



Das Deutsche Echo

May 2016

Volume 37

Issue 5

The Voice of the German-American Community in Tulsa

April 29 - May 1
GAST Center



Germanfest



| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| <i>April 29</i> | <i>Friday</i> | <i>10am - 9pm</i> |
| <i>April 30</i> | <i>Saturday</i> | <i>10am - 9pm</i> |
| <i>May 1</i> | <i>Sunday</i> | <i>Noon - 5pm</i> |

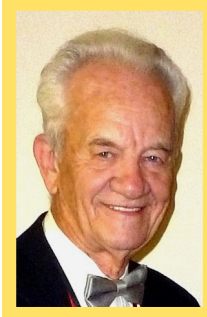
The Annual Germanfest celebration will be held in the Great Hall and grounds from April 29 through May 1, 2016, as always with authentic German entertainment by the GAST choir, Folk Dancers and the Blaskapelle, together with outstanding Polka bands, traditional food and drink, activities for the children and fun for the whole family. The 2016 May Queen will be crowned. This is one of GAST's biggest fundraisers of the year and is only successful if everyone participates. When you are called to volunteer, say "YES". Better yet--call the number below today and let us know that you can



Volunteers are needed - Call (918) 744-6997 to sign up

**UPCOMING
EVENTS AT
GAST**

| May | | June | | July | |
|-----|---------------------------------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|
| 1 | Volkstanzer / Last day of Germanfest | 3 | Stammtisch | 1 | Stammtisch |
| 2 | GAST Theater | 5 | GAST Picnic | 4 | GAST Theater |
| 3 | Handarbeitsgruppe | 6 | GAST Theater | 5 | Handarbeitsgruppe |
| 6 | Stammtisch | 7 | Handarbeitsgruppe | 12 | Handarbeitsgruppe |
| 8 | Volkstanzer / Barthelmes Recital | 14 | Handarbeitsgruppe | 19 | Handarbeitsgruppe |
| 10 | Handarbeitsgruppe | 21 | Handarbeitsgruppe | 22 | Weinkellerabend |
| 17 | Handarbeitsgruppe | 24 | Weinkellerabend | 26 | Handarbeitsgruppe |
| 15 | Volkstanzer | 28 | Handarbeitsgruppe | | |
| 24 | Handarbeitsgruppe | | | | |
| 22 | Volkstanzer | | | | |
| 27 | Weinkellerabend | | | | |
| 29 | Volkstanzer | | | | |
| 31 | Handarbeitsgruppe | | | | |



...from the GAST President — Arnold Bieber

What a transformation of our beautiful Great Hall! I thought I walked into Hobo City on Saturday evening on April 9. But then I saw a few friendly faces, and more of them showed up in short order. They weren't hobos at all. Granted, some of them could have been mistaken for homeless people by the way they dressed, but most of them brought pots of hot soup or platters of desserts, enough for a hungry army. I guess tax season did not leave all of our members penniless. About 50 members and guests enjoyed the wonderful experience of sharing a meal. Thank you, Uschi and Christy, for a very enjoyable evening.

As my 2-year service as GAST president is coming to an end on May 31, I want to express my appreciation to the GAST Board, the GAST Membership, Committee Chairs and all the volunteers for their work and support. Our organization, although somewhat smaller than it was in 2014, is still vibrant. Transferring the assets from the Building Corporation to GAST reduced some of the redundancies and inefficiencies of our operations, but not the work load and the need for volunteers. The subject of volunteers and other issues were addressed by the GAST Oktoberfest Task Force recently organized by Leon Boggs. During the April meeting the GAST Board voted to participate again as a vendor in Linde Oktoberfest Tulsa this year and to implement some of the Task Force's recommendations. This will require replacement of some of our outdated equipment.

2015/16 Maikönigin Angela Novak had a busy year. Besides teaching the adult and children's language classes and organizing the Children's St. Nikolaus on December 12 and the Easter Party on March 26, she accepted the job as GAST Youth Chair and served on various other committees. Her Youth Movie Nights have been a resounding success. Motivating Tulsa area high school German language teachers and students to participate in meetings and the annual Essay Contest has broadened our exposure to the younger generation. Great job, Angie!

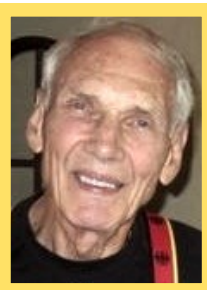
Tom Bordner took over as Membership Chair temporarily last year when Dan Dennehy requested to be excused from his Board position due to illness. Although not a Board member, Tom attended monthly Board meetings to report membership status and present new applications for approval by the Board. In January he mailed out the annual dues statements, recorded payments and coordinated updates with Paul Greek who maintains the membership data base. Thank you, Tom and Paul, for keeping our membership records accurate.

As I write this, Germanfest preparations are in high gear. Oktoberfest Inc. will be the presenting sponsor of GAST Germanfest this year and potentially for the next two years. The entertainment schedule has been finalized by David Lawrence, and the kitchen crew with Ruth Bly in charge have prepared hundreds of apple strudels and our new menu item, Brat-Kraut Strudels.

Our ECHO editor, David Forbes, graciously added a few days to the deadline for submitting this article, so that I would be able to report the results of the General Membership Meeting and Election on April 24. GAST officers elected are: Leon Boggs, President; Joe Rohr, 1st Vice President; Carol Wright, 2nd Vice President; Donna Boggs, Secretary; Janet Jamison, Treasurer. Board members elected for 2-year terms are: David Gonzales, Harold Wicks and Bill Wilber. Board members elected for 1 year terms are: Ursula Mueller and Cheryl Baker.

Auf Wiedersehn!

Arnold Bieber



...from the Building Manager—Harold Wicks

...from the Arts President — Gertrud Schmidt



Tax season and tax deadline is behind us. Time to concentrate on more fun things to do.

Start by enjoying the Germanfest which takes place from Friday April 29th through Sunday May 1st at the GAST House on 1429 Terrace drive. There will be good music, dancing, Schuhplattler showing off their mobility throughout the festival and our Kinderdeutsch Kinder entertaining you with song and dance on Sunday afternoon.

Not only have these nine eager students been learning and practicing the German vocabulary during their instruction but they also absorbed much about German customs during their ten week stint with their wonderful teachers Angela Novak and Jeff Mosburg.

And it is a German tradition to have good food and libations at these get-togethers. To ascertain that the food is handled safely, the Tulsa City and County Health Department tested all the volunteer food-handlers and issued them licenses after they passed the 24 questions test. So enjoy every bite and a few sips... you are safe with us at Germanfest.

Food safety and quality control goes back a very long time. In Germany the first 'Bayrisches Reinheitsgebot' (Bavarian purity law) was issued by William IV Duke of Bavaria, *at right*, and signed into law on April 23, 1516..... exactly five-hundred years ago. These Bavarians were mainly concerned about a food item very important and dear to their hearts...Bier... beer! The law eventually was expanded to include just about all food-prepared and basic ingredients-offered for sale. The dukes were not the only ones concerned with food safety and quality. When Frater Barnabas of the Paulaner Monks Order wanted to market a stronger beer- the 'Salvator'- for lent, he needed the approval of the pope. So a wagonload of beer in kegs was sent to Rome. It took several weeks to get there.... rumbling over the Alps...down some long valleys...no refrigeration..... think about what that did to the beer! The pope – after a tiny sip- stated : "If that is what they want to drink for lent, they may have it!"



Expect more fun and good food and libations during the GAST Picnic on June 5, 2016 at the GAST Center.

The Barthelmes Conservatory teachers and students are on track for the annual recital-concert. Senior and graduating students will treat us to an afternoon of wonderful piano music on May 8th at 3:00 pm in the great Hall of our GAST House. They will present works by Mozart, Beethoven, Clementi and others. It is getting increasingly difficult to find a date for all concerned particularly as the school term draws to an end. There are just too many activities demanding the time and attention of faculty and students.

Language classes for adults will start up again on September 6th at 7:00pm and Kinderdeutsch will commence on Saturday September 10th at 10:00 am.

I hope to see many of you at the Germanfest.

Gertrud

Newsletter
DEADLINE

May 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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Sponsors lined up for Germanfest

Oktoberfest Incorporated



Thanks to all of our corporate sponsors this year who have helped to make our annual Germanfest a success!



News from Germany

In news eerily familiar to anyone who has read the 1972 novel "The Odessa File" by Frederick Forsyth, Haaretz, Israel's oldest newspaper has reported that German scientists recruited to work in Egypt on its hoped for rocket program may have been assassinated by Israel.

According to the newspaper, Lt Col Otto Skorzeny, at left in his SS uniform, once described by British and American intelligence services as the most dangerous man in Europe, was recruited by the Israeli intelligence service, Mossad, after the second world war, and served as an agent and assassin for them. In 1962, Haaretz suggests, Skorzeny assassinated Heinz Krug, a former rocket scientist who had worked on the V2 program at Peenemünde until Germany's defeat.

Krug disappeared from Munich while working on a rocket program for the Egyptians. Haaretz claims that Krug was murdered by Skorzeny on Mossad's orders. Fearing for his life after several other scientists similarly working for Egypt had received threatening letters, Krug had hired Skorzeny as a bodyguard, apparently unaware that Skorzeny was at that time working for the Israelis as a double agent. Skorzeny and Krug had driven into the woods outside Munich with two other of Krug's bodyguards to talk undisturbed. Skorzeny is reported to have shot Krug, and he had his accomplices destroyed Krug's body with acid so as to leave no trace.

Skorzeny was most notorious as the SS officer who, on Hitler's express orders, orchestrated and led on September 12, 1943, the glider/paratrooper rescue of Mussolini after his deposition and imprisonment at Campo Imperatore by the Italians during World War II.

*Das Echo staff
Photo Courtesy: Walter Frenz*

Lumpenball/Soup Party

Saturday, April 9, 2016



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
John & Teresa Gallagher*

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Now Playing at the Erwin Jerchau
GAST Theater

Monday May 2, starting at 6:30 PM
Melodien der Herzen

Whit Sigrid & Marina, Oesch's die Dritten,
 Hansi Hinterseer, Florian Silbereisen and more

Starting at 7:30 PM
Annas Erbe

Starring Jutta Speidel, Susanne Schäfer, Anna Hausburg,
 Marek Gierszal, Michael Greiling, Dennis Mojen and more

Angela Novak's

Youth Kinoabend

Thursday, May 5, starting at 6:30 PM
Marvel's "The Avengers - Age of Ultron"

Starring Robert Downey, Jr, Chris Hemsworth and Mark Ruffalo

Includes dinner and snacks - \$10 per person (\$5 with youth membership cards)

Youth cards will be for sale at the event!



Elke Leach Sunshine Lady

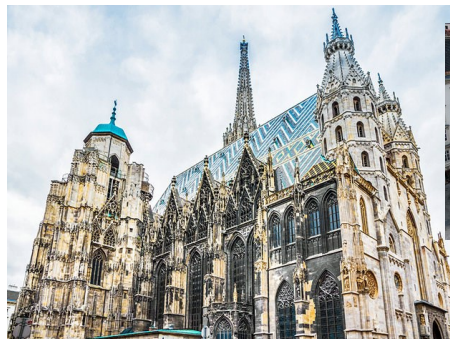
Get Well cards were sent out to **Helga Jamison, Francine Mullen and Harold Wicks**. Best wishes to all three members from their entire GAST family for a speedy recovery!

Please call or email me if you know a GAST member who is ill, who has suffered an accident or injury or a family loss. We also like to express birthday greetings, congratulations on marriages, births of children and grandchildren and best wishes, "Get Well" or sympathy for our members.

Email: elke@one-ring.net Or telephone: Elke Leach at (918) 252-3838

What Am I?

This Cathedral, in a Gothic, Romanesque design was originally dedicated in 1147 with Conrad III of Germany, Bishop Otto of Freising and other German notables in attendance who were then preparing to set out on the Second Crusade. A fire in 1258 destroyed much of the original structure which was rebuilt even larger. The massive south tower dominates the city landscape and is affectionately referred to by residents as "Steffi". The roof was rebuilt after massive damage at the end of World War II using the emblematic colored tiles shown (inset).



Reply to davidalanforbes@gmail.com

Answer to Who Am I? in the April issue:
Carl Shurz
 Arnold Bieber was the first correct respondent!

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

In the absence of the expected speaker the attendees of the Konversationsrunde on April 10, 2016 shared when and why they came to the United States and their experiences as newcomers to the New World. Uschi Mueller treated the participants to a lavish 'Tea time'. There were sweets and cold cuts, fruits and nuts, coffee, tea, Irish coffee and wine. Thank you very much Uschi.

The next meeting of the Konversationsrunde will be on Sunday September 11, 2016 at 3:00pm. Watch for location and topic in the August Echo.

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 please call:
Barbara Conrad (chair) at 918 492 3273
or Gertrud Schmidt (co chair) 918 495 3727

Stammtischrunde

Friday, May 6, 2016 – 6:30 PM
in the GAST Weinkeller.

Hope to see you there.

Zum Wohl,

– Joe Rohr, Chair

New Members

The following are the new Memberships added at the most recent meeting of the GAST Board of Directors:

Arcadia A. Teel & Robert Howland
Tulsa

Tyler Merriman
Tulsa

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