



Ice Cream Social!



I scream for Ice Cream
and they heard me!
Come and get it!

Join us at our annual gathering
and help us empty all those buckets of delicious Ice Cream,
on Sunday, August 8th, from 2:30 to 4:30 PM at GAST.

We'll also have Eiskaffee and other goodies.

And we always appreciate your donations!

For reservations
please call GAST at 744-6997 by August 4th.

—Erica & Ruth

GAST Happenings

Handarbeitsgruppe Tue. at 10 AM

Jul 30 Weinkeller

Aug 6 Stammtisch

Aug 8 Ice Cream Social

Aug 20 Am. Theater Organ Society musical fun

Aug 27 Weinkeller

Sep 3 Stammtisch

Sep 14 Language Class begins

Sep 18 Kinderdeutsch begins

Oct 3 German-American Day

Nov 14 Volkstrauertag

Dec 12 Adventsfeier

...FROM THE GAST PRESIDENT



Guten Tag, liebe Freunde!

It seems summer has arrived. At least with all the rain and then extreme heat, we all get a free sauna in our back yard. I am very excited to announce that we have a co-chairs for Oktoberfest 2010! New Board member, **Ed Anthis**, volunteered at our meeting this week to help retiring chair, **Arnold Bieber**, lead our operations this year. Many thanks to both of these guys. **Erica Hartman** has again agreed to make sure we have all of our food and other supplies in place by that time. Another major position was filled at the Board meeting with **Michelle Morris** volunteering to call everyone to get workers. The Board of Directors did vote to operate both tents again this year, so we will need everyone to come and work a shift with us. This is still our largest fund raiser. It will take all of us to make it a success to help keep our organization going.

After much negotiating with Oktoberfest, Inc, we agreed to again sponsor the Oktoberfest poster. They were very kind and generous to us. This is the best contract we have ever had with them. I want to thank **Tom Morris and Arnold Bieber** for sitting on the negotiating team. We worked with Amber Hinkle, Executive Director of Oktoberfest, Inc and **Claus Greiner**, a member of their board. He was very supportive of GAST's requests and helped us get what we did. This is best I have ever felt going into Oktoberfest. NOW WE ALL NEED YOU TO STEP UP AND VOLUNTEER TO HELP. Watch for sign-up info to come out soon. We will have work parties at GAST to check and repair all of our equipment and to also pre-wash and sanitize all of our utensils and pots. When these are announced, come join us. Many hands make for less work – and great fellowship.

I am saddened to learn of the passing of our Blaskappelle director, Don Linde. My personal thoughts and prayers go his family. He has been very instrumental in getting our brass group to where it is today. I am sure they will re-organize with a new leader and continue to play and represent GAST in a very positive way.

I want to thank **Michael Owens**, one of our college student reps to the Board for organizing and hosting the Soccer

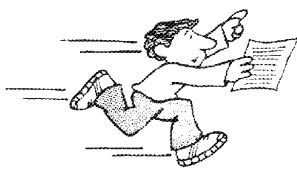
World Cup watch parties. It was something totally new for us and I consider it a success. I even got to go to a couple of them. It was great to be with friends who knew the game and could explain it to me. I found myself then watching more on my own at home. Perhaps more of these type of gatherings can be planned. If you have an idea let me know.

There are still many things on the list from our 'brainstorm' session that we had previously. I intend to break them down, delegate some of them and see if we really want to try some or forget them. We will not know if something is good for us to do unless we give it a try. We are looking for ideas for activities that YOU want to do with your friends from GAST. Remember, this is YOUR organization.

Also remember you are welcome to attend the monthly Board of Directors meetings. They are held the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM. You are welcome to address the Board, share your thoughts, concerns and ideas. You cannot vote but it helps the Board to make a decision if they hear from you.

Watch for info in this issue about Weinkeller and the Ice Cream Social. Plan now to attend!

—Leon



**Newsletter
Deadline**

Wednesday, August 18
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

Das Deutsche Echo

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...from the Arts President

In anticipation of the monthly July board meeting the next day, I finally fired up the computer Tuesday evening. An e-mail announced a board member on a European trip unable to attend and I joked enviously in reply how that was some excuse. I looked over the June minutes and as I did, wondered why our wonderful new secretary, **Michelle Morris**, had left a phone message indicating I would see her today, since our meetings are on Wednesdays. Wait a minute....today is...is...is today Wednesday? It can't be; in a panic, I jumped up and ran to the living room to look at the one source that I knew would be up-to-the minute, the television program guide. Oh my gosh...it's not Tuesday; it's Wednesday and it's way, way late....What happened to Tuesday, how can it be Wednesday? This is the stuff of nightmares and it's real!

Fortunately July is a quiet month for Arts, but the mix-up was still unnerving and embarrassing!

Oh, well...onward to August. Our first Arts event for the 2010/11 season; the **American Theatre Organ Society's** evening of musical fun in the Great Hall at GAST is on **Friday, August 20th at 7 P.M.** This is always a treat, featuring our organ, which is maintained by the American Theatre Organ Society. The use of our building is both a 'thank you' to the organ society, as well as being a treat for their members and ours. Give yourself an evening filled with music, friends and refreshments, by joining us.

Speaking of refreshments, I am still looking for someone to chair refreshment presentations. We have Arts events that call for refreshments about once a month; around eight a year. This is not a gender specific post and can easily be handled by either male or female. If you like creating edible, artistic fare while enjoying musical and cultural presentations, this may be the perfect volunteer situation for you. Please email (mueller11@cox.net) or call me (743-4353) if you are able to help.

Our **Adult Language Classes**, are scheduled to begin on Tuesday, September 14 for a 10 week session co-chaired by **Greta McNac** and **Frieda Odell**. These language sessions are an interesting and relatively inexpensive way to learn German in a relaxed and enjoyable setting. We have beginner, intermediate and advanced classes, depending on your individual situation. You are free to move up to the next learning level, once you feel comfortable doing so. Our advanced group has a unique camaraderie, which extends over many years and adds members as participants move up from intermediate or come to our sessions with basic fluency. Unlike formal courses, these sessions do not assail you with tests and the need to 'make a grade'; they are for the sheer enjoyment.

On Saturday, September 18, from 10 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. our 8-week **Kinderdeutsch** sessions begin, chaired by **Katrina Schwartz**, with a 'vacation' during Oktoberfest. Kinderdeutsch also extends a relaxing and fun filled learning environment. Children are taught basic German phrases, do crafts, learn German songs and German folk dances. At the end of each Saturday session a light snack is served, allowing our K through 6th grade participants to practice asking for items in German, with basic courtesies. Our Kinderdeutsch participants perform the songs and dances they learn at our Oktoberfest and at Germanfest. Both Adult Language and Kinderdeutsch classes are open to the public. If you know of children or adults who would benefit from these programs, please spread the word. With your help in telling people about these positive aspects of our organization our future will be assured.

On Friday, July 16th, **Arnold Bieber** and I had the distinct pleasure of hosting a cultural German session for some 35 children and 4 counselors at **Whiteside Park**. Many of the children were aware of their German roots and several asked and answered questions regarding Germany and German culture. Not only did they learn about Germany, but they also enjoyed learning two dances, one of which, **Das Fliegerlied**, included German lyrics and words they will not soon forget: **flieg, Flieger, stark, Tiger, groß, Giraffe, hoch, spring, wieder, schwimm, rüber, nimm, Hand, mag, sag, schöner Tag!**

And with that, I wish you: "habt noch noch 'nen schönen Tag und Monat"

—Uschi

Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde

This popular program
will resume in September

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).

GAST Dancers' Fall Practice begins

The summer has flown by and it's time to start thinking about Oktoberfest and German folk dancing. If you have watched on the sidelines and wondered how you can be part of this fun and enjoyable group, wonder no more. On Friday evening, August 20, from 7 to 9 P.M., we begin our fall practice sessions in the Weinkeller, downstairs in the main GAST building. We invite you to join us! You don't need to know how to folk dance; you just need the desire to learn and the commitment to attend as many practice sessions as possible.

Our adult Volkstanzgruppe is for ages 12 to 100 plus; if you can move and grove, this group is for you. We provide the lessons and the main portion of your costume; you provide happy feet and the desire to entertain others.

The GAST Volkstanzgruppe is an outreach for GAST and performs not only at Oktoberfests in Oklahoma and the surrounding states, but also in nursing homes, churches, at international

celebrations and the like. We also attend German folk dance training sessions, which are held throughout the United States and in Germany.

Learning to folkdancing does take practice, but what a fun way to volunteer your time and make people happy! We truly could use more dancers in our group, so that we can do additional dances, enhancing those we have. A larger group also helps us when we receive invitations to perform, since some individuals in a group may not always available at a specific time. Our younger set, ages 12 and under, are taught German folk dances through our 8-week Kinderdeutsch program.

If you have any questions, please contact **Carol Wright** at d.c.w@cox.net or leave a message to be called at the GAST office (744-6997). We hope to see you August 20th in the Weinkeller.

– Uschi Mueller





Come join us at the next
Stammtischrunde

Friday evening, Aug 6, 6:30 PM

In the GAST Weinkeller

Hope to see you there.

Zum Wohl,

– Dann Björklund, **Chair**

**Now Playing
 at the GAST
 Theater**

An Erwin Jerchau Presentation



This program will resume
 on September 6, 2010

Life Lessons

LESSON #1

In ancient times, a king had a boulder placed on a roadway. Then he hid himself and watched to see if anyone would remove the huge rock. Some of the king's wealthiest merchants and courtiers came by and simply walked around it. Many loudly blamed the king for not keeping the roads clear, but none did anything about getting the big stone out of the way. Then a peasant came along carrying a load of vegetables. On approaching the boulder, the peasant laid down his burden and tried to move the stone to the side of the road. After much pushing and straining, he finally succeeded. As the peasant picked up his load of vegetables, he noticed a purse lying in the road where the boulder had been. The purse contained many gold coins and a note from the king indicating that the gold was for the person who removed the boulder from the roadway. The peasant learned what many others never understand. Every obstacle presents an opportunity to improve one's condition.

LESSON #2

During my second month of nursing school, our professor gave us a pop quiz. I was a conscientious student and breezed through the questions until I read the last one: "What is the first name of the woman who cleans the school?"

Surely this was some kind of joke. I had seen the cleaning woman several times. She was tall, dark-haired, and in her 50s, but how would I know her name? I handed in my paper, leaving the last question blank. Before class ended, one student asked if the last question would count toward our quiz grade. "Absolutely," said the professor.

"In your careers, you will meet many people. All are significant. They deserve your attention and care, even if all you do is smile and say hello." I've never forgotten that lesson. I also learned her name was Dorothy.

(Continued on page 7)

This spot is sponsored by

Harold and Doris Wicks

Thank you

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

Re-instatement

Ludwig Obermaier & Roberta Dotts
7419 So. 87th E. Ave.
Tulsa, Ok 74133
918-252-7521

New Members

Beate Abele & Dana Eddings
9707 N. 102nd E. Ave.
Owasso, Ok 74055
918-274-8882

Our Weinkeller Rocks!

Please join us on Friday, August 27 at 5:30 pm for a Bavarian-style informal gathering in our comfy-cozy Weinkeller, for food, fun, friends and entertainment.

**Your generous donations
are always appreciated!**

We hope to see you there
Ruth and Erica



Sweet Potato says:

The best way
to forget your own problems,
is to help someone else
solve their's.



The Sunshine Lady

GAST sent two Get-Well cards, one to **Carl Edmundson** and one to **Doris Wicks**, and one Sympathy card to the **Donald Linde** family.

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 at book_worm34@hotmail.com
or call me at 357-9156

– **Gwen Bieber**

(Continued from page 5)

LESSON # 3

I was taking my usual morning walk when a garbage truck pulled up beside me. I thought the driver was going to ask for directions. Instead, he showed me a picture of a cute little five-year-old boy. "This is my grandson Jeremiah," he said. "He's on a life-support system at a Phoenix hospital." Thinking he would next ask for a contribution to his hospital bills, I reached for my wallet. But he wanted something more than money. He said, "I'm asking everybody I can, to say a prayer for him. Would you say one for him, please?" I did. And my problems didn't seem like much that day.

This page is sponsored by Arnold & Gwen Bieber

The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



The Voice of the German-American Community



**Arnold Bieber and
Uschi Mueller**
hosting a cultural
German session for some
35 children and four
counselors
at **Whiteside Park**.



Neuschwanstein project drawing (Christian Jank 1869) Courtesy Wikipedia