



Christkindlmarkt

December 5, 6 & 7, 2008

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
10:00 - 7:00	10:00 - 5:00	12:00 - 5:00

Cities and towns throughout Germany feature Christkindlmarkt, a Christmas Market during December. The most famous one in Nürnberg, has been held since 1692. These outdoor markets are usually set up somewhere in the heart of the city and decked out in seasonal splendor.

Once again, the German-American Society of Tulsa (GAST) provides the citizens of Tulsa with the annual presentation of this wonderful custom.

The GAST Christkindlmarkt committee and its numerous volunteers transform the GAST Center into a Christmas wonderland which includes many crafters displaying their wares.

GAST booths feature Nutcrackers, Smoker-männle and a great selection of imported Christmas tree ornaments, as well as Germany's famous Christmas Stollen.

Moreover, Christkindlmarkt offers a variety of Wurst, Kartoffelpuffer, hot apple cider, hot chocolate and coffee. The Christkindl and St. Nikolaus walk among the booths to the delight of the children. Christkindlmarkt has a "Spielstube" for the children, where they can listen to Christmas stories and partake of the various hands-on activities and goodies set out for them.

Make sure you add this most pleasant of holiday events to your December calendar each year. Good food, fine crafts and musical entertainment await you!

GAST Happenings

Handarbeitsgruppe Tue. at 10 AM	2009	May 8 Stammtisch
Oct 25 GAST Oktoberfest party	Jan 2 Stammtisch	Jun 5 Stammtisch
Nov 7 Stammtisch	Jan 11 Konversationsrunde	Jul 3 Stammtisch
Nov 9 Konversationsrunde	Feb 6 Stammtisch	Aug 7 Stammtisch
Dec 5,6,7 Christkindlmarkt	Feb 8 Konversationsrunde	Sep 7 Stammtisch
Dec 12 Stammtisch	Feb 24 Fasching party	
Dec 13 Christmas party	Mar 6 Stammtisch	
Dec 14 Adventsfeier	Mar 8 Konversationsrunde	
Dec 31 New Years party	Apr 3 Stammtisch	
	Apr 12 Konversationsrunde	

...FROM THE GAST PRESIDENT

As I write this, Tulsa Oktoberfest is in full swing. The German bands have arrived, the tents are set up and the smell of bratwurst and potato pancakes permeates the air. **Dietrich Lannert** has done a wonderful job recruiting volunteers for our food tents. It takes more than 300 volunteers and thousands of volunteer hours to staff the GAST operation. Everyone is appreciated.

I have to give special credit to **Leon Boggs** for once again chairing the event and **Erica Hartman** for preparing the menu, ordering food and supplies and for making sure that all needed items are in place. I also appreciate the huge participation by Tulsa area German language students and teachers. Judging by their enthusiasm for German culture, I would say, we are in great shape for years to come.



If you attended Oktoberfest as a visitor, I hope noticed our entertainment groups, the **Blaskapelle**, the **Kinderdeutsch Dancers**, the **GAST Folk Dancers** and **Tom Bordner** on the keyboard. All of them have practiced long and hard for their fall programs and have performed or will perform at several other functions. The **GAST Saenger**, the Folk Dancers and the Blaskapelle participated at Bixby Deutsches Fest on September 20. This fun event, organized by the Bixby German Club and the Washington Irving Society was more than a practice run for Oktoberfest. GAST members **John Toschik** and **Doris Gallagher** served on their organizing committee.



Wednesday, Nov 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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Irmgard Toschik and **Ruth Bly** did a great job at the last Weinkellerabend. **Christl Parson** and **Barbara Taron** are planning a Sonntagskaffee on November 2. Please come and enjoy coffee (or tea), home-baked cakes and pleasant conversation, starting at 3 PM. We will restart these informal get-togethers in January, if we can get volunteers to organize them. Please let me know if you are interested. By the way, we still need a Party Committee Chairperson to organize our Saturday night dance parties!

Well, I still have work to do for Oktoberfest, so I will keep this short.

Until next month – Auf Wiedersehen!

—Arnold Bieber

...from the Arts President

Movie Night will continue on the first Monday of each month through June.

Eight children have continued in Kinderdeutsch. **Carol Wright** continues with folk dance instruction and **Hildegard Schaffrin** with singing. Eileen and Grete are teaching the two language classes. The children will perform at Kids' World on Saturday November 15 at 12:00 to 12:30 PM. The classes will continue through Saturday, November 8.

Konversationsrunde will continue on the second Sunday of each month through May.

Adult Language classes will continue through Tuesday, November 18. My apologies to teacher **Grete McNac** for getting her name wrong last month.

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

The American Theater Organ Society performance had over 100 in attendance. It was an enjoyable evening of organ, piano, accordion, guitar and vocal music.

Interest in the Speaker's Bureau should be referred to **Arnold Bieber** or the GAST office.

The German American Day celebration had turnout of almost 100. The GAST Sanger choir was in excellent voice singing the national anthems. Dr Martin Biermann, the Lord Mayor of Celle gave an almost sermon-like speech. The Council Oak Trio provided vignettes of

music by German and Austrian composers from the baroque, classical and romantic periods.

The biannual Kids' 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. The GAST booth will be stamping passports and providing activities for the children who come by. The Autobahn will also be in action once again. **Lois Voeller** needs volunteers so give her a call at 355-2318 to help out.

The Volkstrauertag trip to Fort Reno is scheduled for Sunday, November 16. If you are interested in going contact **Barbara Conrad** or the office for details. The German Consul from Houston will be there this year, a wreath will be laid and there will be special music for the occasion.

Adventsfeier will be on Sunday, December 14 at 3 PM, Vicar Chris Tiews of Grace Lutheran Church has been selected to conduct the service. Susan Burch will sing a solo. More details will be provided in next month's issue.

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 Meyers** 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 would like to thank **Glenn and June Cockrell** for opening their beautiful home to us for the last meeting and for providing the wonderful desserts. A big thank-you to Hannah for a spellbinding presentation about her life in the Far East. The next meeting will on 9 November at 3 pm at the home of **Klaus and Helga Greiner** who live at 509 East Winston Circle (Broken Arrow) (455-3096). Klaus will entertain/enlighten us with a power point presentation about "A Picnic in Siberia". Please plan to attend to see a part of the world with which most us have only a casual acquaintance.

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).

At the risk of leaving some one off the list, Stan and Barbara Conrad would like to collectively thank all of the GAST members who helped make **Thomas's birthday and mine** such a wonderful success. This is an event that is most meaningful to Thomas and is something which he anticipates for months before it actually occurs. We thank you for your kindness and thoughtfulness.

Volkstrauertag

Please join us for the 8th annual Memorial Service (Volkstrauertag) on Sunday November 16 at 2:00 P.M. This event takes place in Fort Reno, Oklahoma, which is located west of Ok. City. If you wish to attend this event, please contact me for details about carpooling, dinner, or driving instructions.



The service is being held in the Fort Reno Chapel, which was built by the German and Italian prisoners of war detained at this Fort during and after WW II. The service is dedicated to the memory of those soldiers who died during their time at the Fort. Our keynote Speaker during the service will be Siegfried E. Heit, our first GAST Vice President. Ms. Ute Baer, accompanied by Suzy Hayes, will sing during the service.

After the very moving service in the Chapel, we relocate to the cemetery on the grounds of the Fort, where the Honor Guard of the Governor of Oklahoma will present the Flags, lay the wreath and play Taps. Also present at the ceremony, will be the German Consul Thorsten Gottfried from Houston, Texas, the Honorary German Consul, Charles Wiggin, of Oklahoma City and two Senior Officers of the German Army Liaison Staff from Ft. Sill, Oklahoma.



After the ceremony, our Tulsa contingent is planning to have Dinner at the German restaurant, Royal Bavaria, located at 3401 S. Sooners Rd., Moore Oklahoma .

—Barbara Conrad, Vice President,
GAST Arts Association

Visit our booth at Kids' World November 13 to 16 at the Expo Square Quick Trip Center, or better yet, volunteer to help out by calling **Lois Voeller** at 355-2310.

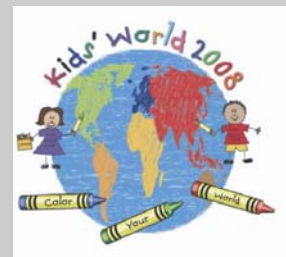
Volunteers are needed for all shifts Thursday through Sunday as follows:

Thursday, November 13th
8:30 – 11:45 A.M.
11:30 A.M. – 2:15 P.M.
2:00 – 5:15 P.M.

Friday, November 14th
8:30 – 11:30 A.M.
11:30 A.M. – 2:15 P.M.
2:00 – 5:15 P.M.
5:00 – 8:00 P.M.

Saturday, November 15th
8:30 – 11:30 A.M.
11:30 A.M. – 2:15 P.M.
2:00 – 5:15 P.M.
5:00 – 8:00 P.M.

Sunday November 16th
11:30 A.M. – 2:15 P.M.
2:30 – 5:00 P.M.



Volunteers must be at least 13 years old. Kids' World welcomes students and adults. If you can help either GAST or the Celle Partnership, please call either Lois Voeller at 355-2318 or Becky Adrian at 269-6471.

Also, see our Kinderdeutsch kids perform on Saturday, November 15 at 12:00 to 12:30 PM.

Happiness is...

We convince ourselves that life will be better when we are married, have a baby, then another. Then we are frustrated that the kids aren't old enough and we will be more content when they are. After that, we're frustrated that we have teenagers to deal with. We will certainly be happy when they are out of that stage. We tell ourselves that our life will be complete when our spouse gets his or her act together, when we get a nicer car, are able to go on a nice vacation, when we retire.

The truth is that there is no better time than now to be happy. If not now, when? Your life will always be filled with challenges. It's best to admit this to yourself and decide to be happy anyway. Treasure every moment you have. And treasure it more because you shared it with someone special, special enough to spend your time--and remember that time waits for no one.

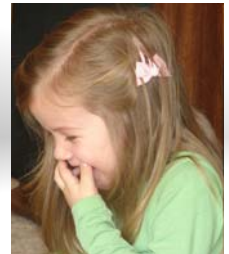
So stop waiting until you finish school, until you lose ten pounds, until you retire, until you get married, until you get divorced, until Friday night, until Sunday morning, until your new car or home is paid off, until spring, until fall, until winter, until summer, until you are off welfare, until the first or fifteenth, until your song comes on, until you are born again—to decide that there is no better time than right now to be happy.

Happiness is a journey, not a destination. Work like you don't need money, love like you have never been hurt and dance like no one is watching!

I had been teaching my three-year-old daughter, Caitlin, the Lord's Prayer. For several evenings at bedtime she repeated it after me.

One night she said she was ready to solo. I listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word, right up to the end of the prayer.

“Lead us not into temptation,” she prayed, “but deliver us some e-mail. Amen.”



Sweet Potato says:

*Keep your words
soft and sweet.*

*You never know
when you're going to have
to eat them.*



The Council Oak Trio provided vignettes of music by German and Austrian composers from the baroque, classical and romantic periods during our German-American Day Celebration.



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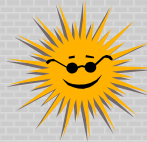
An Erwin Jerchau Presentation



Monday November 3, starting at 6:30 PM
Music with the
Zillertaler Haderlumpen

Starting at 7:30 PM
Die letzte Chance
Starring: Ritta Russek, Thomas Fritsch,
Sandra Speichert and Andreas Brucker

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. We have sent Get-Well cards to: Shirley Schelper, Sophia Brown, Harold Wicks and Guy Wilhoit, and also sent a Sympathy card to Emory Radtke on the death of his wife Virginia

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

—Gwen Bieber

Christkindlmarkt



We are in need of decorators for our Christmas trees! We are asking any sub-group within the organization (band, dancers, youth, or individual families to adopt a tree and decorate during the weekend prior to the event. You can use the decoration that GAST has or some of your own. It could be a good fun-and-fellowship time. Call Joy for more information.

GAST members are asked to help get the word out about our event by handing out cards and copying and distributing fliers to their centers of influence--i.e. their church, health club, beauty shop etc.

Judy Anderson 379-0911 and **Joy Walker** 640-2597 are acting as co chairs this year.

Mark your calendars, make your "needs" list and come enjoy a delicious lunch. Thank you so much for your help.

—Joy Walker

We welcome these new members to the GAST Family

Silvana Andrew
1031 E. 146th St
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74033
918-322-3773

Arba Jay McCullough III
3127 S. Florence Ct.
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74105
813-2437

Kellie Fransein
8545 E. 31st Pl.
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74145
850-7071

New Address
Dorothea Heit
3800 W. 71st St. #3318
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74132

Die Deutsche Welle

Die Deutsche Welle TV Service currently airs from 1 AM to 3 AM on Cox Channel 20. It was moved there to make room for student-produced programs in the prime time period. It is unlikely that this schedule will be changed in the immediate future.

—Jim Randall

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The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



The Voice of the German-American Society of Tulsa



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GAST member and master butcher, **Siegi Sumaruk**, was born in Austria and came to the States in 1965. Twenty years later, he moved to Tulsa where he opened the family-owned and operated the "Factory".

We invite you to visit Siegi's Sausage Factory and Deli at 8988 S. Sheridan in the Chimney Pointe Center to experience the scents, sights and taste of real sausage.



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