



The Voice of the German-American Community



Christkindlmarkt

GAST Center

December 6, 7, and 8

Fri: 10am to 7pm Sat: Noon to 7pm Sun: Noon to 5pm

Come join the family friendly fun and activities for the three days of the festival, and bring your friends and family.

Volunteers are still needed in any number of positions, including in the kitchen, serving line, greeting, etc, for all three days of the festival.

To volunteer, call (918) 744-6997

GAST Christmas Party

Saturday, December 14, 2013

6:00—10:00pm

The menu is ham, garlic mashed potatoes, green beans, rolls, with a choice of two desserts, cheesecake or chocolate cake. The dinner is served at 6:00 pm and the Mike Bennett band will play from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

The cost is \$20 per person

Reservations to be made by December 5 by calling (918) 744-6997

Children's Christmas Party

Sunday, December 15

Noon to 2pm

St. Nikolaus will visit GAST on Sunday afternoon. Bring your little ones (and the BIGGER kids, too) for fun and games and pictures with St. Nikolaus. But, he needs to know who is coming. So please make your reservation by calling the GAST Office ([918-744-6997](tel:918-744-6997)), or emailing your reservation to (gast@tulsacoxmail.com) on or before Wednesday, December 11

Upcoming GAST Events

Dec 2	Movie Night			Dec 31	Handarbeitsgruppe			Mar 3	Movie Night
Dec 3	Handarbeitsgruppe		Dec 14	Jan 3	Stammtisch		Christmas Party	Mar 7	Stammtisch
Dec 6	Stammtisch	Dec 15	Advent Service	Jan 6	Movie Night	Jan 28		Mar 28	Weinkeller
	Dec 6—8		Dec 15	Jan 7	Handarbeitsgruppe	Feb 3	Jan 25	Apr 4	Stammtisch
	Christkindlmarkt		Children's Christmas Party	Jan 14	Handarbeitsgruppe	Feb 7	Anniversary Party	Apr 7	Movie Night
Dec 10	Handarbeitsgruppe	Dec 17	Handarbeitsgruppe	Jan 21	Handarbeitsgruppe	Feb 28		Apr 25	Weinkeller
		Dec 24	Handarbeitsgruppe	Jan 24	Weinkeller	Mar 1	Fasching Party	May 2	Stammtisch



...from the GAST President — Leon Boggs

Guten Tag!

Another month comes - temperatures are getting colder - leaves are turning colors and falling. That means we are moving closer to Christkindlmarkt. The committee is hard at work pulling all the pieces together to make this a successful event and fund raiser for us. We need your help. Contact Arnold Bieber to offer your services. There are many areas for you to share your talents and labors.

Oktoberfest is over and we survived. Financially it was not very kind to us. Low sales and bad weather were the main culprits. We will do some evaluating soon to see where we are at with this festival. We had a wonderful Oktoberfest Party. Many thanks to David Forbes and the Oktoberfest Committee for all their work in organizing the party. The Dancers did a great job of decorating and that really helped set the mood. I am sure we were all transported to Munich! The Blaskapelle did an outstanding job providing us music and great entertainment. MOST OF ALL I WANT TO THANK ALL YOU VOLUNTEERS! The event was successful in many ways and we did have some fun. We could not do it without you. THANKS SO MUCH!

As we move into the next few weeks, we will be putting together our 2014 budget. Obviously our Oktoberfest income will play into that and we will have to work hard to keep all of our programs supported and running.

The big theme for November is Thanksgiving. We all so much to be thankful for. Take a moment and think about your list of things - family, home, friends, jobs, etc. I am also thankful for you and GAST. This organization helps remind me that my mom's family came from Germany and offers me some sort of a connection to thtg history even though I do not know much about it. Thank you for being part of that. I hope all of you have a great Thanksgiving celebration according to your own traditions.

— Leon



...from the Building President — Harold Wicks

HELP ! Maybe YOU can help us find a tenant for our Empty Office Space. We have a little more than 1000 square feet. This is ideal for three people. The Post Office is next door and the Broken Arrow Expwy is only one block away. Please mention our vacancy to anyone you come in contact with. We will appreciate any ideas you may have for advertising our rental.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Operating Committee Chair, Arnold Bieber, and Leasing Committee Chair, Leon Boggs, would like to have at least two volunteers to serve with them. Please contact Arnold via e-mail: aobieber@aol.com and Leon via e-mail: leon51boggs @gmail.com. By serving on either of these committees, YOU would contribute to our Building maintenance and rental program. Would YOU Please donate four hours of your time to help support the building rental program? Please call Bev in our office at 918-744-6997 for more information. I appreciate the help of Leon Boggs, Arnold Bieber, George Coppedge, Dave Schoneweiss, and Jan Heffner for their much needed assistance with building activities.

— Harold



...from the Arts President — Gertrud Schmidt

By the time this issue of the 'ECHO' lands in your mailbox the shops, offices and houses will again be decorated with Santa Clauses, Christmas trees and angels. And the angels spread their wings and play heavenly music on flutes, cellos, violins, drums and harps.

The GASAA sponsored Harp Ensemble concert was a little ahead of time on November 10th to try their fingers on the strings of the harps. Did you know that the harp was first played in Ur, in the ancient land of Sumer, about 2600 BCE? Then it made its appearance in Egypt about 2000 BCE and from there it spread to Babylonia, Central Asia and China and westward to Greece, Rome and Central Europe. The oldest extant Harp is from fourteenth century Ireland. I am guessing but maybe that is the reason why the Irish custom agents sport a harp on their caps. Very little music has been written exclusively for the solo harp instead it is usually part of ensembles. Linda Paul and her ensemble certainly found a surprising variety of tunes which fit this heavenly instrument perfectly. Those of you interested in learning more about harps - talk to Linda Paul or read up in the Harvard or Oxford Dictionaries of Music. This wonderful afternoon ended with cheerful chats around the refreshment tables, tended by our charming hosts Ruth Bly and Susan Bey.

Volkstrauertag went off without a hitch thanks to the tireless planning by Barbara Conrad. For the fifteenth time a delegation from GAST drove to Ft. Reno on November 17, 2013 – Volktrauertag in Germany – to honor the 62 German POWs buried there. In the chapel built by the German prisoners of war- the Consul General of Germany Klaus Jochen Guehlcke, Oberst Kresser Commander of the German Air Force, Ft Bliss and Dr. Anthony Wohlers spoke of the horrors of war not only for the soldiers but for all the people affected by these conflicts and made a plea to work for peace. Susan Calvert sang Faure's 'Pie Jesu', Haendel's 'Dank sei Dir Herr' and Wildhorn's 'Tell My Father'. At the cemetery the Governors Honor Guard, the German Air Force and Veterans Groups presented the flags and laid the wreaths. GAST and Blaskapelle member Max Tankersley-- representing the VFW Tulsa 577--played the bag pipes. The very thought-provoking celebration concluded with TAPS played by the Honor Guard.

December 15th is fast approaching. Pastor Tiews will present the sermon in German, the GAST Choir and the congregation will sing the familiar Christmas carols. Come and celebrate with us.

As every year: here is another Christmas story: In most English speaking countries kids believe that Santa travels down the chimney to deliver toys to good boys and girls on Christmas Eve. But how can Santa deliver gifts to children that don't have chimneys? This jolly man in his warm white fur coat thought of a clever solution. Santa created his very own key that only he and his elves can use to open doors in the homes of good boys and girls. He wouldn't want to miss bringing happiness to the good children of the world. So if you don't have a chimney, never fear, Santa will stop by if you have been good!

(Adapted from: "A German Christmas Journal")

Frohe Weihnachten

- Gertrud

NewsLetter DEADLINE **December 18 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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GAST SÄNGER PERFORMANCES

The GAST Sänger had a busy fall program, performing at Franciscan Villa and St. Simeon's assisted living facilities and at the opening ceremonies of Oktoberfest and an outdoor concert on Guthrie Green with the Blaskapelle. It was nice to see several familiar faces from the GAST membership supporting the band and choir at these events and to hear many appreciative comments from the assisted living audiences who sometimes joined in singing songs they found familiar.

The Sänger are now preparing for the Christmas Party and the Deutsche Adventsfeier to be held in the GAST hall on December 14th and 15th. The Sänger are working diligently on learning several new songs, including "Wie soll ich dich empfangen" by Crueger and "Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern" by Nicolai. The bass section added a new singer, John Gallagher, who joined the choir last winter. Anyone who would enjoy singing with the choir can come to practice any Thursday at 7:00 PM or call 918 485 2321 for additional information. All are welcome.

Article courtesy of Betty Donohue

Leserbriefe

GARAGE SALE

It's never too early to think 'GARAGE SALE' for GAST. The annual garage sale is one of our major fundraisers. As you put away the summer clothes and yard gadgets, rearrange your furniture or remodel your home, remember that GAST-ARTS will be happy to accept your usable discards! This is an opportunity for you to clear out some closets and free up some storage space.

Call Barbara Conrad

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

Oktoberfest Party November 2, 2013

GAST celebrated the completion of Oktoberfest and rewarded its many volunteers for their hard work and the long shifts helping to make Oktoberfest a success for GAST with a rousing party on the 2nd of November complete with a catered dinner of chicken parmesian with orzo, and later music and dancing, all served with lots of fun.

Results of the festival were mixed: festival attendance was good according to reports from River Parks, but long-time observers noted that many attendees were there more for the sights and sounds and less for the sausage and beer. All vendors expressed some disappointment with revenues compared to last year, but 2013 suffered with stiff competition on Wednesday night with a Thunder game at the BOK with a sold-out crowd, and Friday weather at the festival was cold, wet, and miserable which depressed attendance and revenues for the better part of the day. The nice weather on Saturday and Sunday helped a lot.

The hall was splendidly decorated by the GAST Saenger, the band played to perfection and the GAST dancers got everyone into the spirit of the party! Everyone enjoyed themselves.



Tom Bordner and Joe Rohrman the GAST Bier Stube during the party.



Tonja Carrig (left) next to her husband and Erica Hartman at the Head Table.

Oktoberfest Party

Continued



Clockwise from right: the GAST Blaskapelle, directed by David Lawrence; the Colonnade winds through the hall; the GAST Dancers perform; the yodeling Contest followed by the hairiest leg contest, won by David Lawrence; top left, the Hall beautifully decorated by the GAST Saenger.



This page is sponsored by the GAST Sanger and by Dan Dennehy

GAST

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

Rick & Terry Pizzo

If you are in need of an ATTORNEY in the Oklahoma City Metro Area, you may contact **CHARLES J. BYRD** at NECCO & BYRD, P.C. We are a law firm with over 80 years of combined experience.

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Now Playing at the Erwin Jerchau

GAST Theater



Monday December 2,
starting at 6:30 PM

Christmas Memory Lane
Die Schoensten Wheinachtslieder

Starting at 7:30 PM

Wenn Wheinachten wahr wird

Starring: Hanelore Hoger, Cora Wiedtke, Alousius Itoka, and
Stephan Kompwirth

The Sunshine Lady—Martha Ort

I have sent three cards this month: to Lois Voeller, who has had multiple strokes. George Coppedge, who has had cataract surgery, and Joseph Rohr, who has also had cataract surgery. I sent Erica Hartman a get well card today, and also Ed Westenheiser, who has had a stroke recently and is still pursuing treatment.

*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: marthaort@gmail.com or tel 918-728-0103



What am I?

This immense palace, one of the largest in Germany, was built at the end of the 17th century, greatly expanded during the 18th century, and reconstructed after substantial damage during World War II. The grounds include a large formal garden surrounded by woods. The palace was commissioned by the wife of Friedrich III Elector of Brandenburg, who later crowned himself King of Prussia.

It contained at one time the famous "amber room" which Friedrich Wilhelm I gave to Tsar Peter the Great as a present in 1716.

Answer to "Who am I" in the November 1 issue: **Maximilian Delphinus Berlitz**
The first correct respondent this month was **Paul Greek**
Doris Wicks, Carol Wright, Barbara Taron, and Inge Wagdalt, also provided the correct answer within minutes.

This page is sponsored by **Arnold & Gwen Bieber**
The back page is sponsored by **Kenneth Renberg**



Das Deutsche Echo

December 2013

Volume 34

Issue 12

The Voice of the German-American Community

Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde

Annual Christmas Konversationsrunde
December 22, 3:00pm
At the home of Ortwin and Gertrud Schmidt
5133 East 86 Pl. Tel: [918 495 3727](tel:9184953727)
Lets celebrate Christmas!
Bring your favorite Christmas story or song.
As always, there will be Christmas cheer, coffee, tea and
goodies to enjoy.

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

– Dann Björklund, Chair

New Members

There were no new members added at the
November 13th Board Meeting

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