



Annual Volkstrauertag (German Memorial Day) Ceremony

at Fort Reno, OK.

Sunday, November 14, 2010

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



The Arts Association is again 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 prisoner-of-war camps in Oklahoma during WWII. The event begins at 2 PM on Sunday, November 14 at the Ft. Reno Chapel, which was constructed by German prisoners of war. Charles Wiggin, Honorary German Consul and Dr. Bill Corbett 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 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.

GAST Happenings

Handarbeitsgruppe Tue. at 10 AM
Oct 30 GAST O'fest party
Nov 12 Coronation dinner
Nov 14 Volkstrauertag

Nov 21 Konversationsrunde
Dec 11 Christmas party
Dec 12 Adventsfeier
2011

Jan 22 Anniversary Party
Mar 5 Fasching party

...FROM THE GAST PRESIDENT



Guten Tag

OKTOBERFEST 2010 IS HERE! As I scribble this, our crews are moving all of our cooking stuff out to the festival site. I thank our GAST Oktoberfest co-chairs, **Ed Anthis** and **Arnold Bieber** for all their hard work in organizing our committee and trying to keep us all on task. Our usual struggle of getting volunteers continues. I think we will need to step back after this one is over and re-evaluate the size of our operations at Oktoberfest since we continue to have problems finding enough help. I know that we will make it happen and hopefully mother nature cooperates and we have a fun and successful festival. I thank all of you who have volunteered for your help and support.

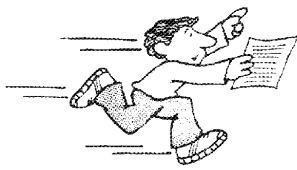
Our dancers and the Choir are also very busy right now with lots of Oktoberfest-type engagements all around the area. They do a great job of representing us in Tulsa and the surrounding communities – some far away! They are tremendous ambassadors for GAST.

Christkindlmarkt will soon be upon us and **Hannelore Giles** and her crew are already busy getting that ready. See where you might be able to help with that event. It is rapidly becoming a major fundraiser for GAST, and it does take a number of volunteers to make it happen.

Please remember, this is YOUR organization! YOU must be active to make it a vibrant and active society. That can mean volunteering or just sharing your ideas, thoughts and concerns. We will listen. We may not be able to act on all things, but will listen and maybe work them into other activities etc. We do want to hear from you. Feel free to attend all Board meetings. You can listen and discuss with us – just not vote. So come and be a part of your organization.

Auf Wiedersehen

—Leon



**Newsletter
Deadline**

Wednesday, Nov 17
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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Library: by appointment during office hours
Leon Boggs, President
Fred Rother, Editor 299-4814
Editor: E-mail address: ffrother@yahoo.com
GAST e-mail: gast@tulsacoxmail.com
GAST Web page <http://www.gastulsa.org>

Message Center - 744-6997

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...from the Arts President



German-American Day had heavy competition with the Tulsa State Fair in full swing. Even so, we had some 66+ attendees who enjoyed our marvelous **Blaskappelle**, **Charles Meyers'** reading of the city and state proclamations and **Peter Bernhardt's** very excellent and at times humorous, presentation. I heard many positive comments regarding the keynote address and am eager to begin reading my copy of *The Stasi Files*. The reception with it's artistic fare created by **Helen Cohea**, was served by **Greta McNac**, and **Mary Schmitz**, along with other individuals who stepped up to the plate to lend a hand. **Max Tankersley** pitched in with the chair set-up and **Arnold Bieber** and the 'roll up our sleeves' gang, including **Harold Wicks**, of course, helped dismantle all. Thank you, each and every one of you.

Our next major cultural event will be held at **Fort El Reno** on the west side of Oklahoma City. **Volkstrauertag** is the German equivalent of our Memorial Day. It's interesting how various nations describe their day of tribute to soldiers who fought and died for their country. The German translation is 'public mourning day', whereas we Americans use the word 'memory'. In all nations, the ordinary soldier follows orders and does as bidden or faces consequences. At Fort El Reno both German and Italian prisoners of WWII are laid to rest, having made the ultimate sacrifice. If you have never attended one of these ceremonies, it is a moving experience with music and solemn commemoration, as the honor guard lays wreaths to those who gave their lives. We will car pool from the GAST CENTER on Sun. Nov. 14th and plan to leave the parking lot at 11:00 A.M.. After the commemoration, most people congregate for a delicious German meal at the **Bavarian Inn** before returning to Tulsa.

Erwin Jerchau dusted the cobwebs off of a truly classic and entertaining comedy that had us in stitches during our last movie night. No hankies on this one, except perhaps to wipe away the tears of laughter! Be sure to check out Erwin's column to see what he has in store for us Monday night, Nov. 1. Whether it's the latest or something from the past, you're sure to enjoy the company, the snacks and the movie, so please join us.

Adult Language Classes are going strong and have enrolled additional students. We now even have a baby attending classes and added a bassinette to our children's corner, so Mom and Dad don't need to spend the entire evening holding their precious bundle. Though baby can't tell us, no doubt hearing German spoken will leave an imprint and perhaps 'Mutti' will be among it's vocabulary before long!

Our children are dancing at both Oktoberfest and Kid's World under the auspices of the GAST Folkdance banner. **Hildegard Schaffrin** has resumed teaching the children German songs and **Madelaine Schaffrin** graciously volunteered to continue teaching dance. In addition, we have a guest dance instructor, new member **Jeffrey Mosburg**, who instructed the children in the happy and lively dance, *Das Rote Pferd*. We also welcomed back both **Patrick Schwartz** and **Arba McCullough jr.** and thank parents, **Katrina Schwarz** and **Arba McCullough sr.** for bringing their children. Although some of our children have other activities that are keeping them from joining our happy Saturday morning troupe, we may be able to include those who are familiar with the dances and songs within our performance schedule. I hope you had the chance to see the children perform at Oktoberfest and will come out to support them and the GAST Folk dancers, under **Carol Wright's** leadership, at Kid's World on Fri. evening, Nov. 5 at 6 P.M.

Since Volkstrauertag falls on the second Sunday of the month, our Konversationsrunde will be held on Nov 21, the following Sunday afternoon at 3 P.M. Please read **Barbara Conrad's** column for details. Please join us when you can and thank you for supporting our cultural events.

A special thank you to **Fred Rother** for the excellent fill-in article in the print edition of the Oct. Echo Arts' Column. Asleep at the wheel is all I can use as an excuse for not making that print deadline. Fred graciously knitted my 'after-the-fact' column into the on-line Echo.

—Uschi Mueller

Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde

Konversationsrunde. Our last meeting was in the home of **Claus and Helga Greiner** and we wish to thank them for their gracious hospitality, wonderful snacks and comfortable atmosphere. The next meeting will be at 3 pm on 21 November at the home of **Barbara and Gerald Taron** who live in Broken Arrow at 6562 S. 218 East Avenue (918-355-2370). Barbara and Gerald have made recent trips to very interesting parts of the world and they will be sharing some of their experiences with us.

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).



Thank you everybody who came to my birthday party. And thanks for all the gifts, too. I had a lot of fun. My birthday is a special day for me when all my friends come to help me celebrate. I hope you come again next year.

—Thomas

Report from the GAST Saenger!

The GAST Saenger have had a busy year so far. In April the full choir attended the 60th National Saengerfest which met in San Antonio, Texas. The group gave a solo performance on Friday night, April 9th as part of their participation in the St. Louis District. The main performance was given on Saturday evening and featured all two thousand singers representing German choirs from around the United States. Among the songs sung were “Frühlingserwachen,” “Jäger-Quodlibet,” and “Mala Moja.” A special dinner was provided for the choirs at Beethoven Halle and was sponsored by the Beethoven Maennerchor und Damenchor. Other entertainment included several dances and a formal dinner. On Sunday, following the main performance at local Catholic and Lutheran churches, we sang German masses, which were most impressive.

For fall, 2010, the choir has performed at the Okmulgee International Extravaganza at OSU, Okmulgee— (GAST even picked up a new member...our singing must have been good), at San Simeon’s, and at Trinity Ministries Oktoberfest at First Lutheran church in Tulsa. At present we are rehearsing for the Christmas programs, Adventsfeier and our Christmas party.

We look forward to seeing you there.

—Irmgard Toschik

**Please remember our upcoming Garage Sale in March!
Please bring your items to the GAST office.**

Garage Sale means \$Money\$ for ARTS Programs!



Come join us at the next
Stammtischrunde

Friday evening, Nov 5, 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



Monday November 1, starting at 6:30 PM

Alpenstar TV

Starting at 7:30 Pm

Ein Zwilling ist nicht genug

Starring: Ann-Kathrin Kramer, Bernat Schir,
 Rene Hofschneider and Turon Ricketts

Coronation Dinner November 12th

The Fasching Season officially begins on November 11th. To celebrate the start of the Fasching season, the Elferrat is hosting a dinner to announce the Prinz and Prinzessin for Fasching 2011.

The dinner will take place in our Weinkeller starting at 6:00 pm. The entrée is your choice of Chicken Breast stuffed with cornbread and cranberry dressing or Sliced Brisket of Beef. Also you will receive garlic mashed potatoes, grilled vegetables, salad, rolls, dessert, and coffee. The total cost is \$ 19.00 per person. Since this is a catered meal, reservations must be made in advance.

Please choose your entrée and mail your check to Harold Wicks at 5606 S. Trenton Ave., Tulsa, Ok 74105. Your Reservation Must Be Received By Monday, Nov.8th. HELAU HELAU HELAU

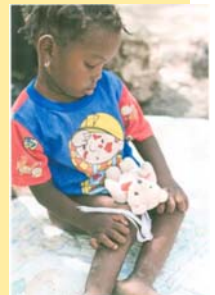
The Elferrat

Quilts for Haiti



Many thanks to all members and friends who generously contributed time, materials and money for batting.

My friends and I made 57 quilts. Each quilt had a stuffed animal attached, which was also donated. The quilts were transported by a Missionary couple to a Haitian orphanage. They personally handed the quilts out to the needy children. I received some pictures that I would like to share with you.



We are continuing to make quilts for the children of Haiti.

—Ruth Bly

This spot is sponsored by

Harold and Doris Wicks

Thank you

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We welcome these members to the GAST Family

Andrew Davis
5348 E. 81st Ave. #1226
Tulsa, OK 74137
918-513-4533

Michelle & Chuck Wagner
14474 So. Hudson Ave.
Bixby, OK 74008
918-260-8996

Reinstatement:

Patricia & Thomas Fulton
12503 So. Birch Ave.
Jenks, OK 74037
918-298-0191

Karston & Amanda Colby
3122 S. 70th East Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74145

Loredana Moccia &
Robert W. Steppe
7901 No. 144th E. Ave.
Owasso, OK 74055
865-712-5037

Jeffrey & Kathleen Mosburg
1104 W. 117th St. South
Jenks, OK 74037
918-296-0410

Mary Jane Mueller
6906 So. Marion Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74136
918-492-5967

Pranav Nawani
7943 E. 60th St.
Tulsa, OK 74145
631-875-3651



Sweet Potato says:

Do not follow where the path may
lead. Go instead where there is no path and
make a trail.
—Muriel Strode



The Sunshine Lady

I sent Get Well cards to, Thomas Conrad, Teresa Gallagher, Tom Morris and Peter Ahrenkiel and Sympathy cards to the McLaurin Family (death of his mother) and the Robert Mills family (death of his wife).

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



I called my car insurance company to tell them to change my address from Vermont to Georgia. The woman who took the call asked where Vermont was. As I tried to explain, she interrupted and said, "Look, I'm not stupid or anything, but what state is it in?"

How do you know when it's time to tune your bagpipes?

A closed mouth gathers no feet.

Why do TV weathermen stand out in the rain to let us know it is storming? Do they think we won't believe them?

I used to be terribly conceited, but after many years of psychoanalysis, my doctor finally cured me. Now I'm one of the nicest people I know.

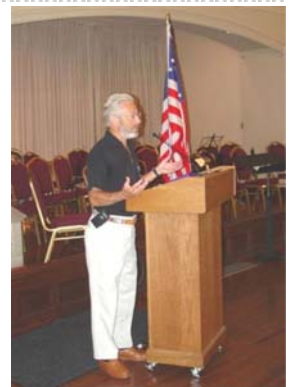
My wife wanted a change of scenery, so I showed her the kitchen.

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The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



The Voice of the German-American Community



German-American Day 2010



Max Tankersley and David Marshall at the Fort Reno gravesite ceremony