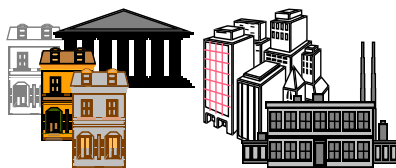


Houston-Leipzig Sister City Association



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members and Friends,

We have started the year 2001 in a big way. Our first meeting of the year in which Manfred Aumann presented the Dow Chemical project near Leipzig was well attended with approximately 60 members and guests. We were joined by our Honorary Chairperson, City Council Member Mark Ellis, and by the Consul General of Germany, Mr. Hanno von Graevenitz and his wife Sigrid.

March and April will be busy for us. In addition to the two meetings this month, we will once again volunteer at the Channel 8 telethon on Thursday, March 8. That evening Channel 8 presents a special program on German-Americans, and together with Houston Chronicle volunteers, we will staff the telephones. Be sure to tune in that evening!

On April 20, we will sponsor John Greenleaf Whittier Elementary School in the Children's Parade that is part of the opening ceremonies of the Houston International Festival. Children from 13 different elementary and middle schools, representing each of Houston's sister cities, and dressed in costumes of that city, participate in the parade around the City Hall reflection pool in front of hundreds of spectators and the media.

At the Houston International Festival we will once again represent Leipzig at the Sister Cities Booth. We are in need of volunteers for both weekends of April 21/22 and April 28/29 to help us staff the booth. What we ask is approximately 2 ½ hours of your time to stay in the booth and talk to people about Leipzig. What you get in return is a free entry into the Festival (cost was \$7 per person last year) and the rest of the day to experience the food and music of the festival. It is a great event and a great way to spend the day. If you would like to volunteer, contact Charlie Phillips (713-972-1422) or Roy deGesero (281-579-1562).

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TWO MEETINGS IN MARCH

"THE RESCUERS – PORTRAITS OF MORAL COURAGE IN THE HOLOCAUST"

Wednesday, March 14, 2001



Wine and Cheese Reception
Houston Holocaust Museum
5401 Caroline Street
Houston, TX 77004

6:30 p.m. Reception
7:00 p.m. Brief Presentation
of Exhibit

For three years, Gay Block and Malka Drucker, the artists who curated the exhibit, interviewed and photographed people who hid, protected and saved Jews in Europe during World War II. *Rescuers: Portraits of Moral Courage in the Holocaust* is a testament to those individuals who acted with extraordinary courage and compassion to save people from persecution.

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CURRENT EVENTS IN THE REBUILDING OF LEIPZIG

Thursday, March 22, 2001



Home of Carroll and Dorry Shaddock
1715 South Boulevard
Houston, TX 77098
6:00 p.m. Reception
7:00 p.m. Presentation

Pastor Christian Wolff, a Leipzig "powerhouse," has worked diligently for the last ten years for the revitalization of the congregation of St. Thomas-Matthaei and Leipzig society in general. Pastor Wolff's remarks will also include comments about the renovation of the Thomaskirche and its new baroque organ.

Wine and other beverages will be served at the reception.

BACH SOCIETY TOUR TO VISIT LEIPZIG

The Bach Choir under the direction of Dr. Robert Lynn will conduct its first tour to Germany June 5-18, 2001. The choir and tour participants will wrap up the tour in Leipzig with a final celebration in the Alte Boerse (Old Stock Exchange), an exquisite classical building immediately behind the Old City Hall. 200 guests will assemble following evening worship at the Thomas Church.

The tour departs Houston on June 5 and arrives in Hamburg the next day. The first three days will be spent in Luebeck where Bach met Buxtehude. A concert will be sung in the Jakobikirche with its famed Stellwagen Organ. Robert Brewer, Organist/Choirmaster at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, is the tour organist. An excursion to Lueneburg will be included in the activities. The choir will sing in Dresden's famous Church of the Holy Cross (Kreuzkirche) and in the Meissen Cathedral, an architectural gem. Other concerts include the famous Bach sites of Eisenach and Arnstadt with visits to Muehlhausen and Weimar.

In addition to music from J. S. Bach, Johannes Weyrauch, and Arnold Schoenberg, compositions by three Houston composers will be offered to the German public: Michael Horvit, Robert Nelson, and David Ashley White, all professors at the Moores School of Music at the University of Houston.

There are still approximately twelve spaces available on the tour for persons interested in Bach and cities associated with his life. Of course, there will be good food and drink and interesting sites to visit. Cost of the tour is \$2,495 (\$300 of which is a tax-deductible contribution in support of the Bach Choir). We are proud to offer air travel with Lufthansa German Airlines, a major sponsor of the tour.

You will never get another opportunity to celebrate the Houston-Leipzig sister-city relationship like this one. For information contact Dr. Robert Moore at robertmoore@ctkelc.org or 713-523-2864 x21. Tour information is also obtainable at: <http://www.neosoft.com/~ctk/homepage/bachsoc/bachtour2001.htm>.

SEND FAX, E-MAIL OR CALL YOUR EDITOR

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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

We are also sponsoring Furr High School in the Sister Cities of Houston Program for Young Artists (Local Competition). The purpose of this competition is to encourage youths (ages 13 to 18) from all parts of the world to express, through original artwork, their concept of the Sister Cities mission and the 2000 theme "Impressions of the Fruits of World Peace". Winners will be selected in April and the 1st place, 2nd place and honorable mention winners will have their awards presented in a session of Houston City Council on April 10. The 1st place winner's artwork is shipped to Toledo, Ohio to compete in the national competition.

As you can see, we are an active Sister City Association. We are looking forward to an exciting year in 2001. We ask that you support us with your ideas, attendance at our events and volunteer assistance. If you have comments or questions, please contact me at 713-972-1422 or e-mail gcp437@aol.com.

Charlie Phillips, President

THE RESCUERS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

This remarkable exhibit has toured the United States and several foreign countries. At the suggestion of Sigrid von Graevenitz, wife of the German Consul General in Houston, the Houston Leipzig Sister City Association is considering sponsoring the exhibit for display in Leipzig. This is a great opportunity to see this powerful exhibit before it closes (March 17) and to experience what we hope to offer to our sister city Leipzig.

To help defray costs, a contribution is requested of members (\$5.00) and non-members (\$10.00).

STIPEND AWARD FOR MUSIC STUDIES IN LEIPZIG

Joseph Gaines, a senior vocal student at the University of Houston's Moores School of Music is preparing to study for one year at the Felix-Mendelssohn-Bartholdy Musikhochschule. This study is totally underwritten by the Rotary Club International.

Gaines has been preparing for an opportunity like this since the day he sang the role of the Evangelist in the Bach Society presentation of the *Passion According to St. John*. At that time our member Phil Cezeaux planted the seed that Joe should aspire to a year of study in Germany. Robert Moore arranged for an audition at the Leipzig Conservatory, and Gaines was immediately invited to come to Leipzig.

The HLSCA Board has awarded \$400 to Gaines to help with airline expense for a preparatory trip to Leipzig this spring. We wish Joe all the best and hope to be reading about him in the Leipziger Volkszeitung!