

# Das Deutsche ECHO

THE VOICE OF THE GERMAN-AMERICAN



COMMUNITY IN TULSA

## 38<sup>th</sup> Anniversary PARTY Saturday, January 13th

Doors open at 5:30PM.

Dinner served at 6:00PM.

Dinner catered by Siegi's Sausage House  
Entertainment to be announced

Adults \$20.00

Ages 6-12 \$10.00

Ages 5 and under are free.

**RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED**

RSVP by 2PM Wednesday, January 10th  
(918) 744-6997 or [gast@tulsacoxmail.com](mailto:gast@tulsacoxmail.com)

### On the MENU

#### Beef Rouladen

Spaetzle ~ Red Cabbage ~ Salad  
Pretzel Rolls with butter ~ Anniversary Cake  
Coffee, Tea and Water

### January

- 5 Stammtisch
- 8 Movie Night
- 9 Handarbeitsgruppe
- 13 Anniversary Party**
- 14 Konversationsrunde
- 16 Handarbeitsgruppe
- 23 Adult German Classes**
- 23 Handarbeitsgruppe
- 26 Weinkellerabend
- 27 Kinderdeutsch Begins**
- 30 Handarbeitsgruppe

### February

- 2 Stammtisch
- 5 Movie Night
- 6 Handarbeitsgruppe
- 10 Fasching**
- 13 Handarbeitsgruppe
- 20 Handarbeitsgruppe
- 23 Weinkellerabend
- 27 Handarbeitsgruppe

### March

- 2 Stammtisch
- 5 Movie Night
- 6 Handarbeitsgruppe
- 13 Handarbeitsgruppe
- 20 Handarbeitsgruppe
- 23 Weinkellerabend
- 27 Handarbeitsgruppe

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GAST



**Joseph Rohr—GAST President**

Happy New Year to all!

This December was a busy month for all the worker elves at GAST. I would like to thank the many volunteers at Christkindlmarkt for all their hard work in making it such a big success. Buddy Butcher and the Christkindlmarkt Committee deserve a well deserved “Thank You” for all their hard work. Also, a big “Thank you” for the beautiful quilts made by the Handarbeitsgruppe, and all the building preparations by Harold Wicks and his setup and teardown crew.

We were also blessed by the Adventsfeier Service and a wonderful Christmas Party where we all enjoyed the lovely voice of Jim and Jean Randall’s granddaughter.

2017 was a busy year for GAST and remember it takes all donating their gifts and talents to make our organization run and be successful!

As 2018 gets underway we will be hitting the ground running as we prepare for parties, the garage sale, Germanfest, and the 40th anniversary of Oktoberfest! So there will many opportunities to volunteer to help make our organization succeed and grow! So don’t wait around to be asked, just give Sara a call at the office and she will pass your name to the appropriate person. He/she who hesitates will miss out on a wonderful opportunity to volunteer and meet some of the many wonderful members of GAST.

So, goodbye 2017 and hello 2018!

Joseph Rohr



**Harold Wicks—Building Manager**

Phase 1 of building renovations has been completed. We’re looking forward to phase 2 to begin in the new year. Wood paneling is up next.

Best Wishes for a good New Year!



Harold

**2018 EVENTS at GAST**

<b>January 13</b> Anniversary Party	<b>February 10</b> Fasching	<b>April 14</b> Lumpenball	<b>April 19-22</b> Garage Sale	<b>May 11-13</b> Germanfest
<b>June 10</b> Picnic	<b>October 17-21</b> Oktoberfest	<b>October 27</b> Oktoberfest Party	<b>Nov 30—Dec 2</b> Christkindlmarkt	<b>December 8</b> Christmas Party



## Arnold Bieber—Arts President

How do you like the looks of the new ECHO? Our new editor, Office Manager Sara Gonzales, is doing a great job with the help of Publicity Chair Cheryl Baker. Membership Chair Carol Wright found a new printing service which prints the ECHO in bright colors at a cost less than what we were paying for black on white. Some of you may have seen the last Adventsfeier program which was printed by the same service using a better paper quality at a lower cost.

This month the German American Society of Tulsa (GAST) will celebrate its 38th Anniversary at our annual Anniversary Party on Saturday, January 13th. Much has been accomplished during those 38 years, not the least of which was the acquisition and renovation of the former Second Church of Christ Scientist building at 2301 East 15th Street in 1991. The multi-functional facility, now called the GAST Event Center, not only serves the needs of our membership, but it has also become a premier venue for wedding receptions and social gatherings. It is currently undergoing a major repair and face lift of the west entrance foyer.

The German American Society Arts Association (GASAA or ARTS) was organized in 1981, a year after GAST was incorporated. All members of GAST automatically become members of GASAA by joining the organization, at no additional cost. As a 501(C)(3) organization GASAA can accept donations for cultural and educational purposes that are tax-deductable to the donor.

In 2000 the German American Society Arts Association Endowment Trust was formed to assure the long-term availability of funds for maintenance and upkeep of the GAST Center and/or for cultural and educational purposes. The Endowment Trust also received a 501(C)(3) designation by the Internal Revenue Service.

At the Anniversary Party we will honor the founding members and past presidents of GAST and GASAA and recognize those members who have contributed to the goals of the German American Society with outstanding accomplishments in 2017.

The German language Adventsfeier on Sunday, December 10th at 3 PM with retired pastor Inge Matern from Celle, our sister city in Germany, was attended by about 65 members and guests. The event was chaired by Barbara Conrad, who was also in charge of a very memorable Volkstrauertag service on November 19 at Fort Reno, Oklahoma.

I hope your New Year is filled with excitement and good health.

Arnold

**NewsLetter**  
**DEADLINE** February 21 at 2 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.

### Das Deutsche Echo

is published monthly by  
The German-American Society of Tulsa  
1429 Terrace Dr., Tulsa, OK 74104

#### Office hours:

Monday through Friday: 10:30am - 2:30pm  
Library: by appointment during office hours

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### Message Center - 918-744-6997

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# Christkindlmarkt by the numbers

## 130+ Volunteers



## 23 HOURS

Christkindlmarkt  
open for business  
during 3-day festival



## 1,002

Slices of Apfelstrudel

## 160

 Hot dogs

## 1,050

sausages

## 30

 Gallons of Beef Gulasch

## 150

Kids crafts made in Kinderstube



## 1,600

Raffle tickets for customers on the lower level



## 8

Live puppet shows

Servings of Gluehwein

## 400



## 1,566

Raffle tickets sold for the upper level quilt

Many thanks to Erica Hartman and the Party Committee for hosting a wonderful Christmas Party. 105 members and guests attended the festive event!



## Lucky Winners of Quilt Raffles at Christkindlmarkt

Our raffle quilt this year for Christkindlmarkt was one of peoples all time favorites and brought in \$1,565.99. This is an all time high! A big thank you goes to Christy Fell and her Committee for working so



Billie Grigg

hard on selling the raffle tickets. The GAST Quilters sewing the Owl quilt were Ruth Bly, Elke Meyer, Helga Roepel and myself, Irmgard Toschik.

The four of us make two quilts a year for GAST Christkindlmarkt and Germanfest. It is hard work but quilting gets in the blood and we take pride in our craftsmanship.

The Elephant quilt was made by Ruth Bly for downstairs purchasers only. The two lucky winners of these quilts this year are Billie Grigg of the Owl quilt from upstairs and Kathryn Laue of the Elephant quilt from downstairs. Both ladies were very excited and loved their winnings!



Kathryn Laue

Not all ladies coming to Handarbeit are quilters, but they bring their own work to sew, knit or crochet. We invite you to come and join us. Bring your craft and lunch. We meet on Tuesdays from 10am to 2pm. Or just come and visit sometime!

*We hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for a Happy New Year to All,  
-Irmgard, with the Handarbeitsgruppe*



## Language Classes begin January 23rd

German Language Classes are set to begin on Tuesday, January 23rd. Classes are open to the public, so help us spread the word by telling your family and friends.

Classes for the 12-week session take place on Tuesday nights from 7 - 9PM at the GAST Center. No need to pre-register. Show up at 6:30 for class on January 23rd, bring your payment and we'll take care of the paperwork then. You'll be assigned to a class that matches your skill level - from "never ever" to advanced - and you will be provided with

books and materials. Classes cost \$80 for existing GAST members, \$100 for non-GAST members and books cost \$50. Cash, checks and credit cards are accepted.\*

The "never-ers" class is designed for people who have never experienced the German language and want to try it out. There are usually 20-30 students in this class," according to Ruth Obermark, GAST Language Class coordinator. "Other classes typically have 8-12 students."

"I am very proud of the team of teachers we have lined up," said Obermark. "All of our teachers have many

years of experience teaching German in our local high schools and junior colleges and two of our teachers were born and raised in Germany. All have lived in Germany while they were learning the language."

GAST has been offering high quality/low-cost German language classes to the public since the early '80s.

Please watch your email for updates and bios on our teachers. If you have any questions, please contact GAST at 918-7446997.



## Kinderdeutsch Classes Start January 27th

On Saturday, January 27th, the Kinderdeutsch program starts the spring session. The children's program takes place on Saturday mornings from 10:00 - 11:30am and is open to children ages 5-12. Its a fun and inexpensive way to introduce children to the German language and culture.

The 10-week program costs \$50 for non-members, \$40 for members, with a \$5 discount for each additional child from the same family. Classes start with age appropriate German language lessons, followed by folk dancing and folk songs. Then they are treated to refreshments while watching German videos.

Call 918-744-6997 today for more information.



**GAST**

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

*Rick & Terry Pizzo  
John & Teresa Gallagher*

If you are in need of an ATTORNEY in the Oklahoma City Metro Area, you may contact **CHARLES J. BYRD** at NECCO & BYRD, P.C. We are a law firm with over 95 years of combined experience.

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

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**Garage Sale Garage Sale Garage Sale**

**Garage Sale  
Garage Sale  
Garage Sale**

It’s almost time to clean out your drawers, closets, attics and garages. Before putting your clothes, toys or furniture into storage ask yourself if you will be needing them again. If not, give Barbara Conrad a call! She is already planning this big event and has set the date:

**April 19<sup>th</sup>-22, 2018**

The garage sale is one of the main sources of income for GASAA so that educational and cultural events can be offered which are enjoyed by many of our members and friends.

Please call Barbara to donate: **918 492 3273**

**Garage Sale Garage Sale Garage Sale**

**Garage Sale  
Garage Sale  
Garage Sale**

## Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde

There was reading of poems and stories, singing of well-known Christmas-songs and good fellowship over Gluehwein, coffee and cake, stollen and cookies. A good time was had by all celebrating the third Advent Sunday at the Schmidt House.

The next Konversationsrunde will take place on **January 14th 2018 at 3:00 pm**. We will meet at the GAST Office at 1428 Terrace Drive. Our hostess will be Uschi Mueller and the subject... a surprise!

Come, join us and keep your German fluent.

*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) 918 492 3273 or Gertrud Schmidt (Co-Chair) 918 495 3727**

**Mark your calendars and start planning your costumes NOW for this year's Fasching Party!**

## Fasching PARTY

**Saturday, February 10th**

**Doors open at 5:30PM.**

**Dinner served at 6:00PM.**

**Light dinner—details in February's issue**

**Entertainment—GAST Blaskapelle**

**Costume contest with cash prizes!  
Prince and Princess announced and honored**

**Elferat Needs You!** Planning is underway for this year's Fasching Party. Please consider joining the Elferat, the committee that plans this fun party. Contact Harold Wicks, Joe Rohr, David Lawrence, Carol Wright or Christy Bradley.

### RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

**RSVP by 2PM Wednesday, February 7th  
(918) 744-6997 or [gast@tulsacoxmail.com](mailto:gast@tulsacoxmail.com)**

## GAST Sänger shine in December

The GAST Sänger finished a busy year with 3 performances in December - the GAST Christmas Party on Dec. 9, the Adventsfeier service on Dec. 10th and Burgundy Place Retirement Community on Dec. 13th.

Attendees of the Christmas party seemed very pleased with this year's program thanks largely to the talents supplied by new choir members: Timothy Burgess, John Burch, Scott Burch and Charissa Bradway. Timothy is a lovely addition to the bass section while John and Scott added a note of festivity to the program with their instrumental accompaniment to the sing-a-long and with their medley of traditional carols. Charissa gave a magnificent rendition of *Ave Maria*. The audience will long remember her very special presentation.

It should be noted that several long-time members of the choir, Teresa Gallagher, Bruce Feddersen, and choir director Susan Calvert have been struggling with serious illnesses over the course of the year, but they made a super human effort to participate as if nothing were wrong. Their faithfulness together with the new members' hard work certainly helped the choir continue their customary musical contributions to the GAST Christmas season.

-Betty Donohue



## Elke Leach *Sunshine lady*

A card was mailed to Dr. June Holms.

If you know of anyone who is ill or injured and could use a get-well card, please let me know. The same, if you know someone who is celebrating an important anniversary, milestone, or life event!

**Email:**

**[elke@one-ring.net](mailto:elke@one-ring.net)**

**Phone:**

**(918) 252-3838**

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The back page is sponsored by Stan & Barbara Conrad

## Das Deutsche

## ECHO

THE VOICE OF THE GERMAN-AMERICAN



COMMUNITY IN TULSA

*Now Playing at the Erwin Jerchau*

## GAST THEATER

Monday, January 8,

Starting at 6:30 PM

### Die Besten Deutschen Schlager

With Die Amigos, Daniela Alfinito, Tanja Lasch, Gaby Albrecht, Hansi Hinterseer and many more

Starting at 7:30 PM

### Stürme in Afrika

Starring Katja Flint, Aglaia Szyszkowyz, Markus Knüfken, August Zimmer and many more



## Stammtischrunde

Friday, January 5, 2018 – 6:30 PM  
in the GAST Weinkeller.

Hope to see you there.

Zum Wohl,

– Dann Bjorklund

## New Members

Thank you for joining us.

GAST heartily welcomes you all!

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