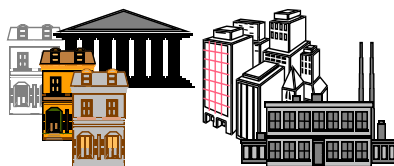


# Houston-Leipzig Sister City Association



**VOL. 9, No. 1**

**EDITOR: A. C. SCHMIDT-LANGE**

**P. O. Box 55853, HOUSTON, TX 77255-5853**

**TEL: 713-822-4257 – FAX: 713-464-0255**

**MARCH 2004**

**E-MAIL: [angelika@hal-pc.org](mailto:angelika@hal-pc.org)**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Dear Members and Friends:

We are looking forward to a fun-filled and informative 2004. In February we heard the outstanding *amici musicae* Chorale and Orchestra from Leipzig, and our member Penny Milbouer gave a book signing for *A Childhood Under Hitler and Stalin* by Michael Wieck, which she translated from German into English.

This month we already had our volunteers at the Channel 8 fundraiser having a good time while they took pledges on the telephone, and we are showing *Der Untertan* on March 18.

In April, of course, we participate in the Sister Cities of Houston booth at the International Festival. This year Thailand is the honored country, and we should have lots of fun. We will let you know what our regular program for April will be.

During our January board meeting we started to work on our mission statement: to foster relationships and exchanges between the citizens of Leipzig and Houston and their surrounding areas. Our vision is to build vigorous relationships and exchange in areas of mutual strengths and interest, including academics, business, culture, government, politics, sports, etc.

We also formed four standing committees for Membership, Finance, Programs and Outreach. We encourage all of you to participate and to let us know how we can continuously improve our association. Please call or email me at 713-553-9370, [roydeg@aol.com](mailto:roydeg@aol.com).

Best regards,

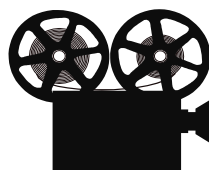
Roy De Gesero, President

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. UTE EISELE FOR WINNING THE MARATHON**

Dr. Ute Eisele, one of our board members, won the HP Marathon in Houston last month in her age group – an incredible accomplishment.

She has been invited to participate in the Boston Marathon on April 19 (Patriots' Day). Ute, we are rooting for you.

## **IT'S MOVIE TIME**



Come and Join us for the  
Screening of

**Der Untertan**

(The Kaiser's Lackey)

6:30 p.m. Wine and Cheese Reception  
7:00 p.m. Movie – Introductory Remarks by  
Dr. Sandy Frieden, University of Houston

Thursday, March 18, 2004

Parish Hall  
Christ the King Lutheran Church  
2353 Rice Boulevard

Members: \$5.00  
Non-Members and Guests: \$10.00

Parking is permitted across Greenbriar on the Animal  
Hospital lot after 6:30 p.m.

(see Film Trilogy next page)

## **Welcome to the New Board**

### Officers:

Honorary Chairperson:  
Houston City Council Member Mark Ellis  
Immediate Past President: Steve Braun  
President: Roy De Gesero  
President-Elect: Mark Buehler  
Vice President: Phil Ceseaux  
Treasurer: Otto E. Goedecke  
Secretary: Elizabeth Duerr  
Assistant Treasurer: Elizabeth Linck  
Assistant Secretary: Gudrun Sundquist

### Directors – Term Expires December 2004:

Phil Ceseaux – Dr. Ute Eisele – George Hammerlein  
– Jim Patterson – Charles Phillips

### Directors – Term Expires December 2005:

Otto E. Goedecke – David C. Hollrah – Dr. Robert G.  
Moore – Angelika C. Schmidt-Lange – Prof. William  
P. Streng – Dr. Klaus Weissenberger

## FILM TRILOGY

We have a special treat for you in our upcoming programs. Over the year, we will show three films about life in the former East Germany from three different perspectives.

One is an East German movie, *Der Untertan* (The Kaiser's Lackey); the second one, *Als die Mauer fiel - 50 Stunden, die die Welt veränderten* (When the Wall Came Tumbling Down - 50 Hours that Changed the World) is from the transition period after the wall fell; and the third one, *Good bye, Lenin*, is from an East German perspective after unification.

*Der Untertan*, first in the trilogy, has been called "A historical satire of biting sharpness and grand comedy. Staudte's wonderfully successful adaptation of Heinrich Mann's world-famous novel has become a film classic."

Dr. Sandy Frieden from the University of Houston, who is an expert on East German film, will make introductory remarks.

Screening of this trilogy is supported by the DEFA Film Library at the University of Massachusetts. If you are interested, contact them at [www.umass.edu/defa](http://www.umass.edu/defa)

## Thank You to Our Corporate Members

Our corporate members are our lifeblood. Without their generous contributions, we could not sponsor our various activities and exchanges between Houston and Leipzig. We thank our new and renewing corporate members for 2004:

### Concord Oil Company

of San Antonio

Represented by Thomas E. Pawel

### Dow Chemical Corporation

of Houston and Schkopau (near Leipzig)

Represented by

Gus A. Kopriva, Graham S. Cattell and Bart J. Groot

### IMEC Corporation

Represented by

Wolfgang Schmidt and Angelika Schmidt-Lange

### Prosperity Bank

Represented by Elizabeth Linck

### Sedlmair Versicherungsmakler GmbH

of Berlin and Munich

Represented by Thomas Sedlmair

## Come and Visit Us on the Web

[www.germanconsulatehouston.org/Houston\\_Leipzig](http://www.germanconsulatehouston.org/Houston_Leipzig)

[www.leipzig.de](http://www.leipzig.de)

## Kudos for the University of Leipzig

After a tough competition among universities, The Fulbright Commission, Berlin, established a Distinguished American Studies Chair especially for the University of Leipzig. Congratulations to Professor Anne Koenen and Professor Hartmut Keil (who visited Houston with his students last year) of the Institute of American Studies at the university. Prof. Crister Garrett of the University of Wisconsin is the first holder of the chair, and held his inaugural lecture on the topic "Toward a New Culture of Communication: Constructing Transatlantic Relations for the Twenty-First Century." Prof. Garrett's research includes behavior in multi-ethnic societies. He will stay for two semesters at the University of Leipzig.

The German Research Foundation awarded the first international post-graduate/Ph.D. studies program in the field of interface physics for research on diffusion in porous materials to the University of Leipzig.

## ENJOY OPERA AT THE UNIVERSITIES

*Der Freischuetz*, by Carl Maria von Weber

April 2, 3 and 5 at 7:30 p.m.; April 4 at 2:00 p.m. at the Moores School of Music, Opera Center, University of Houston.

This wildly popular opera ushered in the age of Romanticism in Germany with its blend of the natural and the supernatural, and its influence was felt by everything from Wagnerian opera to horror movies. Sung in the original German, including newly-discovered recitatives by Hector Berlioz. Preview lecture 45 minutes prior to curtain.

Admission (reserved) \$15.00, students and senior citizens \$10.00 -- Call 713-743-3313 for information.

*Werther*, by Jules Massenet

March 25, 27, 29 and 31 at 7:30 p.m. at the Shepherd School of Music, Wortham Opera Center, Rice University.

"When love and madness collide," this opera is based on *Die Leiden des Jungen Werther* by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. Sung in French with English surtitles.

Admission (reserved) \$10.00, students and senior citizens \$8.00 -- Call 713-348-8000 for information.

## 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 the editor at 713-822-4257, send a fax to 713-464-0255, or email to [angelika@hal-pc.org](mailto:angelika@hal-pc.org)