



Das Deutsche Echo

VOLUME 9, NUMBER 6

SUMMER 1988



MARINA THERION

ANGELA GILES

MAY QUEEN 1988/89

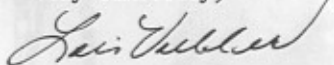
MAY QUEEN 1987/88

Dear GAST members,

It is with regret that I am resigning as editor of Das Echo after 3 1/2 years. Too many times during the past year the newsletter has either been early or late because of my job schedule, particularly with regard to the amount of out of town or out of the country travel. The demands of my job have become such that there is limited time available for other activities and I feel it unfair for the members of GAST to be forced to live with my schedule. Perhaps when I retire the position will again be available to me (but not in the immediate future).

I have enjoyed being your editor and hope you will understand why I find it necessary to resign. Thanks to everyone for their cooperation during my tenure as Editor of Das Echo.

Very Sincerely,



Lois N. Voeller

Maifest Committee Report

Once more We did it!!!!!! This year Maifest brought some changes and as always GAST members cooperated fully and were rewarded with a greater profit. There are so many people to thank we dare not mention any name lest we omit one.

First of all, someone got permission from Down Town Unlimited to allow us to set our tents side by side instead of the long way. This made for a much more convenient set-up and traffic flow. It was a real pleasure to get around the tent and the work went much easier. Our set-up and break-down crew also served throughout the week as repairmen, logistics, jacks of all trades. Whenever someone was needed, these men were there.

To the Sausage cooks who watched pot and grill
- The burst sausages were kept to a minimum. As you know, every burst sausage is money off the top, the PROFIT.

To the Pancake cooks - you were excellent. You made the pancakes thin and crispy and we had no complaints. Quality potato pancakes make for a very good profit.

To the Assemblers - You kept up with demand at all times. Your product looked as good as it tasted.

To the servers - As always, you gave friendly, courteous and fast service with a smile, kept your stations clean and stocked, saving much yelling and confusion.

To the Bread Preparers - While not as convenient as in the past, we appreciate the extra effort of our bread prep people and their good nature.

Inventory was kept so efficient and up to date that everything was returned to the vendors and in storage by Monday afternoon.

A very special "Vielen herzlichsten Dank" to all our friends from River Parks and Oktoberfest, Inc. who came and worked with us "just for fun", also, for friends and relatives of members who helped us. Without these non-member volunteers, we would have had some difficult times. Once more, Thank you, vielen Dank.

Everyone did their own housekeeping, cleaning up during and after each shift. The Tulsa County Health Department complimented us on our clean and sanitary conditions. We kept hired help to a minimum this year and each of you stepped in to fill the void as dishwashers, "gofors", "schleppers" or any area where something needed to be done. Everyone went the second mile. Some of you worked weeks in advance, others were there every day or pulled more than one shift. Words fail to express our feelings and gratitude for their dedication to GAST.

All in all, we enjoyed working with each of you and hope that everyone who could not participate in Mayfest this year for some reason, will express their appreciation to all who made it such a success. We, the committee, have learned a lot but recognize there is still room for improvement. It is our aim to make the work (Mayfest and Oktoberfest) as pleasant and stress-free as possible. Thank you seems so very inadequate but that is about all one can say.

THANK YOU !!!

Irmgard Toschik
Helga Roepel
Irmgard Runyon
Jean Heidinger

President's Corner

As always, Mayfest occupies most of our time and efforts at the end of the social calendar. Please accept our most heartfelt thanks for your dedication to GAST and your hard work. "Great works are performed not by strength but by perseverance" (Samuel Johnson) and persevere we did in this, our 9th year of Mayfest. To repeat myself, how and where else can we EARN so much money in one week?

Mayfest was a success and our profits are up over last year, no small thanks to your effort and participation. Remember - you do it for yourself and GAST, not any individual or group. Give yourself a pat on the back for a job well done.

We would like to welcome our new directors who have already stepped in and worked alongside the old board members and have taken responsibilities and initiative. We are looking forward to working with this group of dedicated people. Every silver lining has a cloud. It is with regret that we see Karl Darnieder, Guenter Roepel and Buddy Butcher step down from the Board. Their efforts on behalf of GAST were tireless and we will miss their ideas and enthusiasm. (However, we are not through with you yet, fellows!)

It is with a very sad heart that we announce the resignation of our Echo editor, Lois Voeller. For three and one-half years Lois has worked quietly and efficiently, every month, to publish a newsletter we can be very proud of. Every organization that receives ECHO has commented on its quality and readability. Please join us in expressing your appreciation to Lois and your regret at her resignation. All we can say is "Thank you, Lois".

Obviously, we are now in search of an editor. If you have an interest in getting ECHO out or know of someone, please notify any board member or myself. We know people like to be asked, but with a membership of nearly 400, we do not know of everyone's talents or interests, especially our newer members. Please don't think yourself immodest or bold to say "I would like to be the editor of ECHO". How else can we know of your interest? PLEASE VOLUNTEER!!!

President's Corner (continued)

There will be no newsletter in July and August. The next ECHO will not be issued until the first of September when our 1988/89 social and events calendar begins. Meanwhile, have a restful, wonderful summer with a plentiful garden crop, beautiful flowers, good company and a great vacation.

Irmgard Runyon
GAST President

Folk Dancing

"Back to Basics" in July-August

After a busy spring the GAST folkdancers will take a break during June, and after Labor Day they'll start preparing for Oktoberfest, but in July and August they'll be practicing and teaching some of the basic steps that are used in their dances (Waltz, Polka, Laendler, Schottisch) and some of the simpler dances. If it looks like the Folkdancers are having a great time (they are) but you're a little bit intimidated by the "level of difficulty" of some of their more intricate performance-dances, this is your chance to start at the beginning. The time: the 2nd and 4th Fridays in July and August, 7:00-8:30 P.M. (after 8:30 the "regulars" will work on retaining what they have learned!). The place: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 8730 Skelly Drive. Barb and Don Dallman will give Joy and Buddy a breather until September so call them for more information (584-2124).

Raffle Prizes

Remember our empty cabinet and donate raffle prizes. Please call Hildegard Schaffrin at 747-8291.

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GAST and GASTAA Board Meeting

Thanks to the Folkdancers for organizing the Maifest party and making it so much fun. Thanks also to Joe Hardt for acting as emcee for the evening, to Dottie Dittus for participating in the contest for Maiqueen and to Angie Giles for representing GAST for the past year. Congratulations to Marina Therion, our new Maiqueen for 1988/89.

Die Deutsche Konversationsrunde

The May meeting at the Hardt's, which quite a few members attended to help us welcome spring with poems and music, was a delight and seemed to be fully enjoyed by all who came. I, myself, had a wonderful time!

This was the last meeting before the summer break. We will resume meetings in September. Please watch the Echo for respective announcements and have a wonderful summer. I'll be thinking of you in Germany! (Anneliese Hardt, Chairman)

455-2977

That's an important number for GAST. Remember it---455-2977.

After June 15 you may dial 455-2977 and leave reservations for our parties or hear an up-date of our activities for the month. The Board of Directors believe that having a permanent telephone number (and a listing in the business pages of the telephone directory) will also benefit us in our community contacts.



EARTH GRAINS - DANEHARTS - SNAK CAKES

The GAST and Arts Association Board will continue to meet on the second Wednesday of each month, 7:00 P.M., at the Nathan Hale Library, 6038 E. 23rd. All GAST members are invited to attend. However, if you wish to address the Board, please notify the President in writing at least one week in advance.

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Dear Members of GAST,

I want to say that I am very happy to be elected Maiqueen for 1988 and feel honored to be able to represent GAST.

I know it is going to be an exciting and rewarding year for me, and I am looking forward to serving GAST to the best of my ability.

Dankeschön to everyone for their enthusiasm and support.

Euere Marina

Memorial Fund

In remembrance

Mr. John Heidinger

By: Mr. & Mrs. John Toschik
Mr. and Mrs. Harry A. Runyon

Edwin Perner

By: Elly Perner

Please mail donations to the Memorial Fund to:

Irmgard Runyon, President
German American Society of Tulsa
P. O. Box 714
Bristow, OK 74010

Green Country Wander Freunde

The summer looks very busy for the Wander-Freunde. Schedule for the summer includes five events in Dallas on June 4 and 5th, an event with the Sunflower Sod Stompers in Lindsborg, Kansas on June 4th, the Summer Celebration at Norman, Oklahoma, on June 10, 11th and 12th, June 14th club meeting at Tulsa Medical College, June 25th and 26th in Tulsa at Mowhawk Park/Oxley Nature Center, July 2nd, an event in Shawnee Mission, Kansas, July 12th, club meeting, Tulsa Medical College, August 9th, club meeting at Tulsa Medical College, August 27th an event in Lexington, Missouri. Please refer to your newsletter for specific details regarding each of these events or call Jean Stiles, 272-1622.

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Haikey Creek Family Picnic

JUNE 26 - 1:00 to 6:00 P.M.

Haikey Creek Park - 113th & South Garnett

Adults - \$3.00

Children - \$1.50 (Age 12 and under)

Reservations by Wednesday, June 22nd to Irmgard Toschik, 749-5282. You bring chairs/blankets, GAST furnishes food and drink (beer and pop). See you there!!!!

Die Gastsaeuger

Die Gastsaeuger will be taking a break for the summer and will resume rehearsals in the fall. Watch the Echo for further announcements. For information regarding Die Gastsaeuger, please call Dottie Dittus, Director, 749-4149.



GAST best wishes to Rudi Fickert who recently suffered a broken hip, to Antje Gally who has been ill and sympathy to Jean and Dick Heidinger on the recent death of Dick's father.



Golden French Bakers

(918) 250-4049

VAZGEN H. MINASSIAN
Owner

MON.-SAT, 7:30 am-8 pm
SUN. 8 am-2 pm

7142 SOUTH MEMORIAL
TULSA, OK 74133

For Your Information

GAST name tags with the logo and name of the organization may be ordered through Shirley Schelper, 2923 E. 84th Street, Tulsa, OK 74137, at a cost of \$6.00 each.

Membership

If you have any questions regarding membership, please call Jean Heidinger, 747-4958.



Don's Real Polish Sausage Market

VARIETY OF DELICIOUS
POLISH SAUSAGES
MADE ON PREMISES

1643 SOUTH YALE
1700 YALE MALL
TULSA, OK 74112

(918) 743-6373

Dear GAST Members,

Kate and I wish to thank each of you for your great cards and phone calls. Being ill is a terrible way to be remembered but being thought of by so many of you makes it much easier to bear. With all your good wishes I can't do anything but get better. Thank you all!

Kate and Peter Weiss

Remember, Margaret Schmidt is our sunshine lady. Please call her if you know of anyone needing her special ray of sunshine (446-0716).

CATCH THE VISION!!!!



THE LONG AND SHORT OF IT:
SAUSAGE LORE FROM GERMANY

(Ger)Man does not live on Kraut alone; along with it comes Wurst (sausage). (Wurst does come in all shapes and sizes, from the only finger-long Nuremberger Bratwurst (fried sausage) through the round, ball-sized Blutwurst (blood sausage) to the 2-3 foot long Stadtwurst (city sausage). Some members of the Wurst family have reached international fame, such as the Frankfurter and the Knockwurst (actually Knack, which describes the sound when you break it).

Wurst has left a considerable impression on the German mind and this becomes evident in many sayings and expressions. Here are the most popular:

"Das ist (mir) wurst."

Lit. This is sausage (to me). I do not care; it makes no difference.

"Peter ist wurstig."

Lit. Peter is sausageey. He never cares; he does not give a darn about things.

"ein Würstchen"

Lit. little sausage. May show affection, as for a little child, or be an insult, if used for a male (meaning he is not taken seriously).

"ein Hanswurst"

Lit. a jack-sausage. Somebody who does not know anything; a bum.

"wursteln"

Lit. to sausage. To work in a very unorganized and chaotic manner; often used to refer to a pleasant activity.

"Wurstelei"

Lit. sausageery. A chaos; a tiring work, where there is neither end nor beginning.

"eine Wurst machen"

Lit. to make a sausage. To do your "daily duty", especially used for little kids, where parents will proudly compare their child's "production" to a "big sausage."

"ein Pferd kommt in die Wurst"

Lit. a horse goes into the sausage. The horse is going to be slaughtered.

"er will immer eine Extra-Wurst"

Lit. he always wants an extra-sausage. He always wants something special; wants to be the exception.

"Wurst wider Wurst"

Lit. sausage for sausage. Tit for tat.

"er stellt sich auf den Wurstandpunkt"

Lit. he takes the point of view of sausage. He pretends not to care; refuses to participate in a decision.

"Spiel nicht die beleidigte Leberwurst"

Lit. do not play the offended liverwurst. Do not make such a fuss; do not act like that; the matter was not so serious.

"Sie sieht aus wie eine abgebundene Blutwurst"

Lit. She looks like a tied-up blood sausage. (Referring to a fat woman who wears tight pants or belt. A blood sausage always looks as if it is about to burst).

"Jetzt geht es um die Wurst"

Lit. Now it is the question of the sausage. Now they are fighting for the first prize; this is the final competition.

So, next time you are about to take a bit of your Knockwurst, remember you are holding a piece of culture in your hand--and do not tell me now this is all sausage to you.

Barbara Voelkel
University of Georgia

(Barbara Voelkel, a graduate student in Language Education at the University of Georgia, knows whereof she speaks. She grew up in Franconia, home of the Nuremberger Bratwurst.) Thanks to Doris Collins for this little bit of humor.

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