



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

The GAST Oktoberfest Committee invites you to our

## Oktoberfest Dinner & Dance Party

on Saturday, October 31, 2009

Doors will open at 5:30 PM, Dinner starts at 6:00 PM



### Menu

Schnitzel  
(with or without Hunter Sauce)

French Fries

Red Cabbage

Tossed Green Salad

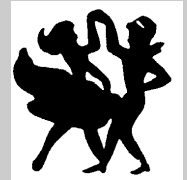
Bread and Butter

Brownies and Whipped Cream for dessert

Water, Ice Tea, Beer



### Entertainment by the Polkatimers



The party is **free** for all GAST Oktoberfest Volunteers who worked more than four hours during Tulsa Oktoberfest 2009, **Non-volunteers will pay \$20.00.**

Please make your reservations by Wednesday, October 28,

by calling the GAST Office (744-6997) or e-mailing [gast@tulsacoxmail.com](mailto:gast@tulsacoxmail.com),

Please indicate whether or not you volunteered for a shift in a GAST tent, helped with set-up/break down or drove the shuttle or golf cart.

Come and enjoy great food, fun and dancing!

## GAST Happenings

Handarbeitsgruppe Tue. at 10 AM	Nov 8 Konversationsrunde	Jan 22 Weinkellerabend
Sep 25 Weinkellerabend	Nov 15 Volkstrauertag	Feb 5 Stammtisch
Sep 26 Kinderdeutsch	Dec 4-6 Christkindlmarkt	Feb 26 Weinkellerabend
Oct 2 Stammtisch	Dec 11 Stammtisch	Mar 5 Stammtisch
Oct 4 German-American day	Dec 13 Adventsfeier	Mar 26 Weinkellerabend
Oct 11 Konversationsrunde	Dec 19 Christmas Party	Apr 2 Stammtisch
Oct 31 Oktoberfest Party	Dec 31 New Years Eve Party	May 7 Stammtisch
Nov 6 Stammtisch	Jan 8 Stammtisch	Jun 4 Stammtisch

This page is sponsored by GAST Member Hildegard Schaffrin

## ...FROM THE GAST PRESIDENT



Another month passes and we see the weather starting to look more like fall and that means Oktoberfest time! We hosted the Oktoberfest Poster unveiling and it was a great party put on by Oktoberfest, Inc. GAST sponsors the poster, so our name and logo is on all the posters. We will soon have our framed copy on display in the hallway of the lower level. Make sure you check it out. **Arnold Bieber**, our **GAST Oktoberfest Committee Chair**, is very busy with his committee getting everything in place for our two food booth tents. It takes MANY volunteers to make this happen successfully. If you have not signed up yet or decide that you can give a little more time, get in touch with Arnold. Now is the best time to volunteer so you can still get the positions you want to work in. Remember, all volunteers get free admission to Oktoberfest, free meals while you are on duty in our tents and free admission to the GAST Oktoberfest Party the week after the festival is over. More important, you have the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping to keep GAST alive.

**Hannelore Giles** reports that all is on track for **Christkindlmarkt**. That event is going to be here before we know it. If you are called to help with that, step up please.

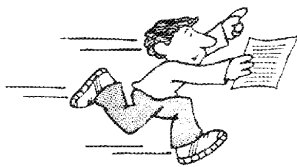
Last month I put out a call for your thoughts and ideas concerning why someone would want to join GAST, why would someone want to stay a member of GAST, and what do we offer our members to make them want to join and stay. To date, I have received no responses. This tells me that we are all totally satisfied with our organization and that there is no need for improvement—or that no one really cares about what is happening in our organization. My question is: why then is our membership number declining? I once again ask you these same questions. Please take some time to think about it and give us feedback.

We do have some exciting news from our Youth Program. GAST is now sponsoring a Youth Dancer group. It will involve high school age students from grade nine through college age.

**Max Byers-Horton, Joe and Jenny Rohr** and others will be working with this group on Sunday afternoons. They will report to our Youth Chairperson, **Marianne Segner**. It is great to see our programs expanding, especially in the youth area. I want to remind all of you that our Board of Director meetings are open to all members. You are welcome to come observe, give us your thoughts and ideas. You cannot vote, but you can be heard. I look forward to see ALL of you in one or the other of our food booths at Oktoberfest.

Guten Tag.

—Leon



### Newsletter Deadline

**Wednesday, Oct 21**  
by 6 PM  
scheduled for the Wednesday  
after the Board meeting.  
The Board meets every  
second Wednesday  
of the month  
at the GAST Center at 7 PM

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### Message Center - 744-6998

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## ...from the Arts President



Soon Oktoberfest will be here with its 'jubel und trubel', but before that comes along, we'll have enjoyed several Arts events. Our first movie night was a winner, with the beautiful Vorschau music and scenery followed by a movie about the life of Johann Strauss. If you missed this one, **Erwin Jerchau** will have an equally fabulous offering for you in October.

Our first Konversationsrunde was a resounding success, held at the home of **Ortwin** and **Gertrud Schmidt**. Fourteen people attended and shared their summer experiences, which ranged from distant travel to digging in our Tulsa gardens. Gertrud had a fabulous 'German/American cake and several home-baked "Kuchen". You won't want to miss these fabulous desserts, so join us for our next Konversationsrunde! **Sabine Brown** will recount her travel experiences in Germany. Please read **Barbara Conrad's** Konversationsrunde column for details of where and when.

The adult German classes are now in full swing and with a full house! **Marianne Strong** is again in charge of our beginners, **Alexander McLaurin** is teaching the intermediate class and **Grete McNac** and **Frieda Odell** are teaching two levels of advanced. **Doris Gallagher** will be acting as substitute teacher, should that be necessary.

Don't forget the Tulsa Symphony's offer of 2 for 1 pricing for their Germany concert on September 26<sup>th</sup> at the PAC. Advise the ticket office that you are a GAST member when you reserve your seats. It would be great if a large number of GAST members would show their support and come dressed in native costume for the occasion. The Echo will just be hitting your mailbox and have been on-line in time for you to take advantage of this offer.

September 26<sup>th</sup> is also the day that our children's eight German classes will start. It is never too early to teach children a foreign language, and what better language than one to which they have a connection. **Hildegard Schaffrin** will again lead our little ones in song, **Angelique McLaurin** will be their language instructor, and I, with a little help from my friends (**Carol Wright** and **Christy Collins**) will be the dance instructor. Parents may lounge in our Weinkeller or run a quick errand or help with the preview, inspection and cleaning of our Oktoberfest equipment. We'll have German coffee for the adults and light snacks and beverages for the children. Be sure to look over our article dealing with Kinderdeutsch.

"How the West Was Made in Germany" is **Professor Udwin's** topic for German-American Day, which we will celebrate on October 4 at 3 PM at the GAST Center. Our hostesses for the reception that follows will be **Lois Voeller** and **Ruth Bly** under the able direction of **Susan Bey**, who will be attending a family celebration. Thank you for coordinating this for us, Susan.

Thank you for supporting GAST Arts. Enjoy the cooler days and all the events that GAST has to offer.

—Uschi Mueller

## Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde

We would like to thank **Ortwin and Gertrud Schmidt** for hosting our last meeting and for their gracious hospitality. We were encouraged by the nice turnout and hope that we have even more participants at future meetings. Our next meeting will be at the home of **Gabi Richardson** who lives at 5827 S. Maplewood (494-3762) at 3:00 pm on October 11. Our speaker will be Ms Sabina Brown who is an American studying German. She has traveled and studied extensively in Germany. We think that her thoughts and impressions will be of interest to all of us. 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).

## Annual Volkstrauertag (German Memorial Day) Ceremony at Fort Reno, OK.

November 15, 2009

This event commemorates German and also Italian soldiers who died while interned in Oklahoma during WWII.



Chapel



Cemetery

The Arts Association is coordinating the annual Volkstrauertag (German Memorial Day) ceremony at Fort Reno, OK. This event commemorates German and also Italian soldiers who died while interned in Oklahoma during WWII. The event begins at 2 PM on Sunday, November 15 at the Ft. Reno Chapel, which was constructed by German prisoners of war. Charles Wiggin, Honorary German Consul and Colonel Robert Powell (Ret.) will speak during the ceremony. Participants will also include: the Governor's Honor Guard and a delegation from the German troop contingent at Fort Sill. Ceremonies conclude with laying of the wreaths at the post cemetery, accompanied by GAST members **David Marshall and Max Tankersley** playing the bagpipes. Fort Reno is located two miles north of Exit 119 off Interstate 40 approximately 30 miles west of Oklahoma City. We will organize a carpool of interested members to attend the event.

We hope that many GAST members will have an opportunity to attend in this very moving event. Please call Arnold Bieber at 357- 9156 if you wish to sign up to join or to provide for car pooling.

## German-American Day

This a holiday in the United States, observed annually on October 6. This holiday, which celebrates German heritage, commemorates the date in 1683 when 13 German families from Krefeld, Germany landed in Philadelphia. These families subsequently founded Germantown, Pennsylvania, the first German settlement in the original thirteen American colonies.

In 1983 President Ronald Reagan proclaimed October 6th as German-American Day to celebrate and honor the 300th anniversary of German American immigration and culture to the United States. On August 6, 1987, Congress approved S.J. Resolution 108, designating October 6, 1987 as German-American Day. It became Public Law 100-104 when President Reagan signed it on August 18. A proclamation (#5719) to this effect was issued October 2, 1987 by President Reagan in a formal ceremony in the White House Rose Garden, at which time the President called on Americans to observe the Day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Accordingly, the German-American Society of Tulsa (GAST) continues to celebrate this holiday this year on Sunday, October 4th. (the Sunday nearest to the actual date). The ceremonies will commence at 3 PM in the Great Hall of the GAST Center, located on 15th Street, one block west of Lewis. This event is free and open to the public. Donations to defray costs are welcome.







## Hawaii came to GAST

### Come join us at the next **Stammtischrunde**

Friday evening, October 2, 6:30 PM  
In the GAST Weinkeller  
Hope to see you there.  
Zum Wohl,

—Dann Björklund, Chair



### *Sweet Potato says:*

Peace cannot be kept by  
force. It can only be achieved  
by understanding.

Albert Einstein

### Oktoberfest Update!

If you missed the sign-up party or a call from our calling  
volunteers, it's not too late.

We still have lots of open positions for our biggest fundraiser.  
Call me at 357-9156 or e-mail me at aobieber@aol.com for  
details.

We will meet on Saturdays, September 26 and October 3  
for equipment repair and a wash party, starting at 8 AM.  
Join us for coffee and donuts and help the cause, especially if  
you are not available  
during Oktoberfest (Setup: Oct. 19 and 20, Oktoberfest, Oct.  
21-25).

—Arnold Bieber, GAST Oktoberfest Chair

### KINDERDEUTSCH

Children from Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade can benefit from  
these classes (most area schools begin offering foreign  
languages in 6<sup>th</sup> grade). Our fall session begins on September  
26<sup>th</sup> from 10 to 11:30 am and will run for 8 sessions, with a  
break for Oktoberfest, ending just before Thanksgiving and  
culminating with our St. Nikolaus party on December 12<sup>th</sup>.  
Cost for children or grandchildren of members is \$15, non-  
members - \$20. A \$5 discount is given for each additional  
child within a given family unit. You may pre-register by  
sending us your basic information (names / address / phone #)  
and appropriate funds to **GAST Kinderdeutsch**, 1429 Terrace  
Drive, Tulsa, OK 74104.

### Hawaii came to GAST

Hawaii truly did come to GAST and a large crowd  
enjoyed hula dancers, Hawaiian style music and  
food, and a variety of very danceable music. Our  
thanks go to **Buddy and Joy Butcher** and their  
large group of volunteers, who organized, set-up,  
cooked and cleaned. If you have never worked  
behind the scenes, we invite you to join us. We did  
learn a few things at this event, which should help  
us make future parties better. If you have  
recommendations or would like to help, please be  
sure to contact **Christy Collins** or **Uschi Mueller**  
at mueller11@cox.net. You may also leave a  
phone message at the office.

### The Sunshine Lady



GAST sent out sympathy cards to the  
family's of Charlene Yeager and  
Floye Webster.

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

*This spot is sponsored by*

*Harold and Doris Wicks*

*Thank you*

If you are in need of an ATTORNEY in the Oklahoma City Metro Area, you may contact **CHARLES J. BYRD** at NECCO & BYRD, P.C. We are a law firm with over 80 years of combined experience.

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# Now Playing at the GAST Theater

An Erwin Jerchau Presentation



Monday October 5, starting at 6:30 PM

## Heimatmelodien

Starting at 7:30 PM

## Schwarzwald Mädel (Musical)

Starring: Paul Hoerbinger, Sonja Ziemann  
Fritz Kampers, Lucie Englisch and Rudolf Prack

### GAST Saenger begin practice session

The GAST Saenger are back to their weekly practice session and are looking forward to participating in the Franciscan Village "Octoberfest." This performance has been our official opening of the "Oktoberfest" season since the Choir was established.

It is a joy to see the reactions of the older Nuns when they hear songs from their youth and homeland. Many sing along, with obvious joy on their smiling faces.

Close on the heels of October programs comes the Christmas season with it's much-loved old familiar songs. We make an effort to learn new songs, some that are sung in both Germany and the U.S.A. to give some interest to our American members friends and fans.

Our books for the North American Saenger Fest in St. Antonio Texas, April of 2010, have arrived. Now much of our time is spent learning new arrangements of familiar songs and songs that are new to us.

All in all it is good to get back together and to working on improving our voices after a long and restful summer.

Anyone wishing to join us is more than welcome. Just stop by and check us out any Thursday from 7 to 9 pm in the Weinkeller of the GAST Center. Looking forward to greeting new choir members.

—Irmgard Runyon

## We welcome these new members to the GAST Family

### New Members

Jan C. Polliard  
3355 So. 141<sup>st</sup> East Ave.  
Tulsa, OK 74134  
(918)437-6447

### Reinstated

Bill and Marcia Fox  
9413 So. Urbana Ave.  
Tulsa, OK 74137  
(918)492-7981

Richard and Martha Jagel  
25850 East Red Oak Street  
Broken Arrow, OK 74014  
(918)357-2573

Kenneth and Donna Johnson  
634 Ft. Spunky Road  
Catoosa, OK 74015  
(918)266-7499

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- 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

### HANNELORE

- 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

This page is sponsored by Arnold & Gwen Bieber

The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



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



## My Birthday

I would like to thank all my friends for coming to my birthday party. Thank you for all your nice gifts and sharing my birthday with me. I hope to see all of you again next year at my next birthday party.

—Thomas

Thank all of you for your kind words and thoughtfulness for Thomas.

—(Mom and Dad)



## Happy Oktoberfest from Munich!

