

# Houston Liederkrantz

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**NEWSLETTER JANUARY -APRIL 2012**

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## Annual Report of the President

Below is the annual report as presented by our outgoing President, Ewald Burckhardt at our General Membership meeting. We are all very grateful for his leadership and many devoted hours spent at hall repairs, tax and legal problem resolution. **THANK YOU EWALD.**

**Dear Houston Liederkrantz Members:**

Lets start first with a short minute of silence for those members that are not with us anymore this year, and whose actions left a permanent mark in the history of our club.

The past year of 2011, as you will hear from the presentations of the Treasurer and the Auditors, was very successful from the financial side due mostly to a good Hall Rental year (thanks to Irene and Gunter) and the help from the Houston Saengerbund in sharing the costs of maintaining this building by renting the upper floor from us and sharing our facilities for rehearsals and functions.

This allowed us to undertake some major repairs to our A/C system and also cover some equipment repairs in the bar. Horst completed a renovation of our sanitary facilities and all around we survived a hot summer season without customers complaints during our Hall Rentals.

The funds earned with these rentals are the main contributor to maintaining our building alive and fund our social club fund raising functions of which only four produced comparable revenues, the Karneval, the Wurstfest, the Hamburg Night, and the Oktoberfest. The rest are a break even activity or some are loses. These activities were successful because they are the consequence of the personal effort and dedication of a few people that donate their time to make things happen. You know who they are, I do not need to name anybody.

Our singing activities during 2011 went back to the normal levels with our presentations at the Bellville Festival and the Texas Saengerbund annual Saengerfest, a good number of our members participated in the HSB trip to Germany and at the end of the year we had our traditional presentations during the Christmas Season. The Choir has improved in quality with the addition of new members and our joint chorale activities with the HSB. This joint effort was very important for our excellent presentations at the Texas Saengerfest. It is important for us to show that we can deliver quality performances to be able to gain recognition as the Choir to invite for new events in the future.

To conclude: We want to extend our congratulations to Joachim Modlich for becoming an Honorary Member of our Club as a recognition for all the years of dedication and cooperation as the President of the Karnevalverein and also the Liederkrantz, as we voted in our last membership meeting. We also want to recognize at this time the effort of numerous years that our member Dominick Molinaro has shown in leading the decoration of the hall for all our functions. (Honorary Member pin and card delivered)

Thanks,

Ewald Burckhardt  
President

**Coming Events 2012**

Feb 11 - 7:11 PM	Mardi Gras Masquerade Ball	Mar 3 - German Heritage Society, Yoakum, TX
Mar 10 - 7:00 PM	Country Western Dance	Mar 24 - 8:00 AM Garage Sale
Apr 29 - 10:00 AM	Fruehlingsfest in Bellville	May 5-6 Saengerfest in San Antonio, TX
Jun 2 - 9:00 AM	Work Day at the LK Hall	Jun 16 - 7:00 PM Wurstfest
Jul 15 - 3:00 PM	Kaffee/Bier/Wein Klatsch	Sep 11 - 7:00 PM Potluck Dinner Choir Singing
Sep 22 - 4:00 PM	Oktoberfest at the LK Hall	Nov 1 - 3:00 PM Turkey Dinner
Dec 9 - 3:00 PM	Christmas Party	

**SUPPORT YOUR CLUB BY YOUR PARTICIPATION AND VOLUNTEERING  
THE LIEDERKRANZ NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT**

**Membership Dues**

Houston Liederkrantz 2012 Dues are \$35/person and are due now. Any prospective new member needs to pay a \$5 initiation fee. New members will be added by vote at each quarterly membership meeting. Please pay dues by check (your cancelled check is your receipt) to the cashier, Elisabeth Thornton

**Houston Saengerbund Trip to Germany**

About 40 singers of the Houston Saengerbund, many also members of the Liederkrantz went on a German tour from Sep 22 - Oct 6 , 2011. They had four performances on their trip, both mixed, women's and men's choirs and showed off their new choir uniforms. It was a memorable trip except for a public bus transportation accident. We are happy that no one was seriously injured and all are back singing in this new season. Jackie Gibson is working on a digital album which will be available in the near future.

**KAFFEE/WEIN/BIER KLATSCH IN JANUARY 2012**

Good fellowship -- more good cakes and other goodies than could be eaten --- a cake bake off to the envy of master bakers -- background music by Frank von Possel (vocal-guitar) and Dolores Bauman (accordion) joined by two members of the Bay Area Accordion Club provided an afternoon of great enjoyment for all. Thanks go out to all participants!!

**Houston Liederkrantz and Houston Saengerbund Choir Cooperation**

Members of each/both club(s) began the 2012 choir joint singing season with directors Vicky Hemme and HSB Ladies' Choir, Bill Stewart and HSB Men's Choir and John Scarcella with HLK mixed Choir. The directors request that all singers be punctual to choir practice and to all our upcoming performances.

**Masquerade Ball and Country Western Dance at the Liederkrantz Hall**

Details of these two upcoming fun filled evenings of entertainment are explained on the two flyers attached. Wear your best costume for Karneval and go Western for the Country Western Dance.

**Texas German Society State Convention Yoakum , Texas March 3, 2012**

This convention will be held at the Yoakum Community Center, 105 Hack St in Yoakum and the program begins at 8:00 AM with registration. The Houston Liederkrantz/Saengerbund choirs will perform at 1:30 and the Shanty Chor will sing at 2:30. Enjoy food, exhibits, presentations, entertainment.

**Garage Sale**

It is time again to clean out the garages and attics. Bring the good clothes you no longer wear, books you've read, household goods, toys, electronics and appliances (that work), garden tools, you name it -- bring it. Your castoff is someone's treasure !!!!! Volunteer to help us on March 24 to raise some money.