



ICE CREAM SOCIAL

August 7, 2016
3:00 to 5:00pm
At the GAST Center



The Party Committee has not revealed yet what all the flavors will be for this year's Ice Cream Social but it's a good bet that your favorite is one of them, and your favorite toppings and sweets to go with it. The one thing we can predict with confidence is that it will be a hot day and this will be the perfect respite for young and old alike to come in out of the sun and relax with something sweet and cold. Meet some new members and have fun!

Doors open at 2:30pm

No charge for admission, but all donations are gratefully accepted.

See you there!
Party Committee

Please call the GAST Office by Aug 3 at 918-744-6997 to make reservations.

**UPCOMING
EVENTS AT
GAST**

July		August		September	
1	Stammtisch	2	Handarbeitsgruppe	2	Stammtisch
5	Handarbeitsgruppe	5	Stammtisch	6	Handarbeitsgruppe
12	Handarbeitsgruppe	7	Ice Cream Social	13	Handarbeitsgruppe
19	Handarbeitsgruppe	9	Handarbeitsgruppe	20	Handarbeitsgruppe
22	Weinkellerabend	16	Handarbeitsgruppe	23	Weinkellerabend
26	Handarbeitsgruppe	19	ATOS Concert	27	Handarbeitsgruppe
		23	Handarbeitsgruppe		
		30	Handarbeitsgruppe		



...from the GAST President — Leon Boggs

Greetings to all members of GAST. I guess I am a slow learner! President again after doing it for 5 years! Oh well - I just have a heart for the organization and want to do all I can to keep it alive and thriving. Knowing that my mom's parents came over from Germany makes me want to keep their heritage alive here.

Several things have changed since I was last in office, but I think all have been good. I am looking forward to working with our Board of Directors and found a new energy at our first BOD meeting just a couple of days ago. We reviewed the By-Laws for the duties of Board members and all the committees we have [according to the By-Laws]. In the past we have struggled to get volunteers for these committee positions and most BOD members were not actively serving on any committee, I was so excited after going over the By-Laws, many members stepped up and volunteered for the area they were interested in serving in. We got all but 4 committee positions covered!!! THAT WAS EXCITING!

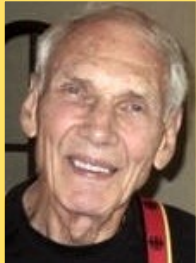
This office does entail more duties now that the building operations has been merged into GAST, but with energy and help it will all get done. We already have an active Germanfest 2017 committee, with 2 co-chairs. They have met and a time-line of dates for tasks to be done is in place, and we will not have the last minute rush for this festival next year. Carol Wright and John Toschick are the co-chairs - thanks guys. Ed Anthis is chairing our Chrtistkindlemarkt, and we look forward to a great market again.

As I always said before, this is YOUR organization - not mine nor the Board of Directors. It takes all of us to keep it going. When we ask for your help, please remember this is your GAST. Say yes.

You are always welcome at the Board meetings to share ideas, thoughts and concerns. You can discuss things with us, but not vote. We will only know what you want if you let us know. The Board meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Weinkeller.

We are off to great start, and you can help us keep that momentum going.

Guten Tag - Leon



...from the Building Manager—Harold Wicks

Our building experienced a heavy flow of people during Germanfest.

The Tulsa County Health department inspector required us to clean a storage area before we were able to receive approval to open the kitchen to cook for Germanfest. Erica Hartman had Jerry Shane spend four days cleaning our cooking equipment, the walls, and light fixtures so we will be able to show the Health department that we can meet their requirements.

We have no rentals of our building in June, but we have several rentals coming up in July.

During May, we had the parking lot cleaned, resealed, and restriped, and we added three more parking spaces at the same time. We have several items on our building "To-Do List", but most are minor repairs.

Hope your summer is great,

Harold



...from the Arts President — Arnold Bieber

It's *déjà vu* all over again. I have the strong sensation that I have been in this position before. It must be true. Many years have passed since I finished my last term as ARTS President. John Millar took the reins after me, followed by Jim Randall, Uschi Mueller and, for the last 5 years, Gertrud Schmidt. I want to thank them

all for keeping the cultural and charitable programs of ARTS going for the last 10+ years.

Now I would like to review and reiterate the purpose and objectives of the German American Society Arts Association. (usually referred to as GASAA or ARTS). The GASAA was founded in 1981 and was recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. That designation allows donations to ARTS to be deducted from taxable income for eligible individuals and corporations. The German American Society of Tulsa, founded in 1980, on the other hand is a 501(c)(4) corporation. The distinction is clear. 501(c)(3) organizations are considered charitable organizations, 501(c)(4) are social welfare organizations. Both are not-profit corporations organized to benefit their members and the community with their specific missions, but donations to GAST are not deductible according to the IRS rules. Our by-laws stipulate that members of GAST are also members of GASAA, although a very small amount of the membership dues are donated by GAST to GASAA.

GAST and GASAA activities have been reviewed by a non-profit lawyer prior to the transfer of assets of the German American Society Building Corporation (GASBC), and he determined that both GAST and GASAA meet the requirements of their IRS designations.

As stated in the GASAA by-laws, the Association was organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes. We meet these objectives by donating leftover serviceable items from the annual garage sale to the Salvation Army or Goodwill and sending donations collected at the Adventsfeier to Meals on Wheels. The educational aspect is covered by our semi-annual Kinderdeutsch and Adult Conversational German Language programs.

The adult language programs have been particularly successful. As local public high schools are eliminating German from their curriculum, we expect that the need

for teaching the German language will increase.

Serving with me on the Board of GASAA are Charles Meyers Jr., 1st Vice President; Gabriele Gonzales, 2nd Vice-President; Donna Boggs, Secretary; Janet Jamison, Treasurer. Additional Board members are Joe Rohr, Carol Wright, Tonja Carrig, David Lawrence, Roberto Martinez, Ursula Mueller, Cheryl Baker, David Gonzales, Bill Wilber and Harold Wicks. Chair of the Cultural & Educational Committee is Gertrud Schmidt. Cheryl Baker is Chair of the Publicity Committee. What a team! I am grateful for their support.

Arnold

NewsLetter
DEADLine

July 20 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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Cole Camp

Cole Camp is a small town (population 1121) in central Missouri with a rich German immigration history. The first German settlers arrived in the 1830s, mostly from the Kingdom of Hannover which is now the state of Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen). German immigration continued throughout the rest of the 19th century. Growing families, shortage of farm land and political strife in the homeland were the dominant reasons for the immigration.

The new settlers brought with them strong Christian beliefs and their native tongue, Plattdütsche (Low German) which is still spoken today by some families, although the public use of the German language and dialects was discouraged during, and the years immediately following, World Wars I and II.

The Plattdütscher Vereen (Low German Club) was established in 1990 to revive the Mudderspraak (mother tongue). To that end they formed a Low German Theatre group and several choirs. The first Cole Camp Sängerfest was held in 1992. Invitations were sent to several German-American Clubs and Singing Societies to join the experience and camaraderie of singing the old and some newer German folk songs. Current president of the Plattdütscher Vereen, Neil Heimsoth, has been the driving force behind all of these efforts.

The German American Society of Tulsa GAST Sängers were late-comers to these annual events, but they attended many of them in the years that National Sängerfests were not held.

This year, Cole Camp celebrated its 25th Annual Sängerfest on Saturday, June 11, in conjunction with an Immigrant Memorial Dedication. The memorial honors the brave souls who left the German-speaking areas of Europe to make new homes in central



Continued on next page

Missouri. The Cole Camp Plattdütscher Vereen invited the GAST Blaskapelle to play the National Anthems for the official ceremony.

Members of the GAST Sanger and Blaskapelle left Tulsa at 7 AM by bus to make the 5 hour trip to Cole Camp. Arriving at noon gave us a chance to stretch our legs and adjust to the heat and humidity, drinking plenty of water. The dedication ceremony began at 2 PM with a welcome by Neil Heimsoth, playing of the National Anthems by the GAST Blaskapelle, Invocation by Rev. Sandy Schlesselman and greetings by the Mayor of Cole Camp, a state representative and a state senator. The guest speaker was Dr. Joachim Reppmann, formerly of St. Olaf College in Minnesota.

The Sangerfest started at 3 PM with choirs from Cole Camp, Kansas City, St. Louis and Tulsa participating. A special treat was the performance of the Cole Camp Braun Family Kinderchoir. All singers joined for "Dankeschon und auf Wiederseh'n" and "America the Beautiful" at the end of a great day.

Story and pictures courtesy of Arnold Bieber



GAST

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

*Rick & Terry Pizzo
John & Teresa Gallagher*

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New Advertiser in the Echo

Tulsa Clinical Research is a new advertiser with GAST. Its advertisement appears on the preceding page in the lower left hand corner. The firm's website may be found at www.tulsaclinicalresearch.com/ and its offices are in the Holliman Medical Building at 1705 E. 19th Street in Tulsa. We are happy to have them as new partners.



Now Playing at the Erwin Jerchau
GAST Theater

GAST Theater will resume showing German language feature films and made for television movies in the month of September. Stay tuned!

Elke Leach Sunshine Lady

Get Well cards were sent out this month to:

Neil Hartman
Teresa Gallagher
Bruce Feddersen

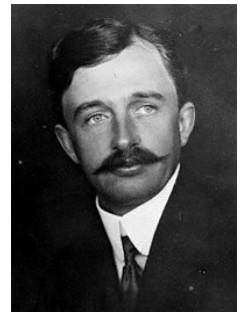
Please call or email me if you know a GAST member who is ill, who has suffered an accident or injury or a family loss. We also like to express birthday greetings, congratulations on marriages, births of children and grandchildren and best wishes, "Get Well" or sympathy for our members.

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

A 260,000+ volume structure sandwiched between the most visited Roman Catholic Cathedral in Germany and the second longest river in Western Europe. A sizable number of its galleries are underground.



What Am I?



Answer to Who Am I? in the June issue:
Emperor Charles I of Austria
Ruth Obermark was the first correct respondent!

Send your answer to dauidalanforbes@gmail.com with subject: What Am I?

This page is sponsored by Arnold & Gwen Bieber

The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



Das Deutsche Echo

July 2016

Volume 37

Issue 7

The Voice of the German-American Community

Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde

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, July 1, 2016 – 6:30 PM
in the GAST Weinkeller.

Hope to see you there.

Zum Wohl,

– Joe Rohr, Chair

New Members

There were two new Memberships added at the most recent meeting of the GAST Board of Directors:

F. Hansen & Kalei Dirani
Tulsa

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