



# Das Deutsche Echo

December 2016

Volume 37

Issue 12

*The Voice of the German-American Community in Tulsa*



## UPCOMING EVENTS AT GAST

December		January		February	
2-4	Christkindlmarkt	2	Movie Night	3	Stammtisch
5	Movie Night	3	Handarbeitsgruppe	6	Movie Night
9	Stammtisch	6	Stammtisch	5	<b>Chamber Music Tulsa</b>
10	<b>Christmas Party</b>	10	Handarbeitsgruppe	7	Handarbeitsgruppe
11	<b>Adventsfeier</b>	17	Handarbeitsgruppe	14	Handarbeitsgruppe
12	Weinkeller	24	Handarbeitsgruppe	21	Handarbeitsgruppe
18	Konversationsrunde	31	Handarbeitsgruppe	28	Handarbeitsgruppe

**GAST CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY IS DECEMBER 10. Call the GAST Office for details.**



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

I think fall is finally getting here. The leaves are starting to turn a little more and it is finally getting cooler.

I want to again thank all who volunteered at Oktoberfest. Your help made it a great success for GAST. Many thanks to the hard working committee. Now we turn our attention to Christkindlmarkt. Do your Christmas shopping there and support our vendors which supports us! Bring your friends and neighbors.

A lot has been happening around the GAST House. I just signed a large contract for repairing the foundation and wall of the southwest lower level classroom. This work should eliminate the seeping water and therefore no more damage to the walls. Thanks to Ruth Obermark for her 'leg' work in getting us info and bids.

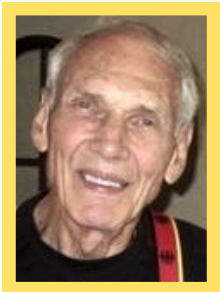
We again express our sympathies to one of our members, Nick Kerpon at the passing of his wife Charlotte. She fought a hard battle with her cancer. I ask that you keep Nick and the family in your thoughts and prayers at this sad time.

Plan now to attend the Christmas Party. Please make your reservations ON TIME so we can honor the rules of the caterer. He has to shop and prepare the food, so he needs time to get that done.

During this season of Thanksgiving and Christmas, please remember all that you have to be thankful for and also recall the true meaning of Christmas. The gift we all receive on that day is truly a very special one. Be thankful for that.

I want you to all remember that GAST is your organization. Let the Board of Diorectors know what you would like to see happening. We will listen to all ideas and act on the ones we can. I hope you all have a great holiday.

**Leon**



**...from the Building Manager—Harold Wicks**

Our building has been adorned in our traditional Christmas fashion. I hope that you will enjoy the decoration, that you will be able to attend the scheduled events planned for GAST Members, friends and guests, and that you experience the joy of the Advent season.

Choose to be Happy.

**Harold**

**THANK YOU OKTOBERFEST COMMITTEE!**

To the amazing Oktoberfest committee: Christy Bradley, Carol Wright, Robin Baccus, Bill Obermark, Bill Wilbur, Arnold Bieber, Robert Bray, and Leon Boggs, ex officio.

This committee had seriousd challenges to overcome ( new equipment) and all put in long hours, before, during, and after the festival. Their dedication, hard work, and commitment to making Oktoberfest a success was extraordinary.

Thank you again,

**Erica Hartman  
Co-Chair**



**...from the Arts President — Arnold Bieber**



The beautiful Oklahoma Fall weather enticed about 40 people to come to the Fort Reno Volkstrauertag Memorial Service on Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. Many were first-time visitors. I thank Barbara Conrad for making all of the arrangements with the support of the Fort Reno Historical Society. The speakers were German Consul Jochen Olbricht from the German Consulate in Houston and Oberst Kresser from the German Air Force Contingent stationed at Fort Sill. Retired Honorary German Consul Charles Wiggin took the place of the current Honorary German Consul Jeremy Tubb who was away on business. James Pasquali, Attorney and Researcher, talked about the history of the Fort. He is conducting more research on the POWs buried there.

Presenting the colors and laying of the wreaths were the Oklahoma Governor's Honor Guard and members of the German Air Force. GAST member David Marshall played the Bag Pipes for a very moving ceremony.

We are now looking forward to Adventsfeier on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM. Barbara Conrad again managed to get a German pastor from our Sister City, Celle, for this inter-denominational service in the German language. Pastor Wilfried Manneke is very active in the community he has served since 1995. Before that, he spent 12 years in South Africa conducting services in German and English at various churches. He is a volunteer fire fighter and is very involved in organizations helping the unemployed and the new refugees.

On Monday, December 12, 7 PM, he will tell us about his work with the Syrian refugees. Please invite your friends and neighbors to his presentation in the Weinkeller. GASAA will provide the refreshments.

On February 5, Chamber Music Tulsa will present the Aeolus Quartet in the GAST Center as part of their Beethoven Winter Festival for GAST members and friends. More about that in the January ECHO.

The next few weeks will be a busy time for most of us. Please take time to reflect on the reason for the season. I wish everyone fröhliche Weihnachten und ein glückliches Neues Jahr. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

**Arnold**

**Handarbeitsgruppe fashions Christmas quilt to raffle at Christkindlmarkt.**



The Handarbeitsgruppe has created this beautiful quilt especially for Christkindlmarkt visitors who purchase something from one of the Lower Level vendors. Anyone who buys something from one of our vendors on the lower level of the GAST Center will be given a ticket that they can put in a box located on the lower level. On Sunday, a ticket will be drawn and one lucky patron will win this beautiful Christmas quilt.

*Newsletter*  
**DEADLINE**

**December 21 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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## The Bremen Town Musicians Puppet Show

To be presented at this year's Christkindlmarkt Festival

This year's puppet show is a re-telling of the classic German fairy tale by the Brothers Grimm "The Bremen Town Musicians." On the surface, the story is about four farm animals - a donkey who can no longer work, a hound who can no longer hunt, a cat who's too old to chase mice, and a rooster who's scheduled to become dinner—who decide to run off to be musicians in the town of Bremen. But they get more than they bargained for when they stumble upon a frightful gang of robbers. They find a clever way to turn their dreadful singing to their advantage and win the day. As with all Brothers Grimm tales, there is also a moral lesson or two for the children.



Respect for elders is one of the clear lessons in this story. This helps parents teach their children that grandparents may not be as strong as they once were, but what they lack in strength they make up in wisdom and they are still important and useful.

Teamwork is another important moral in this story. Alone, none of the animals in this story would be able to defeat the robbers. Yet, by working together they are able to achieve something extraordinary.

Show times shown below:

**Friday** 1:00 and 5:00 ■ **Saturday** 12:00, 2:00, 4:00 ■ **Sunday** 1:00, 2:30, 4:00

*Below, left, a previous year's production of "The Bremen Town Musicians" in the lower level hall of the GAST Center; above right, a children's book illustration of the four characters in the Bremen Town Musicians, and at lower right, picture from the November 18 Tulsa World photo shoot: Elke Leach and Jutta Tankersley showed off the puppets that will be in this year's show.*



*Story and pictures courtesy of Cheryl Baker*



# ADVENTSFEIER

ADVENT SERVICE AT GERMAN-AMERICAN SOCIETY OF TULSA  
December 11 @ 3:00 – 4:30PM

German-American Society of Tulsa invites all members and the Tulsa community to join us in celebrating Advent by attending Adventsfeier, a non-denominational Advent service, at the GAST Center, starting at 3 pm.

Visiting the GAST Center at Christmas time is a treat and sure to put you in the holiday spirit. The Great Hall is dressed for the holidays with Christmas trees, poinsettias and a large Advent wreath. The sermon will be delivered by Pastor Wilfried Manneke who is coming to Tulsa all the way from Celle, Germany! The service is in German and the GAST choir and the congregation will sing familiar Christmas songs.

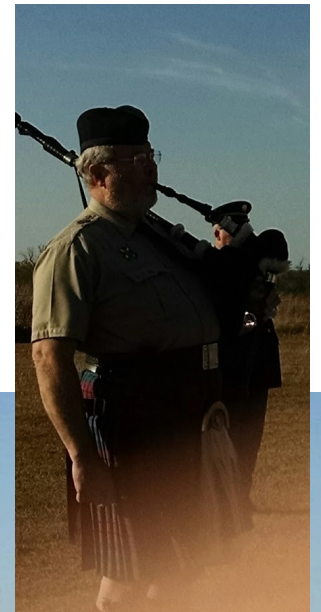
All donations cheerfully accepted for the support of Tulsa's Meals on Wheels.



# VOLKSTRAUERTAG

November, 16, 2016  
Fort Reno

*Photos provided by  
Gabriele Gonzales*



# GAST

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

*Rick & Terry Pizzo  
John & Teresa Gallagher*

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Hannelore Giles Carter  
Stan & Barbara Conrad*

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Now Playing at the Erwin Jerchau

# GAST Theater

Monday December 5 starting at 6:30 PM

**So schön ist Weihnachten**

With Hansi Hinterseer, Endy Borg, Stefan Mross, Amigos, Sigrid & Marina, Helene Fischer and the singing Engels

Starting at 7:30 PM

**Weihnachten im Morgenland**

Starring Walter Sittler, Aica Dohra, Anja Boche, Jonas Laux, Renate Schröter, and Katrin Heller

## 18th Annual Christkindlmarkt

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

Featuring: Schnitzel sandwich, Beef Gulash, Bratwurst, Hot Dogs, Kartoffelpuffer, Sauerkraut, Apfelstrudel & Cheese-cake

Shopping for unique handmade gifts is what brings many of our guests back year after year. This year's Christmas market will not disappoint as many of our vendors from previous years are returning with the handmade gifts that you have come to expect at our Christmas market. Roark Farms Honey Products is one of our new vendors this year. They have developed quite a following in the Tulsa area by selling their high quality honey products at local farmers' markets. They will be bringing a wide range of their products to Christkindlmarkt, so be sure to check out their booth located on the lower level.

As always, GAST will have a wide selection of wonderful German food and gift items shipped directly from Germany. Be sure to shop early for those special items you can only find at Christkindlmarkt!

No Christkindlmarkt experience would be complete without authentic German food. This year's menu includes schnitzel sandwich, beef gulash, bratwurst, hot dogs, sauerkraut, kartoffelpuffer, apfelstrudel and cheesecake for dessert.

Whether you come for the shopping or you come for the food, you're sure to enjoy yourself at this year's Christkindlmarkt!

## Elke Leach Sunshine Lady

Sunshine Lady in October: Email: [elke@one-ring.net](mailto: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 sympathy card to Nick Kerpon on the loss of his beloved wife Charlotte who will be missed by all of their GAST family.**

This page is sponsored by Arnold & Gwen Bieber

The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



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## **Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde**

T'is the season.... to get-together on December 18<sup>th</sup> the fourth Sunday of Advent at 3:00 pm for our annual Christmas Konversationsrunde at the home of Ortwin and Gertrud Schmidt at 5133 E. 86<sup>th</sup> Pl. Come and help us light the fourth candle – the candle of peace - on the Advent wreath.

We will read favorite Christmas poems and stories and sing our traditional Christmas songs. There will be cookies, cakes, coffee and Gluehwein to lift our spirits.

*The Konversationsrunde is a program under the auspices of the German American Society of Tulsa Arts Association (GASAA). It serves to promote the German language and cultural interests of its members. For suggestions, information or if you are interested in hosting one of our meetings please call:*

Barbara Conrad (chair) at [918 492 3273](tel:9184923273) or  
Gertrud Schmidt (co chair) [918 495 3727](tel:9184953727)

## **Stammtischrunde**

Friday, December 2, 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:

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