



Das Deutsche Echo

Juli 2006

Jahrgang 27/7



Munich (German: *München*,) is the capital of the German Federal State of Bavaria. It is Germany's third largest city and one of Europe's most prosperous. The city has a population of about 1.3 million (as of 2006) and the Munich metropolitan area is home to around 2.7 million people. The city is located on the River Isar north of the Bavarian Alps.

The city's motto was "*Die Weltstadt mit Herz*" (The world city with a heart) for a long time and has been recently replaced by "*München mag dich*" (Munich likes you). The figure on Munich's



coat-of-arms is a monk referred to as the Münchner Kindl, the *child of Munich*. Black and gold - the colors of the Holy Roman Empire - have been the city's official colors since the time of Louis IV, Holy Roman Emperor.

The Hofbräuhaus am Platzl is arguably the most well-known beer hall, located in the city center. It also operates the second largest tent at the Oktoberfest, perhaps Munich's most famous attraction. A 2-week-long fair, it offers a wide selection of rollercoasters and several large beer tents ("Bierzelte"). The Oktoberfest was first held on October 12, 1810 in honor of the marriage of crown prince Ludwig to Princess Therese von Sachsen-Hildburghausen. The festivities were closed with a horse race and in the following years the horse races were continued and later developed into what is now known as the Oktoberfest. Despite its name, most of Oktoberfest occurs in September. It always finishes on the first Sunday in October unless the German national holiday on 3 October ("Tag der deutschen Einheit" - Day of German Unity) is a Monday or Tuesday - then the Oktoberfest still opens for these days.

The city was founded in 1158 by the Welf Henry the Lion, Duke of Saxony and Bavaria, next to a settlement of Benedictine monks, called *Munichen* (Latin *Monacum*, *Monachium*). The monks' presence dated back to the 8th century, although settlement in the Munich area can be traced back to Roman times. The village then grew around St. Peter's church, next to the bridge that Henry built over the river Isar. To force traders to use his bridge (and charge them for doing so) he destroyed a nearby bridge owned by bishop Otto von Freising (Freising). Subsequently the bishop and Henry quarreled about the city before Emperor Frederick I Barbarossa at an *Imperial Diet* held in Augsburg in 1158. This sanctioned Henry's spoliation, and awarded an annual compensation for the bishop, and also confirmed Munich's trading and currency rights.

GAST Happenings

Handarbeitsgruppe Tuesdays at 10 AM	Sep 1 Stammtisch	Dec 1 Christkindlmarkt begins
Jun 23 Weinkeller	Sep 3 Sonntagskaffee	
Jul 2 Sonntagskaffee	Sep 22 Weinkeller	
July 7 Stammtisch	Oct 1 Sonntagskaffee	
Jul 28 Weinkeller	Oct 8 German-American Day	
Aug 4 Stammtisch	Nov 6 Sonntagskaffee	
Aug 25 Weinkeller	Nov 12 Piano recital	

...FROM THE GAST PRESIDENT

We started the month of June with a great picnic at the OK Corral. Well, the corral was OK, but the picnic was at **Jim and Hannelore Giles'** Dizzy G Ranch. We had 135 adults, 24 children under 12 and 2 or 3 children under age 2 in attendance. A big thanks to Jim, Hannelore and the rest of their family for hosting this event. Also thanks to **Claus Greiner, Ed Westenhiser and Neil Hartman** for hauling items to the ranch and helping set up tents the Saturday before and to **Erica Hartman and George Starch** for arranging for the liquid refreshments.

From visiting in the shade with a cool drink to touring the hen house and a hay ride, there was something for everyone. **Tom Bordner's** music entertained the group and the Giles's grandchildren danced the hula to the delight of the crowd.

On June 10th the Blaskapelle performed at the Tulsa Technology Center for the Camp Fire USA fund raiser "Just Plane Fun". Starting with a few waltzes and polkas to bring the people out of the hanger into the sun, the performance concluded with the National Anthem. For those who arrived very early, they may have heard the German National Anthem. The band had fun performing music and representing GAST who was one of the sponsors this community event. The Blaskapelle chose not to enter the contest to move a 727 airplane at least 12 feet.

The new officers and directors met for an orientation session on June 7. The orientation assisted the new members on the board to understand the structure of the organization and its history as well as explaining board procedures and budgets.

Our first board meeting on the 14th covered such routine items as passing a motion to donate \$1.00 from the dues of each membership to the German American Arts Association as has been the tradition of GAST to support the Arts Association. I believe GAST should consider participating in the Oklahoma Centennial celebration which begins November 9, 2006. I have asked the board for suggestions on how GAST might participate. If anyone has any ideas, please give me a call or let one of the board members know.

The selection of chair persons and members to serve on all committees is in progress. If you are interested or know of someone who may have an interest in participating on of our committees, please let me know. If you are called and asked to serve on a committee, please find a reason to say yes. As a volunteer organization, the programs and activities you enjoy do not just happen. Your fellow members, who do donate their time and effort, make things happen. All members need to contribute their time and talent.

I am looking forward to working with the board, the committees and all members to continue and enhance our efforts to be one of the best and most active ethnic groups in Tulsa.

—Charles Tegeler

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

**Echo Deadline is:
Wednesday, July 12, by 6 PM**

Das Deutsche Echo

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...from the Arts President

I'm pleased to announce that **Lois Voeller** has volunteered to fill the vacant position of 2nd Vice President of the Arts Association. She is a very active member of the Society, former member of the Board, has served on the Arts Cultural and Educational Committee for several years and also chairs the Leasing Committee for the Building Corporation. The Board confirmed her appointment at the June 14 meeting. Welcome Lois.

We also welcome **Susan Bey** who has joined the Arts Cultural and Educational Committee. If you are interested in the Arts or have an idea for an event then you also might consider joining the committee. We meet every month on the second Wednesday at 5 PM. Meetings last one hour. Members of the committee plan and coordinate our performances and help produce the events. Contact **Arnold Bieber** or me if you would like to participate.

Our summer schedule is a quiet one. Konversationsrunde, Movie Night and regular Library hours will resume in September. You can access the Library during regular office hours (Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 AM to 3 PM) or by calling me directly. I will do my best to accommodate your schedule. Please remember to fill out a card when you check out a book and leave it in the box provided.

Our Speaker's Bureau remains busy throughout the year. **Carol Wright and Arnold Bieber** recently went to Mannford Elementary School for a show and tell session about Germany. Carol taught the kids to dance German folk dances. The Speaker's Bureau is available to talk about a variety of subjects concerning Germany to schools and civic clubs. We welcome people to get involved with our programs and are always looking for more speakers for this program.

We previously announced the appearance of the American Theater Society on August 18th. That has now been rescheduled to September 15th. The exact program is not set but it will likely be a musical variety show. November 12th brings a performance by Swiss pianist Hanny Schmidt Wyss. This event is presented in cooperation with the Swiss Club and Amadeus Piano Festival. Planning is well under way for German-American Day and the Adventsfeier. Come enjoy these programs and please remember to bring a friend.

Best wishes,

—John Millar

Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde

This popular program will reconvene in September.
Watch the ECHO for time and date.

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.

German-American Society of Tulsa (GAST)

President	Charles Tegeler	747-0610
1st VP	Merry Porter	298-2766
2nd VP	Dave Schoneweis	298-6952
*Secretary	Leon Boggs	258-5201
*Treasurer	Steve Parrott	459-7805

***German-American Society Arts Association**

President	John Millar	481-0614
1st VP	Barbara Conrad	492-3273
2nd VP	Lois Voeller	355-2318

***German-American Society Building Corporation**

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Director	Steve Parrott	459-7805
Director	Merry Porter	298-2766
Director	Dave Schoneweis	298-6952
Director	Bernie Scieszinski	834-3566
Director	Charles Tegeler	747-0610
Director	Aaron Veale	585-8554
Director	Ed Westenhiser	664-4959
Director	Harold Wicks	743-0349

Information and Message Center
744-6998

from the Building Corporation President...

GAST is a voluntary organization. It is up to the membership to keep it working. Here is your opportunity to serve. Committee members are needed for the following Building Corporation committees. Please call me to sign up.

- **Operating** – oversees all improvements and repairs of the real estate.
- **Interior** – makes recommendations for improvements to interior of the building.
- **Grounds** – needs hands to design, plant, and care for our landscape. (We have an excellent lawn care service.)
- **Leasing** – responsible for leasing of GAST Center for non-member functions, sets up of tables and chairs for all events.

For more information or to volunteer for one of the committees, contact me at 625-7629

—Elam Blank



**Now Playing
at the GAST Theater**

An Erwin Jerchau Presentation

NOTE!

**We are starting
Summer Break.
Next Movie Show
September 4/06**





Sonntagskaffee

Dear Sonntagskaffee Friends,

Please mark your calendar and join us for our next Sonntagskaffee on July 2 at 3:00 pm with some patriotic American and German music.

Please call me or send an email (1-918-434-5995, silkehbecker@gmail.com) in case you have any questions or want to offer bringing a cake.

See you soon,

—Silke Becker.



Cologne (German: Köln) is Germany's fourth-largest city after Berlin, Hamburg and Munich and is the largest city both in the German Federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia and within the Rhine-Ruhr Metropolitan Area, one of the major European metropolitan areas with more than 12 million inhabitants. It is one of the oldest cities in Germany, having been founded by the Romans in A.D. 50.

Cologne lies at the River Rhine and the city's world famous Cologne Cathedral (Kölner Dom) is seat to a Roman Catholic Archdiocese, just as important to the city as its specially brewed Kölsch beer. Cologne University is one of Europe's oldest universities and internationally renowned for its economics department.

Cologne is the economic and cultural capital of the Rhineland and has a vibrant and thriving art scene. Cologne counts over 30 museums and hundreds of galleries. Exhibitions range from local Ancient Roman archaeological findings to contemporary graphics and sculpture. The city's Trade Fair Grounds are host to a number of trade shows such as the Art Cologne Fair, the International Furniture Fair (IMM) and the Photo-kina. Cologne is also well known for its celebration of Cologne Carnival and the Cologne Gay Pride events.

In 2005 Cologne hosted the 20th Catholic World Youth Day with Pope Benedict XVI and one of the largest ever meetings of over a million participants.



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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 357-9156

E-mail aobieber@aol.com
Gwenn Bieber

Sänger News

Cole Camp's Sanger Fest was as always a wonderful experience and a lot of fun for the GAST Sanger. While there, we celebrated an anniversary and three birthdays. Our efforts to perfect the "Blaue Donau" and the "Weisse Ross'l" medley were very well-received in Cole Camp, we were complimented by everyone for taking on such a difficult piece. The Cole Camp choir had attempted the Blaue Donau but given it up because it is so difficult.

Once more we appreciate the support given us by you the membership and our Board. We hope to be asked to perform for our own membership so we may share our love of singing with you.

We are going to take a short sabbatical after our annual picnic at **Siggi and Ingrid Grimm's** house. Choir practice will resume in late August to take on the challenge of the music sent to us for our trip to Evanston Ind. in April of 2007. We also have to prepare for Oktoberfest and Christmas. If you are interested in singing with us, call **Siggi Grimm**, 274-0674, or me at 367-6454 for the exact date. As ever, we practice on Thursday evening from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the Weinkeller of the GAST Center.

Wishing you a relaxing, fun summer,
for the GAST Choir

—Irmgard Runyon



Picture by Arnold

Carol Wright teaching kids
the basics of German folk dances

Stammtischrunde

Join us on Friday evening,
July 7, 6:30 PM



Zum Wohl,
—Dann Björklund,
Chair

In loving memory of Paul Schaffrin

We received gifts from:

**Harold & Doris Wicks,
Helga Roepel
Al & Lois Voeller
Arnold & Gwen Bieber.**

This page is sponsored by Arnold & Gwen Bieber

The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



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Jahrgang 27/7



Picture by Arnold

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