American Day and Adventsfeier.

Best wishes,

— John Millar

## Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde

We would like to thank **Doris and Harold Wicks** for hosting the last meeting. A special *thank you* goes to Jörg and Claudia Hieckmann for presenting us with an excellent program about Dresden. Please note that due to Mother's Day our next and final meeting before Fall will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of May. We will meet on the 21<sup>st</sup> at 3 pm at **Margaret Schmidt's** house located at: 3717 S. 65<sup>th</sup> West Ave; Phone 446-0716. Our annual Spring sing along will be lead by **Jutta Tankersly** – feel free to bring your own songs and readings.

The Konversationsrunde is a program under the auspice of the GAST Arts Association. It serves to promote the German language and other cultural interests of its members. For suggestions, information or to host one of our meetings please contact **Barbara Conrad** (chair) at 492-3273 or **Gertrud Schmidt** (co-chair) at 495-3727.

The membership is currently collecting **pre-owned trophies** for local schools who lack the funds to provide students with new ones. Lastly I would like to mention our very successful garage sale and personally thank everyone who contributed and participated whose names are too many to mention.

— Barbara Conrad

## Gratitude

I dreamt that I went to Heaven and an angel was showing me around. We walked side-by-side inside a large workroom filled with angels. My angel guide stopped in front of the first section and said, "This is the Receiving Section. Here, all petitions to God said in prayer are received."

I looked around in this area, and it was terribly busy with so many angels sorting out petitions written on voluminous paper sheets and scraps from people all over the world. Then we moved on down a long corridor until we reached the second section.

The angel then said to me, "This is the Packaging and Delivery Section. Here, the graces and blessings the people asked for are processed and delivered to the living persons who asked for them." I noticed again how busy it was there. There were many angels working hard at that station, since so many blessings had been requested and were being packaged for delivery to Earth.

Finally at the farthest end of the long corridor we stopped at the door of a very small station. To my great surprise, only one angel was seated there, idly doing nothing. "This is the Acknowledgment Section," my angel friend quietly admitted to me. He seemed embarrassed. "How is it that? There's no work going on here?" I asked.

"So sad," the angel sighed. "After people receive the blessings that they asked for, very few send back acknowledgments."

"How does one acknowledge God's blessings?" I asked.

"Simple," the angel answered. "Just say, 'Thank you, Lord'"

"What blessings should they acknowledge?" I asked.

"If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof overhead and a place to sleep .. you are richer than 75% of this world."

"If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish, you are among the top 8% of the world's wealthy."

"And if you get this on your own computer, you are part of the 1% in the world who has that opportunity."

Also:

"If you woke up this morning with more health than illness .....you are more blessed than the many who will not even survive this day."

"If you have never experienced the fear in battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture, or the pangs of starvation ... you are ahead of 700 million people in the world"

"If you can attend a church meeting without the fear of harassment, arrest, torture or death .. you are envied by, and more blessed than, three billion people in the world."

"If your parents are still alive and still married .. you are very rare."

"If you can hold your head up and smile, you are not the norm, you are unique to all those in doubt and despair."

"Ok, what now? How can I start?" I asked.

If you can read this message, you just received a double blessing in that someone was thinking of you as very special and you are more blessed than over two billion people in the world who cannot read at all.

Have a good day, count your blessings, and if you want, pass this along to remind everyone else how blessed we all are.

ATTN: Acknowledgement Department - Thank You Lord!

NOTE: This message is available as a powerpoint presentation. If you wish a copy, send me an e-mail at [ffrother@yahoo.com](mailto:ffrother@yahoo.com).



Now Playing  
at the GAST Theater

An Erwin Jerchau Presentation

Monday May 1

starting at 6:30 PM

**Heimatmelodien**

Starting at 7:30 PM

**Vertrauen ist alles**

Starring: Benno Kuerten, mit  
Alexandra Maria Lara,  
Michou Pascale Anderson  
and Saskia Vester

## The GAST Sanger Report...

The GAST Saenger's first Spring Concert and Dinner was very well attended. We raised a part of the funds needed to allow us to participate in the the Saengerfest of the North American Saengerbund to be held in Evanston Indiana in 2007.

Our deep appreciation and many thanks to all who attended and the dear hearts who could not attend but made donations. To the kitchen crew lead by Erika Hartman, without their delicious Schnitzels we would have been singing to a hungry audience, also all the other nice folks who volunteered and stepped in to assist us where ever needed.. Thank you, Thank you one and all.

The comments we received on both the dinner and our musical selection were positive and nice, giving us the incentive to work on more challenging music in the future.

For now we are rehearsing music for the Spring Season and our own German Fest and the upcoming trip to Cole Camp in June.

As always, practice at 7:00 pm in the Weinkeller and an open invitation to join us at ay time. Don't read music? Never fear, we learn by rote.

—Irmgard Runyon

In loving memory of

**Paul Schaffrin**

a long-time member of GAST

We received gifts from: GAST,  
Mr. & Mrs. Karl Heinz Darnieder,  
George Starch III,  
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Runyon,  
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Lenfestey  
and Doris Gallagher.

## The Youth Group Report

We have had another excellent school year with students from all over the Tulsa area attending our events who were enrolled in a German language class. We had 366 student members this year who have an initial understanding and appreciation of the GAST organization. We appreciate the support of the membership and our committee members:

Linda Adams, Kyle Page, **John and Irmgard Toschik**. Kyle will be graduating in May with a degree in German from the University of Tulsa. Congratulations Kyle!

The Bixby High School German Club will be having their second annual "Deutsche Fest" at the Washington Irving Park in Bixby on September 22nd and 23rd.

—Rusty Seelye, Chair

## Kudos Kudos Kudos!

A big THANK YOU to Erica Hartman and her kitchen staff for an outstanding food-service job, which contributed greatly to a successful Spring Concert.

For the GAST Sanger...  
—Siggi Grimm.

## Stammtischrunde

Join us on Friday evening,  
May 5, 6:30 PM



Zum Wohl,  
—Dann Björklund,  
Chair



### Margaret's

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Saturday, June 10,  
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## Sonntagskaffee



We hope  
to see you there  
on **Sunday, May 7,**  
starting at 3 o'clock.

Silke & Wolfgang

## We welcome these new members to the GAST Family

Mai 2006

Franklin Fleischmann  
(USA)  
Dru Meadows (USA)  
1504 S. Norfolk Ave.  
Tulsa, OK 74120  
Tel. 605-5559

Jens Quilitzsch  
(Freiburg, Germany)  
Susan Quilitzsch (OK)  
1215 S. Knoxville  
Tulsa, OK 74112  
Tel. 770-4453

**F.Y.I.** The Neue Galerie, Museum for German and Austrian Art in New York City is offering a large-scale exhibition of the work of Paul Klee - who was by the 1910's, one of the leading artists within the European modernist movement. The exhibit will be premiered at the Neue Galerie March 9th through May 22, 2006 before traveling to Washington D.C. and Houston this Summer. For further details the web site is [www.neuegalerie.org](http://www.neuegalerie.org)

Submitted by Rusty Selye

In loving memory of

**PAUL SCHAFFRIN**

On his final Voyage.

George W. Starch, III

## STROKE IDENTIFICATION

During a BBQ, a friend stumbled and took a little fall - she assured everyone that she was fine (they offered to call paramedics) and just tripped over a brick because of her new shoes. They got her cleaned up and got her a new plate of food - while she appeared a bit shaken up, she went about enjoying herself the rest of the afternoon.

Her husband called later, saying that his wife had been taken to the hospital and passed away. She had suffered a stroke at the BBQ. Had they known how to identify the signs of a stroke, perhaps she would be with us today. Some stroke victims don't die, they end up in a helpless, hopeless condition instead. It only takes a minute to read this. A neurologist says that if he can get to a stroke victim within three hours he can totally reverse the effects of a stroke . . . totally. He said the trick was having a stroke recognized, diagnosed and then getting the patient medically cared for within three hours, which is tough.

### RECOGNIZING A STROKE:

Thank God for the sense to remember these steps. Read and Learn! Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke. Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

- ◆ Ask the individual to SMILE.
- ◆ Ask the person to TALK, to SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE. (Coherently) (i.e. It is sunny out today.
- ◆ Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH ARMS. NOTE: Another 'sign' of a stroke is this:
- ◆ Ask the person to 'stick' out the tongue. If the tongue is 'crooked', if it goes to one side or the other, that is also an indication of a stroke.

If he or she has trouble with any one of these tasks, call 911 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher. A cardiologist says if everyone, who gets this information forwards it to ten people, you can bet, at least one life will be saved.

This page is sponsored by Arnold & Gwen Bieber

The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



The Circle Cinema Theatre presents:

## Sophie Scholl - Die letzten Tage

A German nominee for Best Foreign Film at the Academy Awards in 2005



This film details the last six days of the primary members of a resistance group called the White Rose. The White Rose was an organization of students, mainly around Munich, during the years 1942-1943. There were also fringe elements that eluded capture by the authorities, some member of which survived until the end of the war. Many of those survivors contributed to this story.

Two other films about the group were produced. The main one was a film called "The White Rose". It recounts the complete story of the group. The other was Fünf Letzte Tage (The five last days), which deals with Sophie's last five days. Both of these movies were released in 1982 and the same actress (Lena Stolze) plays Sophie Scholl.

This current film is an amalgamation of these two films with some expansion to the story and therefore contains more details than the original two films.

This German-language movie will be shown May 19<sup>th</sup> through the June 1.  
Circle Cinema is located at 10 S. Lewis. Call the theater at 585-3456 for further details.

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