Das Deutsche

L ECHO

THE VOICE OF THE GERMAN-AMERICAN



January

- Membership Due
- 4 Stammtisch
- 7 Movie Night
- 8 Handarbeitsgruppe
- 13 Konversationsrunde
- 15 Handarbeitsgruppe

19 Anniversary Party

- 22 Handarbeitsgruppe
 - 25 Weinkellerabend
- 26 Kinderdeutsch
- 29 Handarbeitsgruppe
- 29 Adult German Classes

February

- 1 Stammtisch
- 4 Movie Night
- 5 Handarbeitsgruppe
- 10 Konversationsrunde
- 12 Handarbeitsgruppe
- 19 Handarbeitsgruppe
- 22 Weinkellerabend
- 26 Handarbeitsgruppe

March

- 1 Stammtisch
- 2 Fasching
- 4 Movie Night
- 5 Handarbeitsgruppe
- 10 Konversationsrunde
- 12 Handarbeitsgruppe
- 12 Handarbeitsgruppe
- 22 Weinkellerabend
- 26 Handarbeitsgruppe



ANNIVERSARY PARTY

Saturday, January 19th

Doors open at 5:30PM.

Dinner served at 6:00PM.

Dinner & entertainment to be announced



RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

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

Language Classes Begin in SOON!
Kinderdeutsch—Saturday, January 26
Adult German Classes—
Tuesday, January 29



Joseph Rohr—GAST President

A Happy New Year's Greeting to All! With the close of 2018, GAST now embarks on 2019 with hope for a wonderful year ahead. I would like to give thanks to all that worked toward the success of our organization. Included in the list are the Germanfest, Oktoberfest, Christkindlmarkt, and Party Committees, the Handarbeitsgruppe, Konversationrunde, Weinkellerabend, Stammtisch, Blaskapelle, Dancers, Singers, Movie Night, Garage Sale, German Classes, the helpers that kept our building ready for GAST functions and rentals, and the performances sponsored by GAST ARTS. I

would also like to give a SPECIAL THANK YOU to the many volunteers that gave countless hours in the past that paved the way for GAST being what it is today. We are forever thankful for their hard work and vision that made GAST a wonderful part of the Tulsa community. So to our membership, both past and present, I say THANK YOU for without you there would be no GAST. Let us all keep up the good work and look forward to a wonderful 2019!

The best is yet to come! Joseph



Harold Wicks—Building Manager

Day is done. Gone is the Sun. As of January One, a New Year has begun. We always hope for a good year. Every year brings opportunities and challenges. I hope that we will seize the opportunities and meet the challenges with a positive attitude and work together for the continued success of our society.

By the time you read this, the Great Hall will have been repainted. Lighter and brighter indeed. We also have a new alarm installed. Don't worry, the same code applies to both key pads. But you must use both. Call Sara in the office for more information.

Thank you, **Harold**



Sara Gonzales—Office Manager

We have a new website to promote our venue! Checkout **GASTeventcenter.com** and keep in mind, Members of 2+ years get **50% off** the listed price!

The GAST office will be **closed** Friday, December 21 at 2pm for the holidays and reopen January 3 at 10:30am.

Happy New Year! Sara



MEMBERSHIP NEWS—GAST Membership Chair

Invite your friends, family, coworkers to join the German American Society! Any new members who join as a result of your efforts will receive free admission *for you and them* to attend one of the next GAST parties.

Membership applications can be obtained at the office, on the GAST website, or in the cabinet at the main building foyer. Be sure to mark your name to receive credit when giving them the application.

Janet Jamison



Arnold Bieber—Arts President

As you opened your pre-Christmas mail you may have wondered; why another increase in the membership dues at this time? Aren't we making enough money with our fundraisers? The sad truth is, we don't. As the annual cost of maintaining our beautiful building and grounds approaches \$100,000, we have been dipping into retained earnings for several years now. Major repairs to the roof, foundation and interior water damage has been very costly.

We have increased our efforts to rent the building for social and corporate functions, but the competition of similar venues has also increased. Annual contributions by the GASAA Endowment Trust have helped with some of the expenses, but the recently approved 2019 GAST budget still shows some troubled areas. The Finance Committee has been exploring several other options to cover any shortfall.

I very much appreciate the generous donations to ARTS by many members. It allows us to continue to bring more cultural events to the community and to work with other non-profit organizations to enrich the lives of our members and guests. Our successful German language programs have made it possible to make an additional contribution to GAST for the use of the building.

The 12-week Tuesday evening Adult Conversational German Language classes will start again on **January 29**. The 10-week Saturday morning Kinderdeutsch classes will start **January 26**.



About 70 people came to our non-denominational German Adventsfeier on Sunday, December 9. Pastor Inge Matern from our Sister City Celle in Germany brought us a message of hope, peace and friendship between nations. Choir director Susan Calvert also played our 1928 Geneva organ and sang two beautiful solos.



We thank Gertrud and Ortwin Schmidt for hosting the Advent-Konversationsrunde on Sunday, December 16. We all enjoyed the singing of German Christmas carols and reading of poems and Christmas stories, followed by more conversation over delicious cake, coffee and Glühwein.

On a more somber note, we extend our sincere condolences to the families of Buddy Butcher, Adelheid "Heidi" Eichhaus-Pitzer (McLaurin), and Dr. June Holmes who passed away shortly before Christmas. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers during this season.

Thank you, Arnold



January 16 at 2 PM

The newsletter goes to print the second Friday 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 Drive, Tulsa, OK 74104

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918-744-6997

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Christkindlmarkt by the numbers

We couldn't do any of this without all our amazing volunteers. You made Christkindlmarkt 2018 the kind of event people come back for year after year. Here's how we did...

Strudel/Cheesecake Slices

607

Bratwurst

569

Potato Pancakes

433

Gulasch

289

Schnitzel

273

Stollen Slices

119

884
Laden Items

Kraut

Hot Dogs

68

67

3237

Bakery Items

36 Small Whole Apple Strudels

26 Large Whole Apple Strudels

5 Whole Cheesecakes

^{*}These numbers may not be exact.





Handarbeitsgruppe Quilt Winners

By the time you read this Christmas will be over but not too late to wish all of you a very Happy New Year.

The Handarbeitsgruppe once again made a beautiful Quilt for Christkindlmarkt 2018. People keep telling us the quilts just get more beautiful every year. I have to say, this one was a challenge but turned out extra special in the end. The lucky winner this year was Gail Martin from Tulsa. She was so surprised when we called her, she made a special trip right back to GAST to claim her quilt. The winner of the nutcracker quilt was chosen from those who made a purchase from the lower level. This year's winner was Cynthia McDonald from Bixby. She is also one of the harpists! Congratulations Gail! We the quilters, Ruth Bly, Elke Meyer, Helga Roepel (not in the picture) and myself, Irmgard Toschik are happy they found a good home.

Our Handarbeitsgruppe meets most Tuesdays from 10am-2pm. Come join us and bring your own mending, knitting, crochet, embroidery or whatever your needlework turns out to be. We would love to have you and you don't have to be a quilter. Only the four of us do that and the rest of the ladies work on their own crafts. Again, from all of us, have a very Happy New Year!



GAST

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

Rick & Terry Pizzo

John & Teresa Gallagher



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10802 Quail Plaza Drive, Suite 104 Oklahoma City, OK 73120 Telephone (405) 418 8800 Fax (405) 418 8803 neccobyrd@neccoandbyrd.com

GAST

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

Harold & Doris Wicks

Joe & Hannelore Giles Carter

Stan & Barbara Conrad

Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde

A good time was had by all at the Christmas Konversatiosrunde at the festively decked out Schmidt Haus. We read Christmas poems and stories, sang well-known Christmas songs and enjoyed good fellowship over Gluehwein, coffee and cake, stollen, and cookies.

The January Konversationsrunde will meet on January 13th, 2019 at 3:00pm at the GAST Office on 1429 Terrace Drive, Tulsa. Barbara Conrad will be our hostess. Come and hear what she has in store for us.

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

Membership Dues Reminder

Contact the GAST office if you have not received the 2019 Membership Information/ Renewal form that was mailed out in December. We need you to complete the form so that our membership database has your current information. Please return the form with your payment by January 1.

Single membership renewal is \$40.00 and Family membership renewal is \$60.00.

We must receive your payment in the GAST office BEFORE March 1 for you to be listed in the Annual Printed Roster, be eligible to vote in the Annual Membership meeting, and to continue to receive the monthly ECHO newsletter and other notices.

Janet Jamison, GAST membership chair

Elke Leggh (918) 252-3838

At this time of year, I wish you health, peace, and happiness.

Our condolences to those we lost this year, and our joy in celebrating the new lives brought into this world.

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!

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Melodien der Berge Starting at 7:30 PM

Der Geruch von Erde

Dr. Ellen Bischoff has developed a super biofertilizer with world market potential. When her single father Anton (Rudolf Kowalski) suffers a heart attack, the agricultural scientist has to step in on his farm.



Stammtischrunde Friday, January 4, 2019 6:30 PM in the GAST Weinkeller. Hope to see you there. Zum Wohl, -Dann Bjorklund

Membership News

Please see page 7 **Membership Renewal** Information for 2019

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Tulsa, OK 74104 1429 Terrace Drive Das Deutsche Echo

German-American Society Arts Association