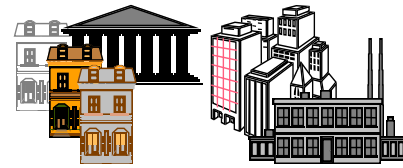




Houston-Leipzig Sister City Association



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SEPTEMBER 1997

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Now that summer is almost over, we welcome cooler weather and a very busy fall and winter. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our 1997 corporate sponsors. Bebitz USA, Inc., Kulkoni, Inc. and the University of Houston have all contributed greatly to our treasury this year. We also have had visitors from Dow Chemical, Lufthansa German Airlines and Hoechst Celanese at our summer meeting. The support of businesses like these drives our sister city relationship.

As your 1997 President, I am very excited to visit Leipzig during the German Unification holiday. I will be there from October 3 - 6, and will present a letter and gift from Mayor Lanier to Oberbürgermeister Lehmann-Grube commemorating the fifth anniversary of the Houston-Leipzig sister city relationship.

I hope all of you can participate in every exciting activity during the next few months. If you have any specific questions, always feel free to call me at 713-861-0906.

Steve Braun, President

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 18, 1997, at 6:30 p.m. at the Goethe Institute, 3120 Southwest Freeway, Suite 100.

The Reverend Dr. Robert G. Moore, our President-Elect, will share with us "Reflections on the Weltkirchentag," held last June in Leipzig.

The Weltkirchentag, a gathering of Protestants from all over Germany, is held every two years and offers a smorgasbord of ideologies and personas.

Dr. Moore will also update us on the activities of our sister organization Freundeskreis Leipzig-Houston e.V.

As always, we will socialize at the beginning with a wine and cheese reception. The charge for members is \$5, \$10 for nonmembers.

IMPORTANT FALL DATES!!!

September 23 - October 4

Brandis Gymnasium Students visit Sharpstown High School

September 26 - 28

Philipp Melanchthon Symposium - Dr. Günther Wartenberg, Vice Chancellor, University of Leipzig, Honored Speaker

October 21, 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Sister Cities of Houston Alter Ego Party, Wortham Theater Stage

October 26, 7:00 p.m.

HLSCA Fifth Anniversary Extravaganza - Dr. Wolfgang Moser, our new Consul General, will be the Honored Speaker

November 20

HLSCA Business Meeting and Elections

December 18

Holiday Reception



HLSCA HAPPENINGS!

There are more and more exchanges between the University of Houston and Leipzig University. This academic year Kathleen Heinrich, an MBA student from Leipzig, will be studying at UofH.

Other educational exchanges are continuing. Nine medical students from Leipzig are currently doing an internship at Baylor College of Medicine.

We bid a fond farewell to our new friends Daniela Friedrich and Gunnar Schoenitz as they conclude their six-months' internship at Dow Chemical.

Prof. Dr. Dr. Günther Wartenberg, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Professor of Church History at the University of Leipzig will be in Houston from September 19 to October 2. Dr. Wartenberg is here for the Philipp Melancthon Symposium and will meet with administrators from UofH and Rice University during his visit. He will be joined by his wife Prof. Christina Wartenberg who specializes in vocal pedagogy.

We are pleased to announce that the Leipzig Academic Orchestra received substantial funding from the German Music Council for their trip to Toronto and Houston.

Our chief responsibility for the orchestra's visit will be to provide housing for the musicians from Friday to Monday, November 7-10. If you wish to offer a place to sleep to one or more of the musicians or if you know of someone who would, please let us know immediately (Tel: 713-861-0906).

Everyone is invited to the Sister Cities of Houston's party on October 21, 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. on the Wortham Theater stage. Mayor Lanier and his wife Elyse are hosting this costume gala. Tickets are \$50 per person. All proceeds will go to worthy Houston Sister Cities projects. We have volunteered to handle the evening's check in and admission collection duties. If you'd like to help, please call Cookie Story at 713-973-9399.

Our good friend for many years, Consul General Dr. Klaus Aurisch has been posted to Strasbourg, France. We are grateful for his steadfast support of our organization through the years and wish him the best in his new post.

HLSCA website master Thomas Treutler of Leipzig visited Houston for several days in August. He met with our board to plan many additions and revisions to the Sister City website. Feel free to browse our website at <http://www.uni-leipzig.de/~treutler/sister.html>

Our board had a business conference by telephone with the board from the Leipzig organization in July. We decided to hold these conference calls on a quarterly basis to improve communications between our two organizations. The next call is scheduled for early October.

Local church and school choral leaders met in late August at the Goethe Institute to plan the Thomaner Choir visit on February 1-6, 1998. Concerts are to be held on February 3, 4 and 5. We recently dedicated \$500 of our funds to match a business contribution to fund costs of our organization for this visit.

We welcome the new Consul General of Germany Dr. Wolfgang Moser and look forward to continued close relations with the Consulate General.

Plans for our Fifth Anniversary Extravaganza are moving right along. Consul General Dr. Wolfgang Moser will be the Honored Guest. Invitations will be sent to the Houston Consular Corps, the German Gulf Coast Association, the German-American Chamber of Commerce, the Goethe Institute and Sister Cities of Houston.

FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER!

November 8 - 10

Leipzig Academic Orchestra concerts at Christ the King Lutheran Church, Moores School of Music and HCC Westchester Campus.