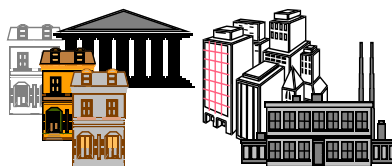


Houston-Leipzig Sister City Association



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members and Friends:

Our 10th Anniversary year started off with a BANG with a great Special Member Meeting on January 23, and an inspiring Executive Board Meeting on February 6. Over 45 members and guests attended the Special Meeting, which included our Annual Elections and a very entertaining and lively program by Gus Kopriva about the Houston Artists' Exhibit in Leipzig last October. All but one Board member made the Kick-off Board meeting where ambitious plans were set in motion for a 10th Anniversary full of activities and celebrations (2003 calendar will be out shortly!).

Two immediate priorities emerged from the Board meeting. First, 2003 DUES ARE DUE!!!! So, please pay your 2003 dues now (\$25.00 individual; \$40.00 family). Along with active, involved members, these dues are the lifeblood of our organization and support scholarships, programs, exchanges, and stipends. Board member Ute Eisele is chairing a Membership Committee to look into membership issues, development, and retention. If you would like to serve on this committee, please call me at 713-861-0906.

Second, plans are in the works for a "spectacular" 10th Anniversary Celebration Banquet/Fundraiser next Fall. Jim Patterson (past HLSCA President) has agreed to chair the committee putting together this event. If you would like to get involved in the planning of a great evening, please call me (again) at 713-861-0906.

That's all for now! I look forward to seeing everyone at our next general meeting March 6, which will feature Pastor Christian Wolff of the Thomaskirche in Leipzig. In closing, I want to recognize Kent Jones, our fearless 2002 President, for his exceptional service last year!

THANKS FOR A JOB WELL DONE, KENT!!!!!!!

Stephen L. Braun, President

NEXT MEETING: PASTOR CHRISTIAN WOLFF OF THE ST. THOMAS CHURCH IN LEIPZIG

Speaks on

**"GERMAN AND AMERICAN RELATIONS
IN DIFFICULT TIMES"**

Thursday, March 6, 2003

Wine and Cheese Reception

Parish Hall

Christ the King Lutheran Church
2353 Rice Boulevard

6:30 p.m. Reception
7:00 p.m. Program

Members: \$5.00

Non-Members and Guests: \$10.00



We are delighted to welcome Pastor Wolff back in Houston. Come join us for an interesting talk and a lively exchange of ideas.

Pastor Wolff has served the Thomas Church in Leipzig for over ten years. Before his move to Leipzig, he served in a parish in Mannheim. He has been very active in political life in Germany, and especially in relation to peace concerns. Pastor Wolff has been very supportive of the Houston-Leipzig Sister City relationship. He will also preach at the German-language service of worship on March 2 at 5:00 p.m. at Christ the King Lutheran Church

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

...the world's biggest mail order company is in Leipzig?

Quelle AG invested about 1,000 million DM in the construction of a new mail-order center in Leipzig, which went into operation in 1994. It is the world's biggest and most modern mail-order house.

Source: Leipzig Tourist Service e.V., Richard-Wagner-Strasse 1, D-04109 Leipzig

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

...THE GERMAN MAIL-ORDER TRADE WAS FOUNDED IN LEIPZIG?

In 1886 Ernst Mey from Leipzig-Plagwitz published the first illustrated mail-order catalog in Germany. His company Mey & Edlich was the first to sell goods by mail-order catalog. This made him a marketing revolutionary. In 1903 he became the number one of the world's mail-order companies.

Source: Leipzig Tourist Service e.V., Richard-Wagner-Strasse 1, D-04109 Leipzig

OLYMPICS 2012

Keep your fingers crossed for Leipzig: On April 12, 2003, the German National Olympic Committee decides which one of 5 German cities will be the one to compete internationally for hosting the 2012 Olympics. Check out this website:

www.leipzig-fuer-olympia.de

Upcoming Events

March 6: HLSCA Meeting, see p. 1

March 12: Judging of artwork in Young Artists' Competition sponsored by Sister City International and Sister Cities of Houston. HLSCA is sponsoring Furr High School with 3 art pieces

March 15: Texas German Society 19th Annual State Convention, Westside High School, Houston, Texas

March 17 Artwork from the Young Artists' Competition goes on display at the Visitor Information Center at City Hall

March 26: *Lange Nacht der Erzaehler*, Goethe Center for Central European Studies, Rice University; Hans-Ulrich Teichel, author from Leipzig will read from his works

March 30: Orchestra X performs Beethoven's 9th Symphony with the Houston Masterworks Chorus in Zilkha Hall at the Hobby Center

April: 26/27: Houston-Leipzig in the Houston Sister Cities booth at the Houston International Festival

May 3/4: Houston-Leipzig in the Houston Sister Cities booth at the Houston International Festival

May 12 Texas Sister Cities State Meeting in Corpus Christi

June: Bach Choir from Houston is invited to sing in the Sunday morning service at St. Thomas church in Leipzig

July: 10th Anniversary of the founding of the sister city relationship between Houston and Leipzig

Your Officers and Directors for 2003**OFFICERS:**

Honorary Chairperson: Houston City Council
Member Mark Ellis

Immediate Past President: Kent Jones

President: Steve Braun*

President-Elect: Roy de Gesero*

Vice President: Mark Buehler

Treasurer: Otto E. Goedecke

Secretary: Elizabeth Duerr

Assistant Treasurer: Elizabeth Linck

Assistant Secretary: Gudrun Sundquist

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Mark Buehler

Otto E. Goedecke

David C. Hollrah

Kent Jones

Dr. Robert G. Moore

Angelika C. Schmidt-Lange

DIRECTORS – TERM EXPIRES DECEMBER 2004:

Phil Ceseaux

Dr. Ute Eisele

George Hammerlein

Jim Patterson

Charles Phillips

*Members of the Board of Directors *ex officio*

Come and Visit Us on the Web

www.germanconsulatehouston.org/Houston_Leipzig

www.sistercitieshouston.org

www.leipzig.de

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

...LEIPZIG HAS THE OLDEST CONTINUOUSLY OPERATING CAFÉ-RESTAURANT IN EUROPE?

The first café-restaurant was opened in Leipzig in 1694 by Johann Lehmann and named Coffee Baum (Coffee Tree) since 1719. The Coffee Baum is the oldest continuously operating café-restaurant in Europe, giving proof of the legendary love of the "coffee Saxons" for the hot drink. Celebrities like King Augustus the Strong (he had his first mocha here), Robert Schumann or Johann Wolfgang von Goethe were regular guests at the house.

Source: Leipzig Tourist Service e.V., Richard-Wagner-Strasse 1, D-04109 Leipzig

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