



# Das Deutsche Echo

The Voice of the German-American Community

March 2014

Volume 35

Issue 3

## Fasching 2014

Saturday, March 1

GAST Center

6:00pm to 10:00pm

Come one, come all to the Fasching Celebration! The fun starts at 6:00 p.m. and we will party until 10:00pm with music from our own Blaskapelle, games and the ever popular costume contest (so please dress up as your favorite character!)

**Admission—\$10.00 per person.**

Please make your reservation with the GAST office by February 25  
Come and join the fun!

## GAST GARAGE SALE

**MAR 28—29**

Drop off your usable items at the GAST Center on March 26. Volunteers need for sorting and pricing items on March 27, and to work the sale on both the 28th and 29th. See story on page 5.

## Annual Members Meeting

April 27, 2014

GAST Center

3:00pm

The annual meeting of GAST members will be held April 27 for election of the new Boards of Directors of the three organizations as well as the election of officers. Plan to attend the meeting and cast your votes. Be sure your dues are paid by March 1 for your franchise rights to be intact.

### Upcoming GAST Events

2014

**Mar 1**

**Fasching Party**

- Mar 2 Folkdancing
- Mar 3 Movie Night
- Mar 4 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Mar 7 Stammtisch
- Mar 9 Volkstanz Practice
- Mar 11 Handarbeitsgruppe

**Mar 16**

**Tulsa Cella Partners  
Lecture at Gast Center**

- Mar 16 Volkstanz Practice
- Mar 18 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Mar 23 Volkstanz Practice
- Mar 25 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Mar 28 Weinkeller

**Mar 28—29**

**GAST Garage Sale**

- Mar 30 Volkstanz Practice
- Apr 1 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Apr 4 Stammtisch
- Apr 6 Volkstanz Practice
- Apr 7 Movie Night
- Apr 8 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Apr 13 Volkstanz Practice
- Apr 15 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Apr 20 Volkstanz Practice
- Apr 22 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Apr 25 Weinkeller
- Apr 27 Members Meeting
- Apr 27 Volkstanz Practice
- Apr 29 Handarbeitsgruppe

- May 2 Stammtisch
- May 5 Movie Night
- May 6 Handarbeitsgruppe
- May 13 Handarbeitsgruppe
- May 20 Handarbeitsgruppe
- May 23 Weinkeller
- May 27 Handarbeitsgruppe

- Jun 2 Movie Night
- Jun 3 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Jun 6 Stammtisch
- Jun 10 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Jun 17 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Jun 24 Handarbeitsgruppe
- Jun 27 Weinkeller

- Jul 1 Handarbeitsgruppe



## ...from the GAST President — Leon Boggs

GUTEN TAG!

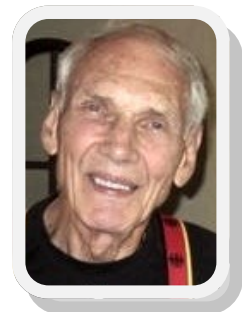
Finally some warmer weather! I guess it sows the beginning of another season. Fasching is just around the corner and that means it is time to party-hardy before Ash Wednesday and Lent. Our party will be on Saturday, February 28. Watch this issue for more details. I hope to see all of you there. From the looks of the planning so far, it will be lots of fun. Come and enjoy the music of our own Blaskapelle.

**I WANT TO REMIND ALL MEMBERS OF THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING. IT WILL BE ON SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2014 AT 3:00 PM IN THE GREAT HALL. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS WILL TAKE PLACE AS WELL AS OTHER IMPORTANT BUSINESS.** You must be a member in good standing - dues paid by March 1 - to be able to vote. Make sure you are paid up!

On this topic, if you are called upon to serve as an officer or director, please consider it. This is your organization. We must have willing folks to serve as the leaders. If you have questions about the duties and responsibilities, please contact me. As my term comes to an end, I want to say it has been a privilege to serve as your President for the past 5 years. I look forward to new leadership to keep GAST alive and well. There is still much for us to do and if we all work together, it can happen and we can even have fun doing it!!

Thanks for your support over the last 5 years. Auf Wiedersehen

— Leon



## ...from the Building President -

We are still looking for someone to rent our office space. We now have a Listing Agreement with Dittus Properties. They have numerous ways of advertising our property. They are excited to be working for us.

During February, the 225 chairs we use in the Great Hall were washed and vacuumed.

The Groom's Room, the room behind the stage, has a cork tile floor. Several tiles were badly worn and needed to be replaced. Twelve tiles were replaced, then the floor was sanded and refinished. We spent \$ 95.00. A company quoted \$600.00 to do this project. The office toilet was repaired at a cost of \$ 9.39 plus two parts donated by me. Bottles and cans were also recycled. We are still in need of help setting up and hosting for rentals of our building.

Please call Bev @ 918 744 6997 to help.

— Harold





## ...from the Arts President — Gertrud Schmidt

So much for Global Warming! In parts of the US and other parts of the world it has been one of the coldest winters since we started recording data on snowfall and temperatures. Mother Nature also

threw some curveballs for our various festivities and money-making efforts. Nevertheless the GAST boards kept meeting and planning and hoping for more benevolent weather for our next ventures.

Weather certainly did not keep German Language enthusiasts at home. For Kinderdeutsch seven eager students showed up and signed up on February 8<sup>th</sup> and the Adult Classes filled up almost to capacity with 68 students (at last count) on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Ruth Obermark had some tense times filling the teaching slots, but she managed to put another fabulous team together. The Adult Classes are being taught by Christopher Day, Doris Gallagher, Carol Masters, Grete McNac, Angela Novak, and Katie Sloan and Kinderdeutsch by Gracie Weiderhaft. To make sure the children get some physical exercise after their brains got a good work-out, Jeff Mosburg again volunteered to teach the students some German songs and dances.

The children certainly learned very fast to say 'bitte' and 'danke' when it came to enjoying juice and cookies - served on Valentine napkins - after language class. Since I had no recollection of celebrating Valentine's Day when I grew up in Austria or Germany and only got acquainted with this special day once I came to the United States, I wondered where and when this tradition started. I'll tell you, there are about a dozen Valentinos honored as Saints by the Catholic Church going back to the third century CE. Going back further to pagan times Lupercalia—pastoral festivities—were held February 13 -15. But it is an English poet -Geoffrey Chaucer of 'The Canterbury Tales' fame - who is credited with inventing the holiday as it is celebrated today. About 1375 he wrote the poem 'Parliament of Fowles' in which he links courtly love with the celebration of St. Valentine's Feast Day February 14<sup>th</sup> on which 'birds and humans come together to find a mate'. While this day—set aside for love—was mostly celebrated in countries with English roots and traditions, global communication certainly changed that and Valentine cards and greetings now come from and are sent to all corners of the globe. Sharing the positive aspects of a culture and love in particular certainly should be maintained.

GASAA gets another chance to show and spread our German heritage and culture at the TCC Global Fest on February 25th. Arnold Bieber and Barbara Conrad are hard at work to put together another prize-winning exhibition. Ditto for 'Kids World' November 19-22 for which Jeff Mosburg has volunteered to accept the chairmanship.

Who of German background has not read or heard about Karl May? On March 16, 2014 at 3:00pm the Tulsa - Celle Partnership will host a speaker at the GAST Weinkeller who will tell us all about this famous German writer of Winnetou and Old Shatterhand—even though it is questionable whether he ever set foot on the American Continent.

We are on the look-out for a musical group to entertain us with music from and for the heart.

Let us hear from you

- Gertrud

Newsletter  
**DEADLINE**

March 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.

### Das Deutsche Echo

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# GAST 33rd Anniversary Party



The 33rd Anniversary Party held on January 25 had a great attendance, an excellent dinner and dancing to the music of the G-Notes. Clockwise from top right: All past Presidents of GAST, GAST Arts, and GAST Building at the party; a "memories table" in the front hall; Ruth Obermark receiving the President's award for service; Joe Rohr holding down the Bier Stube, and (center) the anniversary cake.



## GAST Sunshine Lady—Martha Ort

- Gertrud Schmidt's brother in Austria died. We wish her a quick recovery from her own health issues and sympathize with her loss.
- Jan Dameron lost her husband, Kyle Jan 27; we sent her a condolence card.
- We are happy to report that Irmgrad Toschik has had a a good report following a recent surgery.
- We wish Mrs. Teresa Gallagher swift recovery from her recent knee surgery.
- Mr. Fred Kailer lost his sister, and we sent him our condolences.
- Our hopes are with Mrs. Barbara Taron for her recovery from surgery.
- Former member Arlene Fruehling passed away February 12, at the age of 97. We sent a condolence card to the family, and will keep them in our thoughts.
- Dan Dennehey received a card of encouragement for the difficult time he and his family are experiencing.

Please call or email the Sunshine Lady if you know of any member who is ill, or if a sympathy card needs to be sent to a member. Email: [marthaort@gmail.com](mailto:marthaort@gmail.com) or tel: 918-728-0103

## GAST GARAGE SALE March 28-29, 2014

Just another friendly reminder that our annual garage sale will be held March 28-29, 2014 at the GAST Center.

The garage sale is one of the main sources of income for GASAA. In addition to recycling Christmas gifts that you really can't use, it is also an opportunity to get rid of items which no longer fit or have lost usefulness for you.

### Keep these dates on your calendar:

**Mar 26—Wednesday:** from 10:00am-3:00pm: Drop-off for usable items at the GAST Center. If you have large items, arrange for pick-up

**Mar 27—Thursday:** from 9:00am till ????. Pricing and arranging sales items at the GAST Center.

**Mar 28—Friday:** SALE DAY from 9:00am till 5:00pm

**Mar 29—Saturday:** SALE DAY from 9:00am till 3:00pm

After the sale closes, help is needed to consolidate the unsold items to get them ready for pick-up by the Salvation Army.

We are in dire need of volunteers to help with this very important fundraiser.

For more information call: Barbara Conrad at 918 492 3273

## Leserbriefe

### GAST Folk dancers Resume Meeting and Practice

I have returned from 4 wonderful weeks in Germany. My health remains good and it is time to get together for Folk dancing. The practice days will again be on Sunday between 6 and 8. Our First day will be March 2, 2014. We invite you to join us, and you are encouraged and welcome to bring a friend along (need not be a member). Folk dancing is not hard. You can participate at your own speed. It is good exercise and we try to make it a fun experience. You will be learning authentic German, Swiss and Austrian folk dances that are still being performed at festivals and events throughout Germany, Switzerland and Austria today. If you have any questions please contact me. Phone (after Feb 26th) [918 299-2839](tel:9182992839) or [918 630-9029](tel:9186309029) or by e-mail [d.c.w@cox.net](mailto:d.c.w@cox.net). We look forward to seeing you.

*Communications from members are welcome and should be sent to [davidalanforbes@gmail.com](mailto:davidalanforbes@gmail.com)*

# GAST

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

*Rick & Terry Pizzo*

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*Hannelore Giles Carter*

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## GAST Theater



Monday March 3, starting at 6:30 PM

Die Schoesten Melodien

With Hansi Hinterseer, Judith & Mel, Amigoe,  
Geschwister Hofmann, Helene Fischer and many more

Starting at 7:30

### Mein süßes Geheimnis

Starring Friedrich von Thun, Gila von Werterhausen,  
Hans Peter Korff, Sanne Schnapf and Jahann von Beulow

### Membership Dues Increased at February Board Meeting

At the February GAST board meeting, the motion was made and approved that the GAST annual dues would be raised to \$50 for a family membership and \$30 for a single membership effective with the 2015 dues. The GAST dues have remained constant for many years and the costs have steadily increased. The present \$20 will barely cover the cost of collecting, formatting, printing and mailing you the monthly ECHO. I hope you understand the economics of this decision. Dues must be paid for 2014 on or before March 1 for a member to have voting privileges at the annual meeting.

Tom Bordner  
Membership Chairman



## Who Am I?

Prominent German composer of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, born in Siegburg, near Bonn, in 1854, and died of a heart attack at the age of 67 in Neustrelitz. He worked as a teacher and opera critic for various publications, and composed a number of operas based on fairy tales including Dornröschen (Sleeping Beauty), Hänsel und Gretel, and Die Königskinder (the Royal Children), as well a number of orchestral pieces.

Reply to: [davidalanforbes@gmail.com](mailto:davidalanforbes@gmail.com) subj: What Am I?



Answer to "What am I" in the February 1 issue:  
**KfW Westarkade Building (Frankfurt)**  
The first correct respondent was **Paul Greek**  
And there were 4 other correct respondents!

This page is sponsored by Arnold & Gwen Bieber

The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



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*The Voice of the German-American Community*

## **Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde**

It was a small audience that appreciated a very informative presentation by Ursula Andress about Hospice Care in Oklahoma. Thank you Ursula for your matter of fact approach to 'End of Life' issues and sharing your Hospice experience with us.

The next get-together will be at Barbara and Gerald Taron's house. They will take us along on their trip, travel experiences and pictures of Namibia with us. Barbara and Gerald live at: 6562 S 218<sup>th</sup> East Ave., Broken Arrow Tel: 918 355 2370

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 cultural interests of its members. For suggestions, information or hosting one of our meetings call Barbara Conrad (chair) at 918 492 3273 or Gertrud Schmidt (co-chair) at 918 495 3727.

## **Stammtischrunde**

Friday, March 7, 2014

6:30 PM

in the GAST Weinkeller.

Hope to see you there.

Zum Wohl,

– Dann Björklund, Chair

## **New Members**

Eric & Mary Brandenburg  
Tulsa, OK

Brigitte Kuehner  
Coweta, OK

Nicky Haas  
Broken Arrow, OK

Leslie & Elizabeth Thompson  
Tulsa, OK

Randal & Jacqueline Johnson  
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Tulsa, OK

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