# **Houston-Leipzig Sister City Association**







Vol. 7. No. 2 P. O. Box 55853. Houston, TX 77255-5853 EDITOR: A. C. SCHMIDT-LANGE TELEPHONE: 713-973-9399 - TELEFAX: 713-973-9499

AUGUST 2002 E-MAIL: ACSL@COMPUSERVE.COM

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members and Friends,

I hope that everyone has had a good summer and is looking forward to a little cooler weather and to some interesting HLSCA activities in the Fall. Listed below is our meeting schedule for the fall and winter. We hope that all of you will join us in our meetings and activities.

The association had a busy spring with our participation in the Children's Parade, the visit of Mayor Tiefensee in April and the Houston International Festival in May.

The visit of Mayor Tiefensee is particularly noteworthy and I will attempt to give you a recap of his Once again, Angelika Schmidt-Lange did a fantastic job of coordinating his visit on short notice, and managed to arrange meetings which were of

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## Fall / Winter Meeting Schedule

We have a good schedule lined up for the Fall. Please mark your schedule accordingly:

Thurs., Sept. 19th Video on the City of Leipzig, as

produced by the City of Leipzig.

Sunday, Oct. 13th Oktoberfest gathering at Bavar-

ian Gardens in the Heights. Thurs., Nov. 14th

Annual Meeting & Speaker: Guy Kopriva will speak about his experience in Leipzig with his

recent art exhibition there.

Thurs. Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> Holiday Party - Bring a dish or a

bottle of wine & enjoy. (We'll coordinate with you.)

Thurs., Jan 16<sup>th</sup> to be announced - we hope to

have Joseph Gaines, Tenor, who will speak about his musical and experience in studies Leipzig, followed by a short

performance.

All meetings will be held at Christ the King Lutheran Church Parish Hall with the exception of the Oktoberfest gathering at the Gardens in the Heights.

## 2002 MEMBERSHIP FEES

There are still some members with dues outstanding for 2002. If you have still not paid your dues, please submit them as soon as possible. As you know, association dues are critical to our operation. Your attention to this matter is most appreciated.

 STUDENT	\$10.00	 CORPORATE	\$150.00
 INDIVIDUAL	\$25.00	 SPONSOR	\$250.00
 FAMILY	\$40.00	 <b>PATRON</b>	\$500.00
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### PLEASE MAIL YOUR CHECK TODAY!

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Important - we need to update our email list for your benefit.

Make checks payable to HLSCA and mail to: Houston-Leipzig Sister City Association c/o Otto Goedecke. Treasurer 1776 Yorktown, Suite 820



Houston, TX 77056-4114

### Leipzig Exhibit

On September 28, 2002, Redbud Gallery of the Houston Heights and the Houston Leipzig Sister City Organization are hosting an art exhibition entitled "Houston Works". On exhibit will be some of the top contemporary artists working in Texas today. The show will be held at Artco Gallerie In Leipzig and will run through the end of October. A colored illustrated catalogue will be published. If you happen to be in Leipzig during this time, please stop by to view the exhibit and say hello to Gus Kopriva, Redbud's Director.

## **Email updates:**

Please send us an email, updating or confirming your email address. Please be sure to reference HLSCA email update and include your name unless your email address clearly contains your name. As you know, some of the email addresses are a bit cryptic, and we would like to put "a name with a face". Our ability to notify you of meetings and events by email saves our organization critical funds which are needed for other, more useful purposes. Please email your updates to ACSL@compuserve.com or kj@KentJonesCo.com.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, CONTINUED

particular importance to the Mayor and the City of Leipzig.

The Mayor, along with the Head of the Department for European and International Relations for the City of Leipzig, Dr. Gabriele Goldfuss, and the Deputy Head of the Department of Economic Development for the City of Leipzig, Dr. Michael Schimansky arrived in late April for three intensive days of meetings and events. As you know, the Germans always laugh at Americans' ambitious and hectic holiday travel plans when visiting the Continent, and I must say, based on my experience, the Germans share the honor when it comes to business trips to the U.S.

The Mayor and his delegation arrived from New York and were greeted at the airport arrival gate by Angelika Schmidt-Lange, a City of Houston Protocol Officer and myself, and "off we went". The Mayor met briefly with Consul General Hanno von Graevenitz before attending a meeting with Mr. Juan Perez of the Texas Work Force Development Group to dicuss what is being done in our area for continuing education and re-education of the work force based on current needs of industry and business. The Mayor was particularly interested in knowing what we are doing in this regard, as this issue is of particular interest and urgency for the leaders of the eastern states or "laender" of Germany. Later that evening, the Mayor attended a concert of C.P.E. Bach's "St. Matthew's Passion" performed by the Houston Bach Society Choir at Christ the King Lutheran Church, and spoke to the American Bach Society at the conclusion of the performance.

The following day, a Sunday, the Mayor attended church services at Christ the King, then attended a small lunch gathering prior to visiting the Houston Museum of Fine Arts and the new Beck Exhibition Building at MFA. Later in the afternoon he and his delegation toured the Holocaust Museum. In the evening, a cocktail reception was hosted in honor of Mayor Tiefensee by Consul General and Mrs. von Graevenitz.

Monday, the final day of the Mayor's visit was quite full with "two days" of meetings. The mayor met with City Council Member, Gabriel Vasquez, head of the Regional Planning & Economic Development Committee. Later in the morning he met with George Demontrond, III and Susan Bandy, Chairman and Executive Director, respectively, for the Houston 2012 Olympics Foundation. (Interestingly, Leipzig is also vying for a 2012 Olympic bid, but it should be noted that there is no conflict between the two cities, as the selection first goes to a particular country and then the A noon meeting with the Greater Houston Partnership followed, and the Mayor and Dr. Shimansky made a presentation entitled "Leipzig: A City of Entrepreneurs and Opportunities", promoting business in Leipzig, then led a roundtable discussion about opportunities in Leipzig. In the afternoon, the Mayor's delegation met with John Walsh, Director of BioHouston, to discuss and learn what the Houston group is doing in the development of bio-medicine. The City of Leipzig is similar to Houston in that they have excellent state-of the-art medical facilities along with extensive medical research associated with German universities, yet the City is lagging far behind other German cities in attracting bio-medical research groups and companies. Following the meeting with Mr. Walsh, the Mayor met with Rodney Bradshaw, Director of the Workforce Development Board and Terry Hudson, Executive Director of Houston Works USA Career Center.

Concluding the day and the delegation's visit to Houston, a terrific farewell reception for the Mayor was hosted by Dr. Robert and Kathy Moore at their home. The Mayor made his farewell comments, emphasizing the knowledge gained during his visit and the importance and benefits of the Houston Leipzig sister city relationship.

Kent Jones, President

#### 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 <a href="mailto:ACSL@compuserve.com">ACSL@compuserve.com</a>.