

# Das Deutsche Echo

June 09

Volume 30

Issue 6

The voice of the German-American Society of Tulsa

# Folklore Evening

Hosted by GAST Folk Dancers in conjunction with North American Federation of German Folk Dance Groups annual workshop Saturday, June 6, 2009 Social 6:30 PM, Dinner at 7:00 followed by Dance Program Dinner Menu: Rouladen, Spätzle, Red Cabbage and cheesecake, catered by Ludger

There will be a program of dances learned at our workshop and other exhibition of dances by various dancers

from Colorado, Connecticut, Indiana, Oklahoma, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and Wisconsin. Meet and greet our teacher from Berlin, Germany.

There will be a display of Historic and Ethnic German Trachten.

You are encouraged to wear your German Trachten,
Dirndls and Lederhosen.

Please make your reservation with the GAST Office
744-6997 by noon, Monday, June 1
The cost is only \$15.00

Hope to see you there.

—Carol Wright

# GAST Family Pienic

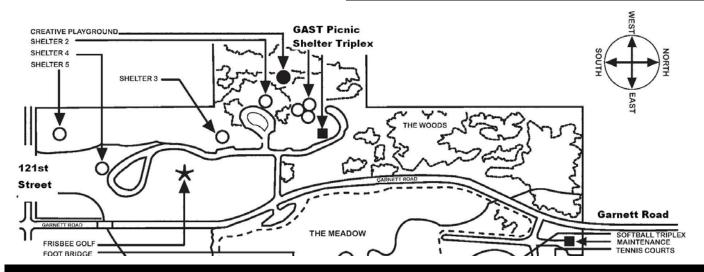
Sunday, June 21, 2 to 5 PM At Haikey Creek Park, Shelter Triplex (West Entrance from Garnett Road, between 111<sup>th</sup> and 121<sup>st</sup> Street)

Food, Fun and Games
Elam will serve his famous barbeque beef, bologna
and hot links with beans and cole slaw, homemade
Texas Toast, chocolate chip
and peanut butter cookies.

We will have beer, water, ice tea and lemonade.

\$10 per person, \$5 for Germanfest workers and children 3-12 years old, free for children 2 years and younger and young Germanfest workers (up to 12 yrs.)

Please make your reservation by calling the GAST Center (744-6997) or e-mail gast@coxmail.net by Wednesday, June 17.





# ...FROM THE GAST PRESIDENT

Before I officially "retire" from the Board of GAST, I want to express my appreciation to all the members who have supported me and were there when I needed volunteers for our fundraisers and social activities.

We have a great organization which is not only a second home for members who enjoy the company of likeminded people, but we also contribute to the community through grants and scholarships. Our Youth Chair, Marianne Segner, has worked diligently with local German language high school teachers to get Tulsa area young people involved in our cultural activities. The GAST Blaskapelle, Folkdancers and Choir have performed for many community functions, private and open festivals. We also work closely with other non-profit organizations and host visitors from other countries.

Despite the wet start, our 6<sup>th</sup> Germanfest was a success, thanks to our hard-working Germanfest Committee, chaired by **Hannelore Giles**, our kitchen crew, organized and managed by **Erica Hartman** and **Leon Boggs**, and the many volunteers who stepped up to the task when called by volunteer coordinator **Gwen Bieber**. Many were there before, during and after of the festival, others worked more than one shift. The entertainment was wonderful. Kids of all ages enjoyed the Children's activities, supervised by **Teresa** and **John Gallagher**. This year we had a special addition to the Kids' area, **Ludwig Dischner's** moving train collection. The kids (and some grown-ups) loved it. **Carol Wright's** "Laden" again had a variety of German specialties

Special events planned for June are: The **Folk Dancers** Work Shop, June 5-7, the **GAST Saenger** trip to Cole Camp's annual Saengerfest, June 13-14, and the GAST Picnic on Sunday, June 21, at Haikey Creek Park. I hope to see you there and at some of our regular functions.

—Arnold Bieber

#### A few Words from the incoming President



Wednesday, June 17
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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As I ponder taking office, I get a sense of being overwhelmed and excited. There is so much this organization is involved in and so much more we can do. I look forward to working with the Board of Directors and all the members to move us forward as we strive to keep the German culture and heritage alive and well in the Tulsa area. It will take all of us stepping forward to volunteer for all the tasks that need to be done throughout the year. There are some very important volunteer positions we must quickly fill - Oktoberfest chair, General Party chair, Weinkellarabend chair and Sonntagskaffee chair. Oktoberfest is one of our main fundraisers and needs to be organized soon. We all enjoy our monthly dinner/dance parties and the other two social events we have. If they are to continue, we must have a chairperson! You can solicit others to help organize them, but we need someone to lead. Are you willing to step forward for any of these? Please contact me if you are interested.

We must also look at ways to attract and keep new members. Our membership is declining and this is troublesome. This will be looked at by the board. Feel free to contact me. I will listen to all.

—Leon Boggs

Jul 3 Stammtisch



# ...from the Arts President

Kinderdeutsch classes will resume in September.

Adult language classes will resume in September.

The Berlin Airlift 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary observance occurred on May 24, after this write-up went to press.

Out of Bavaria cancelled their May 31 performance due to illness in the leader's family.

Movie Night will resume in September.

Konversationsrunde will resume in September.

The Library will resume operation in September, also.

Interest in the Speakers Bureau should be referred to Arnold Bieber or the GAST office.

This is my last column as Arts President. I say thanks to committee chairs and others who helped with the Arts events of the past year. Your efforts are much appreciated and we couldn't have done it without you. Also, let us welcome **Uschi Mueller** as the new Arts president and plan to give her our support.

—Jim Randall

# Beer University at McNellie's Sidebar featuring German beer.

Located at 409 E. 1st St. in Tulsa

Phone 382-PINT (7468)

Happening on Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm

They are going to taste approximately 25 different German beers, including classics from brewers like Spaten, Ayinger, Schneider and Hofbrau. The cost is \$30 (plus tax). They've done a lot of these

Beer Universities and they're a lot of fun!

#### RSVP

Please call the number above at least two to three weeks in advance so that they may reserve some spots for you All calls for info or reservations should be made to McNellie's

-Bernie Scieszinski

## GAST Happenings

Handarbeitsgruppe Tue. at 10 AM Jul 24 Weinkellerabend Nov 15 Volkstrauertag Jun 5-7 Folkdance workshop Aug 7 Stammtisch Dec 4-6 Christkindlmarkt Jun 5 Stammtisch Aug 21 Ice Cream Social Dec 13 Adventsfeier Jun 6 Folklore evening Aug 29Hawaiian Party Dec 19 Christmas Party Jun 5 Stammtisch Sep 4 Stammtisch Dec 31 New Years Eve Party Jun 21 GAST Picnic Sep 18 Organ Concert Jun 26 Weinkellerabend Oct 4 German-American day

Oct 31 Oktoberfest Party



#### FOR SALE:

14k yellow/white gold diamond name necklace and yellow gold square foxtail chain, approx 17 ½ inches long. The 2" name plate is white gold and diamonds and says

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Diamonds are 50-1.7 mm round brilliant cut of approx one carat total weight. Clarity is SI. Color is "H" to "I". Total weight is 7.69 grams. Written appraisal on 1/16/04 was \$1,550.00. **Sale price through GAST is \$900.00.** (Photo of necklace available upon request) Telephone Charles Byrd at (405) 948-8140



# Germanfest 2009 -- It Rocked!

I know that you've read all this before...but let me thank all of you from the bottom of my heart who volunteered for this year's all important GAST fundraiser. Neither rain, floods, nor swine flu, could keep you or our patrons away. It wasn't an easy decision to come out of seclusion to take over this worthwhile event, and leave the calving behind. But ladies and gentlemen, girls and boys, you did a fabulous job. Various people who were trying to step back, instead stepped up to the bat. Even those who were recouperating from recent surgeries came to work. We had fantastic student helpers, children and grandchildren who chipped in when others didn't show up for their shift without complaining about their assigned duties. Then there were those volunteers who weren't committee members but worked every day.

The Reuter Duo was fabulous. There was no way to stand still while they performed. Some of our customers even returned every day. Tom Bordner did a wonderful job as always, playing his music as needed. Johnny Ziberg had to brave the flood in Pryor where the UPS guy couldn't even get through to deliver his repaired accordion. As always, our GAST Saenger, Volkstaenzer, and the Blaskapelle were as entertaining as always.

GAST is so fortunate to have Erica Hartman and Leon Boggs in charge of our food preparations. Carol Wright not only provided decorations, took care of the Laden, secured sponsors, but also found and housed the Reuter Duo. Lois and Al Voeller, John Millar and their helpers competently handled our finances. Arnold Bieber was a man of all trades, from logistics, set-up, licenses etc. Irmgard Toschik did a great job with our signage. Gwen Bieber was our friendly volunteer caller. Theresa and John Gallagher were kind enough to again oversee the children's activities. Marianne Segner helped provide student helpers. The beautiful decorations were courtesy of Christy Fell's effort. Buddy and Joy Butcher made sure everyone was greeted. Ed Westenhiser was again our competent bar supervisor. Last but not least I want to recognize my P.R. team: John Toschik, our talented webmaster and soundman; Doris Gallagher got us again into numerous publications, billboards, and radio stations. I was happy to represent GAST on Channel 8, Channel 2, Channel 19; got Germanfest mentioned on Channel 6 news, and was interviewed by a couple of radio stations. Without the publicity on all these venues we'd had a rain-out instead of a successful event. The crowning of the Maiqueen was handled again beautifully by Hildegard Schaffrin. I am grateful for my committee's devotion to our wonderful Germanfest.

PLEASE reserve the first weekend of May next year to have fun with us at Germanfest while helping GAST. Herzlichsten Dank.

—Hannelore Giles



## **Congratulations**

to Memorial High School Volkstanzgruppe and their instructor Max Byars-Horton.

They won 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in their performances of *Schottische*, *Hammerschmidt*, and *Hofbräuhaus Ländler* dances at Deutschfest.

Deutschfest is a statewide competition for German students. It was held at Oklahoma State University. http://okaatg.okstate.edu/2009Deutschfest/DF2009winners.pdf



# Eweet Potato says:

is stable thinking, coupled with the ability to say nay.

—Mildred Barthe



#### The Sunshine Lady

Get Well Cards were sent to: Inge Thomason, Beverly Bordner and Neil Hartman.

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





Peter Bernhardt's debut novel, *The Stasi File - Opera and Espionage: A Deadly Combination*, has been ranked as a bestseller on YouWriteOn.com under sponsorship of the British Arts Council and is now available to readers through Amazon.com and BarnesandNoble.com.

Peter lived in Tulsa for thirty years – he was here when GAST was founded and was a member in the early years before retiring to Sedona, AZ, where he took up writing. He grew up in Stuttgart and originally came to the U.S. in 1967 as a young man with the Carl Duisburg Society's cultural exchange program. So it is only natural that his international thriller features German locales and culture.

The novel's setting is a critical period in recent German history: Dust from the demolished Berlin Wall has barely settled, the East German police state is on the edge of collapse, and a Stasi General will stop at nothing to save it. Caught in his intrigue are two unlikely heroes: an American lawyer and an aspiring opera diva who uncover a covert plot that threatens German unification and their very lives. "This story will appeal to all those looking for an exciting read that is a bit out of the ordinary," Bernhardt said, "but I especially hope my German countrymen will enjoy it."

Peter Bernhardt will return to Tulsa for a private publication celebration and book-signing party at the home of Roger and Jacqui Haglund, 3927 S. Atlanta Place, on Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. GAST members and their guests are cordially invited to this open house between two and five p.m. to meet Peter, take a look at his book and enjoy refreshments. For further information, you may contact Bernhardt at sedonawriter@fastmail.net. Excerpts and reviews of the novel may be found at http://sedonawriter.tripod.com.



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# Now Playing at the GAST Theater

An Erwin Jerchau Presentation



Monday June 1, starting at 6:30 PM Wanderbares

mit Ernst Grissemann

A musical trip thru the Wynyard's around Wien

Starting at 7:30 PM

#### Zwei Himmlische Dickschädel

Starring Klaus Loewitsch, Reiner Schoene, Franziska Oehme Max Strecker and Ludwig Schmid - Wildy



Dancing at German Fest

## Dear GAST Family,

Thank you for the cards, visits, gifts, calls and prayers during my recovery from hip replacement surgery. It's great bring a part of such a caring group.

Sincerely,

—Donna Boggs

Come join us at the next

# Stammtischrunde

Friday evening, June 5, 6:30 PM In the GAST Weinkeller

> Hope to see you there. Zum Wohl.

- Dann Björklund, Chair

#### Officers for all 3 Corporations

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#### The voice of the German-American Society of Tulsa





Quilt Winner, Danny Mackey mit Carol



Maikönigin 2009 Katrina Schwartz





Red Hat Society a.k.a Blaskapelle



Madam Germanfest Hannelore Giles



Easter Party



**Face Painting** 



Wall-hanging, found in a restaurant in Germany

"Don't go to bed angry at one another"