



GAST Oktoberfest Dinner & Dance

Saturday, October 25, 2008

Doors open at 6:00 PM – Dinner served at 6:30

Menu

Jaeger Schnitzel
 Spaetzle
 Red Cabbage
 Tossed Green Salad
 Bread/Butter
 Homemade Brownies
 Meal prepared by our own
 Oktoberfest Committee

Free beer!

Free beer!

The party is free for all Oktoberfest Volunteers—Non-volunteers pay \$20.00

Please make your reservation by Wednesday, October 22 by calling the GAST office – 744-6998

Come and enjoy great food, fun and dancing

GAST Happenings

Handarbeitsgruppe Tue. at 10 AM	Dec 31 New Years party	Jul 3 Stammtisch
Oct 3 Stammtisch	2009	Aug 7 Stammtisch
Oct 5 German-American Day	Jan 2 Stammtisch	Sep 7 Stammtisch
Oct 15 Tulsa Oktoberfest	Jan 11 Konversationsrunde	
Oct 12 Konversationsrunde	Feb 6 Stammtisch	
Oct 25 GAST Oktoberfest party	Feb 8 Konversationsrunde	
Nov 7 Stammtisch	Mar 6 Stammtisch	
Nov 9 Konversationsrunde	Mar 8 Konversationsrunde	
Dec 5 Christkindlmarkt	Apr 3 Stammtisch	
Dec 12 Stammtisch	Apr 12 Konversationsrunde	
Dec 13 Christmas party	May 8 Stammtisch	
Dec 14 Adventsfeier	Jun 5 Stammtisch	

...FROM THE GAST PRESIDENT

Think Bratwurst! Think Potato Pancakes! Think German Music! Think Tulsa Oktoberfest!

For 30 years now, Tulsa Oktoberfest Inc. has organized an authentic German festival on the Arkansas Riverfront (I remember the early years on the East Bank). GAST or the GAST founding families have always been a part of it, providing vital support and advice to the Oktoberfest organization. Tulsa Oktoberfest benefits the community. More than \$850,000 has been contributed to Tulsa River Parks since the humble beginnings in 1979. The festival has been recognized as one of the top 10 Oktoberfest in the United States.



Although Tulsa Oktoberfest has grown over the past 30 years, GAST is still the #1 food vendor, and it is still our major annual fundraiser. As always, we need your help! Please volunteer for a shift or two, starting with set-up on Monday through Wednesday, October 13-15, Gemuetlichkeit Evening on Wednesday, October 13, Festival Thursday through Sunday, October 16-19 and teardown Sunday evening and Monday, October 20. Jobs include food preparation, cooking, serving and much more. Please call **Dietrich Lannert, 355-2270** for details and to sign-up for a shift that fits your schedule. We will have shuttle service from the GAST Center. Non-members are welcome to volunteer. You will meet many old and new members and enjoy the camaraderie.

I would like to thank **Helga and Claus Greiner, Terry Sponsler and Rick Pizzo** for hosting Weinkellerabend on August 22. It was well attended and the food was excellent! The next Weinkellerabend is scheduled for September 26, 5:30 - ? It will be hosted by **Irmgard Toschik and Ruth Bly**. That will be the last Weinkellerabend for the year. It seems that everybody enjoys these informal members and guests get-togethers. We hope to continue them next year.



Wednesday, Oct 15
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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Our last Sonntagskaffee on September 7 brought out 22 people, obviously not a record crowd. Many regulars were still on vacation or had other plans. But those who came enjoyed the special cakes by **Silke Becker, Helga Greiner, Fred Kailer and Irmgard Toschik**. Many thanks to **Ruth Bly, Gwen Bieber, Rick Pizzo, Terry Sponsler, Ed Westenhiser** and others who helped with set-up, decorations and clean-up. Another Sonntagskaffee is planned for November 2.

About 50 people came to our Great Western Party on September 13, some for the wonderful barbeque dinner from Knotty Pine, some just to listen to the Rowdy Creek Band play some popular Country and Western tunes, but most of them had a great meal and danced until the music quit playing. It was a nice evening! **Ruth Bly** created and raffled off the beautiful table decorations and a special door prize. I would like to thank her for organizing the event and **Lou Bonham, Gwen Bieber and Ed Westenhiser** for helping with set-up, check-in and clean-up and the Bar Committee for keeping us supplied with liquid refreshments.

See you at Oktoberfest!

—Arnold Bieber

...from the Arts President

The summer season is over and Arts events have resumed. The first Movie Night had an excellent folk music video, which had us wishing the group could perform here sometime. Movie Night will continue on the first Monday of each month through June.

Nine children were enrolled on the first day of Kinderdeutsch for the fall semester, with perhaps more to come. **Carol Wright** started them dancing and **Hildegard Schaffrin** started them singing. **Becky Adrian and Angelique McLaurin** conducted the two language classes. The children will perform at Oktoberfest and at our party next month, then at Kid's World in November. The classes will continue through Saturday, November 8. Two membership applications were received from parents.

Konversationsrunde resumed on the 14th of this month at the home of **Doris and Harold Wicks**. There were 14 in attendance and the subject discussed was "Vacation Experiences". It will continue on the second Sunday of each month through May.

Forty-five people enrolled in the fall semester Adult Language classes. The teachers were **Doris Gallager, Greta Mcknight, Alexander McLaurin, Frieda O'Dell and Becky Adrian**. **Marianne Strong** is scheduled to return by the end of the month. Classes will continue through Tuesday, November 18. One membership application was received from an enrollee.

The Library resumes operation this month and will continue on the third Wednesday of each month through May, at 1 to 3 PM.

The American Theater Organ Society personnel have been in playing the organ to get it checked out for the musical variety show, scheduled for Friday, September 19 at 7 PM. The piano is scheduled to be tuned that afternoon. This will be an evening of light music and free refreshments.

Speakers Bureau activity should be picking up this month,

any interest in this should be referred to Arnold Bieber or the GAST office.

The German American Day celebration will be on Sunday, October 5 at 3 PM. The GAST Sanger will sing the national anthems. Dr. Martin Biermann, the Lord Mayor of Celle will be the speaker. His subject will be "Does Our Economic System Still Correspond To Our Values?" Also visiting from Celle will be Celle-Tulsa Partnership Coordinator Susan McDowell, Mayoral Assistant Monika Wille and President of German-American Society of Celle Rheinhard Förster. They have all been in Tulsa before. The Council Oak Trio will provide some musical entertainment after the speech.

The biannual Kid's World event will be at the Quick Trip Center on 21st Street at the Fairgrounds. It will run from Thursday, November 13 to Sunday, November 16. More details will be in next month's Echo.

The Volkstrauertag trip to Fort Reno is scheduled for Sunday, November 16. More details will be in next month's Echo.

Adventsfeier will be on Sunday, December 13 at 3 PM, Vicar Chris Tiews of Grace Lutheran Church has been selected to conduct the service. More details will be provided as they are available.

Early next year a program on the 60th anniversary of the Berlin Airlift will be presented. Details about this will be covered in future columns. **Charles Meyer** has agreed to chair this event so if you have input please let him know.

Information on the spring entertainment program will be presented as it develops further.

—Jim Randall

Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde

We wish to thank Harold and Doris Wicks for their hospitality and for allowing us meet in their home for the last meeting. We also wish to thank all of the participants for sharing their summer experiences with us. The next meeting will be on 12 October at 3 pm at the home of Glenn and June Cockrell who live at 7316 E. 63rd Pl (telephone # 252-0759). Our speaker will be Hannah Ramahayake who will discuss some fascinating experiences in "Thirty years of living in the Far East". Please plan on attending and sharing in a discussion of this vital area of the

world whose impact on the west becomes more apparent every day.

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).

The first day of school our professor introduced himself and challenged us to get to know someone we didn't already know. I stood up to look around when a gentle hand touched my shoulder. I turned around to find a wrinkled, little old lady beaming up at me with a smile that lit up her entire being. She said, "Hi handsome. My name is Rose. I'm eighty-seven years old. Can I give you a hug?" I laughed and enthusiastically responded, "Of course you may!" and she gave me a giant squeeze.

"Why are you in college at such a young, innocent age?" I asked. She jokingly replied, "I'm here to meet a rich husband, get married, have a couple of children, and then retire and travel." "No seriously," I asked. I was curious what may have motivated her to be taking on this challenge at her age. "I always dreamed of having a college education and now I'm getting one!" she told me.

After class we walked to the student union building and shared a chocolate milkshake. We became instant friends. Every day for the next three months we would leave class together and talk nonstop. I was always mesmerized listening to this "time machine" as she shared her wisdom and experience with me.

Over the course of the year, Rose became a campus icon and she easily made friends wherever she went. She loved to dress up and she reveled in the attention bestowed upon her from the other students. She was living it up. At the end of the semester we invited Rose to speak at our football banquet. I'll never forget what she taught us. She was introduced and stepped up to the podium.

As she began to deliver her prepared speech, she dropped her three by five cards on the floor. Frustrated and a little embarrassed she leaned into the microphone and simply said "I'm sorry I'm so jittery. I gave up beer for Lent and this whiskey is killing me! I'll never get my speech back in order so let me just tell you what I know." As we laughed she cleared her throat and began: "We do

not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing.

"There are only four secrets to staying young, being happy, and achieving success. You have to laugh and find humor everyday. You've got to have a dream. When you lose your dreams, you die. We have so many people walking around who are dead and don't even know it!"

"There is a huge difference between growing older and growing up. If you are nineteen years old and lie in bed for one full year and don't do one productive thing, you will turn twenty years old. If I am eighty-seven years old and stay in bed for a year and never do anything I will turn eighty-eight.

"Anybody can grow older. That doesn't take any talent or ability. The idea is to grow up by always finding the opportunity in change. Have no regrets. The elderly usually don't have regrets for what we did, but rather for things we did not do. The only people who fear death are those with regrets." She concluded her speech by courageously singing "The Rose."

She challenged each of us to study the lyrics and live them out in our daily lives. At the year's end Rose finished the college degree she had begun all those years ago. One week after graduation Rose died peacefully in her sleep. Over two thousand college students attended her funeral in tribute to the wonderful woman who taught by example that it's never too late to be all you can possibly be.

If you read this, please send this peaceful word of advice to your friends and family, they'll really enjoy it! Remember, GROWING OLDER IS MANDATORY, GROWING UP IS OPTIONAL. Keep Laughing..... Keep Dreaming..... Keep Growing..... Regret Nothing..... Have a Great Week and Be Well...Therapy is expensive, poppin' bubble wrap is cheap! You choose.

—a story from the internet

GAST Choir Activities

After a nice summer break the GAST Saenger are back to regularly scheduled practice, every Thursday evening from 7:00 to 9:00 PM, all in preparations for a busy fall schedule. We will have performed at the Bixby Deutsches Fest on September 20th, at the Franciscan Village and a repeat performance for the Knights of Columbus at the St. Mary's Catholic Church in Collinsville. October is usually a busy month since Oktoberfests have become almost as popular here as in Bavaria.

This popularity is followed by Christmas. Our first performance will be in Wagoner on the first day of Advent on November 30th.

We expect many more requests for Volksongs and Deutsche Weihnachtslieder (German Christmas Songs) throughout this season..

Plans are underway for a concert in March 2009 together with the Blaskapelle as a fund-raiser in preparations for our trip to St. Antonio for the North-American Saengerbund meeting in 2010, and of course the annual trip to Cole Camp Missouri. As always, we welcome any and all who wish to sing with us. All you have to do is show up, any THURSDAY we will supply you with the needed music.

—Irmgard Runyon

Contributions in memory of **Charles Tegeler** have been received from the following:

The German-American Society, John and Janice Hanna, Ann Cordell, Dickie Hairston, Arnold and Gwen Bieber, Kathy Blank, Mr. and Mrs. Neil Hartman, Doris Gallagher Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Hastings, Mr. and Mrs. William Willis, Clare Browning, Connie Eckard, Mr. & Mrs. Umbarger, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Runyon, Peggye Enlow, Christel Harms, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Schuller, Col. Schelper and Dr. Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. Kerpon, Mr. and Mrs. Newman, Hannelore Giles, Mr. and Mrs. Wicks, Mr. and Mrs. Burrell, Mr. and Mrs. Dudley.

Contributions were also made in memory of **Siegfried Presslauer, Bill Crittendon and Ralph Gambrell** by The German-American Society, and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Runyon.



Sweet Potato says:

It must be considered that there is nothing more difficult to carry out, nor more doubtful of success, nor more dangerous to handle, than to initiate a new order of things.

Machiavelli

Oktoberfest needs You!

Oktoberfest volunteers are needed. This is one of our major fund raisers and we need you to help us make this event successful - \$\$\$\$!

If you have not volunteered yet, please call **Dietrich Lannert** – 355-2270, **Erica Hartman** – 272-7903 or **Leon Boggs** – 258-5201.

We need everyone to pitch in and help us make Oktoberfest 2008 success. Many hands will make the work easier – so please consider doing your part as a member of GAST. Invite your friends to join you in the fun of working out there – put a group together to work with you. They can also enjoy the free party the following week.

You'll get free food and drink while you are there for your work shift.

See you
at the
“Fest”?





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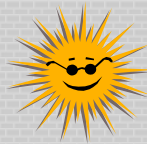
Now Playing at the GAST Theater

An Erwin Jerchau Presentation



Monday October 6, starting at 6:30 PM
Musik vom wilden Kaiser
From and with Hansi Kiesler

Starting at 7:30 PM
Da wo die Liebe wohnt
Starring: Hansi Hinterseer, Ania Kruse, Karina Tauenthal,
Evamaria Salcher and Ingrid Burkhard



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.

E-mail me at book_worm34@hotmail.com
or phone me at 357-9156

—Gwen Bieber

Kudos Kudos Kudos

The Operating Committee held a work party on Saturday, September 6. Volunteers oiled all of the readily accessible word work and furniture in the foyer and great hall. They dusted the banisters, did more plaster work, cleaned the grease trap, changed light bulbs in the attic, replaced light dimmers, replaced batteries and accomplished other tasks necessary for the maintenance of our beautiful facility. The crew were Arnold Bieber, Dan Dennehy, John Millar, Rick Pizzo, Ed Westenhiser, Harold Wicks and Al and Lois Voeller. Thank you all!



Don't worry, be happy.

We welcome these new members to the GAST Family

Renewed members

Linda Adams
1035 E. 57th Pl. #B-9
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74105
745-2403

William and Dianna Henry
4901 J. Gibson Rd.
Corydon, Kentucky 42406
270-533-5508

Angela and Sean Novak
6213 E. 78th St.
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74136

Peter M. Walter
1319 E. 35th Street
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74105
918-743-2001

Aaron and Rachel Veale
704 Russell Ave.
Mounds, Oklahoma 74047
827-1697

Marion Williams
2512 W. Kingsport
Broken Arrow, Ok 74011
918-455-6960

New Members

Clay Hahn and Samantha
Britton
2222 S. 99th E. Ave,
Apt. G.
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74129
573-578-4088

Correction

A typo in the previous issue showed Charles Tegeler's Memoriam from 1029—2008. This should have read 1939—2008

This page is sponsored by Arnold & Gwen Bieber

The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



Das Deutsche Echo

October

Volume 29

Issue 10

The Voice of the German-American Society of Tulsa



Western Music
Western Food
Western Dancing
and
Western Boots



#	State	Capital
1	Baden-Württemberg	Stuttgart
2	Bavaria	Munich
3	Berlin	Berlin
4	Brandenburg	Potsdam
5	Bremen	Bremen
6	Hamburg	Hamburg
7	Hesse	Wiesbaden
8	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	Schwerin
9	Lower Saxony	Hanover
10	North Rhine-Westphalia	Düsseldorf
11	Rhineland-Palatinate	Mainz
12	Saarland	Saarbrücken
13	Saxony	Dresden
14	Saxony-Anhalt	Magdeburg
15	Schleswig-Holstein	Kiel
16	Thuringia	Erfurt

