

# TRICENTENNIAL FOUNDATION

8628 Orion Ave., Los Angeles/North Hills, CA 91343 (818) 893-0995

## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

For Immediate Release

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### **HANS EBERHARD NAMED REAGAN ASSOCIATE**

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation in Simi Valley, California, has awarded Hans W. Eberhard, Chairman of the Tricentennial Foundation (“a national charitable and educational trust”), the designation of Reagan Associate. It was given during this Reagan Centennial year in recognition of Mr. Eberhard’s important role as a key organizer in the German American community for the election of Ronald Reagan to the presidency in both 1980 and 1984. This began in 1979 when then-California Governor Reagan named Mr. Eberhard as chairman of German Americans for Reagan. During 1983/84, the German American Tricentennial year celebration, which commemorated 300 years of German immigration to America, was authorized by Congress and signed by President Reagan. Mr. Eberhard was appointed as California’s state commissioner in the U. S. Presidential Commission for the German American Tricentennial in Washington DC. In 1986, he initiated historic legislation to establish a national German American Day, now the White House proclaims this celebration each year, which was also passed by Congress and signed into public law 100-104 by President Reagan. In 1987–1989, he served as State Chairman, California Republican Heritage Groups Council, a statewide organization of ethnic community leaders. During 1988 (an election year), he was a member of the California delegation at the National Republican Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana, and a California delegate to the prestigious presidential Electoral College.

Mr. Eberhard came to the United States in 1949 and developed an early interest in international relations and foreign trade, particularly trade between Germany and the Western United States. He joined the German American Business Association (GABA) in 1954 (which was established in Los Angeles in 1932) and became its presiding officer in 1961. From 1957 to 1979 he organized and managed the largest German consumer product show on the U.S. west coast with 1.4 million visitors in 17 days, for 23 consecutive years.

He was a member of the City of Los Angeles Mayor’s Council of Foreign Visitors; he received the City’s Human Relations Award; and, he also served as German language proficiency examiner for the Los Angeles Police Department. He has written an important book, entitled, “THE HISTORY OF THE GERMAN AMERICANS IN EARLY LOS ANGELES”. It describes the significant role played in helping to build America by German Americans in the early growth and development of Southern California. The book is available at the L.A. County library, or by contacting the Tricentennial Foundation, (818) 893-0995. Mr. Eberhard has received numerous citations and awards from State and local governmental agencies. For his distinguished contributions to the advancement of German American relations, the President of Federal Republic of Germany has conferred on him the rare honor of twice awarding him that nation’s Order of Merit, the second award being the Officers Cross.

Mr. Eberhard resides with his family in Los Angeles/ North Hills, California. He may be contacted at: (818) 893 – 0995 or by e-mail: [tricen@earthlink.net](mailto:tricen@earthlink.net)

Date: May 20, 2011