



The Voice of the German-American Community

GAST PICNIC



June 9

1:00—5:00pm

On the GAST Center Lawn

Call 918-744-6997 for Reservations

Admission: Germanfest Volunteers: **\$5.00 per person**

Non-volunteers: **\$10.00 per person**

Children 12 and under: **Free**



Please bring your own lawn chairs

Reservations are required as this is a catered BBQ dinner. Please call by Wednesday June 5th at 2pm

BBQ Dinner catered by



Upcoming GAST Events

May 31	Weinkeller	Jun 11	Handarbeitsgruppe	Jul 5	Stammtisch	Aug 2	Stammtisch	Sep 6	Stammtisch
Jun 3	Movie Night	Jun 18	Handarbeitsgruppe	Jul 9	Handarbeitsgruppe	Aug 5	Movie Night	Sep 27	Weinkeller
Jun 4	Handarbeitsgruppe	Jun 25	Handarbeitsgruppe	Jul 16	Handarbeitsgruppe		Aug 11	Oct 4	Stammtisch
Jun 7	Stammisch	Jun 28	Weinkeller	Jul 23	Handarbeitsgruppe		Ice Cream Social	Oct 7	Movie Night
	Jun 9	Jul 1	Movie Night	Jul 26	Weinkeller	Aug 30	Weinkeller	Oct 25	Weinkeller
	GAST Picnic	Jul 2	Handarbeitsgruppe	Jul 30	Handarbeitsgruppe	Sep 2	Movie Night	Nov 1	Stammtisch



...from the GAST President — Leon Boggs

Guten Tag!

Wow! We survived Germanfest - I think. In spite of 'mother nature' we had a successful festival. Initial figures show our income down from last year. But the weather has a great deal to do with that. Once all the bills are paid, we will know exactly what we did. Many thanks to festival chair, **Stephen Schneider**, for a job well done. I also cannot thank all the volunteers enough who worked to make it such a success. It takes all of us doing our part to keep it going, whether in the bar (at right), the kitchen (below, right), the serving line, the entertainment, and everywhere in between.

I want to thank the 'out-going' officers and board members who are leaving office at the end of this month for their service to GAST with me. I greatly appreciate all your time and energy spent in meetings and leading this great organization. I also welcome the newly elected folks coming on board. We have some exciting things ahead of us and I am hopeful we can all work together to accomplish most if not all of them.

I want to acknowledge some new chair people for a couple of our other festivals. **Christl Parsons** and **Jan Heffner** have agreed to chair Christkindlmarkt and **David Forbes** has agreed to take over our Oktoberfest committee. We have several volunteers already in place to work with them and help them 'get their feet wet'. I look forward to working with them on these upcoming festivals.

Once again, I want to remind all members that this is your organization. As a Board of Directors, we need to know what your wishes and dreams are. Talk to us - we will listen. Attend a board meeting and let us hear from you. We even listen to constructive criticism. If we do not hear from you, we do not know what you want. Come be part of this process and help us keep GAST alive and well for years to come. We need ideas - your ideas or else we see our organization slowly fading away. Think about it and come do your part.

'til next month

— Leon





...from the Arts President — Gertrud Schmidt

Germanfest as celebrated by the German American Society of Tulsa falls somewhere between ‘May Day’, ‘Cinco de Mayo’ and ‘Mothers Day’. And it always

is a feast for the olfactory nerves and taste buds. More than a thousand Schnitzels equally many Bratwurst and various Sandwiches kept the visitors happy and sated and coming back for the mouthwatering and tempting Apfelstrudel and Käsekuchen. The GAST Blaskapelle and GAST singers pleased our auditory system and the Dancers made us tap in rhythm.

Since Saint Peter was not on GAST’s side that weekend – it was miserably cold and drizzly – all the action was in the foyer and great Hall of the GAST Center. Thanks to the superb planning of **Erica Hartman, Stephen Schneider** and their team and the wonderful working together of all the many volunteers, the festival went off without a hitch. If you wonder how it is done? Join us next year and lend a hand dusting, dunking, breading and frying the schnitzels, preparing the condiments, making the Sauerkraut and potato salad, serving the food or manning the cash register – there is so much work to do. The reward is to see it come off successfully. A big thank you to all the tireless volunteers who made this big \$\$\$ maker for GAST a success.

A get-together of the Konversationsrunde at the Conrad’s house enlightened the participants about ‘Amber’ = Bernstein. Some of these pieces had their origin 320 million years ago when the resin of the Sciadepityaceae plants or Pinites succiniter trees (150 mil years ago) dropped to the ground and pressure and heat caused it to polymerize into this precious material which we enjoy in the form of jewelry, art works, folk medicine – from Hippocrates to the 21st century -, flavorings (aquavit!!) and perfumes. Königsberger (now

Kaliningrad) = Baltic amber is the earliest and most abundant form but amber occurs worldwide and may take many colors. Vielen Dank **Barbara** and **Uschi** for sharing your knowledge and treasures with us.

The members of the ARTS Committee want to thank all the members who responded to our solicitation of funds letter and the contributors ‘in kind’ to our garage sale. These funds will make it possible for us to continue our educational and cultural programs for the members and the greater Tulsa community .

I will tell you all about the Barthelmes Concert and some of our plans in the next Echo

Gertrud

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

June 19 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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Germanfest

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Germanfest 2013—May 3, 4, and 5

Clockwise from top left, the GAST Blaskapelle, the Great Hall with diners on the first day; Irmgard Toschik and volunteers getting "in the swing"; Jupiter Jump on the lawn for the kids; Sepp and Heinz Diepolder who headlined the entertainment; and the crowning of the 2013 Maikönigin,

Photos courtesy Arnold Bieber

Member Interview

Tom and Beverly Bordner

Echo: In case any reader hasn't noticed you at all the meetings or festivals, fill us in what your roles are in GAST?

Beverly: We both joined GAST in 2002. I'm the Office Manager and Tom is 2nd VP of GAST/ Membership Chairman. We both have been Hosts to the building venue and have been involved with Germanfest, Christkindlmarkt, and Oktoberfest.

Echo: And Tom plays the accordion at many of the festivals.

Beverly: Yes. Tom has played music since he was in his early teens. He won second in the State of Illinois for trumpet playing and played in country music bands for 35-40 years.

Echo: Which of you has the German ancestry?

Beverly: Well neither of us actually. I am of Swiss and Norwegian ancestry. My maternal grandparents came from Norway. Their name was Hanson, but apparently they had to change their name or try later as there were too many Hansons already in America. So they became Andersons. My father's grandparents came from Switzerland. They used to tease my parents about being Swiss & Norwegian – in fact their tombstone says "Swiss Boy & Norwegian Lady". I think at the time the strong tradition was to marry within your heritage.

Tom: My ancestry is Irish, Swedish, and Pennsylvania Dutch. My family name in German used to be Bortner.

Echo: Your schooling was here?

Tom: No, I went to Millikin University in Decatur.

Echo: Big Blue?

Tom: Right!

Echo: So did you two meet in Illinois?

Beverly: Yes we met at a social event in Freeport, Illinois, in 1965 and have been married for 46 years.

Echo: Beautiful! Kids, grandkids?

Beverly: We have 4 children – 2 daughters in Tulsa, a daughter in Milwaukee, and a son in Ohio. We have 9 grandchildren (4 girls & 5 boys) and one great granddaughter. One grandson is a "Bucky Badger" on the Wisconsin Football team.

Echo: How did you end up in Tulsa?

Tom: We moved to Oklahoma the first time in 1977 from Oak Park, Illinois. Bev was in Real Estate from 1977 - 2005. I retired from Edgcomb Metals—once one of the Williams Companies—and we moved back to Illinois and purchased and operated a Restaurant & Bar Supply business there. Then we moved to Oklahoma again in 2002, and I sort of retired again.

Echo: So what do you do for entertainment?

Beverly: We have a group that we go out with on Monday nights. We eat together then play dominoes, play cards or bunco. We read the Bible quite a bit and the book we are now reading is "Naados and His Kin". We go to movies: the last film we saw was "Lincoln". Occasionally we go to the Heller Theatre. We enjoy Weinkellar Abend, the GAST festivals and the parties. Tom has been involved with the GAST Saengers since we joined. We stay busy!



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is grateful to the following members for their continued and generous support:

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Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde

The Konversationsrunde took place last on 21st of April at the home of Stan and Barbara Conrad. The topic is discussed in the Arts President's column on page 3 of this issue. The next meeting of the Konversationsrunde will take place in September. Please watch this space for announcement of date and location.

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 of one of our meetings, please call Barbara Conrad at 918 492 3273 (chair) or Gertrud Schmidt at 918 495 3727 (Co-chair).

Stammtischrunde

Friday, June 7
6:30 PM
in the GAST Weinkeller.
Hope to see you there.
Zum Wohl,

— Dann Björklund, Chair

Now Playing at the Erwin Jerchau

GAST Theater

Monday June 3, starting at 6:30 PM

Flott in den Tag

Das Musikmagazin

Starting at 7:30 PM

Hoch klinkt der Radetzkymarch

Starring: Paul Hoerbinger, Johanna Matz, Wahlter Reyer.
Winnie Markus, and Gustaf Knuth



What am I?

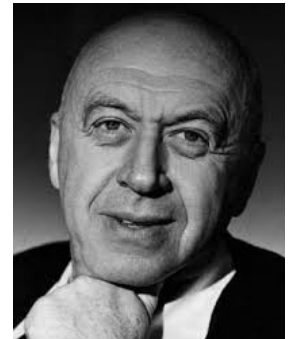


Architect unknown.
Constructed circa 1500
Location: Nurnberg
Style: Half-timbered medieval urban home on a preserved medieval street corner.
Most Prominent Tenant: a German painter, engraver, printmaker, mathematician, and theorist whose high quality woodcuts established his continent-wide reputation while he was still in his twenties. One of the first European landscape artists and one of the most important figures of the Northern Renaissance. Since 1871 the house has been a museum dedicated to his life and work.

Answers should be sent to davidalanforbes@gmail.com

New Members

Robert & Cindy Rothenbucher
Claremore, Oklahoma



Answer to "Who am I" in the April issue: **Otto Preminger**
The first—and only—correct respondent this month was: **Tom Bordner**

This page is sponsored by Arnold & Gwen Bieber

The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



Das Deutsche Echo

June 2013

Volume 34

Issue 6

The Voice of the German-American Community

HANDARBEITSGRUPPE RAFFLES QUILT FOR GERMANFEST

When the Handarbeitsgruppe found out GAST would not have a Quilt to raffle off at Germanfest this year, they made a quick decision to create one and have it ready for the festival.

The 4 quilters decided to continue the tradition Bea Shults started for Germanfest a few years ago. They thought since the Handarbeitsgruppe always makes a Quilt and raffles it for

Christkindlmarkt, why not have the same tradition for Germanfest.

This years Quilt winner was Ian Kirk. He was so excited that he went right home to put it on his bed. His parents sent us his picture, at left.

Pictured with this years Quilt, above, are from left to right **Christy Fell** (Raffle seller) **Elke Meyer** (quilter), **Irmgard Toschik** (quilter), Ian Kirk (winner) and **Ruth Bly** (quilter). **Helga Roepel** also worked on the quilt but is not shown.

The Quilt raffle brought in \$800 for the festival.

Anyone interested in joining us on Tuesday's for Handarbeit is more than welcome. Bring your knitting, crocheting, sewing, lunch and come join us.



Story and photographs courtesy Irmgard Toschik

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