



# Das Deutsche Echo

March 2008

Jahrgang 29/03

## Lumpenball

You are herewith cordially invited to join us at our annual "Poor man's soup party"

at the GAST Center, located at 15th & Terrace Drive

on March 8, 2008, commencing at 6:30 PM

**Dress code: wear your best rags**

Entertainment: Games, and Recorded Music

Admission: Free with soup or dessert, or \$7 without a dish

Menu: Soup, Bread & Butter, Dessert

Drinks: Coffee, Water, Cash bar



To make your reservations, please call the Message Center at 744-6998, or **Barbara Hunsberger** at 664-9796 or **Brigitte Phelps** at 756-3407 or EMAIL to **Helen Cohea** at ylorock5@cox.net, or susanaph@cox.net

**We need to know by March 1st who is bringing Soup or Desert, so we can be sure to have enough food!**

—**Helen Cohea**  
For the Party Committee

### News Flash

Sorry, but due to so many SOCIAL EVENTS, we have to cancel the SPRING PARTY, on April 26th, 2008

### Sonntagskaffee

Please join us for some coffee, cake and Gemütlichkeit. Sunday, March 2, from 3 to 5 PM Hosted by the Grimms and the Rothers

## GAST Happenings

Handarbeitsgruppe Tue. at 10 AM	May 2 Germanfest begins	Aug 22 Weinkellerabend
Mar 2 Sonntagskaffee	May 9 Stammtisch?	Sep 5 Stammtisch
Mar 7 Stammtisch	May 23 Weinkellerabend	Sep 13 Western Party
Mar 8 Soup party	Jun 1 GAST Picnic	Sep 26 Weinkellerabend
Mar 28 Weinkellerabend	Jun 6 Stammtisch	Oct 15 Tulsa Oktoberfest
Apr 4 Stammtisch	Jun 27 Weinkellerabend	Nov 28 Weinkellerabend
Apr 4 Garage Sale starts	Jul 11 Stammtisch	Dec 5 Christkindlmarkt
Apr 13 Membership meeting	Jul 25 Weinkellerabend	Dec 13 Christmas party
Apr 25 Weinkellerabend	Aug 1 Stammtisch	Dec 31 New Years party
	Aug 3 Ice Cream Social	

This page is sponsored by GAST Member Hildegard Schaffrin

**...FROM THE GAST PRESIDENT**

Much to my regret I was not able to attend the Fasching Party held on Fat Tuesday and hosted by the Elferrat under the leadership of **Harold Wicks** and presided over by Prinz **Bernie** and Prinzessin **Barbara Scieszinski**. I understand that it was a great success with almost 200 people attending. The GAST Blaskapelle under the direction of Don Linde did a wonderful job of playing the marches, waltzes and dance music that are appropriate for an authentic German Karneval celebration. The hall was beautifully decorated by members of Elferrat and Elfen (ladies of the Elferrat) under the direction of **Joy Walker**. **Irmgard Toschik** and her helpers prepared a delicious meal of wieners, potato salad and bread, which was served to a full house of members and guests by the Elfen. Many colorful costumes added to the ambience of the evening. This party, being held on a weekday, ended earlier than usual, but not before the Elferrat Precision Drill

Team made their grand entry and demonstrated their skills (I heard that everybody was impressed!) We were especially pleased that so many German language students and teachers from local high schools came and participated in the festivities. We plan to invite them again next year.

**Helen Cohea** and her Party Committee are preparing for a more sedate Soup Party on March 8. I hope you have marked your calendar. Also on your calendar should be our next membership meeting and election on April 13. The Nominating Committee, chaired by **Christy Fell**, may be calling on you to serve as an officer or director of the organization. I hope you will respond positively.

In the meantime, the Germanfest Committee, chaired by **Leon Boggs**, has been busy preparing for Germanfest to be held at the GAST Center on May 2, 3 and 4. This is a wonderful opportunity to donate a few hours of your time, to meet other members, enjoy the camaraderie and help with this important fundraiser. The GAST Blaskapelle, Choir and Folk dancers have committed to be part of the entertainment. On Saturday, May 3, a new Maikönigin (May Queen) will be crowned and the winners of the Essay Contest for German language students will be announced.

**Echo Deadline is:  
Wednesday, March 19, 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

**Das Deutsche Echo**

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**Message Center - 744-6998**

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Speaking of May Queens, our current May Queen, **Elizabeth Bader**, has done a marvelous job representing the organization and organizing the Kids' St. Nikolaus Party in December. Her last official duty before the crowning of the new May Queen will be the Kids' Easter Party on Saturday, March 8, right after Kinderdeutsch. (She is also one of the Kinderdeutsch teachers.)

Thanks to **Siegi and Ingrid Grimm, Fred and Irene Rother** there will be another Sonntagskaffee on March 2, at 3 PM. We are still looking for a permanent chair for this informal but very enjoyable activity. Please come and check it out. No reservations needed.

Stay healthy and warm. Spring is just around the corner.

—Charles Tegeler

## ...from the Arts President

Kinderdeutsch classes began on Saturday, January 26. We had an initial enrollment of twelve students, which is typical. Adult Classes began on Tuesday, February 12 with an enrollment of over 50 students. That is an excellent turnout but short of our record, which is over 60.

The annual garage sale is set for Friday, April 4 and Saturday, April 5. We thank **Don and Carol Wright** for once again providing a location to store items prior to the sale. We are now able to accept your salable items in both large and small quantities. Small items may be brought to the office during business hours. Please contact **Arnold Bieber** or me for large items, which should be brought directly to the storage location on 46<sup>th</sup> Street.

The Cultural and Educational Committee is working with Mr. Lorne Richstone, Professor for Opera Coaching at the University of Oklahoma, to arrange a performance of German and Italian Operetta on Sunday, April 20. Mr. Richstone has a strong connection to the German repertoire, having lived and conducted in Germany for many years. The exact program is not set but we anticipate the German portion will offer selections from *Die Fledermaus* (The Bat), *Die Lustige Witwe* (The Merry Widow) and *Die Zauberflöte* (The Magic Flute).

The performance may begin later than our usual time of 3 PM due to singer's commitments on Sunday mornings

and their travel time from the Oklahoma City area. Exact time will be announced in the Echo and on the Society's web site. We are inviting members of the Italian-American Society to attend.

We are also planning other programs including Schubert Lieder, instrumental recitals and the annual performance by the American Theater Organ Society. German-American Day and Adventsfeier are already on the calendar. Speaker's Bureau, Library hours, Konversationsrunde and Movie Nights are active.

Response to the Arts Association's annual fundraising letter has never been better. There have been 23 donations to date. Special thanks go to the Barthelmes Foundation for again providing a very generous contribution to the Association. Their patronage is greatly appreciated. I ask those who have not contributed to please consider adding the Association to their giving plan for 2008. We must solicit contributions to insure the continuation of our tax-exempt status. The Arts Association is a 501(c)(3) corporation and donations are tax deductible as provided by law.

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

We wish to thank **Stan and Barbara Conrad** for hosting the January meeting of the Konversationsrunde. The next meeting will be in the Weinkeller (basement) of the GAST Center at 2301 E. 15th Street (one block west of 15<sup>th</sup> and Lewis) at 3 pm on Sunday, March 9th. The hosts will be **Gwen and Arnold Bieber**. The theme will be "The Wiederaufbau (Reconstruction) of the Frauenkirche in Dresden". We will have film excerpts and discussion regarding its destruction in the final days of WW II and rebuilding after the Berlin wall came down. Please feel free to bring any material that you may have which relate to any of these events. We will have a raffle for a commemorative watch regarding these events. Stay tuned for more information. Please join us in what should be a most interesting discussion.

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).

## From the Building Corporation President....

We have purchased all new chairs for the Great Hall with money from the endowment trust. The chairs we bought 17 years ago had served us well, but many needed to be repaired or replaced. The best ones have been moved downstairs to replace the mismatched folding chairs in Weinkeller. All other chairs will be available to the membership to purchase.

Currently we have 22 rentals scheduled for 2008. Thanks to the members who set up for and host these events. The revenue from these lease events would not be available if we didn't have volunteers.

The ice storm took a toll on our trees. We lost a couple dogwoods along the walk. There is also some damage that should be taken care of by our tree service before the next Echo.

For more information or questions about the building, contact me at 625-7629.

—Elam Blank

## Here Comes Peter Cottontail!



And he's hoppin' down the bunny trail to GAST on **Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon**. Children 12 years and younger are invited to join us for an Easter egg hunt, pictures with the Easter Bunny and refreshments. A hot dog lunch will be provided. Please bring a dessert to share. Please have Children bring their Easter basket for the hunt. Please call in your reservation to the GAST message center by Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>.

—Eileen Bader  
May Queen

## GAST Folk Dancers Appearing at TCC Global Festival, Metro Campus

The GAST Folk Dancers have resumed our regular Friday night practice sessions. Our goal is to preserve and promote traditional German and Austrian folk dances to present to the community and for our own enjoyment.

We have several programs already scheduled. Our first will be on March 6 at TCC's Global Festival. Come by and visit the GAST display booth and watch us dance at 6 pm. We are planning a fresh program by learning a new dance or two and reviving some that we have not done in a while. .

WHERE: In the GAST Center  
WHEN: 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. on most Friday evenings through May  
WHO: Adults who are interested in music, dancing, and exercise

A dance partner is not required but helpful. Non GAST members are also welcome to join us..

Please come join us if you are interested in joining us in the fun, fellowship and exercise of Folk Dancing. We have welcomed a few new members to the group and we would like to have more. Call me if you have any questions at 299-2839.

—Carol Wright d.c.w@cox.net

## The Blaskapelle

Extra hours of practice and Don Linde's years of experience as a music director, prepared the Blaskapelle for its debut as the "**Dance Band**" for Fasching 2008. Several new pieces and styles were added to the ever-growing repertoire. FYI: most of the musicians who played at the Fasching party are members of GAST. This was the first Fasching Ball for many of the players. Not knowing what to expect, their comments were: you really know how to have a fun party, can't wait till next year, we love playing for such an enthusiastic crowd.

Plans are under way to form small ensembles and branch out into different styles of music—Dixieland comes to mind. Small ensembles will allow for participation in venues that are short on space, also showcasing some real talents.

Band practice will continue with new vigor every Monday evening from 7:00 pm till....Any GAST member who has ever played an instrument, would like to play or just listen, drop in any Monday evening; everyone is always welcome.

### Germanfest is approaching rapidly, May 2, 3 & 4.

Volunteers are needed to have a successful festival. If you want a certain time slot and a specific job please sign up as soon as possible by calling

**Susan everett-tronnier @ 749-1869**  
Germanfest committee



### Reminder from the Operating Committee

Please be aware that many lights in the Center are controlled by dimming circuits. These circuits are NOT compatible with fluorescent bulbs. Installing a fluorescent in place of the correct incandescent bulb destroys the rheostat and could cause a fire. Someone recently installed a fluorescent bulb on the stage and killed the associated rheostat. Fortunately, it did not catch fire. FYI we check the lights when setting up for rentals. If you see a defective bulb, send an e-mail to the office to the attention of the Operating Committee.

## Fasching 2008

The GAST Fasching party held on the traditional Fat Tuesday this year was a huge success. With 201 guests making reservations it was one of the best attended parties in a long time. Everyone seemed fine with the changes of day and time. (6 to 10 pm) After the toast by the outgoing Royals, Prinz Bernhardt and Prinzessin Barbara awarded medals to some well-deserving often overlooked people who work behind the scenes of GAST. Well done Prinz and Prinzessin.

An amazing array of imaginative and unusual costumes made picking a winner very difficult for the Judges. Their choices were as follows;

Most Beautiful Woman, Peacock Queen - Helen Cohea  
Best Looking Male Hard Hat Guy - Brandon Johnson  
Best Looking couple Green Hair Couple - Ed Westenhaiser and Ruth Bly  
Funniest Female Piglet - Andrea Adams, Funniest Male Bunny - Ian Shalo

Funniest Couple Cowboy and his Doggie - Jack Mackuy and Olivia Cumberland  
Judges discretion went to Dr. Seuss Character - Alexandria Ochsner

A \$25.00 prize was given to each winner. The knee dance winner, Angela Novak, besting Doris Wicks, received a ring of Bologna. Prinz Bernhardt, the last man kneeling, got a box of Chocolate Cherries. Mustard filled Berliners were discovered by Mary Williams, Brandon Johnson and Delaney Couri, Mary

being first who got the pot of wieners the others a big pretzel. The most pleasant, if not totally unexpected, surprise was our in-house band. Don Linde transformed the Blaskapelle into an excellent Dance Band. The varied repertoire, audience participation numbers kept the dance floor busy all evening. Our deepest appreciation to the band members and their efforts to make this one another successful Fasching Ball.

Lest we forget, the Elferrat once more came up with a fun skit and proved once and for all that they are unable to follow orders, stay in step or remember what comes next. Judging from the audiences reaction however, they succeeded in entertaining us and making fun of themselves. It takes a man who knows who he is to dare what these guys do. Our hats off to them.

The Elferrat held a debriefing Saturday the 9th. It was discussed to stay with tradition and hold Fasching 2009 on Fat Tuesday again, as was the possibility of making our new Dance Band the official Fasching Band. The time too is under serious consideration. Maybe serve the light meal a little earlier but keep the 10: o'clock closing. The Elferrat is always open to suggestions so feel free to talk to any one of the members. If you know of some traditional activities or wish to include, or exclude, anything, say so. Remember it is your party, the Elferrat only facilitates it.

—IrmgardRunyon



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](http://www.tulsaglobalalliance.org)

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## Now Playing at the GAST Theater

An Erwin Jerchau Presentation  
Monday March 3, 2008

Starting at 6:30 PM

### Die Frau vom Check Point Charlie

A TV Movie in 2 Part's  
Starring: Veronica Ferres,  
Peter Kremer,  
Pilip Peters and Maria Ehrich



## Garage Sale!

**Garage Sale.** In case you wound up with some Christmas presents or other things that you don't quite know what to do with, be advised that the annual garage sale will be on the first weekend in April. We will be accepting goods on Wednesday, the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April from 10-3. We will then price these items on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April from 9 am until finished. The garage sale will be from 8-5 on Friday, the 4<sup>th</sup> of April and from 9-3 on Saturday, the 5<sup>th</sup> of April. We need volunteers for all of these tasks. We appreciate whatever time you can spare for this major fundraiser for the Arts Association. You do not have to work a full shift in order to be a major contributor to this job. We now have some donated storage space, and if you need someone to pick up items, please contact **Arnold Bieber** (357-9156), **John Millar** (481-0614) or the GAST Center Office (744-6997).

## The Sunshine Lady



GAST sent out one Get Well card to Wm. Shoun, and one Sympathy card to Glenn and Annemie Waldroop.

E-mail [book\\_worm34@hotmail.com](mailto:book_worm34@hotmail.com)  
or Phone 357-9156  
—Gwen Bieber

## Sweet Potato says:



*It's a funny thing about life. If you refuse  
to accept anything but the best,  
you very often get it!*

W. Somerset Maugham

## Your opportunity

### to direct the future of GAST!

The GAST Nomination Committee is asking those interested in serving as President, VP, or Director of GAST, GAST Arts and GAST Building Corporation to contact **Christy Fell** at 607-1937 or **Gwen Bieber** at 357-9156 no later than March 15!

We have several openings in these categories available. GAST Members will be voting on these nominations at the next General Membership meeting in April.

## We welcome these new members to the GAST Family

Becky and Kevin Adrian 4909 S. 195th E. Ave. Broken Arrow, OK 74014 269-6471	Gerwald Kohler and Cynthia Yaschine 9208 E. 87th Place Tulsa, Oklahoma 74133 918-286-3651
Kay Brown 450 W. 7th St.# 803 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74119 918-599-0057	Rick and Valerie Martich 5644 S. Pittsburg Tulsa, Oklahoma 74135 744-8387
Steve & Aitnea Haefner 11209 S. Juniper St. Jenks, Oklahoma 74037 408-1038	Charles O. Meyers, Jr. 2809 East 29th St. Tulsa, Oklahoma 74114 918-747-6366
Tony & Rhonda Heineman 5833 E. 62nd St. Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136 918-496-9076	James & Charlene Yeager, Jr. 7032 E. 52nd St. S. Tulsa, Oklahoma 74145 918-627-0595

This page is sponsored by Arnold & Gwen Bieber

The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



## Fasching

## 2008



## Chairs, Chairs, and more Chairs

Ruth Bly, Arnold Bieber, Ed Westenhiser and I spent five hours on Friday working to finalize the chair upgrade and disposition. Here is the result:

1. The 224 new chairs (plus 1 matching sample) are now in the Great Hall and ready for use. Getting the plastic wrapping off was very time consuming. There are now 225 new, matching, stacking banquet chairs ready for use. Four new dollies are available to move them. I recommend to the Leasing Committee that we now require renters to use these chairs and do not allow them to bring in rental chairs. (We've discussed this at length in the LC) If renters do not like the color of the chairs they can rent covers. We have already verified that the new chairs are compatible with chair covers. Rental chairs cause a big storage and labor problem for us.
2. The two remaining sample chairs are now in the "Ready Room" under chair covers. They replace the two wooden chairs which will be added to the garage sale. FYI one of the remaining samples is identical to the 225 except for upholstery.
3. 144 of the old stacking chairs have been kept for use. We placed 96 of the best ones for use in the Weinkeller, 12 in each classroom and 24 in the Duplex. That was good exercise. The two old cart dollies are now available for use in the Weinkeller.
4. The 65 remaining old stacking chairs are sold, gone and paid for. NO more stacking chairs are available for sale or donation.
5. 24 of the best folding all metal chairs were culled and locked in the garage for use at Oktoberfest.
6. All other folding chairs are now in the Weinkeller and for sale. Chrome and black folding chairs are \$5. Other folding chairs are \$3. Please pay the Office Manager.
7. Folding chairs we don't sell go in the garage sale. The south side of Fort Knox II that is currently used for folding chairs and will then be available for stacking chairs. We measured and there is adequate space.
8. **Please, please, please** do not drag and shove the new chairs up against the wall; use the dollies to move the chairs!

—John Millar