



PARTY FASCHING
 German-American Society of Tulsa
 17th of February 2007
 Doors Open 6:00 PM
 LIGHT MEAL 6:30 PM
 REFRESHMENTS

Surprises
 Costumes & Prizes
 \$12.50 per Person
GAST Center
 Entertainment by the
 Polka Kings
 RSVP at 744-6997
 by 14 February 2007
 Prince Paul I and Princessin Ghoby I



Please join us for

An Afternoon with The Barthelmes Trio

Sunday, February 25, 3 PM
in the Great Hall of the GAST Center

Music by Enrique Granados (1867 - 1916)
Franz Joseph Haydn (1732 - 1809)
Antonín Dvorák (1841-1904)

GAST Happenings

Handarbeitsgruppe Tue. at 10 AM	Mar 30	Garage Sale Starts
Jan 27 Kinderdeutsch	Apr 6	Stammtisch
Feb 2 Stammtisch	Apr 8	Konversationsrunde
Feb 11 Konversationsrunde	May 4	Germanfest begins
Feb 13 German Classes begin	May 4	Stammtisch
Feb 17 Fasching Party	May 20	Konversationsrunde
Feb 25 Barthelmes Trio	Jun 1	Stammtisch
Mar 2 Stammtisch	Jul 6	Stammtisch
Mar 11 Konversationsrunde	Aug 3	Stammtisch
	Sep 7	Stammtisch

Garage sale in March.

The annual Garage sale will be coming up at the end of March. Please help us with this most important fundraiser. We need help at the sale, we need more items and we do have a storage facility available.

Please call Arnold Bieber if you are available to help and if you have items to be stored or to be picked up.
Thanks,

—Barbara Conrad

...FROM THE GAST PRESIDENT



When I was President of the Building Corporation I was concerned about the bad weather because of the possible damage to our building. Now I am concerned because it is interfering with our programs. The first day of Christkindl Markt was cancelled because of ice and snow and now our Anniversary Party scheduled for January 13 was postponed because of the ice storm. Fortunately, the band was available on January 20 and the caterer worked with us on the new date. Hopefully we will have the Anniversary Party on the 20th. By the time you get this, we will know.

In December we lost **Jim Giles**, a long time member and strong supporter of GAST and it's activities. Jim will be greatly missed. Our sympathy goes to **Hannelore, Angela, Andrea** and the rest of his family.

We had our youth Essay Contest conducted by our Youth Chairperson, **Katie Sloan**. The topic was "Germany hosted the 2005 World Cup. Discuss the impact of the World Cup on German Nationalism and how the Germans see themselves in the aftermath of this summer's successful hosting of the World Cup." We have three winners, but first I would like to thank **Doris Wicks, Barbara Conrad** and **Jutta Tankersley** for reading all the entries and judging the winners. First place winner is Kaelyn Betz from Bixby High School. Second place winner is Chelsea Rayon, also from Bixby High School. Their teacher is **Marianne Segner**. The third place winner is Ponteha Nikjou from Union High School and her teacher is Chris Guckian. Each winner will receive a certificate of achievement and a cash award which will be presented at the Anniversary Party if does not get cancelled.

Now always on the Wednesday after
the Board meeting

Echo Deadline is:
Wednesday, February 21 by 6 PM

Das Deutsche Echo

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Charles Tegeler, President
Fred Rother, Editor 299-4814
Editor E-mail address: ffrother@yahoo.com
GAST e-mail: gastulsa@att.net
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At our January Board of Directors' meeting, the Directors received a proposed budget for the current year. After some discussion, it was decided to table the matter until the February meeting. This was not because of ice but to give each director a chance to study the budget in depth. Also each director received documents from **Mr. George W. Starch III** concerning the operation of the bar and suggested changes that have been presented by the Bar Committee. In his letter, Mr. Starch relinquished his role as bar operator. The Board and I thank George for his contribution to GAST by constructing the bar, mostly if not totally, at his expense, donating it to our organization and operating the bar for the last twelve plus years. He has put in countless hours stocking and operating the bar and maintaining the equipment as well as doing other GAST activities requiring bar related participation. We hope he can now enjoy the fruits of his labor and the parties without having to work.

Mark your calendar for our Fasching Party on February 17, 2007. This costume party is one of our best parties of the year. Come and have a lot of fun.

—Charles Tegeler

...from the Arts President

Kinderdeutsch will begin on January 27. We have had a good turnout for recent sessions and expect this to continue. Angelique McLaurin and Claudia Hieckmann will be our language teachers. Hildegard Schaffrin will coach singing. Carol Wright will teach dancing.

Let me mention that our teachers take great pleasure and satisfaction working with the children and grandchildren of GAST in teaching them German language, music and folk dances. They wish to share this joy with others and see the program continue. Carol Wright requests a helper for Kinderdeutsch Dancing this year who is interested in continuing the program. She will be happy to provide assistance necessary to learn dances.

The spring session of Adult language classes commences on February 13. Details are announced elsewhere in this issue of the Echo. The tuition for Adult language classes has remained constant for some time and will not change for this session. During the last year, we have provided security for evening classes and can no longer absorb this cost on a continuing basis. Class tuition will increase by \$10 per student at the fall session. This will barely cover the security cost.

The Barthelmes Trio performs on Sunday, February 25 at 3 PM. The program will feature works by Granados, Haydn and Dvorák. The performance will last about 90 minutes with one intermission. A reception follows.

The American Theater Organ Society returns on September 21. Other musical events are being planned. No details are available at the moment.

We continue to request donated goods for the annual Garage

Sale. Storage space is available thanks to Don and Carol Wright. Small items may be left at the office. Please call me to arrange for large items.

I wish to thank everyone who responded to our December fund raising letter. Each donor will receive a written acknowledgment of their gift. Special thanks go to Ms. Theresa Collins, President of the Albert and Hete Barthelmes Foundation, for continued generosity in support of our programs.

The Speaker's Bureau remains busy with regular requests for appearances at different venues. Please contact Arnold Bieber to arrange for a speaker or to volunteer in the program. Share your experiences with an interested audience.

The cold weather means more time indoors for many of us. Think of this as an opportunity to read those books you meant to get to over the summer. Our Library has received many new books over the past few months. Enjoy them. I have four of the newest ones checked out myself. There are many more available on a broad range of topics in both German and English.

All Arts Association events are free and open to the public. Come enjoy them and remember to bring a friend.

Best wishes,

—John Millar

Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde

As you are well aware, the weather in January has changed just about everything including Konversationsrunde. The meeting scheduled for the 14th of January has been rescheduled for 3 PM on 11th of February. **Jutta and Max Tankersley** have graciously agreed to open their home for the February Konversationsrunde. **Barbara Taron** will be the speaker and **Gertrud Schmidt** will chair in **Barbara Conrad's** absence. A big **Thank You** to all the host families in 2006.

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
7837 S. 70th E. Ave
Tulsa, Ok 74133*

... from the Building Corporation President

Our building is not only our biggest asset but our biggest fund raiser for the Club. In 2006, we leased the main hall for 37 paid events. Our gross receipts from these events totaled approximately \$45,000. We furnish security with active, off-duty Tulsa Police Department officers. Members of our leasing committee host each leased event to provide services to our guests and building.

We are looking for new **volunteers** to join the leasing committee. You will have some training and partner experience before you host leased events in the building. *If you are interested or have questions, please call me or **Becky in the office** on MWF from 9:00 to 3:00 at 744-6997.*

Another source of revenue to our club comes from renting our parking lot. The US Post Office pays a monthly fee so employees and customers may use our spaces.

Food for **Germanfest and Christkindlmarkt** has also proved to be profitable for our Club. Kitchen volunteers are encouraged to get their food handlers card. It requires a class and test which take approximately one hour. You may sign up by calling the **Health Department at 582-9355**.

Additional suggestions from our membership would be appreciated. Please call **me at 625-7629** or send your ideas or suggestions to **amishkitchen@mail.com**.

—Elam Blank

Folk Dancers Dust Off Their Dancing Shoes

The ice should clear soon and the GAST Folk Dancers are ready to resume regular practice sessions. Our first practice will be Friday, February 2, 2007 from 7 pm till 9 pm

In our effort to attract new members into the Dance Group we have considered changing our practice night to Tuesdays. We would like to hear from you if this change would make it possible for you to join us. We welcome children 10 and over if their parent or grandparent also participate.

We have our first program scheduled for March 8 at TCC's International Fest as we strive to fulfill our mission to *"Perform, teach and preserve Germanic Folkdances and traditions through cultural exchanges, education, social activities and exhibitions for the enrichment and entertainment of the community and our members."*

We are looking forward to a season of learning some new dances, renewing some old dances and enjoying ourselves in doing so. Come join us for fellowship, fun and a little exercise thrown in. Practice sessions will continue on successive Friday nights through the month of May unless increased interest dictates that we change to Tuesdays. In that case, watch your ECHO for notice.

Any questions? Please contact me at 299-2839 or d.c.w@cox.net

—Carol Wright



Now Playing at the GAST Theater

An Erwin Jerchau Presentation

Monday, February 5

Starting at 6:30 PM

Lieder, Land und Leute



Starting at 7:30 PM

Der Weg zu dir heisst Liebe
Starring: Lisa Martinek, Kostja Ullman, Siegfried Terpoorten and Saskia Vester

Our memorial fund has received the following gifts

In loving memory of **Jim Giles:**
 from
 The German-American Society of Tulsa
 Sunny Transue
 Mr. & Mrs. John Gallagher
 Mr. & Mrs. Harry Runyon
 Pat and Estella Franken made a donation
 to Kinderdeutsch in memory of **Jim Giles**

Mr. & Mrs. Gass made a donation
 in loving memory of **Paul Schaffrin.**

We welcome these new members to the GAST Family

February 2007

Trey Abraham
 6520 E. Skelly Dr.
 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74145
 918-744-5486

Susan Neubauer
 3503 E. Easton St.
 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74115
 918-838-2950

John and Yvonne Butcher
 5632 E. 89th St.
 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74137
 918-488-8425

John and Connie Seibold
 6024 S. Pittsburg Ave.
 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74135
 918-743-7659

James
 and Margie E. Kemmerer
 10230 S. 4150 Rd.
 Rogers County, Ok 74017
 918-343-8276

KINDERDEUTSCH

Starts Saturday, January 27th, 10 AM

Please enroll your children and grandchildren, ages 4 - 12, in this wonderful program. They will learn German folk dances, songs, words and phrases in an hour and a half of fun and games, followed by refreshments.

The cost for the 8-week program is still only \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members. A \$5 discount will be given to additional children in a family.



This is to inform GAST members, participating in the "Krug Storage" program that annual payment of \$ 30.00, is now due. For record-keeping purposes, anniversary dates are effective on January first of every year. Members may sign up at any time, without pro-rating of dues. Payment may be made either by cash or check made out to GAST and presented to bar personnel.

—Ed Westenhiser Bar Chairperson

SPRING 2007 LANGUAGE CLASSES

Keep those old gray cells active, join our language program. Classes start February 13th and run for 10 weeks, meeting every Tuesday from 7 to 9 p.m. Enrollment begins at 6:30 p.m. on February 13. Tuition is \$55 for members and \$65 for non-members. To secure your place in class you can pre-register by sending a note indicating your level (I, II, III or IV) accompanied by a check. Looking forward to seeing you in class. For the teachers,

—Marianne Strong

Special Movie Showing

The Tulsa-Celle Partnership invites the members of the German-American Society to a movie evening on Wednesday, February 7, starting at 6:30 PM in the GAST Center Weinkeller.

“Good Bye Lenin” (in German with English subtitles), 121 minutes. Rated R for language and brief nudity. To protect his fragile mother from a fatal shock after a long coma a young man must keep her from learning that her beloved nation of East Germany as she knew it has disappeared. This results in a number of comical situations and demonstrates the reactions of many East Germans to the reunification (Ostalgia).



We cordially invite you to join the

Tulsa - Celle

Sister City Partnership

and participate in cultural, economic, educational, professional and sport exchanges, plus frequent local events.

For additional information, please contact Tulsa Global Alliance at (918) 591-4750, or log on to www.tulsaglobalalliance.org

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at 2519 S. Sheridan.

Lydia Traeger and her mother, Kathryn Curtis, have long been active GAST members. Lydia's scroll-saw art work was popular at GAST's Christkindlmarkt for years. Lydia is dedicating her new shop to all persons, who are serving, or have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. Active/reserve military personnel and all U.S. Vets get discounts at Lydia's shop.



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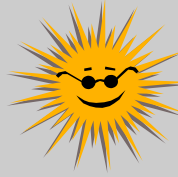
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2006 Quilt winner

Mrs. Heinz Robota was this years proud winner of the beautiful Quilt raffled off at our Christkindlmarkt 2006. The Quilt was made by several ladies of the Handarbeitsgruppe and results in a cash donation of several hundred dollars to the Society each year. We are planning to make another quilt this year. Any cotton material or even cotton scraps you could donate to the cause, would be greatly appreciated.



—Irmgard Toschik



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. Sympathy cards were sent to the **Jim Giles and Les Hoelscher families** recently.

Get well wishes went to **George and Reba Schaffner**.

E-mail book_worm34@hotmail.com
Phone 357-9156
—Gwen Bieber

Oktoberfest 2006 Summary

I want to first thank all of you who volunteered to help us at Oktoberfest. With your help it was successful. Without the help of each volunteer, we could not have done the amount of work we did. Thanks to all. I also want to thank the steering committee for a job well done. Those on the committee that worked very closely with me are **Erica Hartman, Elam Blank, Charles Tegeler, Jim Walker, Ed Westenhiser, Dave Schonewies and Lois Voeller**.

Here is a general summary of the festival to give you an idea of what it costs us to do this festival.

Income from Oktoberfest = \$54,593.57. Admission to the Oktoberfest party = \$1265.00 – for total income of \$55,585.57.

Expenses [just some of the major costs]

Sausages \$7,087.10; Buns \$2,212.45; Kraut \$1,120.00; other food stuff [potato pancake mix, applesauce, BBQ, etc \$5,971.93

Refrigerated Truck - \$791.50, Propane - \$139.29, Hired labor [movers, dish washers] - \$1513.04

Tent rental: \$2640.00, GAST Sponsorship: \$3500.00, Use of GAST building for poster party: \$1000.00 [in kind donation to Oktoberfest] Volunteer pins: \$698.79, Storage Unit rental: \$385.00, Volunteer Shuttle Van: \$756.35; GAST Oktoberfest party expense: \$1672.89 [includes \$895.00 for the band.]

These bigger expenses along with numerous other costs leave us with approx. \$25,249.43 as ‘take home’ money from Oktoberfest. The committee felt it would be beneficial for everyone to see what it costs us to run our 2 food tents at Oktoberfest. The addition of hot dogs at the EssZelt was a big success. We sold many more than we anticipated. This caused several trips to Sam’s to buy more!

The Committee will look at our operation and make suggestions for next year in an effort to make it easier and more profitable. As I turn the chairmanship over to someone else, I again thank all members who worked so hard with me for the last 2 years.

—Leon Boggs



STAMMTISCHRUNDE

Friday, February 2, 2007

Come and join us, starting at 6:30 PM

—Dann Bjorklund, Chair

This page is sponsored by Arnold & Gwen Bieber

The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



In Memoriam

Jim Giles

1939 — 2006

**Family Man
Rancher
Weatherman
Friend**

Farewell Jim!

News from Tulsa's Sister City in Germany

Reinhard Förster retired last October after a long career with the City of Celle. He will continue as President of the Deutsch-Amerikanische Gesellschaft. His last official duty as our Sister City contact was to arrange the visit of Pastor Ingo Schroeder for the GAST Adventsfeier on December 10. His duties will be taken over by Susanne McDowell whom many of you met at the Sister City Summit in October 2005. Our Youth Chair, Katie Sloan, will take 10 of her German language students to Celle during Spring Break. They will be attending Ernestinum Gymnasium for one week. A visit by Ernestinum students to Tulsa is planned for the fall of 2007.

On March 24, forty Celle volunteer firefighters will be arriving for an 11-day-visit. That number includes some spouses and children. If you are interested in hosting someone, please call me at 357-9156. It is always a rewarding experience. Many friendships have developed from these visits. A return visit to Celle may just be your next vacation destination.

—Arnold Bieber