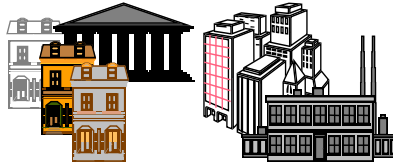


Houston-Leipzig Sister City Association



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JANUARY 2001

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A TWO-YEAR RETROSPECTION

Dear Members and Friends,

The last two years as your President have been exciting and rewarding. In each of those years we had a major event to focus the larger Houston community's attention on the ongoing relationship between Houston and Leipzig.

In 1999 when Lufthansa German Airlines expanded its Houston-Frankfurt nonstop flight to seven days a week, we were honored when Lufthansa invited Leipzig Mayor Wolfgang Tiefensee to visit Houston. Lufthansa, and the volunteers and friends of our organization did a superb job in putting together a memorable trip for the Mayor and his entourage. In just 3-1/2 days they paid an official visit to Mayor Brown at City Hall; they were invited to BMC Software and Enron Energy Trading, the Baker Institute at Rice University and the flight control tower at Intercontinental Airport; and they toured the Rice campus, attended a Board Meeting of the World Trade Association at the Houston Greater Partnership, and squeezed in a round table discussion with business leaders.

Mayor Tiefensee and his delegation also found time to socialize at our Houston-Leipzig Reception at the Houstonian where Mayor Tiefensee greeted each and every guest in person; at a dinner at Las Alameda Mexican Restaurant, at a buffet dinner at Dr. Moore's home and at a Lufthansa celebratory luncheon. They also managed to go shopping at the Galleria.

Without Mayor Brown who furnished Mayor Tiefensee with his official limousine and police escort during their entire stay, without the Houston International Protocol Alliance and Sister Cities of Houston, and the many friends and volunteers of our association, Mayor Tiefensee's visit would not have

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JANUARY MEETING

The Dow Chemical "Miracle" in East Germany

Manfred Aumann is featured at our next meeting on Thursday, January 25, at 6:30 p.m. We will start with a wine and cheese reception, followed by the program at

Parish Hall
Christ the King Lutheran Church
2353 Rice Boulevard
Houston, TX 77005



Mr. Aumann, Dow Chemical Project Director, and Director of the Dow Buna Sow Leuna Olefinverbund GmbH (BSL) project near Leipzig, will present the complexities and challenges of one of the most ambitious petrochemical projects ever undertaken and of one of the most extensive capitalist makeovers of a former communist enterprise.

Valued at approximately \$4.8 billion, the 5-year project encompassed the building of 14 new chemical plants, construction of a 270-mile-long pipeline to Rostock, demolition of more than 2,300 buildings, process plants and other structures, clean-up of decades of toxic waste and the refurbishing of 65 miles of roads, pipes, canals and railroads.

Aumann is currently Business Operations Director, Global Chlorinated Organics and Site Leader at Dow's plant in Stade, Germany.

The presentation will start at 7:00 p.m. A small contribution to defray meeting costs will be asked of members (\$5.00) and guests (\$10.00).

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

been the total success it turned out to be. So, thanks to all of you once again.

Prof. Dietmar Froehlich from the Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture at the University of Houston and his students delighted us with their slides from the exchange with architecture students from Leipzig. Later that summer the students from Houston took several prizes—incl. two first prizes—in the Design Competition for the Development of Gruna Peninsula south of Leipzig.

The highlight of this past year, of course, was the incredible exhibit at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston from Leipzig: Romantics, Realists, Revolutionaries: 19th Century German Masterpieces from the Museum of Fine Arts, Leipzig, and its attendant festivities. Concurrently, the contemporary photography exhibit from Leipzig-The Generation of Transition—sponsored by Houston FotoFest and ArtScan Gallery on their premises at Vine Street Studios presented a striking counterpoint to the 19th century. The exhibits were accentuated by Leipzig’s rich musical heritage with organ concerts at Christ the King Lutheran Church in September and October by Ullrich Boehme, the organist from the St. Thomas Church, and by Michael Schoenheit, the Gewandhaus organist.

As far as our local programs are concerned, the two major activities in the Spring center around our participation in the March fundraiser for KUHT-TV Channel 8 and the Houston International Festival in April. For the past two years we have sent a group of volunteers one evening to answer the telephones at Channel 8 and garner a bit of publicity for our organization. During the Houston International Festival, we have been participating in the Children’s Parade with Whittier Elementary School since the presidency of Mark Buehler in 1995. We also staff a Sister Cities of Houston booth at the festival on Saturday and Sunday of both weekends. Those of you who have been there know what fun it is! This year spotlights Ireland on April 21/22 and 28/29.

This coming year holds excitement as well. On the occasion of the Bach 2001 festival in Leipzig, we have been invited to participate in an international youth camp for musicians from Leipzig’s sister cities. The participants will form a youth orchestra that will play the opening concert of the festival on May 23 in the St. Thomas Church. Dr. Ute Eisele is currently organizing the participation of young musicians from Houston.

With much appreciation from your Immediate Past President,

Angelika Schmidt-Lange

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2001 MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE!!

It is time to renew your membership in the Houston-Leipzig Sister City Association.

Please send your check soon, so that we can continue to bring to you exciting programs and activities.

___ STUDENT 10.00	___ CORPORATE 150.00
___ INDIVIDUAL 25.00	___ SPONSOR 250.00
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Do you have news or an event to share? Want to comment, critique, create a column or communicate with other Leipzig aficionados? Call your editor at 713-973-9399, send a fax at 713-973-9499 or e-mail at ACSL@compuserve.com.