



Giant GAST Gathering Picnic 2007

Sunday, June 3rd 2:00-6:00

at the Dizzy G Ranch,
The home of Hannelore Giles

Bring lawn chairs if you have one. Wear comfortable clothes.

The Menu---A Surprisingly, Delicious, Something Different Picnic Dinner, for all to enjoy.
\$10 for non-Germanfest workers, \$5 for Workers

Face-painting and games for children

Please make your reservation by Wednesday May 23rd by calling 744-6998

Directions to Dizzy G. Ranch

South on Highway 75 to the Beggs Highway 16 and turn RIGHT. You will travel about 7.5. miles. This takes you through Beggs, across two small creeks,(Checkerboard Creek, and Tiger Creek) Immediately past Tiger you will turn LEFT onto DENTONVILLE ROAD for 4.3 miles. Turn RIGHT on the first dirt road past all the curves called KENNEDY ROAD. After 1 Mile, Kennedy Road makes a turn to the LEFT.. The first place on your LEFT side of NUYAKA ROAD will be the DIZZY G RANCH

GAST Happenings

Handarbeitsgruppe Tue. at 10 AM	Aug 3	Stammtisch
	Aug 5	Sonntagskaffee
May 20 Konversationsrunde	Sep 2	Sonntagskaffee
May 25 Weinkeller	Sep 7	Stammtisch
Jun 1 Stammtisch	Sept 21	Organ Concert
Jul 1 Sonntagskaffee	Oct 7	German-American day
Jul 6 Stammtisch	Dec 9	Adventsfeier

...FROM THE GAST PRESIDENT

For the first time, we had three good days of weather for Germanfest, but the crowd seemed less than usual. Gross receipts showed we were down a little from last year. Maybe we get better attendance with a little cold and rain when people can't work in their yards. Germanfest was a successful event and I thank all of the volunteers that made it happen. Special thanks to **Dave Schoneweis**, Chairperson and sub-chairs **Erica Hartman, Carol Wright, Ed Westenhiser, Jim Randall, Doris Gallagher, John & Teresa Gallagher, John & Irmgard Toschik, and Elam Blank** all of whom worked many long hours.

Congratulations to our new Mai Queen, **Eileen Elizabeth Bader**, who was presented her crown and sash during Germanfest by **Janet Jamison**, the past year's Mai Queen. Thanks to **Hildegard Schaffrin** for all her work in the selection and presentation ceremony for the Mai Queen.

We just got word that long-time member, **Jim Thomason** died this week. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Inge, Bryan and Rachael. Jim served as VP of the Building Corporation.

Our Annual Picnic will be held on June 3. Thanks to **Hannelore Giles** and her family for allowing us to use her Dizzy G Ranch for this event.

**Echo Deadline is:
Wednesday, June 13 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

During the two months following the picnic, things will slow down for GAST. Have a relaxed summer and enjoy.

— Charles Tegeler

Das Deutsche Echo

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...from the Arts President

The General Membership meeting is over and it is time to say thank you to those who served in office during the past year. Your work is appreciated and we hope that you will serve again in the future. I extend special thanks to outgoing 1st VP **Barbara Conrad** for her long service to the Arts Association. Welcome to the incoming officers and board members.

The summer months are often slow ones for the Arts Association. Many of our members are traveling or engaged in outdoor activities. Movie Night is on vacation until September as are regular Library hours. The Library is still available by calling me or visiting during office hours. Please remember to fill out a card for the librarian when you borrow a book.

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.

German-American Day will be celebrated on Sunday, October 7. We are trying to secure a speaker and appropriate entertainment for the

annual event.

The Speakers Bureau has been asked to participate in a summer camp program in June and July. Anyone interested in helping or joining the Speakers Bureau, please call Arnold Bieber or the GAST Office.

I have been contacted by one of our members concerning the length of the Kinderdeutsch sessions. For your information, the sessions were originally six weeks in length and are now eight weeks. The question was asked "Can we have longer sessions?" I'd like to ask any parent interested in extending the sessions to let me know now. How many are interested and how many additional sessions are desired? It all boils down to sufficient interest and availability of teachers. I will go to work on this if there is enough response.

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

This popular program will resume in September

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).

Beer Facts



It was the accepted practice in Babylonia 4,000 years ago that for a month after the wedding, the bride's father would supply his son-in-law with all the mead he could drink. Mead is a honey beer, and because their calendar was lunar based, this period was called the "honey month" - or what we know today as the "honeymoon".

Before thermometers were invented, brewers would dip a thumb or finger into the mix to find the right temperature for adding yeast. Too cold, and the yeast wouldn't grow. Too hot, and the yeast would die. This thumb in the beer is where we get the phrase "rule of thumb".

In English pubs, ale is ordered by pints and quarts; so in old England, when customers got unruly, the bartender would yell at them to mind their own pints and quarts and settle down. It's where we get the phrase "mind your P's and Q's".

Beer was the reason the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock. It's clear from the Mayflower's log that the crew didn't want to waste beer looking for a better site. The log goes on to state that the passengers "were hasted ashore and made to drink water that the seamen might have the more beer".

After consuming a bucket or two of vibrant brew they called aul, or ale, the Vikings would head fearlessly into battle often without armor or even shirts. In fact, the term "berserk" means "bare shirt" in Norse, and eventually took on the meaning of their wild battles.

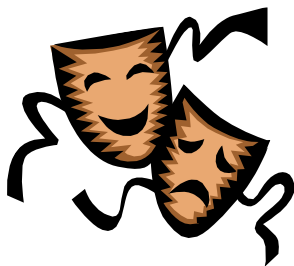
In 1740 Admiral Vernon of the British fleet decided to water down the navy's rum. Needless to say, the sailors weren't too pleased and called Admiral Vernon, Old Grog, after the stiff wool program coats he wore. The term "grog" soon began to mean the watered down drink itself. When you were drunk on this grog, you were "groggy", a word still in use today.

Many years ago in England, pub frequenters had a whistle baked into the rim or handle of their ceramic cups. When they needed a refill, they used the whistle to get some service. "Wet your whistle", is the phrase inspired by this practice.

In the middle ages, "nunchion" was the word for liquid lunches. It was a combination of the words "noon scheken", or noon drinking. In those days, a large chunk of bread was called lunch. So if you ate bread with your nunchion, you had what we still today call a luncheon.

Now Playing at the GAST Theater

An Erwin Jerchau Presentation



This program
will return in
September





The Sunshine Lady

Please call or E-mail me if you know of a GAST member who is ill. Cards were sent to: **Hannelore Giles, Jesse Tauber**. Also congratulations to Lisa

White for her new baby..

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

*We welcome these new members
to the GAST Family*

No new members this month.

The Choir

Evansville Ind. was as wonderful as we had anticipated. Over 1700 people spent the last year or so learning the songs in the book of songs that was sent to everyone. It is truly amazing that it takes only one rehearsal to get all these different choral groups to sing as one and make such beautiful music together. What was even more surprising was the fact that there were more men than women.

People attended from Nebraska, Kansas, Texas, Louisiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Tennessee and Oklahoma. Many were German-born but more were the children, grand- or even great grand children of earlier immigrants, This became obvious when you saw the beautiful banners that proudly showed when they were first established.

We are looking forward to resume practice in late August, early September and an opportunity to perform for the GAST membership. New singers are always more than welcome at any time

The Blaskapelle

The Blaskapelle never sounded better than in the auditorium of Gilcrease Museum. The acoustics are wonderful, each instrument could be heard from every seat in the house. Since they were scheduled early in the morning, [10: am on a Saturday is very early,] the audience was small but appreciative. The musician who performed following the Blaskapelle were very impressed with their playing. Germanfest too was a fun experience and much better attended. Very many positive comments were heard.

It is with a sad heart the members of the Blaskapelle said good bye to Elizabeth, their director for three years. She is moving back home to Washington D.C. to be closer to her family. It was under her direction that the band really began to shine, she will be missed and always have a special place in their hearts. All the best wishes for a happy successful future go with you Elizabeth.

The weekly practice sessions on Monday's at 7 PM will continue all through the summer months. Now is a good time to join if you enjoy playing an instrument.

—Irmgard Runyon



We cordially invite you to join the

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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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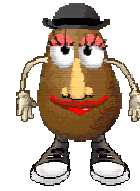

JUST PLANE FUN

Free Admission

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 Saturday, June 9, 2007
 Tulsa Technology Center
 801 E. 91st Street

Family Fun Festival Includes:
 Inflatables - Radio-controlled Flight Demonstration - Clowns - Face Painting
 Exhibits - Dunk Tank - Games - Youth Art Contest - Silent Auction & Raffle
Activities are free or reasonably-priced.

For more information please visit
www.tulsacampfire.org



A big "Thank You"
 to all those "Sweet 'Taters"
 who helped us
 with the Children's Activities
 during Germanfest.
 We appreciate your help.

—John & Teresa Gallagher

Helau Helau Helau

Fasching FYI

Fasching / Carnival, is a period of time from November 11th at 11:11 AM till Fat Tuesday when the Prinz and Princessin for the Fasching season is announced. In some Towns the Elferrat actually takes over City Hall for that morning.

The GAST Elferrat has been trying to make Fasching/Carnival as authentic as possible here in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The difficulty lies in the fact that every region or area celebrate a little different.

The Rhineland is best known for their celebration and goes all out for Carnival in preparation for Lent.. Much of what the Elferrat does is based on some of these activities, with adjustment for what is feasible in our circumstances.

The election for a Prinz and Princessin based on their service to GAST, It is an honor to be elected. The only responsibility of the royal pair is to rule over the fools, (Narren) pull pranks on the Elferrat and roast them both during the coronation and opening ceremonies for our Fasching Party. In Germany however, this royal couple is the host and hostess and they pay for much of dinner and party expenses. It goes without saying that only socially prominent and well to do young people are able to do so.

...to be continued next month.

This page is sponsored by Arnold & Gwen Bieber

The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



Alte Oper, Frankfurt's famous opera house, was built in 1880 by the architect Richard Lucae. It was one of the major opera houses of Germany, until it was destroyed in World War II. It was not until 1981 that the old opera was fully rebuilt and reopened. Today it functions as a concert hall, while operas are performed in the Oper Frankfurt. The inscription on the frieze of the Old Opera says: "*Dem Wahren, Schönen, Guten*" ("To the true, the beautiful, the good").

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