



The Voice of the German-American Community

Upcoming GAST Events

Come enjoy our annual



Christkindlmarkt

Authentic German Christmas Market

Arts & crafts ★ Imported German items
Food ★ Refreshments
Entertainment ★ Puppet shows
Children's story telling ★ St. Nikolaus

Dec. 2, 3 & 4 - Fri. 10-7 Sat. 10-5 Sun. 12-5

German-American Society of Tulsa

Just west of Lewis at 15th & Terrace Drive in Tulsa ★ www.gastulsa.org

2011

- Dec 2-4 Christkindlmarkt
- Dec 5 GAST Theater
- Dec 6 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Dec 9 Stammtisch
- Dec 10 Christmas party
- Dec 11 Adventsfeier
- Dec 13 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Dec 18 Annual Xmas
Konversationsrunde
- Dec 20 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Dec 27 Handarbeitsgruppe

2012

- Jan 2 GAST Theater
- Jan 3 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Jan 6 Stammtisch
- Jan 10 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Jan 17 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Jan 21 GAST
Anniversaary Party
- Jan 24 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Jan 27 Weinkeller Abend
- Jan 31 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Feb 3 Stammtisch
- Feb 6 GAST Theater
- Feb 7 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Feb 14 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Feb 18 Fasching Party
- Feb 21 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Feb 28 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Mar 2 Stammtisch
- Mar 5 GAST Theater
- Mar 6 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Mar 13 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Mar 20 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Mar 23-24 Garage Sale
- Mar 27 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Apr 2 GAST Theater
- Apr 3 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Apr 6 Stammtisch
- Apr 10 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Apr 17 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Apr 24 Handarbeitsgruppe
- May 1 Handarbeitsgruppe
- May 7 GAST Theater
- May 4 Stammtisch
(or 11 depending on Mayfest)
- May 8 Handarbeitsgruppe
- May 15 Handarbeitsgruppe
- May 22 Handarbeitsgruppe
- May 29 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Jun 1 Stammtisch

...from the GAST President



Greetings!

The ground feels somewhat stable and secure again! Earthquakes in Oklahoma?!?!? Let's shake, rattle and roll! Glad we all survived them.

Oktoberfest is over and we survived! I even survived my 2nd bad storm in the tent. It looks like it was a successful event for us. There were some challenges with new management through River Parks and communications with them and Oktoberfest, Inc., but we did come away with some money in our pocket. Thanks to all who worked, especially the high school and college students. Without their help we would never have made it. I really appreciate the hard work of the entire committee.

Christkindlemarkt is well underway. Again the committee is working very hard to ensure a great holiday market. I have had many co-workers and friends at church ask when it is. They know about and look forward to coming back. Again, we will need volunteers to work this event. This is another major fund raiser for us. When asked – please step up and do your part.

Our Nominating Committee, under the leadership of **Georg Ort**, is at work seeking candidates to nominate for officer and director positions for the upcoming term of office. If you are called, please consider serving your organization as a leader. If everyone says no, the society will rapidly go out of business. If you have questions about serving, please contact a current officer or board member.

I want to once again remind all of you that this is YOUR organization. We as officers and leaders cannot know what you want to see happening if we do not hear from you. I continue to hear rumblings and grumblings behind the 'bushes and our backs' and receive unsigned letters of discontent. Come to a Board meeting and let us hear from you. We will always listen, discuss and consider your thought and ideas and act if possible. We will not bite you! You are welcome at all Board meetings – the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM.

I hope you have a blessed Thanksgiving – we all have a great deal to be thankful for – even each other!

- Leon

GAST Contributes to Community

For the second year GAST, through the Grants Committee, has been a major supporter of the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma's Food for Kids Backpack Program.

The backpacks provide weekly sacks of food to over 4,000 elementary school-aged students in eight school districts. This program earned the Dr. Rodney Huey Memorial Champion of Oklahoma Health 2011 award during the Gala featuring former First Lady Laura W. Bush on October 25th.

Volunteers Needed

GAST members will be packing backpacks **Saturday, January 14th**, and **Saturday, February 11th**, from 1 to 3 pm. If you would like to join the GAST volunteers, please call Bev at 918-744-6997 or the message machine at 918-744-6998. Leave your name, phone number, email address, and date(s) you would like to help. Direct questions to Kathy Blank at 918-660-6855. The Food Bank is located at 1304 N. Kenosha Ave in Tulsa.

...from the Arts President



Greetings to all:

This was the 12th year that a delegation of GASAA members made the trip to attend Volkstrauertag in Ft. Reno to pay homage to the 62 German Soldiers who are buried there. Three speakers gave us their thoughts for this day of salute, celebration and remembrance of all soldiers, veterans and the fallen of all wars. The General Consul of Germany, Roland Herrmann, addressed the history of Volkstrauertag and in conclusion expressed his hope that civilized nations in future could settle their differences without war. The Honorary Consul, Charles Wiggin, examined the precipitating causes for wars and WWII in particular. Dr. Eric Schmaltz spoke of the Prisoners of war camps in Oklahoma and had some interesting anecdotes to tell. The musical framework was

provided by Susanne Calvert and David Marshall. The Ft Sill Honor Guards and members of Veterans organizations carried and posted the flags, wreaths were laid and the Rev. D.R. Hefta led the congregation in prayer. The sound of Taps tugged at the heartstrings of all present.

The Consul was impressed by the GAST Organization and enjoyed meeting some of its members. The Global Alliance had mapped out a busy schedule for Consul Herrmann for Monday setting up meetings with some dignitaries of the city of Tulsa and Tulsa University. A visit to Gilcrease Museum, where he was met by its Director, Dr. Duane King,, concluded his stay in Tulsa. He promised to return to Tulsa with his family. We owe a big thank you to **Barbara Conrad** who put this program together.

Angelique Giddins and **Jeff Moosburg** guided eager students through Kinderdeutsch and **Hildegard Schafrin** and **Madeleine Schafrin** provided singing and dancing instructions. Six individuals finished the eight week course. Our six new 'graduates' are looking forward to the spring classes which will start February 11th 2012. Singing and dancing at the Octoberfest was the highlight of the course for the students. We thank **Hildegard Schafrin** and her granddaughter Madeleine for making this experience possible for our students.

Adult language classes also concluded at this writing and as per Ruth Obermark most participants plan to return in spring. That speaks for itself for our teachers **Carol Masters**, **Jutta Tankersly**, **Melanie Roberson**, **Grete Mc Nac** and **Sindy Andrew**. Spring classes will start February 7th 2012.

Now during some of these bad weather days it might be a good idea to go through your attic, garage, closets and drawers to see if there is anything suitable for our big fundraiser the garage sale March 23-24, 2012.

Advent is just a few days away. It really should be a joyful but quiet time. That's hard to achieve with all the hustle and bustle and preparations for Christmas. So join us for a quiet hour of listening and singing on December 11th at 3:00pm at the GAST Center.

There are several versions as to where the custom of the Christmas tree began. Here is one for you: Legend has it that St. Boniface, an English monk, was sent to Germany in the first half of the 700's to convert the Druids to Christianity. To convince the Druids that the oak tree was not sacred, he felled a giant oak that crushed every tree in its path with the exception of a small fir sapling. In order to win converts, St. Boniface interpreted the fir's survival to a miracle and called it the Tree of the Christ Child.

See you at the Advent Service!

—Gertrud

Newsletter DEADLINE

December 21 at 5 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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Message Center - 918-744-6997

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GAST Annual Christmas Party
 Saturday, December 10, at 5:30pm
 Dinner at 6:15pm

This is a catered dinner and reservations are required. Please call 918-744-6997 by Wednesday, December 7, for reservations. No-shows will be billed.

MENU

Prime Rib au jus,
 with horseradish sauce
 Baked Potato
 Roasted Vegetables
 Salad, bread and butter

Please bring your favorite dessert to share.

Admission: \$20.00 for dinner & dance
 \$10.00 for dance only

Entertainment by the Polkameisters

Erica Hartman, Party Committee



Leserbriefe

GAST Garage Sale

We are now collecting for our annual GAST Garage Sale to be held in March. More details to follow. Thanks to the generosity of some GAST members, we now have space to pick up and store large items. For details, call me at (918-492-32730).

—Barbara Conrad

Communications from members are welcome and should be sent to dauidalanforbes@gmail.com

Annual GAST Childrens' Christmas Party

Saturday, December 10 from 10:00am to Noon

No cost for children and grandchildren of members; refreshments provided.
 RSVP to 744-6997 by December 7 with number of attendees.



**THE ELFERRAT SELECTS
 TONY and LEISHA JURY**

FASCHING 2012—PRINZ and PRINZESSIN

Leisha and Tony Jury had dreamed for a long time about traveling to Germany or Europe. After one of their sons was stationed at the Berlin Headquarters Brigade, Leisha and Tony took the opportunity to visit him shortly after the Berlin Wall opened up in November of 1989. They were very surprised to see Russian soldiers selling their hats and uniforms while on duty in Potsdam.

The couple has made six further trips to Germany and studied the German language at TCC.

Since joining GAST 18 years ago, Tony and Leisha have been involved in many activities. Leisha is retired from the accounting profession. She is a past Treasurer of GAST, coordinator for the New Parishioner Welcoming Group, and enjoys reading and water aerobics at the Y.

Tony is also retired but continues to sell building materials, plays guitar at Sunday Mass and other gatherings and has OU football season tickets and follows the Boston Red Sox. They both have served on the GAST Board of Directors and in addition to their volunteering at GAST are active in their church in Owasso. They have 6 children and 8 grandchildren.



The Sunshine Lady

We sent out only one get well card this month: to **Harold Wicks** who had knee replacement surgery. Harold, we all wish you the best and hope you are 100% soon!

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 telephone 918-357-9156

—Gwen Bieber

Now Playing at the

GAST Theater

An Erwin Jerchau Presentation



Monday December 5, starting at 6:30 PM
Alpenstar Weihnacht



Starting at 7:30 PM

Alle Kinder brauchen Liebe

Starring Ulrich Pleitgen (*left with Witt a Pohl*),
Franziska Traeger, Heinrich Schafmeister
Guenter Knetenmeyer and Witt a Pohl

This Movie is with English Subtitles

Interesting News from the Old Country

German Designer Creates Dresses Made From Milk

The white stuff is good for our bones, but thanks to new technology, it could benefit our wardrobes too. A designer from Hanover, Germany hopes to revolutionise the fashion industry by designing clothes made from a milk-based fabric.

Anke Domaske, 28, whose Mademoiselle Chi Chi label is a favourite with stars including Mischa Barton and Ashlee Simpson, has developed a material made from high concentrations of the milk protein casein.

The fabric, called QMilch, is eco-friendly as it is manufactured using milk that did not meet hygiene standards, and would otherwise have gone to waste. And though it is not the first fabric to contain milk protein - it has existed since the Thirties - QMilch is made almost entirely from casein, and is the first man-made fibre produced entirely without chemicals additives.

Ms Domaske says it has health benefits too as amino acids in the protein are antibacterial, anti-

ageing and can help regulate blood circulation and body temperature. The material feels like silk and it can be washed like any other fabric.

The designer explained how casein for the fabric was extracted from dried milk powder, then heated up in a type of meat-mincing machine with other natural ingredients. The fibre comes out of the machine in strands and is then spun into yarn on a spinning machine. It takes just six litres of milk to make enough fabric for an entire dress, which would sell for around \$200. Luckily, the clothes don't come with an expiry date - during the heating process, the molecules bind in such a way that the protein won't decompose.

She has already incorporated the material into her collection, with plans to eventually create an entire QMilch range. Ms Domaske's idea promises to be versatile too.

Thanks to its antibacterial nature, the milk fibre can also be used in medicine and even make-up. Several car manufacturers have also been investigating the fabric for use in vehicle upholstery.



Reprinted Courtesy Daily Mail and Herald Sun

For Sale—Fine Set of Rosenthal China

117 Piece, Pre-WWII (1920-1940) Pattern R2689 bone-colored with a 1/4" 18k gold encrusted black floral band. Service for 17 including dinner, salad, and bread plates with generous serving pieces, visible at www.replacements.com.

Family service crated and shipped to Oklahoma from Germany after the War by B.C. Clark Jewelers in Oklahoma City. Sale Price \$7,000.00 including shipping (appraised much higher).

Call Jim or Margaret Zercher at (405) 787-8548
email: margaretzercher@cox.net

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New Members

No New Members
were announced for
the month of November

GAST Building Corporation Report

With the closing of Barnard Elementary School, GAST was approached to become the neighborhood polling place. To date the election board has used our building for three elections. We continue to work on the duplex and garage. They now have new roofs, and the area between them has been cleaned out. We are also updating some of the electrical wiring.

*Our leasing committee could use some help setting up tables and chairs for weekend events. This is one of those many jobs that have been accomplished every week with little recognition. I would like to thank **John Millar, Al and Lois Voeller** for their years of dependable service. If you have an hour or two Friday mornings, please call **John** at 918-481-0614 or **Lois** at 918-355-2318.*

—Elam Blank, President

Annual Christmas Konversationsrunde

December 18, 3:00pm

At the home of Ortwin & Gertrud Schmidt
5133 E. 86th Pl - (918) 495-3727

We will sing the old traditional Christmas songs (German and English) that we grew up with. Please feel free to bring any appropriate music, musical instruments, etc that you may have and that might add to the celebration of our holiday season.



Stammtischrunde

Friday evening, December 9
starting at 6:30 PM
in the GAST Weinkeller
Hope to see you there.

Zum Wohl,
—Dann Björklund, Chair

“Unter Blinden ist der Einäugige König”

I loved finding this. My Dad used to say it all the time!

Who Am I?



Inspector General and considered one of the fathers of the American Continental Army during the Revolutionary War and in the last years of the war Washington's Chief of Staff. Author of the Revolutionary War Drill Manual which served as the standard drill manual of the United States Army until the War of 1812.

Reply with your answer to:
davidalanforbes@gmail.com



Answer to “**Where Am I?**”
in the November issue:
Dresden Theaterplatz
Siggi Grimm was the first correct
respondent. Congratulations!

This page is sponsored by Arnold & Gwen Bieber

The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



FASCHING - A FEW FACTS

Fasching or Karneval or Mardi Gras had its earliest beginning in the Rhineland in the year 1133. The festival grew larger as the years passed and in 1823 the Prinz of Karneval was crowned in the city of Cologne. As German people moved to different parts of the world the celebration moved with them.

The German American Society of Tulsa began celebrating Fasching in 1985 when a group of members, including Karl-Heinz and Ingrid

Darnieder who are still members to this date, organized the Elferrat. The goal of the Elferrat is to carry on one of the oldest German festivals for GAST members. Our Prinz and Prinzessin preside at our annual Fasching Party which is held before Ash Wednesday. Since 1985, Karl-Heinz and Ingrid Darnieder have supported the Elferrat. John and Irmgard Toschik, our Prinz and Prinzessin in 1995, have been former Prinz and Prinzessin longer than any other present members. We are inducting our 28th Prinz and Prinzessin this year.

— Harold Wicks



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