



The Voice of the German-American Community



Piano Concert - Jeongwon Ham

Sunday, September 18th at 3:00pm

Free and open to the public

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

Ms. Ham teaches at the University of Oklahoma after studying in Germany. She graduated with the highest distinctions from the Folkwang Hochschule für Musik at Essen and the Hochschule der Künste in Berlin, as well as U.S. degrees. She taught at the Hochschule für Musik Hans-Eisler and Carl Phillip Emmanuel Bach Arts School in Duisberg. She has performed as soloist with several orchestras including das Symphonie Orchestra Berlin, and Symphonie Orchestra of the Hochschule der Künste (Berlin) and the Orchestra of the University of Essen.

Oktoberfest Sign-Up Party

Friday, September 23rd at 5:45pm

Join us for a fun combination of Weinkellerabend and Oktoberfest Sign Up, including a light dinner service at 6:15pm. Bring your friends and neighbors, co-workers and family members. You can work as a group, have fun at Oktoberfest and help GAST with its most important fundraiser of the year. We will have all available days and times set out for sign-up.

Already signed up? Wonderful, but come anyway. We'll have a great time! Reservations not required. Scheduling is organized by **Darlene Tegeler**.

Email **Darlene** at: ctegeler1@cox.net or call her at (918) 747-0610.



Upcoming GAST Happenings

Sep 2	Stammtisch	Sep 20	Handarbeitsgruppe	Oct 11	Handarbeitsgruppe	Nov 8	Handarbeitsgruppe
Sep 5	GAST Theater	Sep 23	O'fest signup party	Oct 18	Handarbeitsgruppe	Nov 13	Volkstrauertag Fort Reno
Sep 6	Handarbeitsgruppe	Sep 27	Handarbeitsgruppe	Oct 20	Oktoberfest Starts	Nov 15	Handarbeitsgruppe
Sep 13	Language classes	Oct 2	Weinkellerabend	Oct 25	Handarbeitsgruppe	Nov 18	Chambermusic
Sep 13	Handarbeitsgruppe	Oct 4	Handarbeitsgruppe	Oct 29	Oktoberfest party	Nov 22	Handarbeitsgruppe
Sep 17	Kinderdeutsch starts	Oct 7	Stammtisch	Nov 1	Handarbeitsgruppe	Nov 29	Handarbeitsgruppe
Sep 18	Piano concert	Oct 9	German-American Day	Nov 4	Stammtisch		

This page is sponsored by GAST Member Hildegard Schaffrin

...from the GAST President



Greetings to all! We finally get some rain and cooler temperatures! Thank God for that. What a wonderful Ice Cream Social we had. The Great Hall was packed and there were smiles and laughter all around. It was a real joy to see that and to visit with lots of you. Many thanks to Erica Hartman and Donna Boggs for heading up the committee that put this all together. I know there were many others helping and my thanks to all of you. We are now headed off for Oktoberfest and that committee chaired by **Ed Anthis** and **Jim Walker** is hard at work. Plans are taking shape well. **Darlene Tegeler** is recruiting officer for this event! When she calls and says she needs you, please volunteer to work with us. This is one of our major fund raisers and it will take all of us doing our part to make it a success. We are asking for a minimum of 4 hours – so we can work with you if you cannot work a full shift. Talk with Darlene and let her know what you can do to help. We had a first this month since I have been President. We were unable to have a monthly Board of Directors meeting due to the lack of a quorum, I urge all Board members to please consider the importance of making our meetings. We had business that needed to be conduct that now must wait a month. It is very important that we hold our monthly meetings to take care of the business of all 3 organizations. I ask that you consider your commitment as a Board member. Hope to continue to see our large numbers at Weinkellar! See ya at the next one.

- Leon

Non-Perishable Food Drive

GAST is starting a food drive —non perishables only— to be donated to a charitable organization to be determined by the GAST Board of Directors in December.

We are asking ALL MEMBERS and all internal groups: Choir, Dancers, Blaskapelle, Handarbeits Gruppe, Stammtisch, etc. to participate in this worthy cause.

Beginning NOW and through December 15th, please donate as often and as much as you can, bringing your collected cans and non-perishable food items in when you are coming for any reason. There will be boxes in the Weinkeller as well as in the kitchen at the duplex for your donations.

We have almost 4 months to accomplish a great food drive. Let's show the Community how generous the members of the German American Society can be.

- Thank you for your participation.



...from the Arts President



Get out your calendars and mark these dates:

(1) September 18, 2011 at 3:00 pm Piano Concert by Jeongwon Ham at GAST.

As mentioned in a previous Echo letter Ms. Ham received her musical education in Essen and Berlin and obtained her D.M.A. from the University of Kansas. She won several piano competitions and performed in many cities in the United States, Europe and Asia. Ms. Ham is currently an Associate Professor at OU. In honor of Franz Liszt's 200th birthday she will perform this composer's variations of music by Mendelssohn Bartholdy, Schubert, Chopin, Schumann and Mozart.

Liszt was born in Hungary on October 22, 1811. He started out as a piano virtuoso at age 12 and it is said that 'Liszt invented the piano recital and the career of the travelling virtuoso'. Eventually he started composing music to show off his virtuosity to the fullest extent, often using musical themes by some well known composers of his time. As Hofkapellmeister for the Grand Duke of Weimar (1848-1860) he conducted many works by Schumann, Verdi and Wagner (who later became his son-in-law). After his stint in Weimar Liszt spent time in Rome but soon got restless and started the concert circuit again which he continued until one year before his death in Bayreuth July 31, 1886. Liszt was equally well known for his affairs of the heart. The complete biography of Liszt by Zsolt Harsanyi: 'The Hungarian Rhapsody' is great reading.

(2) October 9th, 2011 at 3:00pm German American Day at GAST. German American Day has been celebrated annually since 1987 when it was established by Joint Resolution Nr. 273 of the 100th Congress. The Resolution designated October 6th as German American Day and acknowledged the contribution made to American life and culture by Americans of German descent. The Resolution requested the President to issue a proclamation, which was signed by President Reagan on August 11, 1988. Presidents have since renewed this proclamation.

Dr. Eric Schmaltz, Assoc. Prof. of History at OSU Alva will talk about the contributions of the German immigrants in the United States. Dr. Schmaltz is of Ukrainian German descent, and some of his extended family survived the mass evacuation of ethnic Germans from the Ukraine during the Third Reich eventually coming to the United States. I am sure you will appreciate Dr. Schmaltz's insight into the life of the German Americans before us. The good part? All of this is free and a reception follows after each event.

(3) September 13, 2011, Do you want to learn or perfect your German? Under the able guidance of Roth Obermark and her team of teachers German for beginners, somewhat experienced and advanced will start up.

(4) September 17, 2011, charming Angelique Giddings will host the first Kinderdeutsch class of the year. The kids will have fun while learning new words.

More interesting and fun events are coming. Read it in the next issue of the 'Echo'.

—Gertrud

Newsletter DEADLINE

September 21st at 6 PM

The newsletter goes to press the first Wednesday after the Board meeting. The Board regularly meets at the GAST Center at 7pm on the second Wednesday of the month.

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GAST Folk Dance Practices

The Oktoberfest Dancing Season Is Upon Us!

I would like to welcome you and your friends to the fall GAST Folk Dance session as we prepare to dance at various venues around Tulsa. We will be holding practices on Tuesday evenings between 7 and 9 pm. Our first session was August 23, 2011 and will continue on Tuesdays at least thru October .



We will practice in the Weinkeller (downstairs) until the time language lessons start in September when we will practice in the Great Hall (upstairs).

A partner is not required and there is no experience necessary. Dress is casual, but please wear shoes that are comfortable for dancing. There is no cost to becoming a member of the group. Those who wish to perform with us at the various venues during this Oktoberfest season will be provided with appropriate costume, assuming availability.

We have been invited to present Folk Dance programs again at the Choctaw Oktoberfest on Saturday, September 10. We are scheduled to dance at 1 pm and again at 4:30 pm. This is a 3 day weekend festival that runs for 2 weekends this year. Choctaw is East of Oklahoma City just off of I 40 and is about a 1-1/2 hour drive. They offer a multitude of German Beers with good food and musical entertainment.

We have a standing invitation for the Germanfest in Independence, Kansas, which is usually the last Saturday in September.

Join the Folkdance Group and enjoy these two festivals with us in September. Hope to see you on Tuesday evenings.

Questions? Please contact **Carol Wright** at d.c.w@cox.net .

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.



Stammtischrunde

Friday evenings, September 2 and

October 7

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



Monday September 5

Starting at 6:30 PM

Musikparade

Starting at 7:30 PM

Lottoschein ins Glueck

Starring:

Mariele Millowitsch (*left*), Miroslav Nemeč,
Max Herbrechter, Marie-Lou Sellem and
Max Riemelt



Interesting News from the Old Country

German Researchers Use Brain Waves to Stop Car

It's the future. You're racing down the highway when, all of a sudden, the driver ahead of you slows down. You know you need to hit the brakes to avoid an accident, but your foot can't move as fast as your brain. You're about to rear-end the guy, except that your car has read your mind. It picks up your brain waves and automatically slows down. Accident averted.

This is not fantasy. Researchers in Germany have run an experiment with drivers in a car simulator, and they report in the current issue of the *Journal of Neural Engineering* that they were able to identify brain waves that corresponded to a driver's wish to press the brake pedal. They tried the experiment with 18 test subjects, each of whom wore a cap wired with EEG sensors. If the drivers wanted to slam on the brakes, the car did it a crucial fraction of a second more quickly than they could.

"Waiting for the driver's response can lead to a slow response in emergency situations," wrote Stefan Haufe of the Berlin Institute of Technology. "Therefore, in order to obtain a faster confirmation, our study suggests that it is feasible to detect a driver's intention to brake, which precedes any observable actions."

On average, in the study, brain waves told the car to hit the brakes 130 milliseconds faster than the driver's foot did. "While this may not seem [like] much, it may be enough to prevent accidents," said Haufe in an email to ABC News.

Reprinted courtesy of ABC News.



This spot is sponsored by

Harold and Doris Wicks

Thank you

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New Members

New member applications could not be approved in August due to lack of a quorum at the August 10 Board Meeting. With luck all will be admitted in September



The Sunshine Lady

We were very fortunate in August—no reported illnesses or injuries among our members and we sent out no get well or sympathy cards. May the same continue for many months!

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, or phone 918-357-9156

—Gwen Bieber

Special Weinkellerabend Sunday, October 2 at 3:00pm

How the ‘flight and expulsion’ of millions of Germans at the end of World War II should be memorialized is both an emotional issue as well as a political one. And all too often any discussion on the subject only reflects the prejudices and parochialism of the participants without reliance on the facts. Visiting PhD student Alina Laura Tiews will lead a discussion on the topic at this special Weinkellerabend on Sunday, the 2nd of October at 3:00pm in the Weinkeller.

Many GAST members have personal experiences or family members who were affected by the mass migration of Germans from East Germany and the former eastern provinces to the West. Ms Tiews will discuss how the issue was dealt with in cinema and the media in both countries before reunification.

Please join us for a cup of coffee and a lively discussion!



What Am I?

The first member to correctly identify the building pictured (left) and the location wins a \$20 gift certificate from Siegi’s Sausage Factory at 81st and Sheridan.

Reply to: davidalanforbes@gmail.com

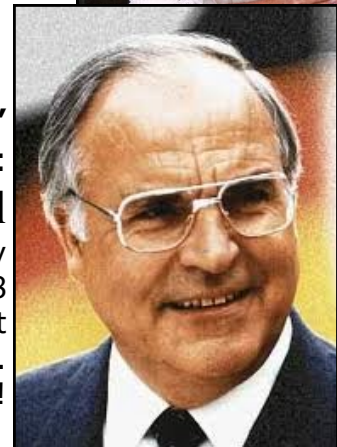


Answer to “Who Am I?”
in the August issue:

Helmut Kohl

Chancellor of Germany
Oct '82—Oct '98

Carol Wright was the first
(and only) correct respondent.
Congratulations Carol!



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Italian Party

July 23rd

At the GAST Hall



GAST members, along with several members of the Tulsa Italian Club, enjoyed a splendid evening with a catered Italian dinner, along with entertainment by the Polka Meisters and dancing.

Everybody had a great time and vowed to repeat the event at the first opportunity.

Congratulations to the Party Committee for a first-class event well organized and flawlessly executed!