



Das Deutsche Echo

April 2007.

Jahrgang 28/04



Emigrants crossing the Plains, Oil by Albert Bierstadt

Bierstadt was one of the intrepid German painters, who cataloged the westward movement in the mid-to-late 1800s. Many of their works may be found here in Tulsa at the Gilchrease Museum. This particular painting, however, is owned by the National Cowboy Museum and is currently on loan to the Schirn Kunsthalle Museum in Frankfurt, Germany. It has only been loaned out once before, and that was to the Smithsonian.

—submitted by George Starch III

GAST Happenings

Handarbeitsgruppe Tue. at 10 AM	Apr 7	Children's Easter Pty	Jun 1	Stammtisch
	Apr 15	Konversationsrunde	Jul 1	Sonntagskaffee
	Apr 22	Gen Mbrship meeting	Jul 6	Stammtisch
Mar 23 Weinkeller	Apr 27	Weinkeller	Aug 3	Sonntagskaffee
Mar 30 Garage Sale Starts	May 4	Germanfest begins	Aug 5	Stammtisch
Apr 1 Sonntagskaffee	May 13	Konversationsrunde	Sep 2	Sonntagskaffee
Apr 6 Stammtisch	May 25	Weinkeller	Sep 7	Stammtisch

This page is sponsored by GAST Member Hildegard Schaffrin

...FROM THE GAST PRESIDENT

In last month's ECHO there was an article on the "Tater People", thanks to a submittal by **Helga Greiner**. Although all organizations have the complete family of **Tater People**, it is interesting to identify the different Tater people in GAST. We have many activities that require volunteers. In last months ECHO alone there were comments or announcements about Germanfest chaired by **Dave Schoneweis**; the children's' Easter Party chaired by **Janet Jamison**; the GAST Theater or movie night chaired by **Erwin Jerchau**; the garage sale, chaired by **Barbara Conrad**; Sonntagskaffee chaired by **Silke Becker**; Stammtischrunde chaired by **Dann Bjorklund**; and several arts events. If you recognize yourself as "Speck Tater" or "Hezzie Tater", it's time for you to become a "Sweet Tater" and call one of the above chair persons and ask what you can do to help. In talking to Lois Voeller the other day, she said a couple members had called her and offered to bring something to the next Weinkellerabend. We do have lots of "Sweet Taters," but it is common to hear someone say "No one called me". With over 500 members, a chairperson can not know all members that may be interested in helping, so they call someone they know. Please don't wait to be asked. **You make the call.**

Germanfest is only a month away. In addition to wonderful German food and music, its lots of fun. We

Echo Deadline is:
Wednesday, April 18 by 6 PM
 scheduled for the Wednesday after
 the Board meeting.
 The Board meets every second Wednesday
 of the month at GAST Center at 7 PM

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need many people to help, please call **Dave Schoneweis** at 298-6952 to volunteer and do your share. Also, the German Folk dancers are looking for more dancers. You don't have to know how to dance, they will teach you. If you might be interested or know someone who would like to dance (they don't have to be members already), please contact **Carol Wright** at 299-2839.

Mark your calendars for upcoming events shown on the first page and particularly the General Membership meeting scheduled for Sunday, April 22 when we elect officers and directors.

— Charles Tegeler

...from the Arts President

The Spring session of Kinderdeutsch ended March 17th. This was a very successful session with good attendance and a fine program. Many thanks go to teachers and volunteers **Claudia Hieckmann, Angelique McLauren, Carol Wright, Hildegard Schaffrin and Arnold Bieber.** Adult language classes are continuing. Both Kinderdeutsch and adult classes will resume in the fall.

The Barthelmes Trio gave us a splendid performance on February 25th. The audience was large and very appreciative of the program. Our thanks go to the Barthelmes Conservatory. Thanks also to **Susan Bey** for organizing the reception with assistance from **Gwen and Arnold Bieber.**

We had planned to present a completely new musical group to the membership for our April program. This has unfortunately been canceled due to a schedule conflict for one of the musicians. We will reschedule this group for a Fall program. Details will be in the Echo as soon as the date is set.

The annual garage sale will be held March 30 and 31. There is still time to bring donated items to the office. You may bring them directly to the Center on March 28 and 29. Your salable items will help fund upcoming Arts programs for the membership and the Tulsa community.

There are presently no musical events on the calendar until the September 21 program by the American Theater Organ Society. That may well change so watch the Echo and your e-mail for announcements. The Arts Association remains busy with *Konversationsrunde*, Movie Night, Speaker's Bureau and Library hours. Take advantage of these opportunities and participate in one or more of your choosing.

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

—John Millar

The operating committee would like to thank **Arnold Bieber, Elam Blank, John Millar, Al Voeller, Lois Voeller** and our Office Manager **Becky Adrian** for chipping in at the March 21 Work Party. They oiled all of the accessible woodwork in the upper level, added a wall paper border and carpet runner to the lower level Ladies' room, performed repairs and trimmed shrubbery. Long time members will recall we typically try to schedule work parties on Saturday to get a large number of volunteers. This has become difficult over the last year due to the busy rental calendar. Thus the weekday Work Party. We ask you to try to make room in your schedule to volunteer for one or more of these each year. We typically start at 8:30 and end in mid afternoon with time out for a pizza lunch. There are always items to be accomplished with such a large facility as we are fortunate to own. Your time will be put to good use.

Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde

Thank you, **Gertrud Schmidt**, for a very interesting and entertaining presentation of Gershwin, the man and his music. Please mark the *Konversationsrunde* on your calendar so that we can maintain and support this link to our heritage. The next meeting will be at the home of **Barbara and Stan Conrad** (492-3273) who live at 7837 South 70th East Avenue at 3 PM on the **15th of April**. Please note the change in dates so as not to conflict with Easter Sunday on the 8th. Our speaker will be Barbara Ansley who will speak about life in the old DDR (East Germany). Barbara is uniquely qualified for this subject since she was a life long citizen of the DDR who happened to be in the Bundesrepublik when the wall came down and she began a new life in the west. A special thanks for all of the participants for the last series of *Konversationsrunde*. The last *Konversationsrunde* for this season (2006-2007) will be on the 13th of May with details to follow. Let us try to make this coming year even better.

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

...from the Building President

Due to higher utility costs, we have increased our lease rate to \$1400 per event. There is an additional security deposit of \$350 for each event. This is refunded to those who lease the building if the proper cleaning and care is taken of the property.

Our building is in use nearly every day of the year. **Lois Voeller** reports that at this time we have 28 leases for 2007 and one for 2008.

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**.

Germanfest: **Erica Hartman** will be contacting people to work in the kitchen during Germanfest. Volunteers are encouraged to have their food handler's card but it is NOT a requirement. It requires a class and test which take approximately one hour. You may sign up by calling the **Health Department at 582-9355**.

Harold Wicks, chairman of the grounds committee, could use some help with the spring planting and pruning. If you notice anything around the building that needs to be addressed, please call **Elam 625-7629** or write him a message at **amishkitchen@mail.com**.

—Elam Blank



The Sunshine Lady

Please call or E-mail me if you know of a GAST member who is ill.

Last Month a sympathy card was sent to the George Parker family. Get well cards went to Karl-Heinz Darnieder and Glen Cockrell.

Also, please let me know if it is appropriate to send a sympathy card. Thank you.

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

GAST Needs You !

I'm looking for ten members to volunteer to operate the bars during Germanfest for bar duty on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.



I also need three volunteers from the membership to perform light-duty maintenance 2 - 3 hours per week at the GAST Center. Please call me at 664-4959

—Ed Westenhiser

Now Playing at the GAST Theater

An Erwin Jerchau Presentation

Monday, April 1



Starting at 6:30 PM

Marc Pircher, Mein Zillertal

Eine Musikalische Reise durch das Schöne Zillertal

Starting at 7:30 PM

Wie küsst man einen Millionär
 Starring: Mina Tander, Cordelia Wege, Anita Matija, Luca Zamperoni und Kai Scheve

Helau ! Helau ! Helau !

The Elferrat met for a Soup Supper in the home of **Harold and Doris Wicks** for a de-briefing and evaluation of Fasching 2007. All comments and suggestions from guests, the Elferrat and their Spouses was given full consideration. Plans are already under way to eliminate, speed up and to continue with traditional and positive activities. Plans for Fasching 2008 are already under way, since Lent starts very early next year.

As in years past the Elferrat once again added to the fun and entertainment of the evening, we have never seen them so "Down Home" before. Everyone enjoyed the performance of the Soggy Bottom Boys. These eleven have no pride, no shame, no ego, come to think of it that is the main requirement for serving GAST in that capacity, and don't they do an excellent job?

A variety of costumes were worn once again, giving the event a truly Fasching feeling. The Judges (always non-members) have a difficult time picking the winners for the cash prizes but finally settled on these;

Best Female Indian Maiden: Hellen Cohea

Best Male Chinese Man: Kurt Jablonski

Best Couple: Zoro and Gaucho Lonnie and Janet Jamison

Funniest Female Clown: Irmgard Runyon

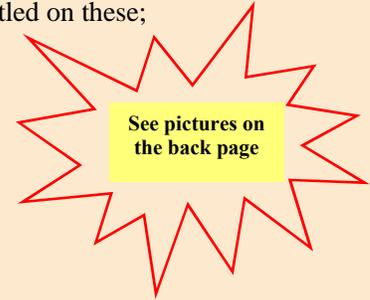
Funniest Male Winnie the Pooh: Jay Porter

Funniest Couple Uncle Remus and Aunt Jemima Don and Carol Wright

Judges Discretion Spider Woman: Doris Wicks

Of course there was a Knee Dance, won by: Talmage Bailey and Ursula Jablonski, the mustard-filled Berliners were found by: Barbara Taron and Jerry Volts.

Fasching Ball 2008 will be held February 11th, yes it is early, so plan your costume now and don't miss out on the fun. Don't forget to mark your calendars now.



—Irmgard Runyon

GAST Sanger News

In just a few weeks we will be off to Evanston Ind. to participate in the Nordamerikanischem Saengerbund 2007. (the north American alliance of German Choirs.) We will sing with the St. Louis District and then with all Choirs in attendance. Speaking of our past experience this is a truly awesome event.

Everyone is anxious to know their parts and not shame the St. Louis District or GAST and Tulsa. Look for our report in the Echo of our experience in Indiana.

We are anxious to perform for our members and the public at Germanfest. following that, a well-deserved rest. We continued with practice right after Christmas, without any time off, to get ready for our event in Evanston Indiana.

—Irmgard Runyon

**GAST is collecting
non-perishable items for the Tulsa Food Bank.
Please bring your items to any of the parties.**

Let's show Tulsa, we care!

We welcome these new members to the GAST Family

Ursula Ekren
2611 East 69th Street
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136
918-492-1269

GAST Blaskapelle

Our Blaskapelle has been practicing every Monday evening to prepare for several scheduled performances. In April at the West Gilcrease Museum, Germanfest in May, some time in June at Jenks River Walk and in September at the Choctaw Oktoberfest.

They are continually adding to their repertoire and improving sound. Their sound is really good now and with all the engagements already on the calendar the public must think so too. The best thing about the Blaskapelle is that these musicians are having the time of their lives, enjoying both practice and performing, makes you wish you could play an instrument and join them.

—Irmgard Runyon



We cordially invite you to join the

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

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F.Y.I

Tony & I recently spent a very enjoyable weekend at the Quartz Mountain Lodge in southwest Oklahoma. I wanted to pass along some info to other members who may be interested.

The lodge was recently totally rebuilt because of a fire and is very nice. At this time of year there is eagle watching and always hiking. Also a great wildlife refuge is near. What the nicest surprise was, however, was that we discovered the lodge has employed a chef who recently moved to the US from Cologne. His name is Peter Paul Meyer. He has added a couple of German dishes and all the food is excellent. Perhaps others would enjoy the experience.

—Leisha Jury

Easter Party

Children from the age of 2-12 are invited to the GAST Easter party. It will be held from 10:00-11:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 7. There will be an Easter egg hunt, pictures with the Easter Bunny, games and refreshments. Hot dogs and drinks will be provided. Children should bring their Easter basket for the hunt. Contributions of side dishes and desserts would be greatly appreciated. Please call 744-6998 to RSVP by Wednesday, April 4.

—Janet Jamison

Memorial Fund

**GAST received donations
from the following members:**

Gene Hembree,

Mr. & Mrs. Arnold Bieber

Mr. & Mrs Harry Rogers,

Mr. & Mrs Stan Conrad

Hildegard Schaffrin.

Sonntagskaffee, a relaxing tradition

**“Kommt doch am Sonntag zu Kaffee und Kuchen!”
(do come for coffee and cake on Sunday)**



This invitation can be heard throughout German lands, where cake is not considered a dessert. After you partake in a “gemütlichen Sonntagskaffee” in Germany, all might go for a walk through the neighborhood,

along neatly-swept streets and sidewalks, which Germans usually do before the weekend.

We are trying to uphold this tradition (the eating part) with one “Kaffee” a month. Please join us to honor the effort of us organizers and especially the “Kuchen und Torten” bakers.

Please join us on April 1, for coffee and cake, starting at 3 PM. And this time you’ll meet some of our guests from Celle. Hope to see many of you then.

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

Your hosts

Christy, Sherry, Rayna, Keith, Silke and Wolfgang.

—Silke Becker

Attention GAST Members:

Germanfest is approaching quickly! Your help is needed with Children’s Activities. Your smiling faces and artistic talents are requested for face painting, arts & crafts, games, etc. during Germanfest on May 6-8.

Please help us make the Childrens' Activites a fun time. Please contact John & Teresa Gallagher to schedule your time to help: 663-9573; e-mail: jngtmsg@aol.com

Thank you!

—John & Teresa Gallagher

This page is sponsored by Arnold & Gwen Bieber

The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



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