



Volkstrauertag November 13, 2016

Members wishing to participate in the 18th annual memorial ceremony at Fort Reno on November 13 should communicate with Barbara Conrad who is coordinating the GAST event.

(918) 492-3273

See the Konversationsrunde on page 7 for driving instructions



Christkindlmarkt December 2 - 4, 2016



Plan now to attend this year's Christkindlmarkt at the GAST Center, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, the 2nd through the 4th of December. Volunteers, as always will be need as servers, and setting up as well as in the kitchen. If you can help during those days, please call the office and let us know you are available.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GAST

November		December		January	
1	Handarbeitsgruppe	2-4	Christkindlmarkt	2	Movie Night
4	Stammtisch	5	Movie Night	3	Handarbeitsgruppe
7	Movie Night	9	Stammtisch	6	Stammtisch
8	Handarbeitsgruppe	10	Christmas Party	10	Handarbeitsgruppe
13	Fort Reno/Volkstrauertag	11	Adventsfeier	17	Handarbeitsgruppe
15	Handarbeitsgruppe	18	Konversationsrunde	24	Handarbeitsgruppe
22	Handarbeitsgruppe			31	Handarbeitsgruppe
29	Handarbeitsgruppe				



...from the GAST President — Leon Boggs

Fall greetings to all.

I want to start by offering my sympathies to the Greiner family at the unexpected passing of Helga. She really touched my life in a special way by sharing their early life stories during the war with Donna and me on a visit to their home. They both have done a great deal for GAST. Not only will her family miss her, but we, their GAST family, will miss her as well.

As I write this Oktoberfest is starting in a couple of days. Our committee has been hard at work getting all the pieces in place. I hope I see many of you helping out in our tent. I thank all who volunteered to help. You are appreciated.

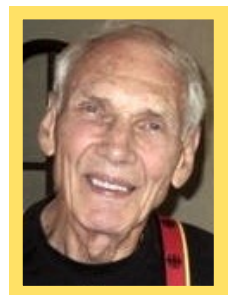
Since the Building is now under GAST, I will report that it looks like we may be moving forward to repair the foundation and water problems in the south classroom in the basement. This will not be a cheap endeavor, but one we must get fixed before severe damage is done to the building.

Christkindlemarkt is rapidly approaching and has every prospect of being a success. Thanks to our committee working on this event.

I also know that preliminary work is being done on our next Germanfest. WOW!! We are actually working ahead - getting bands scheduled, etc. Thanks to that committee also.

Since this is the month for Thanksgiving, I wish all a great day of giving thanks. We each have so much to be thankful for. Think about it - and say thanks.

Leon



...from the Building Manager—Harold Wicks

We have four rentals for November. The rental income helps pay for the maintenance of our building.

We have to replace our water pump which has served us well for twenty four years.

We are seeking bids for the repair of the walls in one of our rooms on the lower level. Water is seeping through the walls from outside. This is a major expense that will cost several thousand dollars.

Please let us know if you are interested in making a donation to help cover the cost of any of these repair projects. Your financial support would be very much appreciated.

Our office is open 10:30 to 2:30, Monday thru Friday.

Be Thankful,

Harold

...from the Arts President — Arnold Bieber



Good publicity works! We had the best turnout for German-American Day in years. Thanks to the efforts of our Publicity Chair, Cheryl Baker, Tulsa World Scene writer Jimmie Tramel wrote another nice article for us, this time about our speaker, Professor “Yogi” Reppmann, Ph.D., that mentioned our celebration of

German-American Day on October 2. This annual event is always free and open to the public. Many came. Uschi Mueller and her helpers did a great job with the beautifully arranged table of refreshments that encouraged some lively conversations.

Our participation in Linde Oktoberfest Tulsa usually results in some calls for our Speakers Bureau. I was able to talk about the origin of our Oktoberfest and Tulsa’s Oktoberfest history at the Sand Springs Nursing and Rehabilitation Center on October 14. Their activity



director is interested in a having a GAST Choir performance a little closer to Christmas.

Barbara Conrad has made all of the plans for a

Volkstrauertag (Memorial) service in Fort Reno on Sunday, November 13. Please let her know if you would like to attend and need a ride. This will be the 18th annual Memorial Service honoring the victims of World War II and the 62 German and 8 Italian POWs buried at the Fort Reno Cemetery.

The Fort Reno POW Camp was constructed in 1943. It was originally intended for Japanese POWs, but the increasing number of German and Italian prisoners captured by the Allied Forces in North Africa changed the nationality of the occupants. The total number of German prisoners held at Fort Reno was 1335. Many of them arrived wounded. Those able to work worked as farm laborers and at the Douglas modification plant in Oklahoma City and were paid 80 cents a day. During that time they constructed a chapel, a meeting hall and a “Biergarten” where they were able to enjoy the beer they could purchase with their script money. The trees on both

sides of the entrance road to the Fort Reno Post were planted by the POWs. Fort Reno was the ideal location in the middle of the country which made it difficult to escape. (Reprinted in part from the Fort Reno Visitor Center brochure).

Enjoy the beautiful Oklahoma Fall weather and have a nice Thanksgiving.

Arnold

Newsletter
DEADLine **November 16 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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Garage Sale - Rummage Sale – Flea Market

They all say the same thing: Clean out your drawers, closets, attics and garages and before putting summer clothes, toys or furniture away ask yourself if you will need or use it again next year. If not, give GAST ARTS Garage Sale chair person Barbara Conrad a call (918 492 3273). She is already planning and has set the date, March 17-18 of next year, for the German American Society Arts Association (GASAA) annual Garage Sale. This event is one of the major revenue sources for GASAA so that educational and cultural events can be offered which are being enjoyed by many of our members and friends.

Start rummaging! We love to hear from you!

GERMAN AMERICAN DAY CELEBRATED October 2nd in the GAST Center



Keynote speaker Joachim "Yogi" Reppmann, PhD, (below)



Cake and refreshments were served in the front hall of the GAST Center.

Leserbriefe

THANKS TO GAST FOR THOMAS CONRAD'S BIRTHDAY PARTY!

Thomas and his family would like to thank all the GAST members who made his birthday party such a success. It is the one day in his life where only "HE" is staying in the limelight ".He waits all year for his special day is already talking about next year . Thank you again we would not know how to do it without GAST and the unconditional friendship you show our son.

Barbara and Stan Conrad

PAID HOST POSITIONS AVAILABLE

There are positions open for paid hosts during events when the GAST Event Center is leased. The hosts would be responsible for, among other things, opening the doors, making sure all the lights are on, keeping the air conditioning at the right level, etc. At closing, you do just the opposite. *The host must be able to walk up and down the stairs.*

Training will be provided. Hosts will be paid \$12.00 an hour. Shifts last from 4 to 6 hours depending on the length of the event. For long events, there may be two or three shifts of hosts. We are giving GAST members the opportunity to sign up first before we open it up to non-members.

If you are interested, please let us know, by calling the GAST office at 918-744-6997 or emailing me at davidleasing5@gmail.com

David Gonzales
Leasing Committee Chair

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

18th Annual Christkindlmarkt

When: Fri, Dec. 2nd 10:00 - 7:00 Sat, Dec. 3rd 10:00 - 5:00 Sun, Dec. 4th Noon - 5:00

Where: GAST Center 1429 Terrace Dr. Tulsa, OK

Menu: Schnitzel dinners, Bratwurst, Hot Dog, Kartoffelpuffer, Sauerkraut, Potato Salad, Apfelstrudel & Cheesecake

New vendors this year: Roark Acres Honey Farms (Oklahoma honey products)
 Judy Miller (handbags, aprons, etc.)
 Dora Durland (alcohol ink items, paintings, vases)
 Connie Kline photography

"Christkindlmarkt is a "not to be missed" annual event for Tulsa families looking for a great way to kick off the holiday season. Visitors to GAST's Christkindlmarkt can enjoy a warm cup of Gluehwein (warm mulled wine) while shopping for unique Christmas gifts handmade by 25 talented local artisans. Beautiful harp music will be performed live throughout the festival. We are happy to announce that most of our vendors from last year are returning as we also welcome 4 new vendors - Roark Acres Honey Farm, Judy Miller, Dora Durland and Connie Kline Photography.

Artisans will be showcasing their handmade items on both the upper and lower levels of the GAST Center so you'll want to make a point to visit both. Plus, the lower level is where you'll find puppet shows for the children and a beautiful Bethlehem Village.

As always, GAST will have a wide selection of wonderful German food and gift items shipped directly from Germany. You'll want to shop early for items that sell out every year such as smokers, nutcrackers, music boxes and steins. Other one-of-a-kind gifts are sure to fly off the shelves this year such as glass ornaments from Germany (including the popular Christmas pickle), hand-crafted toys and Christmas ornaments, Edelweiss necklaces and earrings, scarf pins, embroidered table linens and Hummel figurines.

No Christkindlmarkt experience would be complete without authentic German food. This year's menu includes schnitzel dinners, bratwurst and hot dogs on a bun with or without sauerkraut, kartoffelpuffer, sides of sauerkraut and potato salad and apfelstrudel and cheesecake for dessert.

Good food, fine crafts and traditional German food make Christkindlmarkt a fun shopping experience for the family.

Clockwise from top right, specialty sewn item, steins, the GAST laden and Great Hall in full regalia.



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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

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Monday November 7, starting at 6:30 PM

Katie Fforde

Wie Feuer und Wasser

Starring Brigitte Zeh, Robin Sonderman, Katya Töner
Jörg Tensing and Neithardt Riede.

Starting at 7:30 PM

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Marion Ries & Florian Silbereisen,
Andy Borg & Stefanni Hertel, Gaby Albrecht
and many more.

Elke Leach

Sunshine Lady

Sunshine Lady in October: Email: elke@one-ring.net
Or telephone: Elke Leach at (918) 252-3838 for get well cards.

If you know of anyone who is having a birthday, or celebrating an event please let her know so that shee may spread the joy. And let her know if anyone has been ill, or suffered an injury or a loss so that she may offer them condolences.

In October we mailed out a get-well card to Donna Boggs wishing her a rapid recovery from her shoulder surgery.

We also sent a sympathy card to Claus Greiner on the decease of his wife Helga, on October 10, a long-time and well loved GAST member. The thoughts of the entire membership are with the family.

Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde

German author Barbara Ortwein read a few chapters of her book "Between Worlds, Never To Return" (Zwischen den Welten und nie mehr zurück) interspersed with songs and guitar play on October 9 in the Weinkeller. She autographed German and English versions of the book and others for several members that bought her books. About 25 people came, enjoyed wine, coffee and cake and engaged in conversation after the presentation.

The next Konversationsrunde will coincide with the Volkstrauertag Memorial Service to be held on Sunday, November 13, at 2 PM in the Fort Reno Chapel built by German POWs during World War II. Honorary German Consul Jeremy Tubb and representatives of the German Consulate Houston will participate, along with the Oklahoma Honor Guard and members of the German Air Force. Directions to the Fort Reno Chapel: Take I-44 West to Oklahoma City, turn South to enter I-35, then West on I-40. Stay on highway 40, until you reach exit 119. Follow the signs to the Fort Reno Visitor Center. Check with Barbara Conrad if you are interested in carpooling.

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](tel:9184923273) or Gertrud Schmidt (co chair) [918 495 3727](tel:9184953727)

This page is sponsored by Arnold & Gwen Bieber

The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



Das Deutsche Echo

November 2016

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The Voice of the German-American Community

Long-time GAST Member featured in Tulsa World Article!

Gerald and Barbara Taron have been GAST members for many years, but Barbara found some instant celebrity on Thursday of last week, October 20, when the Tulsa World published a full page human interest article on her by World editor Scott Cherry, describing how she was born shortly before the Nazis came to power in Germany, how she and her family lived in the years before and during the war, how she learned French in Paris, English in London, and how she and her husband met, wed, came to the U.S. and finally to Tulsa.

Among other things, we learned that Rouladen, potato dumplings, red cabbage and wiener schnitzel is her favorite dinner, and that maintaining her flower garden is her favorite hobby, right up there with traveling and experiencing other lands and cultures. Those who know Barbara best probably already suspected all of that.



The article was a fun look at Barbara Taron and a nice focus on GAST and the, then, ongoing Oktoberfest. Congratulations, Barbara!

Stammtischrunde

Friday, November 4, 2016 – 6:30 PM
in the GAST Weinkeller.

Hope to see you there.

Zum Wohl,

– Joe Rohr, Chair

New Members

The following new members were added at the most recent meeting of the GAST Board of Directors:

Greg Strickland & Victoria Annesley

Quentin & Ismir VanDeusen

Doug & Gwen Goodner

Kathy Hicks

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