



## **GAST Folkdancers**

Starting Session Tuesday, Aug 23rd  
7pm—9pm in the GAST Weinkeller

The GAST Folkdancers resume practices on Aug 23rd. No partner or experience necessary. Bring comfortable shoes and an interest in fun, fellowship, and folkdancing as we prepare for programs at Oktoberfest venues in Oklahoma and Kansas.

Questions? Call **Carol Wright** (918) 299-2839  
or email Carol at [d.c.w@cox.net](mailto:d.c.w@cox.net)

## **Tulsa Celle Partnership Meeting**

**GAST Members Welcome**

Friday, Aug 5th

**6:30pm**

At the GAST Center Weinkeller

### **Beer Stein Presentation**

Presentation by Dave Schoeneweis on the history and the collection of beer steins. Any Partnership or GAST member with a unique, valuable, or interesting beer stein is encouraged to bring it to the meeting, either to use or to display.

All GAST members are welcome to join us for this very interesting presentation and meeting.

Refreshments provided

**No reservations required.**

**Free Admission**



Please join us at our annual  
**ICE-CREAM SOCIAL**  
SUNDAY - AUG 7<sup>TH</sup>  
From 3:00 to 5:00 pm  
at the GAST CENTER



Admission is free—Walk ins welcome  
(donations accepted)

PLEASE CALL (918)744-6997  
by Wednesday, August 3rd.  
(to make sure we have enough ice cream)  
Thank you: the Party Committee

GET TO KNOW YOUR GAST BUILDING  
**PIZZA DINNER and Guided TOUR**

5:00pm

Thursday, Aug 18, 2011

**Reservations: call Bev 918-744-6997**

See Building President's column on page 4 for details

## **GAST Happenings**

Jul 29 Weinkeller	Aug 26 Weinkeller	Oct 7 Stammtisch	Nov 18 Chambermusic
Aug 5 Stammtisch	Sep 2 Stammtisch	Oct 9 German-American Day	Dec 2 Christkindlmarkt
Aug 7 Ice Cream Social	Sep 13 Language classes	Oct 20 Oktoberfest Starts	Dec 9 Stammtisch
Aug 18 Pizza Dinner & Tour	Sep 17 Kinderdeutsch starts	Oct 29 Oktoberfest party	Dec 10 Christmas party
Aug 19 ATOS Concert	Sep 18 Piano concert	Nov 4 Stammtisch	Dec 11 Adventsfeier
Aug 23 GAST Folkdancers	Sep 23 O'fest signup party	Nov 13 Volkstrauertag Fort	<b>2012</b>
Opening Session	Sep 30 Weinkeller	Reno	Jan 6 Stammtisch

## ...from the GAST President



BOY IS IT EVER SUMMER IN OKLAHOMA!!! What happened to that great blizzard of 2011? Oh for some snow! It may be summer, but GAST does not take a summer break. Things are still happening. We have negotiated our contracts with Oktoberfest, Inc for that festival coming in October. We have reduced the size of our tent in the Bier Garten and “wrestled” a new position in the Ess Zelt that we feel should promote better business there. I want to thank Claus Greiner who serves as the chairman of the board for Oktoberfest, inc for helping us in these two endeavors. Co-chairs, **Ed Anthis** and **Jim Walker** will soon be getting all the details for volunteers worked out and will be seeking YOU! Remember, this is OUR organization and we must ALL pitch in and help with our major fund raisers so we can ALL enjoy the activities throughout the year. Please volunteer for at least 1 shift when called. Christkindlemarkt co-chairs, **Carol Wright** and **Arnold Bieber** are also hard at work getting ready for the market event. The goods that come from Germany are being ordered as we speak and vendors are reserving their spaces! It is exciting to see that much activity taking place already – even when it is 100+++! Both of these events along with Germanfest generate the monies we use to operate GAST with. That is subsidizing the ECHO costs, our various groups such as the Saengers, the dancers and Blaskapelle. They also provide the funds for us to have all of our parties. Just an FYI on that: we charge \$20.00 per person for a dinner and dance. The meal generally costs us \$17.00 - \$19.00 per plate. Then we have the band at a cost starting at \$600.00 and up for the evening. As you can see, our admission costs do not cover the expenses. To keep our costs as low as possible, GAST picks up the tab. Some will say that I pay annual dues. Our \$25.00 does not go very far in all these costs. We have to cover various insurance fees for the directors, some office costs and \$1.00 per member is given to ARTS. To keep our annual dues and party costs at a minimum, we have the fund raisers to give us the extra needed \$\$\$’s. That is why we need YOU to help work them. Each year we are finding it more difficult to get enough volunteers to staff our festivals. If we have to give some up or hire additional help we will be forced to look at raising dues and party prices. I don’t want to see that happen. LET’S ALL GET IN THERE AND GIVE A HAND – HAVE SOME FUN AND FELLOWSHIP WHILE WE WORK AND FUND OUR ORGANIZATION! Questions or comments? Let me know. We are always open to her your thoughts and ideas. Come to a Board meeting and be involved in YOUR organization – 2nd Wednesday of each month – 7:00 PM. See ya there!

- Leon



**Wednesday, August 17**  
by 6 PM  
scheduled for the Wednesday after  
the Board meeting.  
The Board meets the  
second Wednesday  
of every month  
at the GAST Center at 7 PM

**Newsletter  
Deadline**

### Das Deutsche Echo

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**Message Center - 918-744-6997**

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## ...from the Arts President



Hitze Ferien any one? But as the saying goes: “When the going gets tough, the tough get going”. Some hardy souls ventured out in the 100+ degree heat on Wednesday, the 13th of July to attend our first Art Committee Meeting under the leadership of **Arnold Bieber**. Thank you **Arnold, Gwen Bieber, Doris Wicks, Lori Hall, Mary Jane Mueller, Jutta Tankersly** and **Fred Rother** for getting the planning for the 2011/2012 events off the ground.

Want to shake the summer doldrums? Get out and attend the American Theater Organ Society (ATOS) concert on August 19th at 7:30 pm. Light refreshments will be served afterwards by our hostesses Gwen and Lori.

Did you know that the organ is the oldest keyboard instrument. It dates back to about 250 BC and was called the Hydraulus. For a long time it was thought that sound was made by rushing water. Wrong! After a Hydraulus was unearthed by archeologists in Rome, physicists figured out, that water was used to stabilize the air pressure. As time went on organs got bigger and better and became the prime instrument in Christian churches. Bach is synonymous with organ music and many famous composers wrote music for the “Queen of the instruments”. The world’s largest church organ is in Passau—built by Steinmeyer in 1924 it features 5 manuals, 208 registers and 17,000 (yes - seventeen thousand) pipes.

So where did the Theater Organs come in. During the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century people wanted more sound in theaters than a piano could supply and often there was neither space nor money for an orchestra. Robert Hope-Jones (of Wurlitzer fame), Welte and sons and Walcker had an idea... the Theater Organ was born. These organs had their hay days during the silent film era where soundtracks underscored the action on the screen and also were popular in smaller theaters where music of the lighter fare was presented. The end of the silent film era however diminished the demand for these versatile instruments. The ‘home organ’ (Hammond, Wurlitzer) made its debut around the late 1950’s .

Smaller churches availed themselves of the theater organ as well. That’s where our wonderful ‘Geneva’ organ comes in. This instrument, - a hybrid between a church organ and a theater organ, - with 3 manuals and about 700 pipes was acquired along with the building which now is our “GAST” house. The architecture of the great hall of the building which was planned as a church makes for wonderful acoustic. Come and hear for yourself!

I will tell you all about Jeonwang Ham, German American day etc., etc. in the next Echo.

—Gertrud

## Oktoberfest

Time to be planning for Oktoberfest once more—this year scheduled October 19th through the 23rd. GAST needs 200 volunteers to fully staff our booths. We also need people to help with washing pots and pans, setting up the event, and van drivers. Whatever your talents, we have a place for you at this wonderful annual event. For new members, or for old who have not been involved, this is a great way to get to know your fellow GAST members, and to help raise much needed funds for our organization.

Please call **Darlene Tegeler** at (918) 747-0610, or email her at [ctegeler1@cox.net](mailto:ctegeler1@cox.net) and let her know how you would like to help.

## ...from the Building President

It is a pleasure to serve as President of the Building Corporation again. The coming year is going to be a busy one for GAST with a full calendar of leased events, almost daily building use by GAST groups, and a never-ending list of fix-ups, replacements and repairs to be done.

I am delighted to have dedicated people assisting as officers or chairmen of the standing committees. They include **Ed Westenhiser**, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, operating; **Gary Copper**, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP; **Jim Walker**, finance; **Harold Wicks**, grounds; and **Ruth Bly**, interior. Interested in working on any of these committees? Please call the chair. We are delighted to have your help.

Leasing facts and needs: We now have 35 paying events scheduled to use our building for 2011, generating much of the revenue needed to keep our building up. It also creates work for our office manager and leasing committee.

We are having a "Get to know your GAST building" pizza dinner and tour 5:00pm on Thursday, Aug 18<sup>th</sup>. We want you to attend if you are interested in learning more about the building and hearing about ways you can contribute. Past building "baby-sitter" hosts are encouraged to attend.

Just call **Bev MWF** at **744-6997** and tell her how many to expect. Bring your questions and topics to discuss.

- Elam

### GET TO KNOW YOUR GAST BUILDING PIZZA DINNER and Guided TOUR

5:00pm, Thursday, August 18, 2011

**Reservations: call Bev 918-744-6997**

If you are interested and cannot attend on this day, let us know.



## Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde

This popular program will return 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** (918) 492-3273 (Chair) or **Gertrud Schmidt** at (918) 495-3727 (Co-chair).

## Conversational German Language Classes

Starts Tuesday, Sep 13

Enrollment for beginners, intermediate and advanced for the once-a-week 10 week course will be at 6:30pm on the 13th with the 2-hour class starting at 7pm. Experienced teachers and up-to-date course materials will prepare you for your next trip to Germany or for your next encounter with German visitors. \$65 for GAST members and \$85 for non-members.

\$35 for the Audio CD and phrase book

## Kinderdeutsch Language Classes

Starts Saturday, Sep 17

Enrich your children's lives by exposing them to German culture. In a fun-filled 90 minute class they will learn German words and phrases, songs and dances. Parents or grandparents are welcome to stay and watch or to socialize with each other. This 8-week class is only \$20 for GAST members and \$35 for non-members. \$5 discount for each additional participating child.

All classes held at the GAST Center  
2301 E. 15th St.

For further information call (918) 744-6997 or check our website [www.gastulsa.org](http://www.gastulsa.org).



## Stammtischrunde

Friday evenings, August 5 and September 2  
starting at 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



There is no scheduled movie presentation for August. Stay tuned to this space for the best in German-language theater when Erwin Jerchau returns with new films later this year.

### Interesting News from the Old Country

## Bird Brained Plan in Germany to replace body hunting dogs with trained vultures fails to get off the ground!

A plan by German detectives to replace sniffer dogs with trained vultures has run into a headwind after the feathered sleuths showed little interest in helping police with their inquiries, *The (London) Times* reported earlier this month.

In theory their advantage over dogs in finding bodies seemed clear; they can spot a dead mouse from more than 1,000m and fly over terrain that would tire or stop the most dedicated hound in its tracks.

Three turkey vultures, led by a magnificent specimen named Sherlock, were therefore trained by enthusiastic police near Hanover, Lower Saxony. Fitted with tracking devices, the hope was that these winged scouts would help to bring speedy closure to body hunts, relief to grieving relatives and swifter justice to villains.



Other forces in Germany and across Europe took interest: tens of thousands of people go missing on the continent each year, making the "vulture squad" potentially a low-cost, high-return investment of the sort that chief constables can normally only dream.

Rainer Herrmann, a police commissioner from the State Office of Criminal Investigation in Hanover was placed in charge. Nicknamed "The Birdman" by fellow officers, he once created a database for rare parrots targeted by avian thieves.

Unfortunately the scheme just has not taken off.

And neither has Sherlock -- who prefers to hop to a training burial site instead of flying to it. And that is inside the bird park where he lives.

He has not put so much as a feather outside the park, because, as German Alonso, his trainer, explained, "The bird is naturally anxious, and he would hide in the woods

or bolt." He told *Der Spiegel*, the news magazine, "He also struggles to distinguish between animal and human dead."

Two young vultures named Columbo and Miss Marple were brought into the park last year from Austria, supposedly to learn from Sherlock. "But the young ones can't do anything, besides fight with each other," he said.

Moral of the Story: Hard to replace a good dog.

*This spot is sponsored by*

*Harold and Doris Wicks*

*Thank you*

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

Terence & Jill Grewe  
3632 E. 88<sup>th</sup> St.  
Tulsa, OK 74137  
918 492-4992

Nathan & Debbie Jelken  
4645 S. 88<sup>th</sup> E. Ave.  
Tulsa, OK 74145  
918-641-0801

William & Linda Rowland  
2100 N. 26<sup>th</sup> St.  
Broken Arrow, OK 74014  
918-355-1562

Patricia & Shawn Usedom  
2504 W. Ocala St.  
Broken Arrow, OK 74011  
918-286-8453

### What is Weinkellerabend?

Weinkellerabend, literally “wine cellar evening,” is an informal get together normally held the 4th Friday of every month. Members can come as they are, bring friends or neighbors, mingle, enjoy the camaraderie and get to know the other members without the distraction of loud music or entertainment.

Weinkellerabend is held at the GAST center, lower level. Food is provided and members may be asked to bring a dish. If you are bringing food, please arrive by 5:30pm. We begin serving at 6:00pm or so, and members are free to come and go and stay as late as they choose—some members may remain until 9pm or later.

There is no charge for this informal get together, but donations are accepted to offset the cost of the main course. Beer, wine, soda, coffee, water are normally available for a donation.

Weinkeller is a function of the Party Committee and is overseen by Elke Meyer.

### The Sunshine Lady



We have lost 3 dear members of the GAST family and extended family with the passing of **Kurt Jablonski**; **Loyd Linde** (a beloved member of our Blaskapelle); and the sister of **Jim Walker**. Sympathy cards were sent to the families of each.

Please call or E-mail me if you know a GAST member who is ill. Also, please let me know if it is appropriate to send a sympathy card. E-mail: [book\\_worm34@hotmail.com](mailto:book_worm34@hotmail.com), or phone 918-357-9156  
—Gwen Bieber

The first member to correctly identify the individual pictured (below, *left*) wins a \$20 gift certificate from **Siegi’s Sausage Factory** at 81st and Sheridan Rd. Reply to [davidalanforbes@gmail.com](mailto:davidalanforbes@gmail.com)

### Who Am I?



Holstentor or “Holsten Gate” at Lübeck, the largest German City on the Baltic Sea. The old city is an island enclosed by the river and accessible, from the west through the Holsten Gate. The gate is actually three buildings: a south tower, north tower and central building all clearly distinguished from the city side (shown in the July issue) but the structure appears as one building from the field side of the gate (shown *right*).

First to identify the building and recipient of the \$20 gift certificate for Siegi’s Sausage Factory: **Siggi Grimm**  
Other correct respondents: **Doris Wicks, Mary Jane Mueller, Ginny Rohr, Inge Wagdalt, and Carol Wright**. Congratulations to all!



### Answer to “Where Am I?” in the July issue:

This page is sponsored by Arnold & Gwen Bieber

The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg





918-492-8988



After 24 years at our 91st & Sheridan location, we have purchased property of our own and built a brand new building, on the southwest corner of 81st and Sheridan Road, complete with an expanded Deli and meat market and a larger restaurant with extended hours.

Deli & Meat Market Hours: Monday-Friday (9am-7pm) and Saturday (9am-5pm) Closed Sunday

Restaurant open for lunch & dinner Mon-Thu (11am-8pm), Fri & Sat (11am-9pm) Closed Sunday



## Upcoming GAST Public Events:



### Piano Concert

**Sunday, September 18, 3 PM**

Accomplished concert pianist Jeongwon Ham will perform a program of German composers in the Great Hall of the GAST Center.

Ms. Ham studied in Berlin and Essen and now teaches at the University of Oklahoma. Free and open to the public.

### German-American Day

**Sunday, October 9, 3 PM**

Come and celebrate with us German culture and the contributions German immigrants have made to the American way of life and freedom, at the GAST Center. Our speaker will be Professor Erich Schmaltz, OSU Alva. Entertainment and refreshments. Free and open to the public.

### Tulsa Symphony Chamber Series - Flavors of Europe (Germany)

**Friday, November 18, 6:30 PM**

Join us at the GAST Center for a delightful evening of tasty music, wine and cheese featuring the virtuosity of Tulsa Symphony's finest musicians in a program especially selected by them for your enjoyment. First in a series of three unique Tulsa venues. Call 918-584-3645 for tickets or check [www.tulsasymphony.org](http://www.tulsasymphony.org) for further information.