



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

## Aloha! Hele mei Hoohiwahiwa

(come celebrate)

*Couldn't get to Hawaii this year?*

Buddy and Joy Butcher are bringing Hawaii to GAST on August 29, commencing at 6:00 PM

Tulsa's Hula Halu O Leilani dancers will greet you at the door Hawaiian style; throughout the evening they will also entertain you.

In addition, the King's of Music, one of Tulsa's finest dance bands, will provide a variety of musical treats.



**The menu,  
prepared in house, will include:**

Succulent Hawaiian roast pork with broth,  
served on blanched cabbage leaves,  
accompanied by sweet potatoes, butter and bread.

Desert: pineapple cake

Drink: coffee/water

**Cost for the evening is \$15 per person with dinner served as soon as you check-in, no waiting!**

Come and enjoy an evening of entertainment, food and dancing.

To make your reservations please call 744-6997 by August 24<sup>th</sup>.

Let us know if you plan to bring children and their ages.  
For children 14 and under we will provide hot dogs at no charge.

### GAST Happenings

Handarbeitsgruppe Tue. at 10 AM	Oct 2 Stammtisch	Dec 19 Christmas Party
Sep 4 Stammtisch	Oct 4 German-American day	Dec 31 New Years Eve Party
Sep 7 Movie night	Oct 31 Oktoberfest Party	Jan 8 Stammtisch
Sep 8 German language classes	Nov 6 Stammtisch	Feb 5 Stammtisch
Sep 13 Konversationsrunde	Nov 15 Volkstrauertag	Mar 5 Stammtisch
Sep 18 Organ Concert	Dec 4-6 Christkindlmarkt	Apr 2 Stammtisch
Sep 25 Weinkellerabend	Dec 11 Stammtisch	May 7 Stammtisch
Sep 26 Kinderdeutsch	Dec 13 Adventsfeier	Jun 4 Stammtisch

This page is sponsored by GAST Member Hildegard Schaffrin

## ...FROM THE GAST PRESIDENT



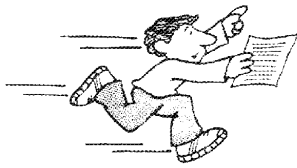
Summer is almost gone and school is starting - and what a great way to 'celebrate' both of these than with a great "ole fashion ice cream social". That was a great afternoon with lots of goodies to eat and drink. Many thanks to **Christy Collins and Uschi Mueller** and their entire crew for such a great time. My thanks to all who helped. We also had a great Weinkel-lerabend that was well attended. Our chair for that event, **Gwen Bieber** with the great help of

**Hannelore Giles** organized a fine meal and social time. Thanks to all who brought the delicious side dishes.

A note to all members: We must all remember that this is **our** organization, not just those putting an event together. When it comes time to clean up, we all need to pitch in. We do not have hired folks to clean up after us. Our cleaning service simply cleans the upstairs floors and restrooms. If everyone does just a little on clean up, it will get done quickly and we can all go home. Please do **your** part.

We have a great Hawaiian party coming up. **Buddy and Joy Butcher** are working hard to provide us with a new and fun experience. Plan now to attend. Make your reservations and invite your friends. That might be a way to get some new members! Let them see that we do have fun.

We are also working hard planning for Oktoberfest. **Arnold Bieber, chair of our committee** is guiding us through all the preparations. Once again, we must all step up and do our part when called upon to volunteer. This is our biggest fund raiser and it will take all of us. There is something for everyone to do. If you cannot work a shift at the Fest, perhaps you can help make calls for us to get folks. If we all say no to helping, the organization will fail. We cannot afford to hire all of the help to work all the positions at the festival.



**Newsletter  
Deadline**

**Wednesday, Sep 16**  
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

is published monthly by  
The German-American Society of Tulsa  
1429 Terrace Dr., Tulsa, OK 74104  
Office hours:  
Mon. Wed. Fri. 9am - 3 PM

Library hours: the third Wednesday, 1—3 PM

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GAST Web page <http://www.gastulsa.org>

**Message Center - 744-6998**

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I am sad to report at this time that I cannot find a chair for a **Sonntagskaffee Committee**. Several people have turned me down, so this event will not be happening. If anyone is willing to chair a committee to organize this monthly event, please contact me. I am excited that we have **Darlene Tegeler** working with **Hannelore Giles** in our Media/PR area. As our new committee chairs get settled into their positions, we are seeing some new ideas come forth. We are really looking at ways to attract new members to GAST. In this area I have a question for all GAST members:

Why would someone want to join GAST? What do we offer our members to attract new folks? Please think about this and let me know if you have thoughts or ideas.

Our next GAST Board of Directors meeting is September 8 at 7:00 PM. All GAST members are welcome to attend.

Until next month – Guten Tag!

—Leon Boggs

## ...from the Arts President



Where did the summer go? As we leaned back and relaxed, it sped by mercilessly, bringing us back to September and my great enjoyment - German Movie Night, which arrives on September 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm (Vorschau) and 7:30 pm (main movie). Our movie maestro, **Erwin Jerchau**, always presents a musical Vorschau (precursor to the main movie) which combines breathtaking views of German speaking Europe and the latest pop music stars. The main film presentation is often sentimental, sometimes worth a hanky or two, it can be a detective story or a romance; it is never boring. These offerings are without subtitles, but even if you aren't yet fluent in German, you should be able to follow along, or at least accustom your ear to hearing and learning German intrinsically. If you've never attended, I urge you to join us.

Just as schools resume their schedule, so too for GAST, with adult language classes beginning on Tuesday, September 15 from 7 to 9 pm and children's language classes on September 26<sup>th</sup> from 10 to 11:30 am. On another educational note, the library, which generally resumes in September, will not reopen until October, as our library coordinator will not be available until then. Should you wish to check out or return a book, please contact Becky at the office (744-6997) and arrangements can be made.

The Konversationsrunde is in jeopardy of fading away, if our participation continues to dwindle. There is no charge for attending the Konversationsrunde. It is hosted in individual GAST member homes, where the hostess goes to great lengths to show German Gastfreundschaft (hospitality). The purpose of these monthly gatherings is for those who are learning German to get an opportunity to hear German spoken and those who know German to keep their language skills fine tuned. I encourage you to come and enjoy the camaraderie and the educational benefits derived from the Konversationsrunde. (see Konversationsrunde below for details).

Our first cultural event for the 2009/2010 season is the American Theatre Organ Society's concert in our GAST Great Hall on Friday evening, September 18 at 7 pm. The GAST Blaskapelle will be joining the Organ Society for a fun-filled evening of music, music, music (and refreshments, of course.) Our second cultural event is German-American Day on October 4 at 3 pm. Victor Udwin will educate us on "How the West Was Made in Germany". You won't want to miss this one!

The Tulsa Symphony is offering our members a 2 for 1 ticket price for their first fall concert, entitled GERMANY. The concert will feature major German composers. Be sure to take advantage of this generous offer and watch for e-mail reminders with more information.

—Uschi Mueller

## Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde

We would like to welcome everyone back from the summer vacation season and hope that a good time was had by all. Our next meeting will be at the home of **Ortwin and Gertrud Schmidt** who live at 5133 East 86<sup>th</sup> Place (9495-3727) at 3:00 pm on 13 September. At our first meeting after the summer break, it is traditional that we all discuss what we did during the summer. Please bring any pictures or any other memorabilia to show what you and family did during the last three months. Please plan to attend and encourage others to come as well. During the last couple of years we have seen a significant drop in attendance. There is a point beyond which we can no longer justify meeting for just a few people. Hopefully we will not find out where that point is and we can maintain the **Konversationsrunde** with our previous level of support. We will have a garage sale next March and even though it's early, be thinking about what you can donate. 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).

### **Dr. Albert and Mrs. Hete Barthelmes contributions to GAST, GAST Arts and GAST Building Corporation.**

Al and I met them in the early 80's through **Joe and Anneliese Hardt** soon after the German-American Society of Tulsa was formed. We became good friends over the years and did many things socially together. I am honored to write of their contributions to GAST so that our newer members may have some knowledge of their friendship to GAST. I apologize in advance if my memory is incorrect as to the timing of the various gifts but suffice it to say, I do believe the following is as accurate as it could be without access to early financial records..

In the 80's soon after the Building Corporation was formed to secure and maintain a home for the German American Society of Tulsa, the Barthelmes' donated a plot of land on the east side of Tulsa as a location to build a suitable building. Architects were secured and a design was created. It was determined that the proposed design was too expensive and further study should be done to see if a suitable existing building could be found that was within the budget. Accordingly, in the early 90's the Second Church of Christ Science became available at the corner of Terrace Drive and 15<sup>th</sup> Street. An engineering study was financed by Doc and Hete in an amount of \$8000 to determine the general condition of the building. After this was approved, negotiations were undertaken which continued for most of the next six months at which time an agreement was reached and the purchase made. It was the consensus of the GAST membership that no mortgage would be placed on the property. There were sufficient available funds to make the minimum necessary changes in the building but with nothing left for contingencies. At that time the Barthelmes' gave another \$100,000 to enable to Building Corporation to finish the needed changes to make the building suitable for rental purposes. As a stipulation for the additional moneys, they were given back the title for the property which they had previously donated. Then later \$34,000 was given to be used for expenses for the utilities, maintenance, etc. of the building for one year. When Doc's office closed, we were given the furniture from his office to furnish our office in the duplex building. Prior to that time we had no office and leasing arrangements were handled through my office in our house and by Joe Hardt in his home. It had been determined by that time that a leasing manager was needed and the office furniture made that possible. You have probably noted the beautiful antique chairs in the Center foyer. They were also given to GAST by Hete.

After those above listed, they donated smaller amounts for many things including money for the library and the large refrigerator in the kitchen and always supported our Arts Projects. They had a great interest in the arts including the Tulsa Ballet, the Tulsa Philharmonic Orchestra, Tulsa Opera and annually made large contributions to them. Accordingly, they supported GAST Arts in the same way. At the time of the grand opening of the GAST Center, they flew in and hosted several members of the Philadelphia German Society as special guests. Additionally, several years later, they brought in a zither group from the Philadelphia German Society for a program in the Great Hall. Doc and Hete were long-time members of the Philadelphia Society and have an auditorium in that building named after them. Our library, as a special tribute was named the Barthelmes Library.

Even after their deaths, their legacy lives on. The Barthelmes Foundation contributed \$200,000 with the stipulation that funds be used for upkeep of the Center. An endowment was formed by the Arts Association as part of a 501(c)3 corporation which makes proceeds from the funds available each year for needed purchases, repairs, etc. Their foundation annually is the largest contributor to the Arts Fund Raising effort and just recently a large donation was made to the Memorial Fund in memory of **Joe Hardt**. The Barthelmes Conservatory, a separate foundation, has provided several musical Arts programs at no cost for the enjoyment of members and the public.

Doc and Hete were not just financial donors to GAST but were good friends of many of our members. We are indebted to them for many things but most of all, without them we probably would not have our beautiful GAST Center. We are indeed grateful for their friendship.

—Lois Voeller

## ...from the GAST Building President

Now that we are in the peak of wedding season I'd like to take a moment to discuss recent changes in our rental program. Due to some confusion among the members as to exactly what GASBC offers I feel some clarification is in order. A simple Q&A might be the best way to do that, based on the questions people have been asking:

Q: What are these packages and why are we doing them?

A: For 18 years GASBC has leased the building to the general public for private events when the building was not in use. Over the years, competition has grown considerably, as has the need to generate more revenue for building maintenance and improvements. When Becky Adrian came back to GASBC she proposed adding optional facility planning to our services and developed package deals that provide catering, cake, music, labor and rental items. Now a client can rent the building by itself and source their own vendors or they can rent the building and opt for a package. The packages generate more revenue for GASBC and the client gets help planning their event if they choose it.

Q: Does Becky Adrian earn money on the packages?

A: Yes, she earns a commission off of the package income which is paid after GASBC receives its net profit. The rental fee is excluded from the commission.

Q: Would she or GASBC exclude a non package rental to hold the date for a package one?

A: Rentals are booked first come, first served. So far, people have been booking the building first and then deciding on packages afterwards. The packages are optional, not required and all types of clients are treated equally.

Q: Does this mean we won't get to use our building when we want to?

A: No, internal events have precedence over external rentals. The GAST calendar has been established so that the membership can use the building as it sees fit.

Q: Are we opening ourselves up to potential legal action by doing more than leasing the building?

A: This is a question that was thoroughly researched. The new and improved insurance that we carry and the legal contracts both clients and vendors must sign before any services are exchanged take away as much risk as possible.

Q: Is this new program working?

A: Yes, we've had a tremendous surge in interest since offering facility planning (packages.) Clients are tired of doing everything themselves and appreciate that we give them the help they want. Since March, seven packages have booked for 2009 alone and 2010 looks fantastic. Starting a new process is always tricky but the revenue generated by all types of rentals will help maintain the GAST Center for years to come.


If you have further questions or if you would like to participate in the Leasing Committee's Hosting service, please contact me at 743-0359.

—Harold Wicks, GASBC President



**Ideas needed  
for a new Building Sign**

Do you own, work for or know anyone in the sign business who can help us design a new sign?  
Please contact the GAST office at 744-6998 or email us at [gast@tulsamail.com](mailto:gast@tulsamail.com)  
Thanks.



**The Sunshine Lady**  
GAST sent out sympathy cards, to the family of Diana Dipboye and one to the family of our beloved Josef Hardt, also a get-well card to Bob Warner.

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](mailto:book_worm34@hotmail.com) or phone me at 357-9156—**Gwen Bieber**

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# Now Playing at the GAST Theater

An Erwin Jerchau Presentation



Monday September 7 starting at 6:30 PM  
**Heimatmelodien**

Starting at 7:30 PM

### Der Ewige Walzer

Starring: Bernhard Wicki, Hilde Krahl  
Annemarie Dueringer and Friedel Loor

### We thank the following contributors for their donations received sine January 09

The Albert and Hete	Gwen and Arnold Bieber
Barthelmes Foundation	Helga and Claus Greiner
Darlene Tegeler	KJRH Channel 2
Hannelore Giles	Lois and Al Voeller
Angela Svendsen	Kathy and Elam Blank
Shannon Moorehead	Barbara and Stan Conrad
Christel Harms	Doris and Harold Wicks
Helen Lochner	Teresa and John Gallagher
June Holmes	Doris Gallagher
Thomas Clark	German-American Society

### Adult Language classes begin

Come join our German language classes. They start September 15, 2009.

Enrollment 6:30-6:55 p.m., instruction 7-9 p.m.

We will meet every Tuesday from seven to nine p.m. for 10 weeks. Different levels from beginners to advanced are planned. Tuition is \$65 for members, \$75 for non-members. Class space is limited. If you wish to reserve your place you may send a note mentioning your level, together with a check, to the office.

Hope to see you in class.

—Marianne Strong

### We welcome these new members to the GAST Family

JoAnn Sieber  
7846 So. 69th East Ave.  
Tulsa, OK 74133  
Phone# 918-492-4246

### Barthelmes Conservatory presents

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- **Sale price through GAST is \$900.00.**
- Photo of necklace available upon request)
- Telephone Charles Byrd at (405) 948-8140

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The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



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



**Strawberry  
Shortcake,  
anyone?**

## Ice Cream Social 2009



**The Cleanup Crew.  
Yes, it takes a lot of work  
to cleanup the mess!**



**The Line**

Our August 2<sup>nd</sup> Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social was a roaring success. **Carol Wright's** mom, **Rosamond**, celebrated her **94<sup>th</sup> birthday**, with 120 people singing to the occasion.

The Weinkeller fairly vibrated from the sounds of delightful smacking and snacking. Vietnamese Coffee, a sweet icy coffee mixture, turned out to be one of the favorite items, closely followed by banana splits. By our count we decimated 9 gallons of ice cream, 4 German cream cakes, a watermelon, 2 gallons of tea, 36 Vietnamese coffees, 26 banana splits, 2 gallons of fruit salad, 2 gallons of punch, Jello and so on and on and on. We had fare for the sweet and for the diabetic as well. The retail value of what was served was well over \$500!

This function could not have been the success it was without the help and assistance of the following people: **Arnold Bieber, Ruth Bly, Donna and Leon Boggs, Buddy Butcher, Helen Cohea, Inge Mueller, Rick Pizzo, Hildegard Schaffrin** and **Terry Sponsler**.

I am missing a beer stein from the Stammtisch room. It is a half-liter Krug with a tin lid from Saengerfest in Peoria, IL. My name is on the bottom of the Krug, so there is no mistaking to whom it belongs. I would greatly appreciate, that it is returned to the Stammtisch in the lower level of the GAST Center.  
Thank you,

Bernie Scieszinski