



37th Anniversary Party!

Saturday, January 21

At the GAST Center

Doors open at 5:30pm - Dinner at 6:00pm

Catered dinner with entertainment, to be announced

Admission:

Dinner and Dance: \$20.00

Dance Only \$10.00

Reservations are required!

Call 918-744-6997 by 2pm on Wednesday, January 18

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GAST

January		February		March	
2	Movie Night	3	Stammtisch	3	Stammtisch
3	Handarbeitsgruppe	6	Movie Night	6	Movie Night
6	Stammtisch	5	Chamber Music Tulsa	7	Handarbeitsgruppe
10	Handarbeitsgruppe			14	Handarbeitsgruppe
17	Handarbeitsgruppe	7	Handarbeitsgruppe	17-18	Garage Sale
21	Anniversary Party	14	Handarbeitsgruppe	21	Handarbeitsgruppe
24	Handarbeitsgruppe	21	Handarbeitsgruppe	28	Handarbeitsgruppe
31	Handarbeitsgruppe	25	Fasching Party		
		28	Handarbeitsgruppe		



...from the GAST President — Leon Boggs

Season's Greetings to All!

'Tis the season... However you celebrate—this is the season for joy & peace. There is so much going on in our lives & in our world, I hope you find a way to obtain some quiet time for peace & joy.

A lot has been happening around GAST. We had a very successful Christkindlmarkt. Thanks to Ed Anthis and all his committee members for their hard work.

We had a delicious Christmas Party dinner of prime rib & the fixin's. The choir once again hosted the party & sang beautiful carols for us.

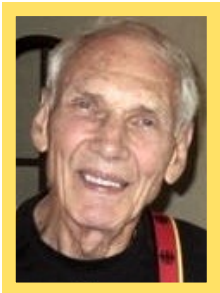
We look ahead to our Anniversary Ball in January where we will present the Director's & President's awards. Hope all of you will come & celebrate with us.

As I recuperate from a mild heart attack and deal with lung/oxygen issues I thank all for the calls and cards and thoughts of concern and prayers. I am on the mend & getting stronger each day.

I wish all of you a very blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

See you in 2017!

Leon



...from the Building Manager—Harold Wicks

As we say goodbye to 2016 and enter 2017, we cannot forget some of the challenges we faced in 2016. Some of them we completed and some of them remain with us for the new year. We are looking toward completing these leftover items and addressing the new challenges that will surely arise during this New Year.

I hope our rentals are as good as last year, and that we can make some suggested improvements during the New Year. I wish All Members a Healthy and Happy New Year.

Please Plan to Attend Our FASCHING PARTY FEBRUARY 25th

Enjoy Each Day,

Harold

...from the Arts President — Arnold Bieber



Almost 100 members and visitors came to celebrate Adventsfeier at the German American Society of Tulsa GAST Center on Sunday, December 11, officiated by Pastor Wilfried Manneke from Celle, Tulsa's Sister City in Germany. Especially gratifying was the number of young people and families who came to listen to the all-German service, the German Christmas carols sung by the GAST Choir and the solos by Susan Calvert who also directed the choir and played our 1928 Geneva Organ.

On Monday, December 12, Pastor Manneke shared with us a video presentation about the Global Refugee Crisis and how Germany is dealing with it. He said that, according to the U.N., the number of refugees in the world is the highest ever, a total of 65.3 million, about equal in size to the population of France. Asylum seekers from long-running conflicts in Afghanistan, Somalia and Iraq and the civil war in Syria constitute the majority of the mass of refugees entering Europe. Many died trying to cross the Mediterranean in flimsy boats. Germany received more than 1 million new refugees in 2015. Most Germans have welcomed the refugees, giving rise to a new word in German, "Willkommenskultur" (welcome culture). Thousands are taking an active part by providing food and clothes, transportation and help filling out forms for asylum seekers. They open up soccer clubs, schools and kindergartens for kids, and often pay for special needs with their own money.

Pastor Manneke told us about Tekie, a young man from Eritrea who was severely wounded serving in the military. His request for asylum had been denied and he was supposed to be deported to Italy. The pastor and his congregation granted him church asylum, but it cost him a fine of 900 Euros. Tekie was given 20 hours of community service, but he could remain in Germany.

Not all Germans are pleased with the influx of foreigners. There are demonstrations and some reports of attacks against asylum centers. A political party "AfD" (Alternative for Germany) was formed 3 years ago, which is right-wing populist, euro-skeptic and anti-immigration. It has gained seats in 10 of 16 German states. But Germans still remember the end of World War II when 12 million refugees from the Eastern provinces had to be absorbed, mostly by West-Germany. Most of them support the work of the German government and churches.



On Sunday, February 5, at 6 PM, Chamber Music Tulsa, in cooperation with the German American Society Arts Association, will present the

Aeolus Quartet in the GAST Center, as an introduction to their Beethoven Winter Festival. The concert is free and open to the public. Read about the Aeolus Quartet on their website <http://aeolusquartet.com> and check out <http://www.chambermusictulsa.org> for details about the Beethoven Winter Festival. And see story on Page 4.

With best wishes for your health and life's enjoyments in 2017 and always,

Arnold

Newsletter
DEADLINE

January 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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Aeolus Quartet Performs at German American Society of Tulsa

Chamber Music Tulsa will present a free concert by the Aeolus Quartet in the Great Hall of the GAST Center on **Sunday, February 5 at 6 PM**, in cooperation with the German American Society Arts Association. The concert is part of the Beethoven Winter Festival.

The **Aeolus Quartet** has been awarded prizes at nearly every major competition in the United States and has performed across North America, Europe and Asia. They were the 2013-2015 Graduate Resident String Quartet at the Juilliard School, and they currently make their home in New York City.

During the 45-minute performance, the quartet will discuss the almost Shakespearean tragic arc of Beethoven's musical development and how it mirrors his life, by playing string quartet movements taken from each period.

The event is free and open to the public.

For more information about the February 5 concert, call the German American Society at [918 744-6997](tel:9187446997) or Chamber Music Tulsa at [918 587-3802](tel:9185873802).



ATTENTION ALL ANIMAL LOVERS!

My heart breaks when I hear or read about abandoned animals any time of year but especially around the holidays, and ironically the incidence of owners abandoning their pets actually increases between Thanksgiving and New Year.

Many of these poor animals do find shelter at the Humane Society and some are adopted out, but the Society has limited resources and the added strain from the additional animals taken in this time of year makes it especially difficult for them.

I would like to ease the burden on the Humane Society a little and start a dog/cat food drive for GAST. I am asking for your help.

Please donate some dog/cat food, canned or dry in sealed, unopened containers, and drop it off at the GAST office or bring it to the Anniversary Party. If it is easier and you prefer to make a cash donation in lieu of food items, you are welcome to bring a check, made payable to the Humane Society of Tulsa. Consult your accountant, but I am certain your donation will be tax deductible.

I will deliver all cash and in-kind donations to the Humane Society as they come in.

Thank you for your support,

Erica Hartman



Christkindlmarkt 2016



*Photos 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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Now Playing at the Erwin Jerchau
GAST Theater

Monday January 2 starting at 6:30 PM
 Die besten Hits
 Sigrid & Marina, Kaiser, Bayern Wald Flitzer,
 Amira Wilighagen, Oesche die Dritten
 And many more

Starting at 7:30 PM
 Eine Liebe in Afrika
 Starring Julia Sternberger, Heiner Lauterbach,
 Bernhard Schir, Friedrich von Thun,
 Renee Soutendijk and many more

A NOTE FROM THE PARTY COMMITTEE

It's great to come to a GAST Party or event and see the space so richly decorated, the tables and chairs all set up neatly, food prepared and ready to be served, but we would like to ask everyone to stop and reflect, that someone—a lot of someones—have gone to a great deal of time and trouble, and occasionally some personal expense to make sure the facilities look great, arrangements are complete, music is at hand, the food is good and things are as nice as can be. Yes, meals may be contracted with a catering company. But everyone else is a volunteer, either on the Party Committee, the dancers, musicians, or other members who are pitching in to lend a hand, members just like you, and any help you can provide them is very appreciated.

Please remember at all GAST parties and events to do your part by picking up your own personal space; return all wine and beer glasses to the bar area (there is always a dish tub to the right of the bar), and throw away all trash at your table. If you are able and can remain a few minutes after the party to help stack or move chairs that's a big help too because it has to be done to prepare the hall for the next GAST rental of the building.



Party Committee

Elke Leach Sunshine Lady

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 she 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.

A get well card was sent to Leon Boggs, GAST President, who is recovering from an illness, and a sympathy card to Tony and Leisha Jury whose daughter, Paula, passed away in late December. In both cases the thoughts and prayers of the membership are with the Boggs and Jury families

This page is sponsored by Arnold & Gwen Bieber

The back page is sponsored by Kenneth Renberg



Das Deutsche Echo

January 2017

Volume 38

Issue 1

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 (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, January 6, 2017 – 6:30 PM
in the GAST Weinkeller.

Hope to see you there.

Zum Wohl,

– Joe Rohr, Chair

New Members

Nonew members were added at the most recent meeting of the GAST Board of Directors:

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