

German Texan Heritage Society

NEWSLETTER



VOLUME V

NUMBER 2

SUMMER, 1983

Price: \$2.50 (members)
\$3.00 (non-members)

NEWSLETTER

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Correspondence, contributions, and manuscripts for publication should be sent to the editor-in-chief or to one of the associate editors; subscriptions to the membership editor. For subscription rates, see special membership form in the back of this issue. NEWSLETTER is published three times annually, in the spring, summer and fall. It is written, compiled edited and published by volunteers.

...SEE BACK COVER FOR CONTINUATION OF EDITORIAL BOARD AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS....

REGISTRATION FORM....GTHS MEETING GALVESTON

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY 1983 Meeting

September 9-11, 1983 Galveston

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE: August 12, 1983 *

TOTAL COST before August 12 - \$40.00 After Aug. 12 - \$45.00
includes: Saturday luncheon, Evening at the Gartenverein, Sunday brunch buffett,
Coffee breaks, general registration(use of meeting rooms,etc.)

Make check payable to: GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

Mail this registration form to: Ms. Anna Thompson, 1983 GTHS Registrar
2116 Lynnbrook Drive
Austin, Texas 78748

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____ Zip Code _____ Telephone number _____

Number attending: _____ @ \$40.00 per person(after August 12, @ \$45.00 per person)

Total amount enclosed: _____
x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x

PLEASE NOTE: There are three optional activities connected with the meeting. If you wish
to participate in any or all of them, please enclose the fee for each with
the above registration.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITES

HOUSE TOUR Cost: \$5.00 Yes _____ No _____ If yes, how many _____?

Clarke/Jockusch House
Joseph Ricke Cottage
Sonnenfeld House
St. Joseph Church

This is 2-4pm Saturday(see schedule)

....OR....

HARBOR TOUR Cost: \$5.00 Yes _____ NO _____ If yes, how many _____?

This is from 2-4 p.m. Saturday(See schedule)

FRIDAY NIGHT SHRIMP BOILCost: \$12.00 per person Yes _____ No _____ If yes, how many _____?

6:30-9:00 pm
Galveston Boat Club

"Meet the Authors - Autograph Party"

TOTAL AMOUNT INCLUDED FOR OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES _____

NOTE ABOUT REGISTRATION IN HOTEL

Please reserve your room right away - the
GTHS has a block of only 100 rooms, after
they are booked, the rooms are then on a
first come, first serve basis.

ATTENTION: Reservation Department



Arrival: SEPT. 9, 1983

Departure: SEPT. 11, 1983

* Cut Off Date: AUGUST 9, 1983

File No.: 639

Group Name: German-Texas Heritage Society

RATES

Single: \$50
Double: \$50
TRIPLE/QUAD: \$60

Name _____

Company Name _____

Home Mailing Address _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Area Code _____ Phone Number _____

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

Other persons sharing accommodations _____

Credit Card _____ AX _____ DC _____ MC _____ VS _____ Expiration Date _____

Credit Card Number _____ or Check No. of Check Enclosed _____

In order to confirm your reservation we require a deposit for your first night's room and tax. Please complete
this card and return it with your check or credit card information. If your plans change and you must cancel
this reservation, please notify us 72 hours in advance to avoid any charge.

ALL ROOMS ARE SUBJECT TO STATE AND LOCAL TAXES. (10%)

We hold room block up until cut off date, or until room block is filled. Beyond that date room reservations are
on a space available basis.

CHECK OUT TIME IS 12 NOON: ROOMS MAY NOT BE READY FOR YOUR OCCUPANCY UNTIL 3 P.M.

HOTEL
RESERVATION
DEADLINE
AUGUST 9

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

Summer, 1983

Volume V

Number 2

INSIDE FRONT AND BACK COVERS - EDITORIAL BOARD, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 70 - Table-of-Contents
- 71 - Final Schedule - GTHS Meeting, Galveston, Sept. 9-11, 1983
- 72 - 75 GALVESTON
- 76 - Editorial Page: Announcing re-print of Roemer's Texas (Mary El-Beheri)
- 77 - 80 Membership News (Dona Reeves)
- 81 - Hubertus Strughold: Father of Space Medicine honored by West German government
- 82 - Claus Gröper Visits us (Daphne Garrett)
- 83 - 84 Book Review: Im Winter Brach Der Regenbogen..... (Inge McCoy)
- 85 - Ambassador visits San Antonio; Texas Tech dancers in Germany
- 86 - Rev. Joseph Reisdorff, Colonizer (Bobby Weaver)
- 87 - Travel Group News (Jackie Hastay)
- 88 - Salute to Alvina Schutze Bayer (Jo Peebles Adams)
- 89 - 90 Death of a Tombstone (Cris Burton, student, Shreiner College)
- 91 - History of Coshatte Hall; Luther Stamp
- 92 - 93 Grassroots Commentaries (Glen Lich)
- 94 - Sesquicentennial German-Texan Exhibit (Goethe Institute, Houston)
- 95 - Hans George Mangold and the Zither (S.A. Recorder, Suzanne Diehl)
- 96 - Prominent German Immigrants in North America (Gilbert J. Jordan)
- 97 - Freud in Cowboystiefeln; Wissen Sie, das.....
- 98 - 99 Book Review: Historic Images of Boerne, Texas (Hanna Lewis)
- 100 - Stammväter der Amerikaner; Bush in Krefeld; Am Skat-Tisch
- 101 - 104 Shipboard Diary of Pastor John Kilian of the Texas Wendish Germans (Joe Wilson)
- 105 - Doctoral Dissertations in German-American Studies
- 106 - Poem: Unter Texanischer Sonne (Konrad Nies)
- 107 - Decorative Painting in Texas: 1840's-1940's and San Saba County History (new books)
- 108 - 113 German Roots (Karen L. Daniel)
- 114 - 131 GERMAN-TEXANS' GENEALOGY SECTION (Theresa Gold)
Galveston Program; Computer genealogy; From our members; Reunions; Schawe Family; Christian Ebers Family; Early Texas Birth Records; Reinhart/Graf Family; Kerr County Cemetery Project; German archives; Soundex System; Census Microfilm rental; Atlas for German Genealogy; First Settlers in the Republic of Texas
- 132 - 133 German Settlers Built St. Joseph's Church in San Antonio (William V. Dielmann)
- 134 - Dielmann receives award; Saterländisch: Die isolierte Sprache
- 135 - 148 SPECIAL SECTION: PART II (Jeanne R. Willson, translator)
With the Packet Ship to Texas in 1853. The Travel Report of Christiane Haun Edited and with an introduction by Rosemarie Pohl-Weber
- 149 - 150 Membership Form

FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

Galvez (marriott) Hotel

Galveston Texas

September 9-11
1983

-71-

FINAL SCHEDULEFRIDAY, Sept. 9.

6:00-9:00 p.m. - Registration, Hotel Lobby

6:30-9:00 p.m. - SHRIMP BOIL - Galveston Boat Club.. "Meet the Authors - Autograph Party" All GTHS member-authors are invited to talk about their publication and to sell it.

5:30 - 7:30 - GTHS BOARD MEETING (Galvez)

SATURDAY, Sept. 10.

8:00 a.m. - Registration, Kaffeeklatsch

8:45-9:00 a.m. - Greetings by Mayor and the Galveston Historical Director - other guests and dignitaries... Willkommen in Galveston!

9:00-12:00 - PRESENTATIONS -

9-9:20 - "An Overview of Galveston History, Folklore, Ethnic Variety"
Bob Nesbitt, Galveston Wharves9:30-9:50 - Dolls, Dolls, Dolls'.
Doll House Museum Director
Marge Trentham.10-10:20 - "Im Winter brach der Regenbogen:
der deutsche Treck nach Texas"
Klaus Gröper, Kleinhöhenrein, W. Germany

10:20-10:40... COFFEE BREAK

10:45-11:05- German-Texan Women: A Project
Inge McCoy and Dona Reeves.11:15-11:35 - Immigration from Baden-Württemberg to Galveston
Wolfgang Fix, Langenarten, W. Germany11:45-12:05 - Care and Conservation of Photographs
Van Edwards, Rosenberg Library

12:15 - 1:30 --- LUNCHEON AT GALVEZ

Entertainment: String Quartet playing and singing German Lieder.Presentation: The G.T.H.S.: Five Years...
In honor of Patron-Charter members and all Charter members, as well as service awards.
Mary M. El-Beheri, President.2:00-4:00 Two Tours --- Mary Faye Barnes

1. Home Tour (3 homes/ a church) (\$5.00)
2. Harbour Tour - limit: 64 people
Galveston Wharve Authority
Bob Nesbitt (\$5.00)
(See registration form)

SATURDAY, Sept. 10 (continued)

2-4 pm - Genealogy Workshop

Rosenberg Library, sponsored by the library staff, the head librarian, John Hyatt, and the Goethe Institute, Houston.
Leader: Ella Sheffield, Texas City

4-6pm... FREE TIME TO ENJOY GALVESTON

1. The Beach - free
2. Train Museum on Strand (\$3.50)
3. Doll House Museum (\$2.50)
4. Strand Area walking - free
5. Elissa Tour(ship) (\$2.50)
6. Opera House tour (\$2.50)
7. Ashton Villa (\$2.50)

6:15-7:45 - Cocktail Buffet Reception

Rosenberg Library. Compliments of the Goethe Institute, Houston.
Viewing of the exhibit: "Lone Star And Eagle" and the film: Galveston: The Gilded Age of the Golden Isle.

8-11 pm - Reception and Dance

Galveston Gartenverein
Doug Koeppe Musicians, compliments of the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany.HOSTS: West German Consulate, Houston;
Goethe Institute, Houston; Galveston Historical FoundationRefreshments: Appetizers, wine, beer, cash barSUNDAY, September 11.8:30-11:30 am - Ecumenical Church Service in German. St. Joseph's Catholic Church.
Rev. Walter Dube, Pastor, Peace Lutheran Church, Texas City - presiding.

10:30-12:00 - PRESENTATIONS

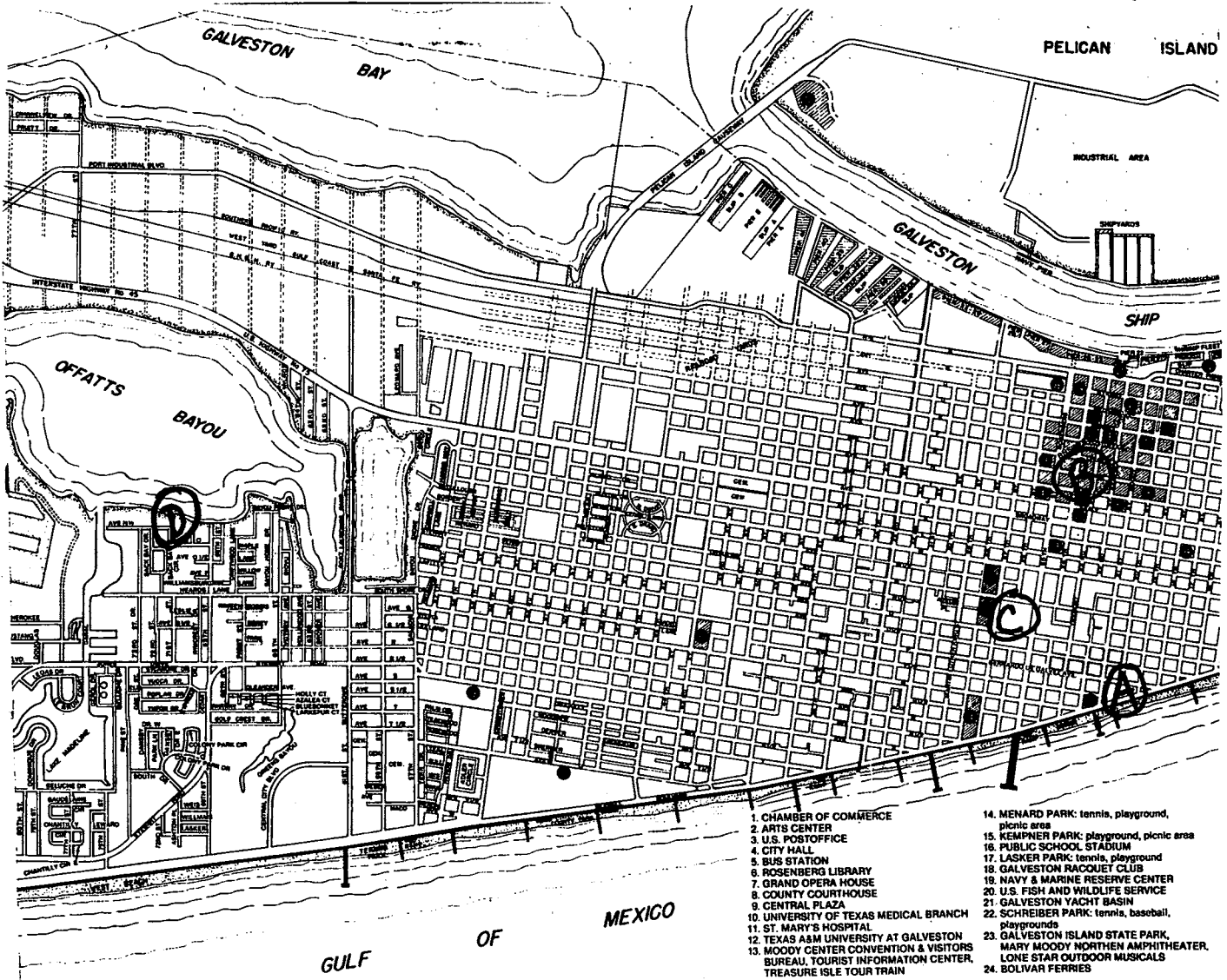
10:30-10:50 - Evangeline Whorton, member Texas Historical Commission.11-11:2- - Daphne Garrett - The Stephen F. Austin Colony and Germans in the Texas War of Independence. Giddings Deutsche Volksblatt (member projects)11:30-11:50 - Randy Kirk and Meredith McClain, Texas Tech German Folk Dancers; A Slide Show. (member projects)

12-12:15 - Adjournment

BULLETIN BOARD

LOST AND FOUND: F A M I L I E S

(Something new at our meeting) Look for it!



(B) ROSENBERG LIBRARY (C) GARTENVEREIN
(A) GALVEZ HOTEL (D) GALVESTON BOAT CLUB
 7002 O - 1/2 MOODS LANE

ABOVE YOU WILL NOTE THE PLACES WHERE THE MAJOR MEETINGS WILL BE HELD IN GALVESTON.

A COMPLETE SET OF MAPS WITH EXACT STREET NUMBERS, AS WELL AS A PACKET CONTAINING ALL SORTS OF INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE GALVESTON CONVENTION AND VISITOR'S BUREAU.

PLEASE REFER BACK TO THE LAST TWO ISSUES OF THE NEWSLETTER FOR INFORMATION ABOUT GALVESTON: NEWSLETTER...Vol. IV, Nr. 3, Fall, 1982, pp. 25-28.
 ...Vol. 5, Nr. 1, Spring, 1983, pp. 3-5.

GALLERIES

Galveston Arts Center on The Strand,
 2127 Strand
 Richard's Gallery, 2607 Broadway
 Studio 4, 1407 Broadway

STRAND AUDIO TOUR

Rent a portable tape player and enjoy a forty minute walking, audio tour of The Strand National Historic Landmark District. Available from the Strand Visitors Center, 2014 Strand, 7 days a week from 10:00-4:00 pm.

SURFING

Galveston beach is well known to surfers. A number of state and Gulf Coast surfing championships are held here. Exclusive surfing areas and "no surfing" areas are designated. Boards

ON YOUR OWN GALVESTON

Ride the "Galveston Flyer" Trolley and tour HISTORICAL GALVESTON in comfort. The trolley will pick up riders Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the Holiday Inn each day at 9:45 a.m., 10:45 a.m., and 11:45 a.m. for an hour tour. Purchase your tickets for \$3:00/person at the registration desk, lobby, Learning Center.

Visit the historic 1877 steel hulled sailing ship — ELISSA. View an interesting 20 minute film about the restoration process at the Visitors Center, 2016 Strand. The Elissa is a short distance from the Visitors Center. A self guided tour, plan on 1½ to 2 hours, \$3.50/person, 10:00 a.m. — 5 p.m.

Walk the HISTORIC STRAND with a self guided tape recording. Go to the Visitors Center, 2016 Strand, plan on an hour or so, \$2.00/single, \$3:00/double.

ARTS CENTER GALLERY, 22nd & Strand, has on display "Precious Junk Show," Monday—Saturday 10:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m., Sunday 1:00 — 5 p.m.

Galveston Convention & Visitors Bureau

2106 Seawall Boulevard
Galveston, Texas 77550
(713) 763-4314

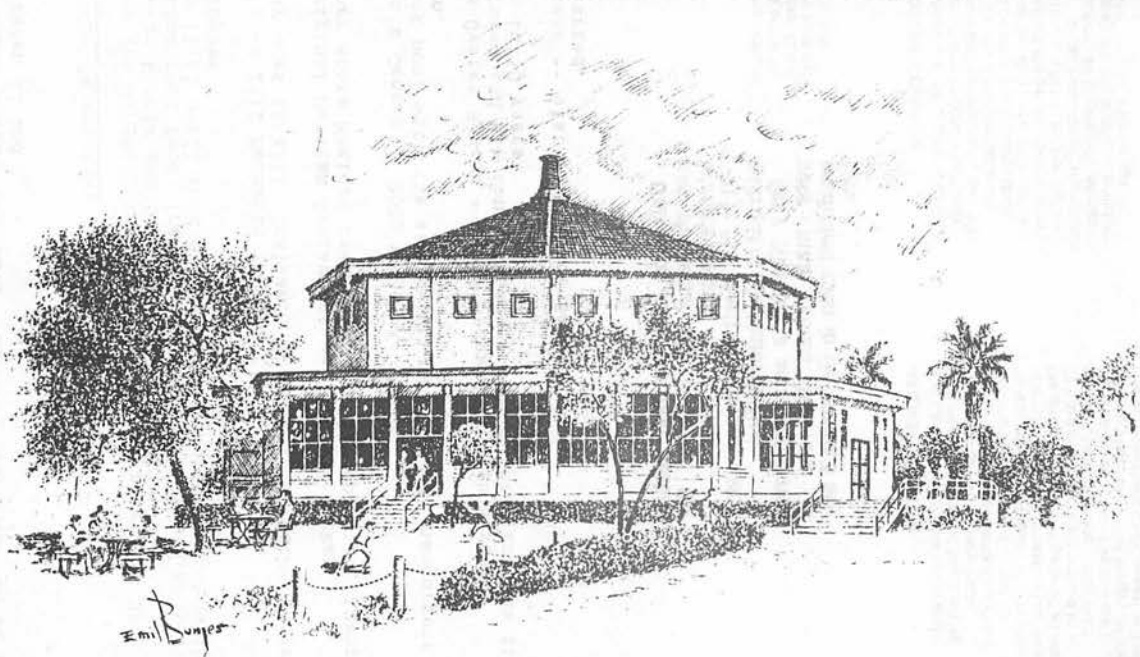


Operated by Galveston's
Park Board of Trustees

Dana Denton
Assistant Director

GALVESTON FIRSTS . . . for TEXAS!

- 1841 Oldest military company chartered now the Galveston Artillery Club.
- 1842 Oldest newspaper established, "Galveston Daily News". (IN GERMAN)
- 1845 First Chamber of Commerce established.
- 1847 First convent established — Ursuline Convent.
- 1854 First Terminal established — the Galveston Wharves Company.
- 1854 First telegraph organized.
- 1856 First gas lights appeared.
- 1865 First steamship line organized (Mallory Line).
- 1868 Oldest hospital founded — St. Mary's Infirmary (now St. Mary's Hospital).
- 1867 Oldest drugstore established.
- 1878 First flour mill organized — Texas Star Flour Mill.
- 1878 First telephone operated.
- 1880 First orphanage founded — Galveston Orphans Home.
- 1888 First electric lights burned.
- 1891 First medical college established.
- 1894 First brewery established — now Falstaff Brewing Corporation.
- 1895 First Ford agency established — now Bob Pagan Ford.
- 1898 First golf course and country club.
- 1900 Rosenberg Monument — largest monument to Texas Heroes.



GARTEN VEREIN
Galveston, 1876.

Restaurants

GALVESTON

Strand Area

The Wentletrap -- 23rd and Strand
 Located in the restored League Building. Beautiful surroundings; formal, expensive; delicious seafood and other delicacies

Cafe Torriffie -- 22nd and Strand
 Located in restored Mensing Brothers Building. Nice atmosphere. Varied menu. Moderate to expensive. Pleasant watering hole.

La King's Confectionery -- 2323 Strand
 Located in restored J. F. Smith and Brothers Building. Inexpensive sandwiches, fountain Cokes, ice cream sodas, and candy made on the spot.

Strand Emporium -- 2112 Strand
 Located in restored Mallory Building. Inexpensive sandwiches and unusual wines, cheeses, etc.

Pier 19 -- 19th and Water (Avenue A)
 Informal, inexpensive, and delicious seafood. Try sitting upstairs for a good view of the "Mosquito Fleet."

The Strand Restaurant -- 19th and Strand
 Greek sandwiches, varied inexpensive food.

Seawall

Gaido's
 The same family has operated this restaurant for over sixty years. Good seafood; expensive; no reservations.

Russo's Italian Restaurant -- 1228 Seawall
 Range of Italian dishes; moderate.

Galvez -- 21st and Seawall
 Built in 1912; restored in 1980. Beautiful surroundings. Good lunchtime buffet; pleasant lounge. Expensive.

Happy Buddha -- 61st and Seawall
 Chinese food. Moderate.

Captain's Galley -- 53rd and Seawall
 Seafood and good desserts; moderate to expensive.

Balinese Room -- 21st and Seawall (over the Gulf)
 Old Maceo gambling mecca; live entertainment; dancing; varied menu; expensive.

Elsewhere in Galveston

Clary's -- 8509 Teichman Road across from the Galveston News Building
 Clary used to work for Gaido's. Delicious seafood; expensive.

Shrimp and Stuff
 39th and O
 69th and Stewart Road
 Seafood; moderate.

Rusty's
 801 Postoffice
 Vegetarian sandwiches; delicious salad bar; good desserts; homemade bread. Moderate. Located near UTHB, so it is crowded between 12 and 1.

Galveston Experiences

Squeeze Inn -- 3915 Winnie (Rear) In the alley off 39th between Winnie and Ball (Avenues G and H)
 Genuine soul food; inexpensive and good. Lunch only served from 11:45 until food runs out. A favorite with courthouse employees.

Candy's -- 2112 Mechanic (Avenue C)
 Candy does it all! Italian. A favorite of Kathy Whitmire.

The Original Mexican Restaurant -- 14th and Market
 Corner store Mexican restaurant; family operated; inexpensive.

Seamen's Center -- 2002 Mechanic
 Shoot pool with the seamen and eat the best hamburgers in town.

John's Oyster Resort -- Gulf Freeway at 77th Street
 Restored and air conditioned -- even painted for the first time in 50 years.

Seabreeze -- 61st and Offats Bayou
 Uncharted.

Galveston historian Bob Nesbitt has published his book on the island's history.

It is full of wit and humor, along with lots of good information.

Only Nesbitt, a self-proclaimed poor man, could list the 15 wealthiest men in Galveston's history.

ROSENBERG LIBRARY

823 Tremont. Extensive collections of rare books, documents and artifacts relating to early Texas history. Open Monday through Thursday 9 to 9. Friday and Saturday, 9 to 6. Closed Sunday.

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

2206 Avenue K. St. Joseph's Church, a simple frame structure with rich Victorian Gothic interior, is over 100 years old. Built by German immigrants in 1859. The massive door, hand-carved altars and coffered ceilings reflect the skilled hands of its parishioners. Leased by the Galveston Historical Foundation, the church will become an Ecumenical Museum to display the city's religious history. Call GHF for tour information 765-7834.

RAILROAD MUSEUM

The Center for Transportation and Commerce, or Railroad Museum, is located at Shearn Moody Plaza, Galveston's former Santa Fe railroad depot on The Strand. Explore 35 railway cars, from steam locomotives to an opulent 1929 private railcar. See the amazing "people's gallery" where 39 life-size travelers are poised in a moment from 1932 and enjoy the 5 imaginative sound and light shows leading you through the history of the island. Rosenberg (25th Street) at The Strand. Open daily from 10:00-5:00 pm. Saturdays until 6:00 pm.



| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Schedules to Airport</p> <p>8:00 AM</p> <p>7:30 AM</p> <p>9:00 AM</p> <p>10:30 AM</p> <p>12:00 Noon</p> <p>12:30 PM</p> <p>1:30 PM</p> <p>3:00 PM</p> <p>4:30 PM</p> <p>6:00 PM</p> <p>7:30 PM</p> <p>9:00 PM</p> | <p>Schedules from Airport</p> <p>7:30 AM</p> <p>9:00 AM</p> <p>10:30 AM</p> <p>12:00 Noon</p> <p>1:30 PM</p> <p>3:00 PM</p> <p>4:30 PM</p> <p>6:00 PM</p> <p>7:30 PM</p> <p>9:00 PM</p> <p>10:30 PM</p> <p>*11:15 PM</p> <p>*1:15 AM</p> |
|--|--|

*Served by Intercontinental Schedule

TO THE HOUSTON HOBBY AIRPORT

Reservations are necessary for all passengers going to the Houston Hobby Airport on schedule trips, these reservations should be made an hour prior to the scheduled departure time.

For reservations call:

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| Galveston | 765-5288 |
| Texas City/Le Marque | 765-5288 |
| NASA Area/Pasadena | 223-2266 |

Beaches

Galveston Island has 32 miles of beautiful beaches. Municipally maintained beaches are recognized as "the cleanest on the Texas Gulf Coast." They are also among the safest. The Galveston County Sheriff's Dept. Beach Patrol posts lifeguards in designated areas and provides comprehensive safety and rescue services. March 15th-September 15th vehicular traffic on beaches is restricted to posted parking areas. See the map on the opposite side of this brochure for location of free and pay parking areas. Varying degrees of amenities such as restrooms, concessions and other facilities are available where fees are charged for parking.

R. A. APFFEL PARK

Seawall & Boddecker Drive (extreme East end of island). Wide, sandy beach, boat launching, jetty and surf fishing, bait camps and restaurants. A new 11,000 square foot recreation center with concessions, gift shop, bath house and restroom facilities makes this family recreation area even more enjoyable.

POINT BOLIVAR LIGHTHOUSE

Take the free ferry to Bolivar Peninsula and drive approximately 1 mile for a view of the old Bolivar Lighthouse. Built in 1872, it's one of a very few left intact.

PORT OF GALVESTON

9th to 41st Streets at Water St., Galveston is known as America's "Port of Quickest Dispatch" and offers a spectacular view of ships from around the world. No major port in the U.S. provides faster access to open sea.

SEAWALL

Running parallel to Galveston Beach and the Gulf of Mexico is the Island's world-famous seawall. Stretching over 10 miles and rising 17 feet above mean low tide, the seawall was built to protect the island from hurricanes. Seawall Blvd. is lined with hotels, motels, restaurants, cafes, gift shops and attractions.

History is integral part of Galveston's charm

GALVESTON — Few places can boast of as much history contained in as small an area as Galveston Island, a sandbar only one and a half miles wide and 32 miles long.

The island was once a haven for Spanish explorers, a hunting ground for savage indians, and a hide-away for colorful pirates. Its natural harbor became known to adventurous settlers.

From its earliest day, through settlement, The Battle of Galveston during the Civil War, the devastating 1900 storm and reconstruction, Galveston's past is alive today for island guests to enjoy.

Ashton Villa, a three-story red brick, Italianate mansion, was built before the Civil War, and is now listed as one of the nation's major historic treasures. Constructed in 1859 by island pioneer James M. Brown, the house has been restored to its original antebellum elegance by the Galveston Historical Foundation. A well-documented presentation on the 1900 storm is included in the Ashton Villa tour.

Annual special events include morning teas, the July 4th Ice Cream Crank-Off, the Glow of Christmas, old-fashioned summer-time band concerts and more.

Located at 2328 Broadway, Ashton Villa is open daily. Call 762-3933 for information and group reservations.

The Strand, once known

as the "Wall Street of the Southwest" contains one of the finest examples of 19th century commercial buildings. This seven-block area has been designated as a National Historic Landmark District and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Today, The Strand District is restored and packed full of unique shops, gourmet restaurants, theater, art and more.

Visitors should begin a Strand tour by stopping by The Strand Visitors Center, 2016 Strand. Audio walking tours of this historic area are available seven days a week. For information call the Galveston Historical Foundation at 765-7834.

Bishop's Palace, opened in 1893, has been designated as one of the 100 outstanding buildings in the country. Architectural experts point out that the Biltmore House in Asheville, N.C. is the only comparable structure of Victorian design in the United States.

Building materials for the mansion came from all over the world. The exterior is of gray sandstone with pink and blue granite in mosaic work. The interior has a handcrafted staircase, jeweled glass windows and several award winning fireplace mantels. The Bishop's Palace, at 1402 Broadway, is open for tours daily May through September. Group tours by appointment. For information call 762-2475.

The 1894 Grand Opera

House, 2020 Postoffice, was originally opened to include an adjoining hotel. During its era "The Grand" offered outstanding entertainment in drama, dance, opera and music. Renowned entertainers such as Sara Bernhardt, Anna Pavlova and the John Philip Sousa Band once performed at this Victorian showplace.

"The Grand" has been acquired by Galveston Arts! and is undergoing a complete restoration. Today performances by national artists, musicians and touring companies are regularly scheduled at the facility. For tour information and show schedules call 763-2403.

Greek Revival, Queen Anne, Moorish, Gothic, wood, brick, tiled...these and many other terms can be used to describe Galveston's variety of architecture.

Neighborhoods across the island hold a marvelous assortment of 19th century homes.

As people settled, houses were designed to fit the owner's life style, personality and nationality. Today, one of the best collections of historic homes still in use in Galveston's East End Historical District.

The East End Historical District has been designated as a National Historic Landmark. This once bleak, decaying area is now a progressive, thriving neighborhood through restoration efforts of its residents.

The East End Historical District covers approximately 40 blocks, stretching from Broadway to Market, and 19th to 11th Streets.

Bye-Lo Baby Dolls, beautifully detailed French and German dolls, ethnic and rag dolls are all on exhibit. Special display rooms feature nursery, circus and train station displays. For information call 762-7289.

The Galveston Daily News

Thursday Morning, May 26, 1983

HISTORIC STRUCTURES

There are over 500 structures in Galveston that have historic significance and many are marked as such by the Texas Historical Commission medallion. The Galveston Historical Foundation can provide complete information on historical buildings and residences. Visit the Strand Visitors Center for detailed brochures and maps of historic Galveston.

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY
publishes Roemer's Texas

As a celebration of our fifth year, as a salute to the 150th year of Texas statehood, and as a contribution to the German-Texan heritage, we, the members of the German-Texan Heritage Society are publishing a re-print of the English translation of Roemer's Texas. It was translated in 1935 by Oswald Mueller, who first published it. It was re-printed in 1967 by the Texian Press.

Our edition will be ready for sale at the Galveston meeting on Sept. 9. It has several new features: 1) a complete index by Irma Goeth Guenther, author and GTHS Board member; 2) a new historical introduction with acknowledgements by Dr. Dona Reeves, Southwest Texas State University; and 3) a modern geological appraisal by Dr. O. T. Hayward, Department of Geology, Baylor University.

The printer is Texian Press, Waco, Texas. We have ordered 1500 copies.

The book includes the original prefaces and the map(14" by 16").

Copies may be ordered, but the book may be purchased at the Galveston meeting.

GTHS ORDER FORM...Roemer's Texas

_____ number of copies @ \$15.95 per copy. Texas residents must add 80¢ for state tax
Total for book(s) _____
Total for Tax _____
\$2.00 per book for shipping and handling.
Total.... _____
Amount enclosed _____

Make check to: German-Texan Heritage Society.

Return this order to:
Dona Reeves
Department of Modern Languages
Southwest Texas State University
San Marcos, Texas 78666

all orders must be accompanied by the payment.

SPECIAL THANKS TO Daphne Garrett

Who dreamed up this project to re-print Roemer's Texas? Who made all the arrangements, contacted the printer, negotiated and convinced us all? Who made us see that this is not only a masterpiece for historians, but also the handbook for Texas geologists? (Having a geologist husband helps) All of the above questions may be answered: Daphne Garrett. You must know that she joined us with the meeting in Round Top and has added new zest, imagination and know-how to our organization. She is an officer in the Wendish Society and spends hours working at their museum. But she is a German-texan! Daphne is on our board as THE publicity chair. She travels all over Texas making pictures for us. She sends out all of the news releases for our meetings and for other special occasions, such as the Ambassador's visit. When you see Daphne at the meeting in Galveston, don't forget to thank her for all she is doing for us. We must also remember that behind this great woman is a supportive man...Thanks to Bob, too!!

Roemer's Texas

Roemer's Texas has long been considered one of the best narrative accounts of life in early Texas. Dr. Ferdinand Roemer made a trip to Texas in 1845. He spent two years studying the climate, soil, rivers, geology and people, traveling from Galveston Island to Torrey's Trading Post near the present site of Waco. He was an astute observer and faithfully recorded all that he saw.

The Indians of Texas were of great interest to Dr. Roemer and he made many trips to visit their camps and study their way of life. Being from Germany he was interested in German immigration to Texas and became a close friend of Baron O. von Meusebach. Roemer spent much time in the settlements and towns recording the day-to-day life of the citizens in this new land.

His first and perhaps greatest interest was geology and his extensive notes are of great interest, describing the various formations that he encountered.

Roemer returned to Germany in 1847 and put his notes and travel log into book form. It was published in German in Bonn in 1849. No English translation was published until 1935 when Mr. Oswald Mueller of Houston, Texas translated and published *Roemer's Texas*.

This volume has long been out of print and extremely hard to find. Written in a readable narrative style the book is an important addition to any Texas collection.

From
the
1967
edition
↳

MARY
EL-BEHERI

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- DONA REEVES

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Many, many thanks to this long list of supporters. These are the people who not only allow us to maintain a \$3.00 student membership fee, but also allow us to undertake our reprint program. We all owe them much!

* * * * *

Mrs. Flo. Walker MOCK, Kendalia, has been researching the early settlers of that community for over twenty years. Many of these settlers came, of course, from Germany. She is another of our many retired school teacher librarians.

We receive news from A. W. WIED, Fayetteville, of a new German radio program from LaGrange, KVLG, at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday. If members have heritage material for these broadcasts, they should address it to German Radio Program, Fayetteville, TX 78940, or call (409) 249-3681. This is good news for all of us interested in preserving the German language.

- DONA REEVES

Judith Chott MARROW, El Campo, a graduate student at U of Houston-Victoria, is conducting research on the values and acculturation experiences of the German Texans.

New Braunfels continues to be a community dedicated to its heritage and the integration of this heritage into current cultural activities. You may wish to receive the newsletter of the Greater New Braunfels Arts Council, P.O. Box 1171, New Braunfels 78130 to keep up with all the activities going on there.

A scholarship fund has been established at SWTSU to honor GTHS member Walter RICHTER who is currently deputy commissioner of agriculture for the state of Texas. Besides being a distinguished alumnus of SWT, Richter is also known to many of our members as the driving force behind the annual reunion of the Shovel Mountain & Cypress Mill German-American kinfolk.

Do you know the new volume by member Sylvia Ann GRIDER, The Wendish Texans? We will hope for a review in these pages soon. It is available from the Institute of Texan Cultures for \$8.95 plus tax and postage and handling.

Vanda and Ellis WILLIAMS, Jr., Houston, new patron members, are researching the Biegel community with respect to their family history.

F. C. BAETHE, Richmond, is interested in obtaining any information regarding the surname "Baethe." Can we help him obtain ships logs circa 1870 for vessels with the port of entry at Galveston? We can, of course, refer him to the Rosenberg library microfilms of passenger lists.

Oscar COPPLE, New Braunfels, has recently published the Koppel family tree from 1700 to date.

Garland A. PERRY, Boerne, has donated his recent book, Historic Images of Boerne, Texas, to the GTHS collection at SWTSU. It contains many interesting photographs and is available to all members through interlibrary loan. He also has a slide show and program on the Boerne area.

We are delighted to welcome historian Evangeline Loessin WHORTON, Galveston Island, to GTHS. Since 1975, she has authored seven annual booklets relating to homes in Galveston, some of them homes of our German Texan pioneers. Two events we owe her: Dickens' Evening on the Strand, and the Annual Homes Tours. Kudos!

The Walter NOSERS, Houston, have completed their research, Early German Immigrants to Bernardo, Mentz, Frelsburg--Colorado County, Texas. Also compiled by Garnett Pickett NOSER.

Louis PARGMANN, San Antonio, is researching the history of Indianola and the people that landed there.

Marie SCHUDER, Riverside, was hospitalized four times in 1982, but nothing, repeat nothing can keep her from reading her GTHS Newsletter. Thanks for your letter, Marie, and 'Gute Besserung'!

May we plug Schmitts Delicatessen in Corpus Christi? Their motto: We are the closest thing to Germany in South Texas."

Dr. Edith F. BONDI, Houston, has sent us a copy of her recent article in Academic Therapy, "Two Heads are Better than One: Peer Tutoring Makes the Difference." You may find it in the March, 1982, issue of that journal.

Roland A. EISENHAUER, San Antonio, maintains the interest of his great-grandfather in German-Texana: Viktor Bracht, author of Texas in 1848.

Dr. Charles L. LEHMANN, Dallas, (cousin of former GTHS Board member, Elizabeth Lehmann) lists as a project the Civil War history of Hobby's 8th Texas Infantry. Good researchers often do run in families.

Particular congratulations to William V. DIELMANN, Jr., for receiving the prestigious Margil Award at the Texas Catholic Conference in May, 1983. Mr. Dielmann is a truly outstanding German-Texan, active many years in the Order of the Sons of Hermann and the San Antonio Liederkrantz. He gave the keynote speech at the conference on the Germans and German Catholics of San Antonio.

Member Kathryn Adam HURST, Kerrville, is the editor of the newsletter Keys to the Past for the Kendall County Genealogical Society.

Thanks to the generosity of Honorary Consul Erich WENDL, Corpus Christi, all the high schools in that large city are receiving the GTHS Newsletter. What better supplement to a good education?

Julius E. DeVOS, Mason, has published 100 Years of the Hilda Methodist Church and Parent Organizations.

- DONA REEVES

The Newberry Library published a very attractive "Maximilian Expedition Commemorative Calendar, 1833-1983" for 1983, containing twelve illustrations from the library's Karl Bodmer collection, and bilingual text. Soon we will also be able to announce the GTHS calendar; it will be worth waiting for!

Sister M. Tharsilla FUCHS, Our Lady of the Lake University Professor of Art, Emerita, reports her interest in German needlework and lace-making as well as the prayers our parents and grandparents taught us in German.

Elizabeth LEHMANN, Brenham, and John COLE, Houston, are working on a project to get copies of early Washington County German congregation records microfilmed by the ALC Archives in Dubuque. Some originals are over 100 years old now and quickly deteriorating.

Eleanor TOALSON, Bellville, is recording memories of German home and up-bringing in the community of Comfort.

Donald A. WILDER, Brenham, wants to know more about the community of Latium and the "Latin farmers." Are any of the original settlers still in that area?

We appreciate the report written by Elke DITGES, Houston, for the Deutsche Welt-USA about our meeting in Fredericksburg.

Have you all read the article by Candace Manroe, "Germans in Texas," in the December, 1982, issue of Ultra magazine? In the same issue, "Christmas in Fredericksburg," by Carla Sternbaum Maldonado.

BOOK NOTE from Jeanne Willson

On the occasion of the anniversary of "300 years of German emigration of the USA 1983," Dietrich Reimer Verlag in Berlin is publishing a facsimile edition of the portfolio Instruction für deutsche Auswanderer nach Texas first issued by them in 1851 for the Verein zum Schutze deutscher Einwanderer in Texas when it made its last attempt to encourage settlement in Texas. The publishers had long intended to issue such an edition as their contribution to the Tricentennial, but their search for a complete copy of the Instruction remained fruitless until finally they turned to the Barker Center at the University of Texas at Austin. They have used the portfolio that is housed there as the model for this facsimile. It includes all of the text, the 1850 map of Texas, the survey map of the Fisher-Miller Grant, maps of Indianola, New Braunfels, and Friedrichsburg, and the colored panorama of New Braunfels that was sold with the original edition for an extra 15 marks. The price for the entire portfolio is expected to be about DM 65.

Dr. Günter Moltmann says in his Preface to the Instruction: "Among the emigration projects and settlement plans that brought Germans to America in the nineteenth century, the venture of the Verein zum Schutze deutscher Einwanderer in Texas, called Texas Verein or Mainzer Adelsverein for short, was perhaps the strangest and most spectacular."

Dietrich Reimer Verlag, Unter den Eichen 57
1000 Berlin 45

- DONA REEVES

OUT OF PRINT TEXAS AND SOUTHWEST BOOKS

We have a selection of books on Texas and the Southwest including Town and County histories and some German/Texan-related sources. Please send stamp for list to: Texana Books, 4810 Rockford, San Antonio, Texas 78249.

A sample of titles include:

- TEXAS IN 1848 (1931 reprint) by Victor Bracht---\$65.00
- HISTORY AND DIRECTORY OF BANDERA (ca. 1925) by C.L. Patterson---\$25.00
- A HUNDRED YEARS OF COMFORT IN TEXAS (1974) by G. E. Ransleben---\$30.00
- TALES FROM MOONSHINE VALLEY (1973) by Sam Woolford---\$6.00
- OLD MOUNTAIN CITY (1970) by Bonnie Carpenter---\$12.00
- TALL MEN WITH LONG RIFLES (1971) by J. T. DeShields---\$15.00
- THE LAST CAPTIVE (1972) by A. C. Greene---\$15.00(in print)
- TEXAS CULTURE 1836-1846 (1960) by J. W. Schmitz---\$8.00
- A TEXAS QUILTING PRIMER (1982) by Beverly Orbelo---\$5.00 (in print)
- THE FIRST 100 YEARS IN COOKE COUNTY (1976) by M. A. Smith---\$18.00

**Texas residents please add 5% sales tax.

Space doctor to be honored

By BILL J. GRAHAM
MILITARY WRITER

A San Antonian who became known as the "Father of Space Medicine" will be honored by his native Germany on his 85th birthday, June 15.

Dr. Hubertus Strughold will receive the Cross of the Order of Merit, First Class, of the Federal Republic of Germany at a special birthday party scheduled at the Brooks Air Force Base Officers' Club.

"Dr. Strughold is cited for his scientific achievement in the award, but he also is being honored for his contributions to German-American friendship and understanding," said West German Consul Rolf Saligmann, in Houston. Saligmann will present the award and medal.

In an earlier interview, Strughold said his fascination with flight began in the second decade of this century when he was studying medicine and natural sciences at the Universities of Muenster, Goettingen, Munich and Wurzburg.

"In one of my earliest experiments, I questioned how biplane pilots maintained their sense of direction. I had supposed it was literally by the 'seat of their pants,'" he explained.

To test his theory, he said he anesthetized a number of pilots. "They were flying crazy, in all directions," he recalled.

The seemingly simple experiment proved that pressure nerves were very important to a pilot and was later recognized as a breakthrough in recognizing the effects of gravity and weightlessness.

Strughold also predicted transoceanic flights, space flights to the moon and space travel to Mars.

He is credited with making the first lecture on flight medicine while an assistant to Professor Max von Frey at the Physiological Institute in Wurzburg in 1927. His students laughed when he told them thousands of people would be flying across the Atlantic in 10 years.

They stopped laughing 10 days later when Charles Lindbergh made his historic flight across the Atlantic.

Strughold became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1956. In 1958, the Air University conferred upon him the academic title of Professor of Aviation Medicine. He still is the only person to be so honored and for this reason is often referred to as the "Father of Space Medicine."

From 1957 to 1962, Strughold was aviation medicine research adviser for the School of Aviation Medicine and the newly formed Aerospace Medical Center at Brooks. He became chief scientist of the Aerospace Medical Division when it was formed in 1962.

He was named an honorary consultant to the Aerospace Medical Division after his 1968 retirement.

Strughold has been honored by numerous national and international organizations involved with space medicine and he received the first award ever made in San Antonio of the Americanism Medal for advancement of the American principles of freedom, justice and equality from the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1973.

Hubertus
STRUGHOLD

THE AIR UNIVERSITY'S
ONLY PROFESSOR
OF SPACE MEDICINE

IS NOW HONORARY
CONSULTANT TO THE
AEROSPACE MEDICAL
DIVISION, BROOKS
AFB, TEXAS

FATHER
OF
SPACE
MEDICINE



IN 1962 THE AEROSPACE MEDICAL ASSOC.
CREATED THE HUBERTUS STRUGHOLD
AWARD



BORN IN
GERMANY 1898
HAS Ph.D. AND
M.D. DEGREES

FELLOW OF THE
ROCKEFELLER
FOUNDATION
RECIPIENT OF MANY
AWARDS FOR HIS
CONTRIBUTIONS
IN SPACE
MEDICINE

SCHOLAR
DOCTOR
SCIENTIST
TEACHER
AUTHOR

From Ingrid Kolkunda

HELP: Pictures from San Antonio/Austin meetings needed AT ONCE
Please send anything you have to Leola Tiedt, 510 N. Franklin, LaGrange, Tx. 78945 by or before Sept. 1, 1983. Leola is making a complete scrapbook of our GTHS activities. If you have newspaper articles, please send them, too.

GTHS LOCAL CHAPTER HANDBOOK
If any group wishes to organize a local chapter of the GTHS, the Board has published a booklet of guidelines. If interested, please contact the president.

FOLLOW-UP: New Handbook of Texas
Please go to your local library, find a copy of the Handbook, look up all of the topics that are of interest to you. See if they are actually listed. If not, please begin your research and writing TODAY. There are many areas which have been left out or which have incorrect/incomplete information. It is up to us to do this job for the German-Texan heritage. This is a big opportunity for us. WE MUST ACT NOW. See page 29, Volume V, #1 of the GTHS NEWSLETTER for details.



Space
pioneer
honored

Dr. Hubertus Strughold, the "Father of Space Medicine," receives the Commander's Cross of Merit Wednesday at Brooks AFB from West German Consul General Joachim Vogel. It is the highest civilian honor bestowed by the West German government. Strughold, who is credited with making the first lecture on flight medicine in 1927, was honored for contributions to German-American friendship.

Thursday, June 16, 1983

EXPRESS

CLAUS GRÖPER HIS BOOK HIS VISIT

Claus Gröper, author of Im Winter Brach der Regenbogen, has accepted an invitation by GTHS to attend our Annual Meeting in Galveston. This book is written in German, for Germans, by a German author, and about Germans, but the setting is Texas! As the jacket cover indicates, the story sounds "phantastisch, but is documented" (and is true as we in GTHS know) for it is the story of the German immigration to Texas. The subtitle is "Der deutsche Treck nach Texas". The book is not exactly a historical novel in our American sense, as the author uses a few footnotes and gives a list of his sources, but neither is it a purely factual account, as he uses dialogue and descriptions which are obviously creative writing.

The book is a narrative account of the hardships, failures, and successes of the German immigrants, which is presented very dramatically. Chapters, such as the one describing Sam Houston and his unique personality, are probably included for the benefit of those in Germany unfamiliar with Texas history. Even Texans who know the background and history of the German immigration by heart, will be interested not only in his presentation but also in the quotations which he includes. Several quotes from contemporary letters and books written by such people as Prince Solms, Detlof Dunt, and Alvin Soergel are not readily available in Texas. I was especially interested in Soergel's description of his house, because I know from another source that it was his house with a "round top" which became the stagecoach landmark and gave Round Top in Fayette County its name.

During the Galveston meeting, Herr Gröper will give a short talk telling us how and why he happened to write this book and the interest which is found in Germany for "Westerns" and stories about Texas. At our request, he is bringing some copies for those who wish to buy one. This book was sent to me as a gift from friends in Germany, and I have given copies to Anna, Dona, Mary, Ingrid, and Ken Knopp (with a request to share). Elke Ditges, Margaret Fields, and Dr. Sidney Ohlhausen also own a copy. After the meeting, I will escort Herr Gröper on a tour of Texas-German heritage areas, and then he will spend the second week in research. He is especially interested in Sisterdale, as well as the story of the Germans who emigrated in 1848 and fought in the Civil War. He has also been invited by the German Consul General to participate in the German Festival Sept. 23-25 in Houston.

We hope as many of our members as possible can meet Claus Gröper. Elke Ditges will co-ordinate his schedule, and anyone wishing to host him for meals or overnight accommodations should contact Elke at 10111 Olympia, Houston, 77042, phone 713-785-3996.

Schedule:

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Galveston Meeting | Sept 9-11 |
| Austin, Fayette Counties | 12 |
| San Marcos, New Braunfels | 13 |
| San Antonio | 14 |
| Comfort, Boerne, Sisterdale | 15 |
| Fredericksburg | 16 |
| Austin | 17 |
| Research in archives of his choice | 18-22 |
| German Festival in Houston | 23-25 |

By the way, Herr Gröper writes that there is a possibility that his book will be made into a TV series in Germany.---Now wouldn't that be something!

----- Daphne Garrett

Ingeborg H. Rüberg McCoy
Southwest Texas State Univ.

Klaus Gröper, Im Winter brach der Regenbogen. Der deutsche Treck nach Texas. Frankfurt/M.: Ullstein Verlag, 1981.

The author purports to write the history of the greatest emigration catastrophe which occurred during the settlement of the "Wild West." Essentially, this book treats the immigration of German settlers to Texas, and, more specifically, to New Braunfels and Fredericksburg in the 1840s. Gröper presents the economical, social and political problems in Germany which were largely the reasons for the decisions by thousands of Germans to search for better living conditions in the United States, and in Texas. The book also provides information concerning the founding of the Adelsverein as well as many curious details regarding the motivation and goals of the noblemen who supported the colonization efforts in Texas. Finally, the story offers vivid descriptions of the miserable, often deadly voyages across the Atlantic Ocean, and the disappointing, dangerous, and, again, frequently deadly events during the land trek and the early settlement days. As the jacket of the book explains: "In this, the toughest 'Western' that was ever written, Klaus Gröper demythicizes all romantic fairytales of emigration (my translation)."

Unfortunately, this "Western" represents another sensational story about the German Texans, seemingly a sequel to other reports written by German authors about their "relatives" in Texas. Both, the story in the magazine Der Stern as well as the layout in the respectable newspaper Die Zeit were disappointing in their focus on lederhosen, biersteins and fat women. Gröper's book is advertised on the jacket as follows: "The story of the German trek to Texas sounds fantastic--and yet, every detail is supported by documents (my trans.)." Despite this claim, the story is characterized by sensationalism, already evident on the cover with remarks like "...in the belly of the floating coffins...(my trans.)." In such fashion, the first chapter begins the story of the trek with the scenario depicting the massacre of the peaceful German settler Martin Seitz by bloodthirsty Comanche Indians, without any mention, of course, that the Comanches were the inhabitants of the land. During the perusal of the second paragraph, anybody familiar with New Braunfels and surrounding areas must wonder about information like the following: "As is the case during nearly the entire year, a cloudless sky stretches over Texas....Behind the treetops the back of a mountain stretches craggily from the plain... (my trans.)." A few pages later, it becomes clear, that this section of the book, at least, was frei erfunden nach (freely invented after) Detlef Dunt, whose travel report about Texas is presented as the basis for the decision by Seitz to emigrate to Texas. Gröper writes: "Indeed, Dunt painted a paradise (my trans.)." A subsequent lengthy quote from Dunt, however, turns out to belong to the famous America letter by Friedrich Ernst which Dunt quotes in full in his report. And thus,

in Gröper's story, the experiences of Ernst, his wife and his children are now those of Dunt! Regarding Ernst's settlement of the town of Industry, Gröper (p.45) describes it as a place in 1842 "...which in the meantime counted about 10,000 settlers (my trans.)." Ten thousand persons in Industry in 1842? Rudolph Biesele, in The History of the German Settlements in Texas, reported that "...in 1860, when the eighth census was taken, the list of farm owners for the beat comprising Industry, Cat Spring, and New Ulm contained three hundred and fifty German names in a total of four hundred and eight (p.47)." After encountering such confusing information, the reader naturally remains on guard about subsequent references and statistics. In effect, this story about the trek to Texas is at best partly, but probably mostly fictitious. This is disturbing because the book claims to be documented, does contain a bibliography, but the text has no footnotes, and only occasional references to authors or documents despite the fact that direct quotations abound. And, in fact, it would be most interesting to know if the documents listed as belonging to public and private British collections, for example, actually shed light on the question whether, to what extent, and why England was involved in the support of the Adelsverein's colonization attempts in Texas. This thorny topic had been the focus, already in 1894, of William von Rosenberg's Kritik, which was just recently translated and annotated by Louis Brister in the Southwestern Historical Quarterly (Oct., 1981).

Gröper's book, in essence, represents a sharp condemnation of the Adelsverein, its colonization venture, and its shady deals and figures in connection with the settlement process. That this princely institution's endeavors in Texas were disastrous, that the actions of Solms emerge from the records as ambiguous, and that the tough conditions of the Texas frontier did not match the romanticized German image of it, has been known and accepted for a long time. Nevertheless, the towns of New Braunfels and Fredericksburg flourished despite all of these obstacles. Only three pages towards the end of the story, the author gets around to mention this important historical fact of the trek to Texas.

As rumor has it, Der deutsche Treck nach Texas is being transformed into a film or television program. Let's ask the author about this at the Galveston meeting: his name appears on the program.

— Inge McCoy

SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS

School finally christened

Emma Frey Elementary School need never be passed by again for not having a posted name to identify its three small buildings on South Eduardo Street.

After 27 years of existence, the school was officially baptized Friday. Large lettering was mounted on the main building to show the school's name.

"For years, people would drive by looking for the school but pass it by because it had no name in front," said school principal Joe Bernal.

The school, located on the West Side at 900 S. Eduardo St., was the first school in the Edgewood School District. It started in 1914 as a one-room school house for children of Belgian and German farmers living in the area.

The school takes its name from Emma Frey, the daughter of the German farmer who donated the land in the early 1900s to start the school.

Several Bexar County historical sites have been added to the National Register of Historic Places.

The Salado Battlefield site, in Northeast San Antonio, is important because it preserves evidence of three distinct events: prehistoric occupation, a major 19th century Republic of Texas battle and early 20th century settlement by German immigrants.

Bonham Elementary School was built in 1889 to serve the King William area. Many prominent business and civic leaders attended the Victorian-style school.

S.A. show lures German official

Ambassador feted, speaks at historical exhibit opening

By ELIZABETH McILHANEY
Staff Writer

Peter Hermes, ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United States, was San Antonio's guest yesterday as he participated in San Antonio Festival events and was shown the city by Mayor Henry Cisneros.

Hermes arrived in San Antonio yesterday just in time to speak at the opening of the historical exhibition, "Germans to America, 300 Years of German Immigration," in the lobby of the Theater for the Performing Arts. It will be on display there through the end of the Festival.

After the opening ceremonies, which began at 3 p.m., Cisneros took Hermes to the Alamo, a dinner on a river barge and the opening performance of the Berlin Opera's "Salome."

Rolf Saligmann, West German consul in Houston, said the exhibition had been planned

for a couple of years as part of the national tricentennial celebration of the German arrival in America.

When the German participation in the San Antonio Festival was announced, he offered to have the exhibit open its national tour in San Antonio while the German artistic groups were performing here.

"We thought it would be a good idea to put the historical part (the exhibit) together with the present culture (the performances) in Germany," he said.

Karl Carstens, president of the Federal Republic of Germany, will be the guest of President Reagan when he visits Philadelphia and Germantown, Pa., Oct. 6.

"This exhibition illustrates the strong links which have been developed between the German and the American people over three centuries," Hermes said in his short speech at the exhibition opening. "It all started Oct. 6, 1683, when the first organized group of German settlers, 13 weaver-families from Krefeld, arrived

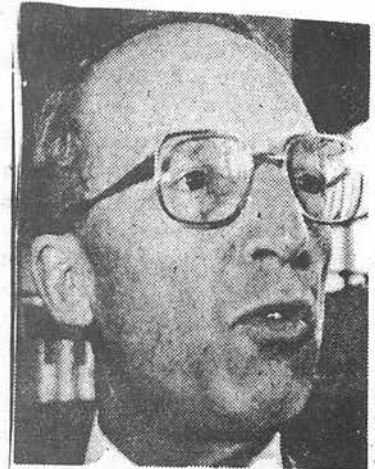
in Philadelphia. Their leader, Franz Daniel Pastorius had acquired some land from William Penn about six miles north of Philadelphia. There these settlers founded Germantown, the first German settlement in North America.

"This first group of 33 people was followed by more than seven million German immigrants to the United States," he said. "About 150 years ago, Germans began to discover Texas as a country to migrate to. The Texan cities of Industry, New Braunfels and Fredericksburg bear witness to the earliest German settlements in Texas. But the German newcom-

ers to Texas not only established new settlements; they also made up a considerable percentage in the already existing cities.

"For example," he said, "a census taken in 1850 shows that a large percentage of the inhabitants of Houston were Germans, and in San Antonio in the 1850s, Germans comprised about one third of the voting constituency."

Texas can count among its prominent citizens of German ancestry such names as Admiral Chester Nimitz, Gen. Walter Krueger and Dwight D. Eisenhower, Hermes said.



San Antonio Light/Reberts Barnes

PETER HERMES
German official opens exhibit

SAN ANTONIO



FESTIVAL

German Groups Invite Tech Dancers

The Texas Tech University German Dancers have been named the Texas State German Dancers for 1983 by Gov. Mark White.

As such, the dance troupe could become official goodwill ambassadors for the state during a planned summer trip to Germany.

Congress has proclaimed 1983 "Tricentennial Anniversary Year of German Settlement of America." Celebrations are planned in both countries, and both are issuing a German Tricentennial stamp. The first Germans to sail for America left Krefeld, Germany, in 1683 and established the community of Germantown, Pa.

The German Dancers have been invited by officials of the Tricentennial Commission of Germany to dance at the Tricentennial celebration in Krefeld, June 22-26. They also have received invitations from German-American clubs and other groups in several German cities.

Dr. Meredith McClain, German professor and sponsor of the dancers, said there is a strong German heritage in Texas that counts Germans among the dead at the Alamo.

"It is a fitting and special privilege for our student dancers to be invited to these international celebrations," she said.

She said the Germany trip is contin-

gent on raising the necessary funds. Plans are to take 12 to 15 of the dancers.

Members of the Tech group include Mary S. Barnett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James R. Barnett of 5432 41st St., and Georgianna Peng, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George T.C. Peng of 5403 16th Place.

Miss Barnett, a freshman, is a nursing major. Miss Peng is a sophomore zoology major.

For more information on the German Dancers or their planned tour, contact Dr. McClain or Randy Kirk, director of the group, at the department of Germanic and Slavic languages at Tech, (806) 742-3283.

From: Texas Catholic Historical Society Newsletter, June, 1983 -86 -

REV. JOSEPH REISDORFF, COLONIZER

In early September of 1891 the Fort Worth and Denver train stopped at Henrietta, Texas and twelve German Catholic landseekers alighted. They were the vanguard of hundreds who eventually came to inspect and perhaps to invest in the German-Catholic colony of Windhorst in Archer and Clay Counties, some twenty miles south of Wichita Falls. An important member of that first group of potential colonists was the full-bearded figure of Father Joseph Reisdorff, a Catholic priest from the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

Reisdorff had learned of the project in St. Louis, where land developer, F.T. Ledergerber was promoting the new settlement. But Reisdorff had reasons other than acquiring land for making the move. The fifty-one year old priest, born in Nievenheim, Rheinprovinz, Germany, and later ordained at Milwaukee, was not well. The doctors advised he seek a high dry climate, and thus he joined the German-Catholic venture at Windhorst, where he could remain in a religious orientation while recovering.

The little band, of whom only Reisdorff and two others were interested enough to invest, was typical of land prospectors coming to west Texas in the 1890's. It was at this time that a general land boom developed as many gigantic ranches began to be subdivided for sale to farmers and, Texas public school lands came on the market. Enormous profits were made by land promoters selling for \$10.00 per acre or more land that had been selling for \$3.00. The market for this kind activity included various European ethnic groups who were already reasonably well adapted to an American lifestyle. By this category were many German-Catholics who were looking for economic opportunity in new areas a semblance of their traditional lifestyle.

Father Reisdorff assisted in the establishment of the town of Windhorst and negotiated for the building of the church there. The first building served as rectory and church from 1892 until a new

edifice was built and dedicated February 2, 1893. A school was opened with the Sisters of Divine Providence of San Antonio as teachers that same year. The

The venturesome spirit of Father Reisdorff prompted him to move on. So we find him establishing parishes in the West Texas area at Rhineland in 1895; Nazareth in 1902; Umbarger in 1908 and finally Slaton in 1911. None of these parishes was founded without difficulties which took a toll on the priest's health. He died at Slaton on January 28, 1922 at the age of 81, and his remains were returned to Jefferson City, Missouri for interment.

Father Reisdorff's accomplishments were great. Through his efforts five parishes and their associated towns were established, either in whole or in part. These towns retain an extremely faithful Catholic orientation and their German culture has been preserved to some extent through such things as food preferences and a minimal language retention.

Regardless of the extent of German ethnicity of the towns and parishes founded by Father Reisdorff, they have all remained faithful to their Catholic heritage. To a stranger visiting any of these places the most prominent landmark he sees in each town is the Catholic church, which remains the central point in each community. Perhaps this is the legacy which would most please Father Reisdorff, Catholic colonizer of the plains.

-- Bobby Weaver

for information on the
Texas Catholic Historical Society,

write:

Sister Dolores Kasner, O.P.
TCHS Secretary-Treasurer
P O Box 13327, Capitol Sta.
Austin, Texas 78711

Dues are only \$4.00 per year.

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COPY FOR TEXAS GERMAN HERITAGE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER-SUMMER EDITION

The Travel Group at International Tours of Austin is happy to offer travel information to members about Germany. Please call Jerry Vaclav at 834-0607 or Jackie Hastay at 321-3807 (both Area Code 512) for information and help in planning travel from Texas to Germany.

ODDS AND ENDS

Starting September 1, many of the air fares to Germany via commercial air liners will begin to decrease as the airlines begin what they call shoulder season. Further reductions often result around October 1 as airlines move into low season.

Remember that commercial airliners have excursion fares that allow for much more economical travel, often to the tune of hundreds of dollars. Usually, these fares have restrictions such as advance purchase (usually from 21 to 30 days,) limitations on length of stay, etc.

Also, remember that on international flights, it is usually cheaper to fly Monday through Thursday. Weekends are more expensive. (It's just the opposite here in the U.S. for domestic flights!)

How about a customized winter trip to Germany? At The Travel Group, we can plan one for you and 14 of your nearest and dearest friends. (It takes 15 to make a group!) Think about who your contacts in your community are. We bet you could find 15 others that would love to visit Germany, too. If you are interested send us a letter and we will be in touch. The time to plan a winter holiday is now!

Keep your eyes open about charter flights. If you want to travel via charter, there are advantages and disadvantages. Scheduling and service can be a problem if the charter is not well-established. Charter prices for the fall and winter seasons should be available soon.

GERMANY, SUMMER, 1984

The Travel Group is already thinking about the summer of 1984 in its planning. We are in the preliminary stages of planning a 16-day Germany tour with just a taste of Austria. Negotiations for hotels, air space, and amenities are already underway. Until these negotiations are completed, exact dates and a price can not be published, but to give you a hint, we are planning on the trip occurring sometime in June or early July, 1984, and the price to be under \$2,000. Following is a very sketchy and very preliminary look at the itinerary: (that means there will probably be some adjustments in it!)

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| Day 1- Air travel | Day 9- Travel to Salzburg |
| Day 2- Arrive Frankfurt, bus to Rudesheim | Day 10- Salzburg |
| Day 3- Rhein Cruise and travel to Koln | Day 11- Travel to Munchen |
| Day 4- Koln | Day 12- Munchen |
| Day 5- Travel to Heidelberg | Day 13- Travel to Rothenburg |
| Day 6- Heidelberg | Day 14- Rothenburg |
| Day 7- Travel to Black Forest | Day 15- Frankfurt area |
| Day 8- Travel to Fussen area | Day 16- Air travel home |

Check future newsletters for further details or send your name and address to The Travel Group and we will send you information when it is available.

Scene Celebrating: The invitation was a "Certificate of Outstanding Achievement," as well it should have been: "Against all reasonable odds and by dint of remarkable grit, pluck, and stamina, **Alvina Schutze Bayer** has very successfully completed 100 years." *NOVEMBER 13, 1982*

Mrs. Bayer was honored by her nieces, Margaret Sharp and Houstonian Jo Adams, at a celebration at Capitol City Nursing Home, and relatives and friends came from all over the state to drink champagne toasts to her.

The honoree and her husband, the late Richard Bayer, ran the Deep Eddy Grocery store and another grocery store at Sixth Street and Rio Grande until the Depression ("not all the well-known people in town were able to pay their bills"), and she was a long-time bookkeeper at Snaman's (where Yaring's is now).

The party room at the nursing home, where she moved five years ago from her home on Nueces, was filled with 100 years of photos and some of Mrs. Bayer's favorite dresses.

Deaths and funerals



Alvina Schutze Bayer as she looked when she graduated from high school.

Alvina Schutze Bayer

Alvina Schutze Bayer, 100, died December 21, 1982 at a local nursing home.

An Austin resident for 100 years, born the same year (November 16, 1882) that the cornerstone was laid for our present Capitol building, at her parents' home, 507 East 10th Street, the former German Free School, now a restored home. Last survivor of 10 children born to the late Judge Julius Schutze and Julia Brueggerhof Schutze, one of Austin's early prominent citizens. Her father, Judge Schutze, served as Judge of Bastrop County in 1869; represented the 26th District in the House of the Twelfth Legislature from 1870-1871; served as Grand National President of the Order of the Sons of Hermann from 1894-1904; helped found the Texas Sengerbund, a German singing society in 1853; and published and edited *Texas Vorwaerts*, a German language newspaper in Austin for 20 years.

Alvina attended Jacob Bickler School, graduated in the Austin High School Class of 1902, attended business college before accepting her first position as bookkeeper of Snaman's Dress Shop on Congress Avenue. She met Richard H. Bayer, employed by Southern Pacific Railroad, in 1910. Married him in 1914 at St. David's Episcopal Church. In 1916 the couple opened the Deep Eddy Grocery, the Bayer Grocery Store in 1919 on West Sixth Street, and from 1931-1939 they were associated with the *Austin News Agency*, operated and owned by her sister, Henrietta Schutze. They managed the San Jose Courts on South Congress Avenue until 1946 when they took over management of the St. El Motel. Alvina's hearing was almost restored (severe loss due to illness she had as a student in high school) wearing her first hearing instrument in 1948. The Bayers were so enthusiastic about it that they opened an agency, Bayer Hearing Aid Service, serving 12 counties for 30 years. Richard died October 26, 1969, five years after their 50th wedding anniversary. "One of the

First Christmas Trees in Austin, an english assignment Alvina wrote in high school, published in *Austin Homes and Gardens*, December, 1981 issue has also recently appeared in *The German Texan Heritage Society Newsletter*, Fall, 1982 issue.

Members of the Schutze family gathered this November with more than 50 in attendance to celebrate Alvina's 100th birthday.

Alvina had no children, but she had many loved ones and friends. Survivors include nieces and nephews, Henrietta Jo Peebles Adams, and Herbert H. Peebles, Sr., of Houston, Marie Hefner of San Antonio, Henrietta Leach, Wilhelmina Kluge, Julia Congleton, of Dallas, Margaret Sharp, Anita Schutze, Julius Schutze, Walter Schutze and George Schutze of Austin; also many great-nieces and great-nephews, and the staff and her nurses at Capital City Nursing Home.

Pallbearers: Julius Schutze, Walter Schutze, George Schutze, Herbert H. Peebles, Sr., Osbert Lassberg, George Roberts, C.A. Schutze, Jr., and Robert Smith.

Funeral services, 11:30 AM, Thursday, December 23, 1982, All Saints Episcopal Church with the Reverend Charles Huffman officiating. Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery. Arrangements by Cook-Walden Funeral Home, 6100 North Lamar, Austin, Texas, 78752; 454-5611.

Certificate of Outstanding Achievement.



Alvina Schutze Bayer

against all reasonable odds and by dint of remarkable grit, pluck, and stamina has very successfully completed

100 years

You are invited to a party to celebrate this extraordinary occasion.



Der Stab des Glaubens.

Von Dora Kappard.

Der Glaube ist mein Wanderstab,
Geh' damit meine Wege,
Den Berg hinauf, das Tal hinab,
Bis ich zur Ruh' mich lege.

Der Glaube ist mein Heroldsstab,
Damit verkünd' ich allen
Die froh'ite Botschaft, die ich hab':
Des Vaters Wohlgefallen.

Der Glaube ist mein Königsstab,
Vor dem sich Engel neigen,
Und Gott der Herr sich läßt herab
Und schenkt sich mir zu eigen.

Der Glaube ist mein Bettelstab
Vor meines Gottes Throne:
Ich bettle mir als Gnadengab'
Die Heberwinderfrone.

*From
Jo Adams
Houston*

DEATH OF A TOMBSTONE

By Cris Burton
Schreiner College

I have encountered a dying art form, ironically, an art form that deals with death and dying. I am speaking specifically of the art of hand carved tombstones, or as close as one can come to hand carved in modern technology. What I have observed, listened to, and discovered is not exactly what I had hoped to accomplish at the beginning of this class project, but nonetheless I have discovered some astonishing work and information.

In Fredricksburg I spoke with two gentlemen from the Nagel lineage who have had a line of stonecutters in the family since the early 1900s. The first gentleman that I spoke with was Don Nagel, the young owner of Nagel Memorials established in 1904 in Fredricksburg. I found later by talking to his older relative, Alberto Nagel, that Don was not able to answer some of my questions because of his inexperience. His inexperience should be more clearly described as experience that was not as basic as that of Alberto Nagel. The difference in the time of training between the two was about thirty years. Don's business appeared to be more modernized, and though I never saw any of his work, it seemed to be more standardized and less individualized than Alberto's Craft. Don's business would be what I would describe as a "ready to wear" gravestone shop. Most of his designs and patterns came out of a sample book, as did Alberto's though I did not see one of these pattern books in Alberto's office. Although Don was very knowledgeable about his business and very helpful with some questions, he could not answer the ones that could really shed some light on what I was searching for: questions such as the type of designs, reasons for particular designs, folk origins of these designs, and if the particular shape of the tombstone itself had any folk art implications. These were questions, I would find later, that were going to be difficult to find the answer. I felt that Don could not answer these questions because of his young age. However, Don did inform me of one item of interest about the spire type or pillar monument. It seems that because of the price, this type of gravemarker either has been discontinued or is rarely ordered anymore.

Don then referred me to his father's cousin, Alberto Nagel. Alberto started his stonecutting career in 1929. He was happy to tell me anything I cared to know about his business or his work from the beginning. One particular item that he seemed to stress was the way in which his tools were made and the difference between today's tools and the tools that he used when he first began his work. His most important tool, besides his hammer (which is the same one that he had back in 1929) is a tool called a point. This tool was originally made from either cast iron or steel. When it became dull it could be sharpened and used again and again until it was too short. The point that is made by today's manufacturer has a carbon tip. This tip makes for a better cutting edge and is stronger than the old type of point. The problem is that when the tip becomes dull and the carbon has run out, the entire shaft must be thrown away. The tip of the carbon extends only about one to one and a half inches from the bottom. The shaft that is left over is about six to eight inches long and made out of steel. Mr. Nagel was distressed to see so much waste because these points were quite expensive and neither he nor I, for that matter, saw much point in it if it was going to be so wasteful.

I could sense from Alberto by talking to him, that even though the new modern way was good and had some advantages to contribute to stone-cutting, the newer way had had some effect on his way of doing business. But seeing his calloused hands, broken split and cut-up fingers and nails showed that he cared very much about his work and the way it was done. A machine of any kind could never put the feeling that this man does into his work. I should say men because I know Don shows some of the same patience and diligence in his work too. Alberto has fallen into the use of some modern techniques. In most of his work he uses a pneumatic hammer. Instead of using concrete to anchor the headstone to a base, he uses an epoxy compound. He seemed to be quite impressed with the epoxy, because he told me of one time that he had to remove a headstone he had fastened with epoxy to the base. He said that when he removed the headstone, it broke the granite of where the epoxy had been.

After talking with Mr. Nagel some more, I asked him some of the same questions that I had asked Don earlier. Much to my dismay and surprisingly his also, he could not answer them either. He seemed to be disappointed because he told me that most of the men who could have answered these questions were dead. He told me something that I had feared earlier but had hoped would not be true: that an understanding of the historical antecedents of this type of work, truly a folk art form, was not very far away from the grave itself.

300 Jahre deutsche Einwanderung in Nordamerika:

Ausstellung „Texas-Deutsche“ in der Universitätsbibliothek

WESTFÄLISCHE
RUNDSCHAU

27. April 1983

Siegen. Aus Anlaß des Jubiläums „300 Jahre deutsche Einwanderung in Nordamerika 1683-1983“ präsentiert die Universitätsbibliothek Siegen eine Ausstellung zur Geschichte und Kultur der Texas-Deutschen. Die Ausstellung versteht sich zugleich als Beitrag zur Partnerschaft zwischen der University of Houston und der Universität-Gesamthochschule Siegen. Den Mittelpunkt der Ausstellung bilden Fotos, die der Houstoner Germanist Theodore G. Gish (zur Zeit Gastprofessor am Fachbereich 3 der Universität Siegen) in New Braunfels und Fredericksburg, den Zentren deutscher Siedlungstätigkeit in Texas, selber aufgenommen und kommentiert hat.

Zusätzliche Informationen vermittelt ein von Oberbibliotheksrat Dr. Fritz Hartmut Teßmer zusammengestellter Katalog, der die wichtigsten Phasen der deutschen Einwanderung nach Texas umreißt und auch eine Literaturliste zum Thema enthält. Die deutsche Texasauswanderung erlebte ihre Höhepunkte im 19. Jahr-

hundert im Zeitraum 1830 bis 1860 und - zahlenmäßig bedeutsamer - in den zwei Jahrzehnten nach Beendigung des amerikanischen Bürgerkriegs. Im Mittelpunkt der Betrachtung steht dabei das umstrittene Siedlungsprojekt des 1844 in Mainz von deutschen Adeligen gegründeten „Vereins deutscher Fürsten, Grafen und Herren zum Schutze deutscher Einwanderer in Texas“. Wenn auch der großangelegte texanische Siedlungsplan des sogenannten „Mainzer Adelsvereins“ in seiner vorgesehenen Form scheiterte, so wurden doch unter der Führung seiner zwei nach Amerika entsandten Generalkommissare, der mehrromantisch veranlagten Gestalt des Prinzen Carl von Solms-Braunfels und des zupackend-tatkräftigen Ottfried Freiherrn von Meusebach, die zwei erwähnten Ansiedlungen New Braunfels (1845) und Fredericksburg (1846) im Hill-Country-Gebiet gegründet.

Im Jahre 1960 wurde der Anteil der Deutschstämmigen in Texas auf 400 000 Personen ge-

schätzt, die damit nach dem überwiegenden angelsächsischen Element, den schwarzen und mexikanischen Texanern die größte Bevölkerungsgruppe des Landes bilden. Auch über die „typisch deutschen“ Beiträge zur Kultur und Folklore hinaus, etwa in Gestalt von Gesang- und Schützenvereinen, haben die deutschen Einwanderer in Texas z.B. auf dem Gebiet der Medizin, der Ingenieurwissenschaften und Kartographie sowie der Viehzucht bedeutende Beiträge geleistet.

Auch in diesem Sommer werden wieder texanische Studenten zu einem vierwöchigen Sprachkurs, der vom Akademischen Auslandsamt der Universität Siegen veranstaltet wird, in Siegen weilen und bei Siegener Gasteltern wohnen. Diesmal kommt die Besuchergruppe von der Texas A + M University in College Station nordwestlich von Houston.

Die Ausstellung im Hauptgebäude der Universitätsbibliothek ist bis zum 21. Mai (mo-fr 8-20 Uhr, sa 9-14 Uhr) zu besichtigen.

From
Ted Gish



History of Coshatte Agricultural Hall

One hundred years ago in July of 1883, the Coshatte Agricultural Society was organized, then known as Coshatte Turn Verein. In June of 1950 the organization became a corporation, and the name was changed to the present name of Coshatte Agricultural Society.

The name Coshatte was given to this community as a tribute to some Coshatte Indians living in a tepee in this area in the early 80's. This is according to legend. There is some difference in the spelling, but Coshatte was established as the official spelling.

A banner bearing the date of July, 1883, was just recently recovered. An old picture taken during the 25th anniversary with the date of September, 1908, makes the 100th anniversary authentic. Some of the early minutes that would make records more complete were destroyed in a fire when Secretary Otto Timme's home burned.

For the location, August Timme donated three acres of land for a community center for a school and for recreation. The Coshatte School was established in 1882 and a little later a platform was built for dancing and a small wooden building served to store produce bought wholesale for distribution among the members.

An old fragile record book contains some of the minutes of the T.C.U. Club, dating from 1885 to 1898. That Club had charge of ordering wholesale

produce for members. A list of members, what they ordered, and how much was paid for various articles is recorded. Usual orders consisted of sugar, whiskey, molasses, coffee, rice, vinegar, candy, herring, starch, prunes, mustard, pepper, cheese, tobacco, dried apples and matches.

There is no comparison of prices then and now. For instance, one gallon of whiskey sold for \$1.25.

Some of the Club members were: August Timme, H. Mahnke, C. Grube, Sr. and Jr., D. Willrodt, H. Waak, C. C. Grabow, A. Lischka, R. Regenbrecht, W. Holtz, W. Abel, W. Waak, A. Peters, H. Schluenz, F. Hagemann, F. Schumann, W. Dahms, F. Witte, L. Hacker, A. Brugger, H. Dethloff, H. Dernehl, F. Raube, W. Graff, H. Viereck, H. Westermann, A. Luhn, B. Teichmann, J. Seyer, C. Nelius, C. Schroeder, F. Frank, F. Brast, H. Draehn, H. Roensch, Theo. Stalbaum, F. Dickehut, Albert Timme, J. C. Umland, etc.

To enlarge the area, two more acres of land were bought later at various times from August Timme. A rectangular hall was built in about 1889 to take the place of the platform. It had a stage, a ladies room, a bull pen, and a large recreational area. This hall was used for dances, meetings, and school turn-out functions. About that time, members of the Verein met regularly to do acrobatics or tumbling

acts, mainly for entertainment. An old picture in the Clubroom gives a good example of what took place.

As time went on, the old hall became obsolete, and a round pavilion was built in 1928 by the Machemehl Brothers and dedicated on December 31, 1928. It is now the center of the community and used mainly for dances at least once a month, family reunions, meetings, wedding receptions, and 4-H Club meetings. The new hall was at first heated with large gas heaters and cooled with open shutters, and finally with floor fans after electricity came to the rural areas. Later indoor rest-rooms and an indoor beverage stand were added. And, finally, about two years ago, an air conditioning unit was installed to complete modern conveniences.

With a membership of 90, the organization is progressive and attuned to the times. A monthly meeting is held, often including the women for a family gathering with a stew or the like. It serves as a community place with a popular club-room rented for many entertainments.

The present organization seems to fulfill the purpose of the Society, which is to promote and maintain health, happiness and entertainment, and to encourage a sense of social understanding between its members and their families, and also to invite and aid all such entertainment that will be beneficial to this community, both in a moral and educational way.

Luther stamp will be issued at Luther Jubilee

A brief article in the summer 1982 issue of *Correspondent* encouraged interested people to write letters supporting the issuance of a U.S. stamp commemorating the 500th birthday of Martin Luther. Judging from our mail, hundreds of you did write to the Postmaster General or to the Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee. Many other Lutheran periodicals also encouraged their readers to support such a commemorative.

In September, the Postmaster General announced his decision to issue such a stamp. There soon was a flurry of letters in newspapers and stamp journals about Luther's intemperate anti-Jewish writings, especially those from late in his life, and whether he should appear on a U.S. stamp. Others questioned recognizing any religious leader on a stamp. The Postmaster General has reaffirmed his decision to issue the stamp, in view of Luther's support for education and the printing of books, his standardization of the German language and related contributions.

The U.S. Postal Service has begun working on the stamp and probably will release the final design in mid-summer. The first day of issue will be in Washington, D.C., on Nov. 10, 1983, at the Luther Jubilee. (The Jubilee will be a major education and celebration event, jointly sponsored by the Lutheran Council in the U.S.A., its five member bodies and AAL, which has played a major role in funding.)

The German Democratic Republic has already issued four commemorative Luther stamps and France has issued one. Many other countries in western and northern Europe also will be issuing such stamps during the course of the year.

T.J. Kleinhans



GRASSROOTS COMMENTARIES

Glen E. Lich
Schreiner College

Charles Sealsfield. Das Kajütenbuch. Ed. Alexander Ritter. Stuttgart: Phillip Reclam, 1982. 528pp., illus., maps, chronology, glossary, critical texts, bibliography. Paperback, DM 12 60.

Charles Sealsfield's classic, Das Kajütenbuch (1841), should be required reading for German Texans. Karl J.R. Arndt of Clark University has written a more traditional review of this new publication of Sealsfield's Texas novel in the "Newsletter of the Society for German-American Studies," 3, No. 3 (Fall 1982), so I will confine myself here to a subjective view of why this book will interest Texans of German descent.

First comes the language. I haven't encountered some of these words and idiomatic expressions since I left Cypress Creek to study German in college. Sealsfield's early to mid-nineteenth century German--combined with his liberal borrowings and translations from the English language for place names, terrain, and flora and fauna--approximates the Heimatsprache of the Texas Germans more closely than any other printed source with which I am familiar other than the German-language newspapers of Texas. From Skunke (Stinktiere) to Lebenseichen-bäume, the Prärie comes alive in words we all knew as children.

The subject and location give the book considerable topical interest. The plot is not complex, though it is compound. One is reminded of James Fenimore Cooper's and Walter Scott's novels in which events--even minor ones--transpire over 40-50pp. Indeed the first fourth of the novel goes toward the development of only one episode, but the supporting narrative and descriptive passages, from which the rest of the narrative develops, are rich in detail. All in all, Sealsfield writes a better than average western, a remarkably accurate account of the Texas Revolution, and a thoroughly entertaining travel romance of the calibre of Cooper's Leatherstocking Tales.

Although not high literature, Das Kajütenbuch (generally translated as The Cabin Book) documents in image and symbol the mindset of early German colonists in Texas, and thus it is instructive to a thoughtful reader who would understand better the mentality of these immigrants and the heritage they left to their descendants. Sealsfield, whose real name was Karl Anton Postl, apparently wrote for money, but this novel belongs nonetheless to two national literatures and for better or worse is probably still today the most widely known piece of fiction from Texas. Even Larry McMurry and Andrew Jolly take their places after Sealsfield, just as Hemingway and Faulkner defer to Mark Twain.

At a modest price of \$6-7, one can hardly be disappointed by this new Reclam edition. Eight contemporary illustrations and two maps accompany the text and critical apparatus. As Texans, however, we may know more local

history than the editor who explains to us that "die Mason und Dixon Linie" is "eine imaginäre linie--Zwischen den Sklaven und nicht Sklaven haltenden Staaten, das heisst zwischen den Süden und den Norden." That is inaccurate on two counts, but perhaps one can overlook some fine points. Another editorial error defines "die Patrioten" as aufständische Südamerikaner," which makes them South Americans, not just Southerners. Doubtlessly the most grievous error is one in which the editor, Alexander Ritter, confuses New York and New Orleans (p. 408).

Such quibbling aside, *Das Kajütenbuch* is a book that many members of the heritage society will thoroughly enjoy. The German is colorful, nostalgic, and colloquial. The setting is familiar, and the story is rewarding. It's a classic like *Huck Finn* that one may not read twice, but that one certainly ought to have read.

SCHREINER COLLEGE

GLEN E. LICH

U.S.-German stamp

By TOM KOCH

THE INTENTIONS are all good and wholesome. Gershon Canaan, the Dallas architect who serves as the area's Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany, initialized the ideas that created the April 29 joint issue between West Germany and the United States.

Though the two governments did not accept Canaan's stamp design, they accepted the idea. The first day of issue — in the Germantown section of Philadelphia and Bonn for the West Germany version — was moved to April 29 instead of the original May 5 date. The reason was that the new Minister of Posts in West Germany has an important cabinet meeting that first week in May.

Canaan submitted a design of a home in Germantown but the two governments chose a symbolic design of a ship — The Concord — which brought the first German settlers to America in 1683. Perhaps they figured this was more middle "ground" for the two countries.

The problem is that the drawing of the Concord is based on imagination since no likeness of the ship exists. Artist Richard Schlecht based his

STAMP SCENE

design on written descriptions of similar ships. This appears to be a weakness since the design could symbolize any of 1,000 trans-Atlantic voyages. A more specific design related to the 300th anniversary of this event would have been better.

Canaan's design will not be wasted. UniCover will use it on its first day cover of the event; Canaan also prompted Texas legislators to pass a Senate Resolution honoring the philatelic event and German contributions to the growth and development of Texas.

Last year Canaan received the "Grand Cross of Merit" — the highest award accorded a civilian by the West German government. The Berlin-born U. S. citizen was honored with a "Gershon Canaan Day" in Dallas last Sept. 14.

Both the United States and German issues will be printed in brown tones. The U. S. version will carry a 20-cent tag and the German 80 pfennigs.

German Program Will Be Aired

People interested in German heritage will present a program in German over radio station KVLG each Sunday at 1 p.m.

This will be non-denominational church program, directed by A. W. Wied of Fayetteville.

From time to time individuals and groups will be invited to participate.

Sunday, April 17, 1983, DALLAS TIMES HERALD

Gershon Canaan, a Dallas architect and serving as Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany, initialized the ideas that created the April 29th joint issue between the West Germany and the United States. He also submitted a design for the stamp, showing a home in Germantown, but the two governments chose a symbolic design of the ship, — The Concord — which brought the first German settlers to America. His design was used on the envelopes for first cover issues.





Goethe Institute Houston - German Cultural Center

Goethe-Institut Houston is interested in preparing an exhibition for its institute on German-Texana for the Sesquicentennial in 1986. We are interested in the following areas:

1. Music Among the German Texans: Examples of their instruments, history of their musical societies, playbills and posters advertising German-Texan concerts, possibly examples of their music.
2. German-Texan Crafts: Woven blankets, quilts, stenciling patterns, woodcarving, ironwork, toys, furniture.
3. German-Texan Cooking: Examples of cooking utensils, cast iron pots, special cooking tools, authentic recipes, dishes and pots.
4. German-Texan Furniture: An exhibition of authentic furniture (chairs, beds, tables) plus informational material on early furniture makers, possibly furniture-making tools.

One thing is certain: not all of these exhibits will materialize. The exhibit we decide to do will depend largely on the resources and artifacts available to us.

If you have any artifacts, information, books, articles, or other items that might help us with one of the exhibits, please write or call Goethe-Institut, Jo Ann LeQuang. We would like to inspect and hear about as many appropriate pieces as possible: your information in no way obligates you to loan us the item for exhibition purposes! We simply want to find out the sort of items that exist, learn as much as possible about the subject, and eventually approach a few persons with prime articles for possible short-term loan for the GI-Sesquicentennial Exhibition.

Please help us! No information or item is too small for us to learn from.

Goethe-Institut, 2600 Southwest Freeway, Suite 110, Houston, Texas 77098. Tel. (713)528-2787.

June 9, 1983—Recorder-Times (San Antonio, Texas)

Musician has lifelong zither affair

By Suzanne Diehl

"Not everyone can play a zither," says Hans George Mangold, who may very well be the only professional zither player in town.

Basically, in order to play the steel-stringed instrument, which looks rather like an infant harp still too small to sit up, one must be one of those people who can rub their tummies counter-clockwise with their left hands while patting themselves on the head with their right hands.

Sitting on a hard wooden chair in the workroom of an

upholstery shop on N. San Pedro last week, 78-year-old Mangold set his lindenwood and etched silver zither on a facing chair and demonstrated the complexity of the instrument in front of him.

"These strings are very sharp," Mangold says, slipping a Celluloid shield onto his right thumb and flaunting the hard callouses on his other fingers. He explains:

"A zither has the same number of octaves as a piano, but the big difference is that with a zither you use your right hand to play chords on the

strings at the back, moving from right to left, while at the same time you play the melody on the front strings, moving from left to right.

"It's pretty confusing, but if you begin to practice when you are a small child, you usually get organized by the time you are 10 or 12.

"Of course, you have to have good musical sense and a lot of talent."

The sprightly Mangold then demonstrated both his talent and musical sense by playing and singing a chorus of "Edelweiss," reminiscent of "The

Sound of Music." In the workroom around him other upholsterers look up, grinning fondly. Zither concerts for birthdays and company parties are a tradition wherever Mangold works, he says.

Over the years Mangold has memorized a repertoire of 120 pieces, most of them Vienna waltzes, and he maintains that the zither, with its distinctly "country western" sound, was made originally in Switzerland and Austria to play waltzes for folk dancing. These days the enthusiastic musician still adds two or three new songs a

year to his memorized collection.

Born in Munich, Hans Mangold was 18 years old in 1923 when he emigrated to San Antonio, sponsored by his uncle, George Mangold, who had a real estate office and grocery store on Flores Street.

The young Mangold promptly went to work for Louis Doyle at the City Upholstery Shop and began to spend his evenings with the Beethoven Singing Society when he wasn't playing his zither for dancing somewhere around town.



Hans George Mangold ...calloused fingers, golden chords

(Continued)

By 1935 Mangold had bought out Doyle, and, in 1954, moved his wife and young son, Hans Frank, to a home on Tuttle Road in Terrell Hills. Young Hans, who is content to leave the family's musical chores and

delights to his father, attended Alamo Heights schools and then went on to study decorating in New York City. The two now work together at the San Pedro Avenue upholstery shop which the elder Mangold recently sold to George Weatheril.

Still disciplined to practicing the zither an hour or so at least every other day, the irrepressibly merry Mangold says confidently:

"I think I'm the last zither player in San Antonio, although there are quite a few

zithers being played in New Braunfels."

A familiar and traditional sight during Fiesta celebrations, dressed in his lederhosen and Austrian hat trimmed with real edelweiss and a goat's beard, Mangold keeps his

hand in during the rest of the year playing on Wednesday evenings at Crumpet's in Alamo Heights, on Friday nights at the Bavarian Inn downtown and on Saturdays at the Black Forest Restaurant on N. San Pedro. He usually sings along as he plays, and he brags:

"I can handle any request from 'Du, Du Liebste Mier Im Herten' through 'Somewhere My Love' to 'It's a Long, Long Road to Tipperary' without having to stop to think."

One has the distinct feeling that Hans

George Mangold has done a lot of thinking since a scaled down zither was put in his hands back in Germany early in this century, but its hard to believe he has never taken the time to come to a stop.

Long may he twang!

-95-

PROMINENT GERMAN IMMIGRANTS IN NORTH AMERICA

By Gilbert J. Jordan

A very interesting and useful brochure, entitled The German-American Connection, has been produced and is being distributed by Lufthansa Airlines in commemoration of the three hundredth anniversary of the first permanent German settlement in America, Germantown in Pennsylvania. The brochure is based upon a longer work Drei Hundert Jahre Deutsche Einwanderer in Nordamerika (Three Hundred Years of German Immigrants in North America), edited by Klaus Wust and Heinz Moos. (Heinz Moos Publishing, Baltimore).

Eleven short articles deal with various aspects of the subject, and a large number of Americans with a German background are listed and their contributions to American life discussed. I prepared a short list of some of these immigrants and am presenting it below. The names were chosen more or less subjectively in the hope that readers might find the group interesting.

Some of the ones listed first were participants in the American War of Independence, for example Johann Peter Muhlenberg (1746-1807), a Lutheran clergyman who was the leader of a German-American regiment; Nicholas Herkimer (Hirschheimer, 1728-1777), who lost his life in combat; Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben, Inspector-General of George Washington's army; Maria Ludwig-Hayes (1754-1832), called Molly Pitcher because she carried pitchers of water to her husband and other soldiers in the Revolutionary War; David Rittenhaus (1732-1796), also a participant in the war and later the builder of the first planatorium in America.

Several later immigrants were active politically, for example Carl Schurz (1829-1906), who fled the German Revolution of 1848, and later became a Senator from Missouri and then Secretary of the Interior under President Hayes; and John Peter Altgelt (1847-1902), who became Governor of Illinois.

Other prominent newcomers were: Ottmar Mergenthaler (1854-1899), who invented the Linotype machine; Johann August Roebling (1806-1869), who together with his son Washington August Roebling designed and built the Brooklyn Bridge; Leopold Damrosch (1832-1885), founder and conductor of the New York Symphony Society, and his sons Frank and Walter.

George Rapp came to America in 1804 and brought religious refugees to America and founded the community of Harmony in Pennsylvania. Francis Lieber (1800-1872) produced the first edition of the Encyclopedia Americana, based on the German Brockhaus Conversations-Lexicon. Thomas Nast (1840-1902) became the famous political cartoonist and caricaturist.

If we had more space to present others, we should discuss Guggenheim, Steinway (Steinweg), Albert Einstein (1879-1955), Bruno Walter (1876-1962), Wernher von Braun (1912-1977), Herbert Hoover (Huber), the Rockefellers (Roggenfelders, Rye Field Farmers), Eisenhower (Eisenhauer, Iron Smith, lit. Iron Beater), Pershing (Pfoerschin, Pfirsching, Poersching), Gen. Custer (Koster, Köster), Steinmetz, Walter Gropius, and Marlene Dietrich.

People interested in history, German, genealogy, and ethnic studies will find the Lufthansa brochure and the Wust-Moos book valuable additions to their libraries.

***** End *****

Freud in Cowboystiefeln

Die Fernsehserie „Dallas“ wird – wie berichtet – ab April für eine geraume Zeit ausgesetzt, weil die ARD mit ihren synchronisierten Fassungen den Stand der Amerikaner erreicht hat und weil in den USA Wiederholungen laufen, während neue Folgen gedreht werden. Da bleibt dem „Dallas“-Fan (Fan = Fanatiker) nichts anderes übrig, als sich auf den Weg nach Dallas zu machen und die Southfork Ranch der Fernsehfamilie Ewing aufzusuchen. Alle USA-Rundreisen (per Flugzeug oder per Bus), die durch Texas führen, haben auch Southfork auf dem Programm. Wer selber mit dem Auto unterwegs ist, fahre

vom Stadtzentrum von Dallas auf dem North Central FRWY 75 ungefähr 20 Meilen in Richtung Norden. Ansonsten wende sich der Ortsunkundige an die Gray Line Of Dallas einer Ms. Elizabeth Stuart (welch ungewöhnliche Namensführung), bei deren Stadtrundfahrten auch ein Abstecher aufs Land gemacht wird.

Im Juni und Juli laufen die Außenaufnahmen auf der Southfork Ranch (die Innenaufnahmen werden in Hollywood gemacht). Für einen Eintrittspreis von zehn Dollar darf man den Fernsehleuten über die Schulter schauen. Der Zaungast wird allerdings nicht den alten Jock Ewing zu Gesicht bekommen, weil der Darsteller dieser Rolle schon längst verstorben ist. Jock (sprich „Tschock“) wurde deswegen bei einer Rückkehr von einer Europa-reise sofort in den südamerikanischen Urwald abgeschoben, von wo er – eines Howard Hughes würdig – seine Botschaften nach Texas aussandte.

Wir müssen feststellen, daß die ohnehin obskuren Handlungsstränge ohne die feste Hand eines alten Jock noch diffuser werden. Es zeigt sich ein recht krauses Psychologie-Verständnis, wenn der skrupellose J. R. das ganze Ewing-Vermögen für einen persönlichen Rachefeldzug

aufs Spiel setzt und dann vor der alten Miß Ellie kuschelt, wenn Pamela (in der Synchronisation „Pimela“) in ihrer Sehnsucht nach einem Baby klapsmühlenreif wird, wenn Sue Ellens impotenter Gefährte Dusty zum Wettkampf der Männer, zum Rodeo enteilt. Was mag sich wohl unter den riesigen Texas-Hüten abspielen? Da schreit der Siegmund Freud in Cowboystiefeln einher.

Man möchte die Texaner vor einem Fernseh-Trugbild in Schutz nehmen, das ihnen weltweit Beachtung einbringt. Aber beim Besuch der unweit von Austin gelegenen Ranch des verstorbenen Präsidenten Lyndon B. Johnson kommt in Erinnerung, was dieser einmal zu geladenen Journalisten gesagt hat: „Why do you ask me a chickenshit question like this?“, und der sich mit den Worten verdrückte: „I'm gonna to have a piss.“

Da vom Rancherleben die Rede ist, warum nicht eine Ranch pachten? Das Angebot ist groß; denn Texas ist riesig, ist dreimal so groß wie die Bundesrepublik. Auf fern-sehgerechte Cowboys stößt man in Fort Worth bei Dallas, in Amarillo und in El Paso, ein Cowboy-Frühstück im Freien, das ist allemal drin. Texas ist so groß, daß der 130 km lange Strand am Golf von Mexiko noch entdeckt werden muß, daß der Besucher rund um San Antonio zum Spurenleser einer großen Vergangenheit werden kann. Und Texas ist wie fast alle Bundesstaaten des Sonnengürtels aufstrebend. Wenn sich dieses Land bei uns mit einer Schau vorstellt, dann steht für jede texanische Stadt ein Mann hinter einem Tisch, mit einem Cowboyhut auf dem Kopf. Eine kräftige Hand wird ausgestreckt und das Grußwort „How are you“ kommt über eine Flut von Prospekten. Uwe Witsch

...jeder Quadratzentimeter menschlicher Haut aus drei Millionen Zellen besteht und 10 Haare, 14 Fettdrüsen, 90 cm Blutgefäesse, 100 Schweissdrüesen und 2900 Tastzellen hat?

in einem einzigen Tropfen Flüssigkeit 50 Millionen Bakterien enthalten sein koennen?

es in den USA mindestens 2,4 Millionen Menschen gibt mit dem Namen Smith?

...der deutsche Bundesbürger durchschnittlich während seines Lebens 36 000 Tabletten einnimmt?

...in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland – bezogen auf die Bevölkerungszahl – mehr Menschen an Krebs sterben als in jedem anderen Land der Erde?

Wussten Sie, dass . . .

...es hoechst gefaehrlich ist, vor dem Tauchen Alkohol zu trinken? Beinahe die Haelfte der beim Tauchen Ertrunkenen hatten vorher alkoholische Getraenke zu sich genommen;

...man mit dem Getreide, das fuer Whisky und dergleichen harte Getraenke der US-Amerikaner jaehrlich verbraucht, an die 50 Millionen Menschen ernaehren koennte?

die Sowjetunion sieben Zeitzonen besitzt?

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...die untergehende Sonne roter erscheint als die aufgehende, weil die Luft am Abend im allgemeinen staubiger ist als am Morgen desselben Tages?

...jedes Jahr etwa 15 000 Amerikaner sterben, weil sie sich in Krankenhäusern Infektionen zuziehen?

...der Zigarettenrauch auch radioaktive Strahlung abgibt?

...alte Menschen oft bei lebendigem Leibe vertrocknen? Trotz fehlendem Durstgefuehl sollten sie daher ausreichend Flüssigkeit zu sich nehmen.

...in der Bundesrepublik derzeit 1837 Pflanzenschutzmittel und Wachstumsregler registriert sind?

N A C H R U F

ELLA KAUTZ

geboren: den 26. Januar, 1908

gestorben: den 27. März, 1983

We have been grieving about the tragic and untimely death of Ella Kautz, of Industry, who was one of the first members of the German Texan Heritage Society. Ella was born in Industry, baptized at St. Johns Evangelical Lutheran Church, and attended school in Industry. She graduated in 1926 as an Honor Student and received a scholarship to Blinn College, but could not attend because room was not included. In 1939, she became a charter member of the Women's Organization of Trinity Lutheran Church in Frelsburg; during her long affiliation with Trinity she held many offices and was a Sunday School Teacher for many years. In 1949, she became a member and officer of West End Extension Homemakers; she held a number of offices on the Austin County Extension Homemakers Council. Ella began to write as correspondent of the Bellville Times and the New Ulm Enterprise Newspapers in the 1950s. She was active as a Cub Scout Denmother, as treasurer of the Texas District of the American Lutheran Church Women, and as a member and officer of the West End PTA. Since 1955 she served as member of the Austin County Unit of the American Cancer Society and held various offices, including that of chairman. On April 10, 1961, Ella was named Life Member of the Texas Congress of Parents and Teachers. On May 9, 1981, she was honored by the Soil and Water Conversation District as Community Service Woman of the Year in Austin County. At the time of Ella's death, she was an active member and reporter for the Industry Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary, a member of GTHS, a member of Friends of Winedale Historical Center, a member of the Lutheran Hospitals Auxiliary, the treasurer of the Trinity Lutheran Sunday School, the reporter of the Trinity Lutheran Church Women, the president and treasurer of the West End Extension Homemakers, the Crusade Chairman of the West End Cancer Society, and the secretary of the Kautz Family Reunion.

When I first met Ella at the Executive Council meeting of the GTHS in Winedale, I was immediately impressed by her expressiveness, her witty little stories about the past and about herself. She was nicely dressed, her silvery hair neatly held in a bun. She was articulate and did not hesitate to make a point, but with a smile. And above all, she spoke German with fluency and ease. I was then looking for informants for the pilot video documentary about the area of the first permanent German settlement at Industry. I decided, on the spot, that

Kautz

Ella would be an excellent guide to the German Texan people, events and sites of the Industry region. She became, indeed, the key person in the project. Dona Reeves and I will always treasure the memory of the talks and meals with Ella, of the visits which she arranged at Jessie Bünker's house where we were privileged to journey back into the past with Ella and Jessie. And we will remember the wonderful chats over coffee, cherry and pecan pie, and old pictures at Fairy Wittner's; and the discussions at Ella's house with her, Leola Tiedt, Miriam York and Sharon Spiess.

Unbeknown to Ella, she had recently become even more important for the current project about German Texan women. Last year, as I was spending yet another weary day in the video study in order to re-edit the documentary, I found myself looking at and listening to Ella, and suddenly I realized that the most valuable and lively information about the German Texans had been gained from interviews with her and other women. That moment was the birth time of the German Texan women project: this time we would gather all those fine, expressive stories of Ella's about her life, about her mother, grandmother, niece and her women friends. Ella could patch together from mundane things such tales as colorful as the quilts which she and her mother had worked on. And now, as we are still trying to understand and accept her tragic death, only the artifacts of her life and her spirit remain. May God keep your soul in peace, Ella.

Ingeborg H. Rüberg McCoy

Garland A. Perry: Historic Images of Boerne, Texas. Perry Enterprises: Boerne, Texas, 1982. Order from Perry Enterprises, Post Office Box 200, Boerne, Texas 78006.

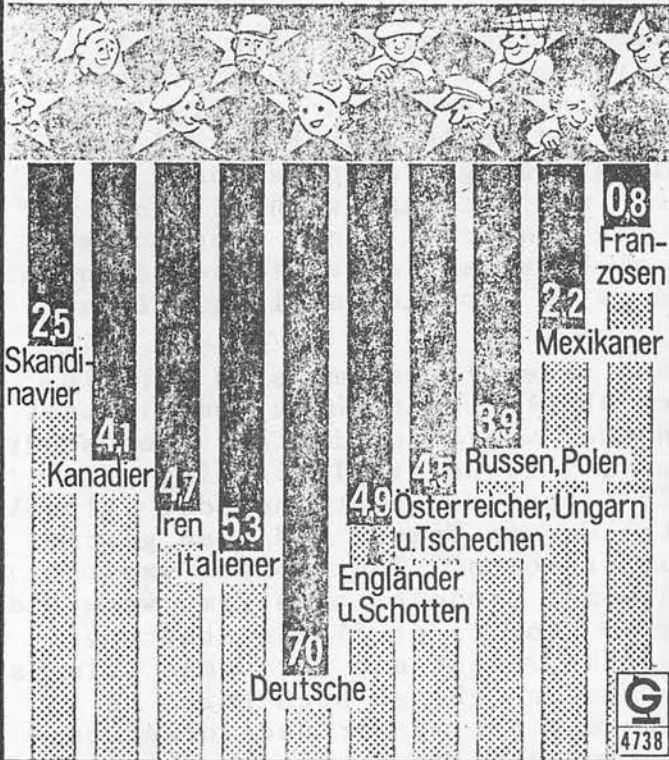
Garland A. Perry's Historic Images of Boerne, Texas is a collection of photographs and anecdotes about the residents and the area of Boerne and surrounding Kendall County. Mr. Perry's book began as a series of eighty (80) "mini-stories" appearing in a bank advertising program. Since Mr. Perry is an experienced photographer, he added his and friends' photographs and other pertinent materials. Since this book is primarily anecdotal, rather than consequent, it will be most appreciated by those familiar with the people and events covered by its pages. Mr. Perry realizes this and hopes his efforts will provide impetus for further in-depth studies of Boerne.

Hanna B. Lewis

Sam Houston State University

Stammväter der Amerikaner

Einwanderung 1820-1979 in die USA in Millionen



Von den 230 Millionen US-Bürgern sind mehr als 50 Millionen deutschstämmig. Die erste größere deutsche Auswanderergruppe brach vor genau 300 Jahren von Krefeld auf. Sie gründete bei Philadelphia die Stadt Germantown. Seit 1820, dem Beginn genauer Aufzeichnungen, kamen sieben Millionen Einwanderer aus Deutschland in die USA. Graphik: Globus

Krefeld: Bush heute bei der 300-Jahr-Feier

Erinnerung an Deutsche in den USA

dpa/ap Bonn/Krefeld. Die 300-Jahr-Feier heute, Sonnabend, in Krefeld zur Erinnerung an die ersten deutschen Einwanderer in den USA ist ein nachdrückliches Zeichen der Zusammengehörigkeit beider Staaten, erklärten am Freitag in Bonn die Koordinatoren für die deutsch-amerikanischen Beziehungen, Staatssekretär Berndt von Staden und Charles Wick (USA). Auf einer Pressekonferenz unterstrich Wick, Leiter der amerikanischen Informationsbehörde, die USA seien davon überzeugt, in der Bundesrepublik den wichtigsten Freund zu besitzen, „und wir brauchen diese Freundschaft“.

Die Krefeld-Feierlichkeiten, an denen Bundespräsident

Karl Carstens, Bundeskanzler Helmut Kohl und US-Vizepräsident George Bush teilnehmen, erinnern nach Ansicht der Koordinatoren an einen wesentlichen Beitrag zum Ausbau der amerikanischen Nation.

Bush betonte die Bereitschaft, bei seinem Besuch auch mit Angehörigen der Friedensbewegung zu sprechen. Auf einer Gegenveranstaltung zu den Jubiläumsfeiern wird u.a. die katholische Theologin Professor Uta Ranke-Heinemann gegen die Stationierung von US-Raketen in der Bundesrepublik sprechen.

Einen Tag vor dem Besuch Bushs in Krefeld wurde ein Anschlag auf eine amerikanischen Firma im benachbarten Düsseldorf vereitelt.



Die Bürger der Bundesrepublik Deutschland sind ausgefuchteste Spar-Strategen, die ihre realen Einkommenseinbußen nicht gleichmäßig über Einkommen und Ausgaben verteilen. Für Körperpflege, Bildung sowie für Nahrungs- und Genussmittel haben sie im letzten Jahr nur geringfügig weniger als 1980 ausgegeben, machten aber erhebliche Einschränkungen bei den Ausgaben für Kleidung und Schuhe und bei den Auslandsreisen: bis zu viermal mehr als bei der Bildung.

Bild: Poss

Spielverlust vermeidbar?

Vorhand erhält das Spiel und hat nach Skataufnahme folgende Karten: Kreuz- und Pik-Bube, Kreuz-König, Pik-As, -König, -9, -7, Herz-As, -10, -König, -9 und Karo-Dame.

Klar, daß er Grand spielt. Bei genauer Betrachtung ist das Spiel, risikolos durchgeführt,

nicht zu verlieren. Vorhand reicht aber durch eigenes Verschulden und eine für ihn ungünstige Kartenverteilung nur 60 Augen. Welche Karten drückte er? Wie war die Kartenverteilung, wie der Spielverlauf? Konnte der Alleinspieler den Spielverlust vermeiden?

From INGRID KOKINDA

A Fragment of a Shipboard Diary kept by Pastor John Kilian
of the Texas Wendish-Germans

by Prof. Joseph Wilson
Dept. of German & Russian, Rice University

(First presented at a meeting of the Texas Wendish Heritage Soc.,
August, 1982, in Serbin)

The Wendish-Germans of Serbin and the surrounding area of east-central Texas are unique in a number of ways. In Germany they were an originally Slavic group which was encircled by Germans in the Middle Ages. In the ensuing centuries, they had undergone a natural process of integration into the majority, as any minority group ultimately must. Thus, the Wends who emigrated to Texas in the mid-19th century were already greatly Germanized; most were bilingual, and of course German was considered the more "official" language, while Wendish --although loved by many-- was of little practical usage. In Texas they continued this process, intermingling with the state's strong German element. Gradually, as had been happening in Germany, more and more of them gave up Wendish altogether and became indistinguishable from the other Germans. In this century they clung tenaciously to their Germanness, even through the two dreadful wars. Only after the group had completed the transition from Wendish to German in Texas did they begin to acquire English. In the first half of this century, all aspects of life were dominated by German, but many still could speak Wendish, so, as English finally began to come in, many people were fluently trilingual in these three quite different languages. I know of no other immigrant group trilingual in such different languages or which made a similar two-step integration into the American mainstream ("Wendish to German to English").

Another unique feature of this group is the way they came to Texas. Being conservative "Old Lutherans", they had been resisting the efforts of their governments (Prussia and Saxony) to merge the various Protestant factions into one united church. Then, in 1854, nearly 600 of them formed a combined church-congregation and emigration-society, called Pastor John (Johann/Jan) Kilian to be their leader, and came to Texas on one ship (the "Ben Nevis"). In Texas, they bought a league of land in what is now Lee County, between Giddings and La Grange, and continued their church-centered life together in their community, which they later called Serbin ("Wend-Land").

The last unique aspect I will mention concerns their voyage on the Ben Nevis, which was sadly unique in its tragicness. While any crossing of the Atlantic was arduous at the time, that of the Wends took three months (from Hamburg ultimately to Galveston) and claimed over 70 lives, mostly because of a cholera epidemic.

It is this tragic voyage that concerns us here. Little is known about it; the primary source of information is a memoire written

in his later years by Johann Teinert, who was a child at the time of the crossing.

In the early 1950s, Anne Blasig, a daughter of Pastor Schmidt of Serbin, wrote the first widely-known book on the Texas Wends, and donated a few documents, evidently from the pastoral archives, to the Barker Texas History Center of the University of Texas at Austin. Chief among them are the passenger-list of the Ben Nevis, Teinert's memoire (usually referred to as "Ein Brief"), and a passengers' contract for Pastor Kilian's family.

While Blasig cites the passengers' contract and gives a picture of it, she mistakenly thinks it covers the passage for the entire group. But more critically, neither she nor anyone else has realized the importance of the "scribbling" on the back of the one-page contract: it is a precious fragment of a shipboard diary kept by Pastor Kilian. Not only does it add details to what little we know about the voyage, it is the only description at all that we have which was actually written during the voyage.

The diary fragment is written in German, in the old German handwriting. The writing is unmistakably that of Kilian, himself. He kept his records and correspondence, which were nearly all in German, in a beautiful script, conscious of their importance for posterity. The diary fragment was not written so carefully, evidently meant only for his own reading; naturally, also, the conditions on the ship hardly encouraged neat writing. At first glance, the writing seems largely illegible, but with careful study it becomes very clear, with scarcely any problems of interpretation remaining. Names and dates are written in "Latin" script, very similar to English handwriting; this mingling of the two scripts, with Latin letters for special words, was very common, and it was Kilian's general practice.

The fragment covers just six days, from Oct. 22nd through Oct. 27, 1854 (Sunday through Friday). The Wends had assembled in Hamburg in early September, then crossed to Liverpool, where they boarded the Ben Nevis and unfortunately also got into the cholera epidemic. On Sept. 26th they sailed, but the disease was so bad on the ship that they stopped at Queenstown, Ireland, for three weeks, in quarantine, while the ship was cleaned and fumigated. Finally, on Oct. 23rd, they actually sailed out into the open sea. It is at this point that the diary fragment begins:

"-Vor der Abfahrt Sonntags Mittags 1/4 1 starb Magdalena Noack, Ehefrau
 -Am 23 October Montag fuhren wir von Queenstown ab
 -In der Nacht vom 23/24 October starb Tschornaks Kind. Wind stark
 -Am 24 October ungünstiger Wind, Nachmittags wurde er zum Sturm, in der Nacht fiel im Zwischendeck alles durcheinander, Seekrankheit im höchsten Grade beim Knistern der Schiffswände
 -Am 25 October Wittwoch sehr günstiger Wind, in 1 Stunde wurden 2 deutsche Meilen gefahren, es wurden zwei Schiffe gesehen
 -Am 26 October der Wind noch sehr günstig, bei mir Ende der See-

krankheit

-Am 27 October früh 6 Uhr hat die Frau Symmank einen Knaben geboren, Seekrankheit liess nach, der Wind stark, aber conträr, so dass man kreuzen musste. Meine Frau brach noch, war aber den ganzen Tag auf dem Verdeck, am 26sten October nur kurz auf dem Verdeck gewesen

-Am 27 October gegen Abend waren 10 engl. Meilen von Portugal in der Richtung nach Madeira hin. Die Reise geht südlich"

The following is a close English translation:

"-Before departure, Sunday, 12:15pm, Mrs. Magdalena Noack¹ died.

-On Oct. 23rd, Monday, we departed from Queenstown.

-In the night of Oct. 23rd, Tschornak's child² died. Wind strong.

-On Oct. 24th, unfavorable wind; in the afternoon it became a storm. At night, in the hold³, everything fell topsy-turvy; seasickness in the highest degree, while the hull-walls creak.

-On Oct. 25th, Wednesday, very favorable wind; in an hour we traveled 2 German miles⁴. Two ships were seen.

-On Oct. 26th, the wind still very favorable; with me, end of the seasickness.

-On Oct. 27th, at 6 o'clock in the morning, Mrs. Symmank gave birth to a boy⁵. Seasickness let up; the wind strong, but contrary, so that we had to sail a zig-zag course. My wife was still vomiting, but was on deck all day (on Oct. 26th, she had been only briefly on deck).

-On Oct. 27th, towards evening, [we] were 10 English miles from Portugal in the direction towards Madeira. We are headed south."

Notes: 1. Mrs. (Johann) Noack's was the 55th death.

2. Agnes, 1 1/2 year-old daughter of Johann Tschornak.

3. Nearly all the passengers were quartered in the hold, between decks (Kilian's family had a 2nd class cabin). It was important to try to spend as much time on deck as possible, in the fresh air.

4. The German mile equaled approx. 5 English miles.

5. Peter, son of Andreas Symmank; according to the baptismal records, the only one of the 6 children born on the water to survive.

This fragment, giving a vivid, first-hand account of the first days on the open sea, and written by the leader of the group, himself, is a precious gem. Immediately, of course, we wonder: is this a portion of a larger diary? Apparently, unfortunately, it is not. While Blasig cites a Kilian diary in her bibliography, she otherwise mentions it only in one vague reference (p. 13), and it is not clear whether there really was or is such a diary, or if Blasig is referring to other diary-like papers. George Nielsen, whose "In Search of a Home" (1977) is the best book on the Wends, makes no mention of a diary. If Kilian had been keeping a regular diary, he would not have used the back of his passengers' contract for these entries.

For all its brevity, the diary fragment has a definite beginning and end. The first lines deal with the departure into the open sea and probably were inspired by it --by the feeling that

they were finally getting started. After descriptions of the first chaotic week at sea, the fragment ends: "We are headed south." The lower half of the page is blank, so we must presume that as they entered the main body of the Atlantic, the diary was discontinued.

This brief shipboard diary fragment gives a vivid picture of the distressful circumstances of the crossing: births and deaths; being at the mercy of the shifting winds; the storms; the seasickness, whose suffering even Kilian and his wife shared; the frightening creaking of the hull at night, while all were sick and everything and everybody was falling topsy-turvy. We learn that the route went south along the coast of Portugal towards Madeira. In spite of the awful problems, we feel Kilian's optimism, especially in the last words: "We are headed south." Finally, we can note here again, as we see throughout the Kilian papers, that Kilian loved the German language as he did the Wendish, and even preferred to keep his most personal notes, such as in this fragment, in German.

JUNE 5-AUGUST 21

**GOETHE-INSTITUT
HOUSTON**

2600 SOUTHWEST FREEWAY
SUITE 110
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77098

MAX ERNST: GRAPHIC WORKS

"Art," German artist Max Ernst once wrote, "is both aggression and uplift." Born 1891 in Germany, Ernst's career took him to Paris and America and spanned five decades. He is one of the most important Surrealist artists anywhere and rarely has any artist achieved his original blend of playfulness and sharp insight. "Faced with an empty sheet, I am struck by a virginity complex," he commented. Ernst's works both fascinate us and make us uneasy. His vision and his ability to transcend artificial barriers, to go "beyond painting", involved placing highly familiar objects in totally implausible contexts. He was enormously versatile and experimented with techniques like collage, frottage (rubbing), and photograms. This exhibition, organized by the Institute for Foreign Relations in Stuttgart and circulated by Goethe-Institut, chronicles five decades of Ernst's work, from the 1920's to the 1960's, and invites the viewer to verify the statement of William S. Rubin, Director of the Department of Painting and Sculpture at the Museum of Modern Art in New York: "In the extraordinary range of his styles and techniques, he is to Dada and Surrealism what Picasso is to 20th century art as a whole." On view at the Roswell Museum of Fine Arts in Roswell, New Mexico. The Museum of Fine Arts is located at 11th and Main and is open 9-5 on Monday-Saturday and 1-5 on Sunday. There is no admission charge. Please call (505) 622-4700 for more information.

BORN TO SERVE
The Life of R.J.Weber

Pastor Weber begins his life's story with his ancestors in Germany, their immigration to Texas in 1845 and 1846, with their early life and its hardships in the new land. He tells about his boyhood on the farm in a 3-room rock house, six miles from Fredericksburg. He continues with his days spent in college and seminary, his first call as mission pastor to Bay City, next to Damon, where a Lutheran Church was organized during his serving there. There were other congregations, Redwood, Galle, Zorn, and Weinert. In 1942 he answered the call to congregations in Wiedeville and Somerville. He accepted a call from Zion Lutheran Church in Washington County in 1947 and remained there until his retirement in 1974. Four pages of pictures are included. The booklet of 24 pages, 8 1/2 x 11 inches may be ordered from Pastor Weber for \$2.00. Address: Rev. Richard J. Weber, 1501 South Church Street, Brenham, Texas 77833.

— ELIZABETH LETTMANN

FROM
S.G.A.S.
Newsletter

DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS IN GERMAN-AMERICAN
STUDIES: THE NEWSLETTER'S ANNUAL
LIST OF THE YEAR'S BEST

Clausing, Stephen Douglas. "English Influence on the American German Dialects with a Comparison to American Icelandic." The University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1981. 231pp. Order no. 8124598.

Faires, Nora Helen. "Ethnicity in Evolution: The German Community in Pittsburgh and Allegheny City, Pennsylvania, 1845-1885." The University of Pittsburgh, 1981. 649 pp. Order no. 8202344.

Niehaus, Juliet Ann. "Ethnic Formation and Transformation: The German Catholics of Dubois County, Indiana 1838-1979." The New School for Social Research, 1981. 240 pp. Order no. 8202145.

Prewitt, Terry James, "German-American Settlement in an Oklahoma Town: Ecologic, Ethnic and Cultural Change." University of Oklahoma, 1979. 186pp.

Reimensnyder, Barbara Louise, "Powwowing in Union County: A Study of Pennsylvania Folk Medicine in Context." University of Pennsylvania, 1982. 257pp. Order no. DA8217169.

Stuecher, Dorothea Diver. "Double Jeopardy: Nineteenth Century German Women Writers". University of Minnesota, 1981. 279 pp. Order no. 8206427.

Tengler, Heinz Frieder. "The Historical Novel in German Exile Literature (1933-1945): Central Characters as Counter-Figures and Analogues to Fascist (and Other) Dictators." University of California, San Diego, 1982. 357 pp. Order no. DA8219222.

Thorp, Danial Barret. "Moravian Colonization of Wachovia, 1753-1772: The Maintenance of Community in Late Colonial North Carolina." The Johns Hopkins University, 1982. 448 pp. Order no. DA8213436.

Tischauer, Leslie Vincent. "The Burden of Ethnicity: The German Question in Chicago, 1914-1941." University of Illinois at Chicago Circle, 1981. 286 pp. Order no. 8129905.

COOKBOOK HAS RECIPES OF EARLY DELAWARE SETTLERS

A new culinary arts book, Das Mehl ist Anders, features a collection of recipes from the German settlers of the Delaware Valley. \$8.95 plus \$1.50 for mailing from Prof. Trudy Gilgenast, 1906 Gheen Road, Montclare, Wilmington, DE 19808.

CATALOG OF TRICENTENNIAL EVENTS IN THE US

The presidential commission for the German-American Tricentennial has prepared a catalog of all the events scheduled to take place during the tricentennial year. Dated April 25, 1983 the item runs 64 pages to date and new submissions are welcome. Contact the commission staff at 730 Jackson Pl. N.W., Washington D. C. 20006 (202) 395-3411.

NOUN or noun?
That is the QUESTION

When is a noun not a Noun? That question has been one of the major stumbling blocks for German linguists and philologists in the long-running debate on simplifying German orthography - where every Noun in a Sentence is written with a capital Letter, while Verbs, Adjectives, Adverbs and other Parts of Speech are lower-case. The problem is that some nouns are treated like nouns all the time, while others are uncertain whether they are nouns or adverbs. For example, "mit Bezug" and "in bezug" mean the same thing - "with regard to" -, but one time the "B" is big and one time it is small. Though some linguists claim to understand the difference between "Bezug" and "be-

zug," Munich's Society for the German Language has just published new guidelines designed to simplify things. According to the language society, a noun is a noun if it is used with an article, if it could be used with an article in certain circumstances, or if the context is such that the word could have an article on its own. The new guidelines, which were eight years in the making, are supposed to be a "radical simplification" of the complex "Duden rules" contained in the ten-volume Duden dictionary.

Capitalization in the German language began in the 13th century, when words within a sentence were first capitalized for emphasis. by the 17th century, all nouns were "upper-cased", and in the 1700's, the first grammatical rules for capitalizing were laid down.

DAILY NEWSPAPER
CIRCULATION IS
OVER 25 MILLION

Daily newspaper circulation is now above 25 million, the highest ever in a country with a population of just over 60 million. This from an audit of newspaper sales in the second quarter of 1982. The audit counted 600,000 new readers or a 1.6 percent increase. Since almost all of the additional circulation was at the newsstand and not by home delivery to subscribers, the favored explanation for the increase is interest generated by the World Cup Soccer Championship of last summer. Germany may have lost - it came in second -, but German newspapers won.

Poem submitted by Dieter Klein, 12903 Westleigh, Houston, Texas. He found it in the book Drei Jahrhunderte deutschen Lebens in Amerika, by Rudolf Gronau.

"Unter texanischer Sonne"

by Konrad Nies

Texanischer Frühling durchs Bergland ging,
ein Weben und Wogen den Wald umfing.
...Dem deutschen Siedler ritt ich zur Seit'
Durch die weite blühende Einsamkeit.

Er hatte einst drüben das Schwert geführt,
eh' texanischer Grund sein Fuss berührt.
Noch hatte das Tagwerk des Ranger nicht
den Adel geraubt dem Rassengesicht.

In seinem Auge, das blau und tief,
ein Abglanz versunkener Sonnen schlief;
Aus Stirn und Nacken, gebräunt und breit,
sprach unverwüstliche Vornehmheit.

Seit zwei Jahrzehnten der Freiheit Sohn,
Hatt' er die Wildnis gezwungen zu Fron,
und hatte ein Feld wie die andern bestellt,
...Doch abseits von ihrer lag seine Welt.

...Die Pferde hielten...am Waldesrand
erschimmerte saatgrünes Ackerland,
das, frisch gerodet, entbrochen dem Hag,
inmitten der wuchernden Buschwelt lag.

...Mein letztes Werk, er lächelte fein
und wies in die keimende Saat hinein.
"...Vor wenigen Monden..drei oder vier...
war alles noch Wildnis und Urwald hier".

Das lockte zur Art, und manchen Tag
gab's schwere Arbeit, doch Schlag auf Schlag
wich Baum um Baum und Busch und Dorn,
...nun keimt schon frohlich das erste Korn.

...Es ist ja nichts Grosses, was man getan,
ich rechne mir sicher nicht hoch es an...
...und dennoch, es ist, wie dem auch sei,
ein Stückchen Schöpferfreude dabei...

Und plötzlich über die Stirne ihm schoss
ein leichter Schatten, als leise er schloss:
..So macht man der Zukunft die Wege klar,
und lernt vergessen was einmal war...

...Er spornte sein Tier..im leichten Trab
wir ritten den steinigen Weg hinab
und sahen den wandernden Wolken nach,
als plötzlich von Friedrich Nietzsche er sprach.

Er hatte des Umwerters Wahn erschaut
und eigene Werte sich aufgebaut.
..Und was er davon mir offenbart
war, wie das Land hier von grosser Art.

Und wie er so ritt durch das Sonnenlicht,
so stolz und stark, so rauh und schlicht,
war mir's, als wehe um Baum und Strauch
vom echten Übermenschen ein Hauch.

...Und lächelnd dacht ich der faselnden Schar
mit rollendem Aug' und fliegendem Haar,
die hinterm Ofen weltwichtig krähn,
und übermenschlich in Sprüchen sich blähn.
...Wie anders reift, als in Sprüchen und Buch,
das Leben bei Arthieb und Erdgeruch....
...und tief im texanischen Sonnenschein,
sprengen wir beide wegfrohlich landein.

-106-

Book Title: Decorative Painting in Texas: 1840s-1940s
Anticipated Publisher: The University of Texas Press
Publishing Date: Fall 1984
Estimated Cost: \$35.00
Author: Buie Harwood

Description of the Project: To locate, identify, record, and document decorative painting in Texas from the 1840s-1940s by means of drawings, photographs, color documentation, and historical research for future book publication. Research information will focus on the extent of decoration, the types of decoration and patterns, the design features, the types of paints/colors and materials, and the painters. Areas: Stencilling, murals, graining, marbling, infill.

German Areas: Industry, Ehlinger, Round Top, Shelby, Warrenton, Moulton, Lindenau, Yorktown, Cistern, Austin, San Antonio area, Henderson, Brenham, Houston area, Galveston, Columbus area, Cat Spring, Schulenberg area, La Grange area, Waco area, Fredericksburg, Lindsay.

Need: Any information pertinent to the subject areas listed, old interior photos that would show decoration, names of painters who worked in German communities, information about German Catholic churches in central Texas that have decoration in them, any old trade catalogs or craft books or advertisements that describe or show painted decoration.

Type of Structures: Residential, Commercial, Churches/painting attached to structure.

Deadline for receipt of any information: October 15, 1983
Mail to: Buie Harwood/703 Knollwood Circle/Austin, Tx. 78746

The San Saba Historical Commission is sponsoring the publication of "The San Saba County History" – a book of family histories, special stories of early communities, schools, etc. of the Early Settlers of San Saba County.

This book will be of great value to genealogists. Many of the descendants of the early pioneers from the first settlers of 1854 are still living in the county and many living on the original land of their ancestors. Much of this land was from land grants granted by the State for various services, as well as headrights issued to encourage immigration.

This is a book of approximately 464 pages, 8½ x 11, hardback. Pre-publication price of the book now is \$29.95 plus \$2.00 postage and handling. After April 30, 1983, the book will sell for \$38.95 plus \$2.00 postage and handling. (Texas residents add 5% sales tax.)

**ORDER TODAY: San Saba County History
c/o Mrs. Helen D. Terry
Treasurer
Route 2, Box 104
San Saba, Texas 76877**

Karen L. Daniel of Houston shares with us the second chapter of her thesis in history entitled Old World Roots, New World Branches: Two Families in American Life. Karen is also a professional genealogist.

GERMAN ROOTS

In all thy forests was no tree mine own;
No blade of rye in all thy fields was mine;
Thou cast me out defenseless and alone,
So young and simple I could not divine
That I should love thee less, myself the more.
Still, Fatherland, I love thee as before!¹

Between 1820 and 1924, more than 5,700,000 people emigrated from Germany, and among these were Dietrich Stein, Frederick Persky, and Gottlob Graeter. Those men and millions of other Germans came for social, political, religious, and personal reasons, but most historians agree that economic factors probably played the most important role, especially after the 1840's.² Some historians, like Friedrich Münch, who emigrated to the United States in 1830, divided the German migration into three periods. During the first period, which lasted until 1848, a mixture of discontented persons from all walks of life turned their backs on Europe to make a new life. From 1849 to 1866, the immigrants were more self-consciously German in character, as perhaps more temporary in the intention, and contemptuous of the way in which the earlier settlers had turned their backs on the Fatherland. After 1866, the emigrants came principally for economic betterment.³

For much of the nineteenth century, Germany was actually many German-speaking peoples from the North Sea to Poland who lacked political, cultural or social unity and were divided by many linguistic, religious, and regional differences. Austria and Prussia were the most powerful states. Before 1871 "Germany" comprised many independent kingdoms, principalities, and duchies, with no central government. These small states frequently shifted from owner to owner, boundaries changed frequently, and their total number fluctuated between three and four hundred.⁴ In fact, only for the brief span of forty-three years, from 1871 to 1914, has there existed one single political unit called Germany. Even this unit was unstable, with significant boundary changes taking place during those years.⁵

The great migrations emerged from profound changes in European society. After 1800, peasant society began to disintegrate as the population increased. There were more people than jobs in agriculture. Jobs in the new city factories attracted them away from rural villages. In the middle of the seventeenth century, the mortality rate declined, and the European population began to rise. Population almost doubled between 1750 and 1850, despite wars, famine, and emigration.⁶ Until 1850, agriculture had been the backbone of the German economy. Three-fourths of the population lived on the land, and most townspeople

also received their livelihood from it. Agricultural products were the most important export. Cottage industries only supplemented agricultural income. Class divisions included the nobility, the middle class, and peasants, artisans, tradesmen, and soldiers. As population increased, young men had no place to go unless they inherited land or a business. According to law most farms could not be divided, so only one child was able to inherit a secure income. Girls had no choice except marriage, but it was difficult to start a new family without a house to live in.⁷

In the 1850's, Germans began channeling capital into industry. New legislation transformed hereditary holders into proprietors subject to the payment of fixed money rents. Land became mobile property and a new class of monied commoners appeared among aristocratic landowners. A new class of landless laborers also appeared below the peasants. Poorer peasants improved their economic future by selling land and joining the industrial labor force, further increasing the labor force.⁸

In western and southern Germany there were few large estates. Small holdings predominated and feudal dues were being commuted into monetary dues. Most peasants lacked the capital to become independent farmers. Between 1816 and 1848 the German population increased from twenty-four to thirty-six million, placing an intolerable burden on small holdings in the south and west. Peasants subdivided the land but only made it too small for efficient farming. As living standards declined and feudal dues increased, peasants grew resentful of the power of the landowners. They began looking abroad for solutions to their problems.⁹

Beginning in 1850, the credit of small farmers cracked under the strain, and financial ruin drove them from Germany. The debt burden had three sources: first, many peasants had heavy pre-1845 mortgages because an abundance of capital and low interest rates had encouraged extensive improvements; second, many farmers had survived the hard times of the late 1840's accumulating impossibly large debts; and third, the annual payments they had assumed after 1848 to free themselves from feudal obligations were still a threat because they were due to the government. In many cases, German peasants could not meet their notes. Land was foreclosed, and they decided to emigrate.¹⁰

Potato famines also hurt the peasants. During the nineteenth century, millions of Europeans depended upon the potato as a staple, but in 1845 a blight rotted potatoes in the fields, as well as those already harvested and stored. Ireland and Germany were the hardest hit. In 1847, a major drought destroyed the grain harvests. Prices rose as hunger gripped Germany. The potato blight spread through Germany between 1851 and 1854.¹¹ More peasants decided to leave.

The agrarian crisis coincided with an industrial crisis. By the 1830's, particularly in the Saxon territories where the guild system still prevailed, the home-based textile industry was increasingly pressed

by competition from British factories. The factories used machinery, steam, or waterpower, and unskilled laborers to manufacture large quantities of goods at prices the craftsmen could not match.¹² Thousands of artisans, trained in the old master system where each man made the whole article, were destitute because of cheaper, mass-produced goods. Many of them decided to emigrate.¹³

The political stress sent several thousand Germans to America. In 1848 revolutions spread throughout Europe. It began in France on February 25, 1848 but quickly spread to Belgium, Austria, Italy, Bohemia, and Poland. The Vienna Revolution of 1848 against the Hapsburgs inspired peasant and burgher uprisings in Württemberg and Baden, and spread into the Rhineland and Prussia. Most radicals demanded popular sovereignty and liberal reforms. On May 18, 1848, liberals and radicals met in the Frankfurt Parliament to draft a constitution for a united, democratic Germany, but disagreements prevailed. Conservatives suppressed the rebellion and regained the initiative. However, perhaps five thousand "Forty-Eighters" came to the United States. The "Forty-Eighter" was a German immigrant coming to the United States as a political refugee from the Revolution of 1848. To the Forty-Eighters, America appeared as the foremost successful constitutional democracy.¹⁴ The greatest service these Forty-Eighters performed for their fellow German-Americans was in filling the void of political leaders in the German-American community.¹⁵

The triumph of Jacksonian Democracy here was contemporaneous with these German attempts to secure popular freedom, and it seemed to provide them the liberty they sought. This was the beginning of the influx of the so-called 'Latin farmers' into Ohio, Indiana, and Missouri. German names dotted the map of the newly-settled areas of these regions. Letters and newspapers of these German pioneers were printed and circulated in the fatherland, particularly in the region of the Rhine, whence the old migrations to Pennsylvania had occurred, among the alert, enterprising people of these provinces. These reports were idealistic in the coloring they gave American life, and they left a deep impression, that America offered refuge from economic, social, and political evils of these lands. The influence of the cultivated German immigrants of the period was out of proportion to their number.¹⁶

The German emigrants were generally literate. Ever since the eighteenth century, both the Catholic and Protestant states of the Empire required education in state-controlled schools. Their literacy helped them succeed in the United States. A second common feature of the German emigrants was a highly developed sense of order and thrift which had seen them through an almost continuous succession of political disaster and foreign invasion since the sixteenth century. Finally, they placed a premium on hard work and economic achievement.¹⁷

From Mecklenburg-Schwerin came the family of Johann Frederick Gabriel Persky, a master brickmaker, who probably arrived in Galveston, Texas and proceeded to Austin County, Texas. According to Frederick Persky's Petition for Naturalization, he stated that he arrived in the United States on the second day of April, 1852.¹⁸ Frederick Persky later became a United States citizen on June 28, 1858.¹⁹ Like most of his village neighbors, Persky considered himself a citizen of Mecklenburg, not Germany. Of course, the borders of Mecklenburg were not constant. Mecklenburg emerged in 1547 as a single duchy, Herzogtum, but was split in 1621 to form two duchies: Mecklenburg-Schwerin and Mecklenburg-Gustrow. In 1648, at the end of the Thirty Years' War, Sweden annexed Wismar, a northern port city, and the borders changed temporarily. In 1701, a new duchy, Mecklenburg-Strelitz, was formed, and Mecklenburg-Gustrow dissolved. From 1759 to 1764 all of Mecklenburg was occupied by Prussia but managed to remain autonomous for another century. Minor border changes continued to occur. During the Napoleonic period Mecklenburg became a Grand Duchy.²⁰

Landholding there consisted of large farms of up to two hundred and fifty acres and larger estates. Agricultural workers raised crops on the grain-producing estates. By the early 1850's, Mecklenburg was overpopulated, and landowners were eager to encourage emigration. Between 1851 and 1854, one percent of the Mecklenburg population emigrated each year. Nine percent, or 50,000 Mecklenburgers, passed through the port of Hamburg between 1851 and 1860.²¹

In Mecklenburg, laborers could not marry without a home, so landowners controlled marriage through the housing provision. With few small land holdings available, young people were faced with late marriage or none at all as well as total dependency upon the owner. A laborer could not move to another estate unless he was accepted by the knight. Migration to towns was also limited because entry to the trades was controlled by local monopolies. One way to get permission to marry was to agree to emigrate. American consuls in the Hanse towns and ship captains performed many marriages.²² As an artisan, Frederick Persky made the crucial decision to come to Texas with his wife, Louise Friederike Schroeder, and at least three children, Joachim Carl Wilhelm, Marie Johanna, and Regina. A fourth child, the daughter Auguste Marie, was believed to have begun the journey but died at sea and was buried there.²³

In June, 1852, Dietrich Stein and his family arrived on the Henriette at Galveston, Texas, from Germany.²⁴ His wife, Anna Barbara Wiegand, and at least four children, Wilhelm, Justin, Reinhard, and Gerhard accompanied him. They came from Marktsuhl, Saxe-Weimar, and their destination was Austin County, Texas, where they lived at New Ulm until around 1875. Dietrich Stein apparently died before the 1880 census, and both he and Anna rest in unmarked graves.²⁵ Dietrich Stein applied for United States citizenship on the 7th of November, 1855, and received it on June 7, 1858, in Austin County.²⁶

Saxe-Weimar was one of the Thuringian states. The Thuringian states came into existence through the division of the original principality of Thuringia. During the Thirty Years' War from 1618 to 1648, these states were almost totally destroyed. Portions went to Prussia during the Napoleonic era. In 1807, the Thuringian states became part of the Confederation of the Rhine, and in 1815, the Congress of Vienna recognized their independence. From 1815 until Germany's unification in 1871, Prussia continued to trespass into Thuringia.²⁷

Marksuhl, in the county of Eisenach, was in the great forests and had plentiful game. A castle was built there between 1587-1591 by Duke Johann Friedrich the Middle and his brother, Johann Casimir. The area continued to be divided through the generations of the Eisenach bloodline and afterward. After 1772, Marksuhl Castle was used only as a hunting lodge until it became the site of a forestry office and agricultural school in 1800. The village has suffered greatly during war. Historically, residents worked in agriculture and associated businesses, sawmills, and industrial plants.²⁸

The Stein family also left Germany early in the 1850's, probably for the same reasons: overpopulation, control of marriage, the potato famine, tax burdens, and subdivision of land to the point of inefficient farming. Widespread crop failures in Saxony, as elsewhere, had inflicted severe blows upon the agricultural economy. Food and labor riots had also erupted in Saxony and other areas during the 1840's.²⁹ Whatever their reasons, the Steins left Germany in 1852.

From the town of Brucken in Württemberg, in August 1889, the Gottlob Graeter family left their home to come to Texas. The family consisted of Gottlob, his wife, Johanna Dorothea Schwartz, and five children, Karl, Ernst, Johanna, Anna, and Marie Sophie. They traveled with Gottlob's brother Johannes and his family, who left for America on August 7, 1889. A third brother, Christian Graeter, had emigrated to Texas in 1866, arriving in the United States January 20, 1867. He probably played a large part in the decision of the other family members to leave Württemberg.³⁰ The two Graeter families landed in New York on August 28, 1889, arriving from Bremen and Southampton. They probably took a boat from New York to Galveston, Texas, as other families had done in the past, and proceeded to Austin County, where they were to live.³¹ Johannes and Gottlob declared their intention of becoming United States citizens on November 2, 1892. Gottlob Graeter received United States citizenship on January 12, 1904, in Austin County, Texas.³²

Württemberg was elevated to a duchy in 1495, but suffered great destruction during the Thirty Years' War. The war placed Catholic countries on the east and west against Protestant states on the north. The area of Baden-Württemberg had a fair representation of both denominations, making it a logical battleground. During those years the population of Württemberg declined from 450,000 to 166,000.³³ During the

Napoleonic period, Württemberg was allied with France and joined the Confederation of the Rhine in 1806.³⁴ Between 1805 and 1810 it more than doubled its size by acquiring numerous Upper-Swabian domains, as well as others. Württemberg was a kingdom from 1806 to 1918, covering 19,500 square kilometers.

The first great mass-emigration from Württemberg started early in the 1700s, with Hungary, the Banat and Batschka territories, West Prussia, and Southern Russia as the main destinations. America became the main destination of the emigrants during the nineteenth century. Between 1815 and 1870, 385,000 persons emigrated to the United States from Württemberg. Approximately 205,000 persons from the area left their homeland from 1870 to 1939. Most of them went to the United States, but others went to Argentina and Brazil.³⁵

Many small farmers in Württemberg depended on the potato for food. They also often relied upon grapes rather than grain for their commercial output. Usually, farmers were landowners rather than tenants. The Graeters came from a grape-growing area. Johanna Graeter often told her children of climbing the mountains as a young girl to gather grapes and work in the vineyards. Following poor harvests from 1850 to 1853, three percent of the population of Württemberg emigrated. Subdivision of land was extreme in Württemberg, and the lack of sufficient area as well as poor soil made it difficult or impossible to maintain a livelihood. This was especially true in the wine districts. People suffered severely when the wine crop failed.³⁶

In Württemberg, as in other areas of Germany, efforts began to control marriage in 1828. Prospective bridegrooms had to furnish proof that they could maintain a household by owning a house, land, or tools. Large numbers of small proprietors emigrated yearly. Those settling in America carried on extensive correspondence with the mother-country, often encouraging their countrymen to emigrate. Christian Graeter surely played an important part in his brothers' decision to emigrate.

Prussian law drove many youths to emigrate in order to avoid lengthy military service.³⁷ Emigration was an unwillingness to spend one's young manhood under the constant fear of conscription, thus postponing a household and career, rather than just a fear of combat or dislike of the soldier's life. This was definitely a factor in the Gottlob Graeter family, as they had two sons approaching the age for military service, and they referred to it as a main reason for emigrating. In Württemberg, people planning to emigrate needed official permits to prevent debtors from evading their creditors. Release from citizenship also had to be obtained. When minors were involved, the probate court had to be contacted. Local authorities also published lists of emigrants in the newspapers with the request that creditors take action.³⁸ Still, the Graeters chose to leave.

Once the emigrants decided to leave Germany, they faced the problems of packing and leaving their community, traveling to the port of their choice, and making the long journey by ship to America. This process could take several months. According to Hansen, the odyssey of the migrant began when he first dreamed of a far-off land. Germans leaving from the south usually went by local stage to Strasbourg then loaded into wagons for Paris. From there, steamers on the Seine took them to Le Havre. From northern and central Germany, the Elbe and Weser Rivers took emigrants to Hamburg and Bremen.³⁹ Bremen for many years had been the chief port of European emigration. As an independent city-state and a member of the Hanseatic League, Bremen had been living off the sea and its commerce for a thousand years.⁴⁰

Transportation had improved in the 1830's due to the elimination of tolls and restrictions on the Rhine, Main and Neckar, and by the introduction of the steamboat, making seaports more accessible. During the sailing era, the shipping industry was dependent upon the weather. An agent announced the date when the emigrants should be in port, with a warning that the vessel would sail with the first fair wind. Although vessels designed primarily for the emigrant trade appeared by mid-nineteenth century, most consisted of cotton, tobacco, and timber ships or liners and East Indiamen too old to serve their original purpose.⁴¹ A typical timber vessel was practically a shell, with no compartments except the captain and crew quarters. To prepare for a cargo of emigrants, a temporary deck was laid, with rough wooden berths constructed along each side. There were no port-holes in these vessels nor any ventilation beyond the hatchways. In bad weather, the hatches were battened down, and the emigrants were left in darkness to breathe the stifling air.⁴²

The history of the great maritime transportation companies in the nineteenth century was intertwined with the history of emigration. Samuel Cunard's principal business became carrying Irishmen to the New World, while the North German Lloyd Line carried out of Bremen, and the Hamburg-American Line out of Hamburg. The famous White Star Line carried out of Glasgow, Liverpool and Belfast. On the outward voyages the European freighters carried locomotives and rails, pumps and drills for mines, and gold for payrolls. In the early decades of colonization, labor and capital moved together.⁴³

Passage to America was often as low as \$25 from the German ports, putting emigration within reach of even the poorest peasants. Most emigrants disposed of their heirlooms before leaving home. The conditions of the voyage called for specialized equipment secured in the ports including a provision box, knives, forks and spoons, a bucket, teakettle, tin cups and plates, a hammer and nails, and brass hooks. The emigrants provided their own bedding and other personal necessities, including food of hardtack, butter, cheese and dried meats. Some passengers also brought wursts, hams, red herring, and onions.⁴⁴

In leaving the Dutch and German ports, the greatest problems were in the English Channel, with danger in the rocks and shoals on either shore. Delays of a few weeks or even a month were common. Life was centered on deck and in the steerage. The steerage was usually not more than six feet from the floor to the ceiling with no entrance except a ladder leading down from a hole in the deck. Around the sides of the steerage ran two layers of berths, which were shelves wide enough for five persons and filling most of the floor space. The lowest part of the hold contained the heavy baggage and chests, casks of water, and cordwood for fuel.⁴⁵

Life on a German ship was strictly regimented, with passengers required to stay on deck and take exercise except in the coldest or stormiest weather. Most emigrants left home in the spring and approached America in June or early July.⁴⁶ Craftsmen plied their trades on deck, while the women knitted, sewed and cooked, and the children played or were taught. Sickness, birth, and death were constant companions during the voyage.⁴⁷

A young girl remembered her voyage of the 1840's years later:

Our journey in the fall of the year was at the worst imaginable time to sail. The food was wretched, the water barely drinkable, and we were seasick throughout most of the voyage. It was particularly rough in the North Sea, with its choppy green waves.⁴⁸

Typhus, ship fever, cholera, and smallpox were common on the emigrant ships. In the most overcrowded vessels, steerage life meant continuous suffering. Keeping clean was especially difficult, and vermin infested the steerage and sometimes the cabin quarters.⁴⁹ The overcrowding, bad diet, and lack of medicine helped spread contagious disease among passengers whose resistance was already suppressed by poverty or destitution. Crowding made decency or comfort impossible, and on most ships, men and women were berthed together. In many ships, there were no water closets, and never more than one for every one hundred passengers.⁵⁰

Conditions improved in the 1860's and 1870's when steamships took over the emigrant business. Although the dangers of the crossing diminished, travel in the steerage was still uncomfortable. Sailings began on more dependable schedules, and the journey decreased to a week or ten days. While the steamers of the 1850's were not much above 2,000 tons, those after 1880 reached from 11,000 to 54,000 tons. The greater space reduced overcrowding as well as the cost to the emigrant.⁵¹ The families of Frederick Persky and Dietrich Stein probably endured much greater hardship and discomfort in their 1852 crossing than the Gottlob Graeter family, who arrived in 1889.

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-112-

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Pennsylvania German Easter Eggs: The Art of Evelyn Althouse

Evelyn Althouse grew up on a farm near Ephrata, Pennsylvania. Both she and her husband, who is from Hamburg, PA, are able to speak the Pennsylvania German dialect. As a child Mrs. Althouse learned from her mother the art of decorating Easter eggs in the traditional Pennsylvania German manner. Since then she has made a special study of this craft and is now widely recognized for her work.

The basic technique of Pennsylvania German egg decoration is to color the eggs, then add the design by using a straight pin to scratch delicate white lines through the color. The effect resembles sgraffito-decorated Pennsylvania German pottery. The designs include motifs such as birds, tulips, and hearts which may be found in other types of Pennsylvania German decorative art. The background color is applied to the eggshells by boiling the eggs with onion skins, which produces a warm brown color. Mrs. Althouse has experimented with other natural dyes, such as the husks of black walnuts or the bark of the osage orange tree, in order to produce other colors. By slowly simmering the eggs for up to two hours, it is possible to harden the inside so that the decorated eggs may be kept permanently. After several months, the eggs dry out inside.

Mrs. Althouse has exhibited and demonstrated her craft at several shows and a few years ago she contributed an article on egg decoration to the magazine Woman's World. Contact her at 35 East Queen Street, Ephrata, Pa 17522.

113-

GERMAN-TEXANS' GENEALOGY SECTION

Compiled by Genealogy Editor Theresa Gold, 106 Ranchland, San Antonio TX 78213

Galveston, here we come! We are anxiously anticipating the next GTHS annual meeting to be held in Galveston! What a perfect place for a meeting, the point of origin for many of our Germany-to-Texas immigrants. Besides all the other exciting things to do and places to see, we have a super Genealogy Workshop planned for you. It will be on Saturday afternoon, September 10, at the famed Rosenberg Library. Our speaker will be Mrs. Ella E. Lee Sheffield, a professional genealogist who has been "doing" genealogy for about 15 years. Besides doing research and giving seminars, she teaches genealogy at the College of the Mainland in Texas City. She also works for the Southern Historical Press of Easley, S. Car., editing, indexing, doing formats, and researching. She co-edited the publication 35,000 Tennessee Marriage Records and Bonds, 1783-1870, and is a member of both the DAR and the DRT. Ella claims to have "a touch of German" in her own background. The program will introduce us to the Rosenberg library and its resources as well as those available in other parts of Galveston, including Catholic and Lutheran church records. At our request, she will deal with the specific topic of immigration records and ships' passenger lists. This is one program our members will not want to miss!

Computer Report. Since last issue, we have received one response with an interest in computer genealogy. Lauren Kattner, Rt 1, Box 122, Ladonia TX 75449 furnished a program she prepared for figuring date approximations, using birth years of father, mother, first and last child, and marriage date. It is designed for use with the TI 9914A computer, but it does not work on your genealogy editor's new Apple IIe. We selected the Apple to purchase mainly based on the availability of the software. Highly recommended is the genealogy program called "Family Roots" by Stephen C. Vorenberg. Not only does this program enable you to put in all the dates and places of birth, marriage, death, etc., for each person, it also has a flexibility not often found in other programs. For example, there are several fields the individual user defines based on the information one is interested in keeping, for example, date of baptism, date of burial, godparents, etc. Footnotes can be added; you define them, if you are interested in noting the source of the date, or any other by-the-way information. The program can print three types of "pedigree" charts and either individual or family group sheets. You can search the information for any defined criteria, for example, to pinpoint family patterns or to test hypotheses. The "Text" part is used for storing notes that don't fit into the chart categories--valuable for family history narratives. The program can deal with an UNLIMITED number of ancestors or descendants, which is why we like it for our large family. The review in the May-June issue of Genealogical Helper does not do justice to it! For information, write to Quinsept, Inc. P O Box 216, Lexington MA 02173. The cost for the complete system, two diskettes plus 176-page instruction manual, is \$185.00, plus \$3.50 postage. The manual may be purchased alone for \$15.00 with credit going toward later purchase of the program. It is highly recommended that you purchase the manual first, read it over, and see what all this program can do. A less powerful, less sophisticated, and less expensive program is also available from the same source. This one is called "Lineages" and costs \$99.00 for the manual plus diskettes, again \$3.50 postage. The 80-page manual alone is \$12.00. "Lineages" can be up-graded to "Family Roots." If you write, please give the name of your genealogy editor as recommending it. (I might get a discount someday.)

One more thing on computers. The National Genealogical Society has approved a computer interest group called CIG. For further information, send a SASE to the NGS, 1921 Sutherland Place, Washington DC 20036.

FROM OUR MEMBERS

The following section was compiled by your Genealogy Editor from letters received from our members. If you have an interest in any of the families mentioned, write directly to the member. To have your story appear in a future issue, write to your Genealogy Editor, Theresa Gold, 106 Ranchland, San Antonio TX 78213. Items are published free of charge for members. For non-members, there is a \$3.00 query fee. Please submit a concise paragraph or two, or simply a list of the surnames you are researching along with the Texas counties the families settled and the religion they practiced.

Hilda Agold, Rt 3, Box 3830, Boerne TX 78006 needs some additional information for her family history. She is looking for the first name of Mr. Walter (it could be Julius) who came to Galveston about 1850 with his wife Emelie Schumann Walter and three small children, Julius, Thusnelda, and Hubert. Emelia was a daughter of Aug. Wm. Schumann who settled with a portion of his family in Guadalupe County and founded the settlement of Schumannsville. Mr. Walter worked at painting ships at Galveston until he died of a lung ailment. Emelia later married Louis Ranzau, Sr., in Seguin, and they came to Kendall County. The Walters' daughter Thusnelda married Henry Agold in Kendall County; these were Hilda's grandparents.

C. S. Alkire, 1307 N. Rusk, Weatherford TX 76086 is interested in the Sack, Floeger, Loeschmann, Alkire, and Kleberg families. He has information on the Alkires going back to 1625 in the Palatinate area. The Silver Book carries the Sack Family back to 1480. (See GTHS Newsletter, Vol III, No. 1, March, 1981, pp. 69-70 for further information on the Silver Book.)

Ed. J. Vogel 429 Hwy 36N, Bellville TX 77418 reports all four of his grandparents came from Germany. On his father's side, the Vogels came from Förstreen, Oberlausitzland. They were Wendish and came to Texas with Pastor Kilian in 1854. Although most of the Wendish immigrant group went to Serbin, the Vogels made their home in Houston. The names of Andreas Vogel and family are included in the ship's passengers listed in The Wends of Texas by Anne Blasig. On his mother's side, the Leverkühn family came from Hannover in the late 1860s. Ed visited both Hannover and Förstreen during an extensive trip to Germany in 1932. He has genealogical charts on both families, but the dates are not complete. He is very interested in German-Texan history and has a collection of German coins and paper money from the 1921-1922 period which shows what happened during the devastating depression and inflation preceding the fall of the government.

Carol Stock, Rt 1, Rosebud TX 76570 is a teacher and is looking for further information on the Stock family who lived at Mentz in Colorado County. She is also researching the Pieper and Wendel families.

Louannie Youngstrom Rt 1, Box 238, Aberdeen ID 83210 is trying to find ancestors by the name of Richter. She recently found a mention of their being in Galveston in about 1848. Hans Peter Richter was among the Germans who came to Texas from Antwerp. Louannie believes he was the father of Mary Magdalena Richter who was her own great-great-grandmother. Mary Magdalena's first husband was a Mr. Mantany (or Montany) but she has never found that name anywhere. Mary later went to Pennsylvania or Ohio where she married Daniel Hammon, Louannie's great-great-grandfather. Do any of you other Richter researchers have these names in your files?

Elmo Schwab, Texas Bldg., 415 22nd St., Galveston TX 77550 is a new patron member. He is interested in exchanging information on the Schwab, Hoch, and Reimenschneider families. An attorney, Elmo has offered to help in checking German ship passenger lists in the Galveston Customs Buildings.

Ted M. Goedeke, 9102 Timberside Dr., Houston TX 77025 is one of our most regular correspondents. He reports that he has obtained maps showing the old German towns and cities prior to 1945 and their new names under East German and Poland rule.

Helen Arnold 3414 Foothill Terrace, Austin TX 78731 is looking for relatives of Gustav Frimel who came from Silesia on the Neptune in 1867. He married Theresa Lowke who was from Bautzen. They settled in Fayette County and were Lutheran.

Iona Hart Becker P O Box 94, Marble Falls TX 78654 would appreciate information on Jacob Becker who resided in San Antonio in the 1860s and 1870s. He was a butcher and died in a wagon accident while delivering meat. He had married a Miss Reider (first name unknown and unsure of surname spelling). Their three children were Carl William (born 1866), Sophia, and Louisa. Carl was reared by a Mrs. Bagel/Biegel of Helotes on her ranch where he learned to speak Spanish. Carl and wife Clara Frantzen were the parents of Mrs. Becker's husband. Sophia married William Frantzen of Fredericksburg, and Louisa married a Mr. Speck, possibly of San Antonio. Iona has land records and an Army discharge. She wants to know what, if any, connection there is between this family and the Martin Becker family listed in Geue's New Homes in a New Land (page 52). Was Jacob related to, or possibly the same as, the Jacob Becker who was at Bevil's Settlement in the 1830s? She has searched the Census for Fredericksburg but is unable to connect the Beckers who were there in the 1850s.

Elizabeth Frick 75 Lyerly, Apt 332, Houston TX 77022 is another of our regular correspondents. She wishes to correct an item in the Fall, 1982, issue (Vol. IV, No. 3) page 54. When Silas Earle moved to Marlin in 1869 or so, he had three children, not two. For her Swiss ancestors, Elizabeth now has Stammtafel der Familie Frick von Knonau (Zürich), beziehungsweise später von Schönenberg und Richterswil. The earliest of her ancestors listed in it is Gorius Frick with dates back to 1607. There are some German words Elizabeth can't translate even with the help of some books. She hopes others may be interested in this line of Swiss genealogy.

Linda Macdonald, 4801 Crockett, Galveston TX 77550 is interested in four families who lived around Ellinger in Fayette County and she has a wealth of knowledge about them and also on the churches and schools of the Ellinger area. She is working on the families of Conrad and Madeline Schobel who came to Texas in 1846, and Andreas and Katherina Reinhard who came to Texas around 1844. The Schobels and Reinhardts were Catholic. Linda is also working on the Scheel and Koch/Cook families, both Lutheran. Heinrich Scheel (born 1832) married Macdalena Reinhard and they ad ten children. Henry G. and Rubeka Cook (she, born 1822, Germany) had a son Henry who married Macdalena Schobel. They had ten children. Linda is director of the Division of Institutional Services at the UT Medical Branch and is busily involved in planning our GTHS meeting there in Galveston. Here is her experience in recording oral history, a lesson for all of us---

"....My grandmother has been an excellent source. She is 86 years old and extremely bright, mentally alert and possessing a tremendous memory. I try to find facts and then ask her about them. She is really the reason I started this history business. After she had a stroke two years ago, I discovered that I was the only one who knew any of the old stories about the days in Ellinger when she was a child. She has two children and I am the only grandchild. It frightened me to think that all this valuable information from the past was stored in my forgetful mind. We thought my grandmother was going to die. After three days, she came out of it, thank God. Her partial paralysis was gone and when she woke up for the first time, she looked around the room for my mother and said, "Happy Birthday!" Much to our surprise, even my mother's, it was indeed her birthday. Since that time, I have had many sessions with my grandmother and a tape recorder. My grandmother is very hard of hearing, but once she understands the question, she is ready to talk. She

was born in 1896 in Ellinger and is the daughter of Ernest and Louisa Scheel."

One last thing about computers . In case you haven't guessed by now, this section of the genealogical entries was done on that marvelous new computer using the word processing program called "Apple Writer //." Your Genealogy Editor is still a beginner at this, so things will get better--and easier, I hope!



Hoelscher-Buxkemper Family

THE BIG (!) FAMILY REUNION IS COMING IN 1984

The Hoelscher-Buxkemper Family has set its 16th biennial Reunion for May 26 & 27, 1984, at the SPJST Hall in Round Rock. The organizing committee are the Austin area kinfolks under the chairmanship of Elmer Entrop, 7306 Bucknell, Austin 78723, (512) 926-1809. This is the big one, the family reunion that traditionally draws some 1,000 relatives from far and near.

BENDELE FAMILY REUNION

of the descendants of JOHANN JACOB BENDELE I (1800-1872) and wife KATHRENIA BURGER (1795-1882), and their four children and spouses

Joseph Bendele (1824-1893)
 Maria Brauch (1836-1928)

Jacob Bendele II (1829-1910)
 Sybilla Haass (1836-1912)

Mary Agatha Bendele (1828-1867)
 Nicolaus Hoffmann (1825-1894)

Andreas Bendele (1834-1904)
 Francisca Scherrer (1836-1893)

pioneer Castro Colony settlers of Medina County, will be held at City Park, on the north side of Hondo, Sunday, 16 October 1983, beginning at 11 AM. Mesquite-grilled chicken will be provided. Please bring a salad or dessert and your own drinks.

For more information, contact:

Robert H. Bendele, Sr., President
 2910 Wacos St. Ph. (512) 684-1358 or
 San Antonio TX 78238

Herbert Bilhartz
 Box 162 Ph. (512) 589-2268
 Medina TX 78055

Koenig Family Reunion Held Here on May 15

The children and descendants of John August Koenig (1877-1957) and Mary Klaevemann Koenig (1883-1976) held their annual spring reunion on Saturday, May 15 at the Fairgrounds near La Grange.

Children of Mr. and Mrs. John August Koenig present were Charles C. Koenig of Cleveland, Texas, Helen Koenig Niemeyer of La Grange, John Henry Koenig of O'Quinn, Hattie Koenig Krischke of Schulenburg, Willie L. Koenig of Garland, Walter W. Koenig of El Campo and Myrtle Koenig Wessels of La Grange. Two children not able to attend were Paul Koenig of Austin and Sam Koenig of Houston.

Grandchildren present were Mabel Niemeyer Schielack of Park, Herbert Niemeyer of Schulenburg, Shirley Niemeyer Hubenak of Magnolia, John Weldon Koenig of Vienna, Va., Rodney C. Koenig of Houston, Ronnie Krischke of Houston, Portia Koenig Powell of East Bernard and Larry Wessels of Prairie Valley.

Great-grandchildren attending were Erik J. Koenig of Houston, Heath Wessels and Parrish Wessels of Prairie Valley. Additionally spouses of descendants were present.

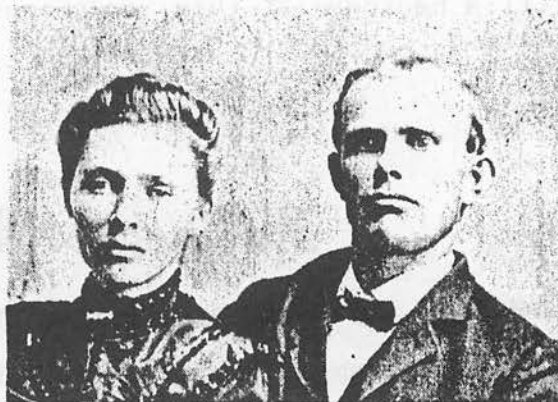
The family enjoyed a pot luck noon luncheon after a brief prayer by the oldest child, Charles C. Koenig, who was born in 1903. After lunch, conversation, dominoes and the German card game of Skat was enjoyed by the group. Later in the afternoon, the group assembled to tell family stories of farm life out on the old Koenig farm at Black Jack Springs between La Grange and Flatonia. The old farm was once owned by San Jacinto war

veteran, William Gorham, later by German poet, Johannes Romberg and his family, and then by John August Koenig. Currently the farm is owned by one of the children, John Henry Koenig, who still farms and ranches at Black Jack Springs and O'Quinn.

Brief histories of several children were read, continuing a practice started at an earlier reunion. Histories were read from Robert Gerhard (Bob) Koenig, a former Deputy Sheriff of Fayette County; Helen Koenig Niemeyer, who spoke of her days at Romberg and Luck's schools and the old family horse, "Charley"; Herman "Sam" Koenig, who recalled his days in the U. S. Navy and Walter W. Koenig, who spoke of his Army service in Europe in World War II, as well as playing violin with several bands. Karen Koenig Day of Corpus Christi has been editing the histories.

Some additional history of the ancestors of John August Koenig had been obtained by Rodney Koenig from Niedersachsisches Staatsarchiv, 29 Oldenburg, Germany. The parents of John August Koenig were Johann Friedrich Anton Koenig and Dorothee Helene (Dinklage) Koenig. The grandparents of John August Koenig were Anton Friedrich Koenig and Anna Margarete (Willers) Koenig, as well as Hermann Gerhard Dinklage and Anna Catherine (Bolling) Dinklage. This information came from the Kirchenbuecher (church records) of The Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Oldenburg community in North Germany.

The family agreed to meet again in the fall Saturday, September 24.



Mr. and Mrs. Koenig

Pictured are Mary Klaevemann Koenig (1883-1976) and her husband, John August Koenig (1877-1957), whose descendants held their annual spring reunion here on May 15.

This article was submitted by Rodney C. Koenig, 6 Valley Forge, Houston, TX 77024.

An attorney with Fulbright & Jaworski, Rodney has published short genealogical booklets on the Munke and Klaevemann family. He sends two requests:

1. He would like help in locating descendants of the German poet Johannes Romberg, who lived in Fayette County at Black Jack Springs. Rodney's father and mother, Mr. & Mrs. John H. Koenig, now own the old Johannes Romberg farm. According to Rodney, Mr. Romberg was a well-known German poet in the 1850s or 1960s.
2. He is doing further genealogical research on the families of: Johan August Koenig, Thomas Henry Oeding, Katherina Koch, Dorothee Dinklage, Hermann Christoph Klaevemann, Meta Joost, Marie Greulich, Christian Munke, Friedrich Albrecht, Christina Suhren, and Peter Laux. All these were settlers of Fayette County, and all were Ev. Lutheran, except Munke and Laux, who were Catholic.

SCHAWÉ GENEALOGY

The Schawe surname is uncommon today in the U.S. as well as in Europe. Records of early Schawe families date to 1635 in the villages around Perleberg, Brandenburg Province of Prussia, now DDR, or East Germany.

Descendants of this family immigrated to Texas in the mid 1800's. The Schawe surname is also recorded in Holland, 1700's. Descendants of that line immigrated to Ohio and Kentucky, and are named in the book, SONST UND JETZ (THEN AND NOW) published in 1878 in Cincinnati. No link between these families has been found, although there are Germanic characteristics in the immigrant pioneers attesting to the Nordic origin.

The first known history of the Schawe family of Laaslich, Brandenburg, Prussia, began in 1722, according to the pastor of the Evangelical Church District, Pfarrer Dietrich Koch. Since these records gave the date of death and age with day, month and year, birth dates were simple to calculate. Pastor Koch traced the Schawe line, underlining my direct ancestors. He also included twelve pictures that he made of the 'Schawe nest' in the small village of Laaslich, including the present countryside with the church steeple in the distance, the 'Alte Schawe Hof', or old Schawe homestead, the village with the Laaslich sign, the interior and exterior of the ancient small rock church, built in the mid 1500's, and the old cemetery near the church. Pastor Koch also included a map sketch of this area.

Below is a copy of the SCHAWÉ GENEALOGY as received from Pfarrer Koch.

- Generation I Hinrich Schaawens born 1635, died 1723. (Spelled Schawe in later records)
Married Engel Weeding born 1649, died 1723
- II Hartwig Jochen Schawe born 2 January, 1682, died 23 July, 1731
Married Grete Lise Blum
- III Hans Jochen Schawe born 1714/1715 (records lost WWII), died 1777
Married Anna Jap born 1730, died 1761
Jürgen Schawe born 1730, died 1761
Catharine Elisabeth Schawe born 8 September, 1728
Hartwig Heinrich Schawe born 24 March, 1732
- IV Descendants of Hans Jochen and Anna Jap Schawe
Ilse Marie Schawe born 23 November, 1753
Sophie Gottlieb Schawe born 19 October, 1775
Christian Schawe born 14 August, 1758 and died 14 March, 1799
Married Marie Louise Jacobs, daughter of Ulrich Jacobs
- V Descendants of Christian and Marie Louise Jacobs Schawe
Christoph Schawe born 13 August, 1784
Friederich Schawe born 21 December, 1786 (Death records lost WWII)
Christian Schawe born 11 September 1789
Anna Catharina Schawe born 3 June, 1792
Jochen Schawe born 18 July, 1795
* Heinrich Schawe born 7 September, 1798
- VI Descendants of Friederich Schawe and Dorothea Blum Schawe, born 4 September, 1791, daughter of Dietrich (Dirk) Blume and Sophie Neubauer Blume of Metrich. Her paternal grandparents were Dietrich and Catharina Dorothea Busse Blume. He was a soldier and landowner, born 1722. Four of Friederich and Dorothea Schawe's six children immigrated to Texas at various times.
- VI-1 Catharina Dorothea Schawe born 15 March, 1814, married Joachim Friederich Jahnke born 1805 in Gula, near Perleberg. Both died in Washington County. This family, with six of their eight children came to Galveston in October, 1860, aboard the ship, Fortuna. The two oldest married and remained in Prussia. Many descendants continue to live in the Washington County area.

Generation VI-2 Joachim Friederich Schawe born 3 February, 1817, in Laaslich and died 15 June, 1888, in Brenham, Texas. He went to Havelberg, a nearby small city as a youth to apprentice in the tobacco industry. His occupation at the time of immigration was listed as 'Tobak spinner' or cigar maker. He married Dorothea Henriette Krüger born 7 April, 1813, in Havelberg. She was the daughter of Christian David and Elisabeth Lindemann Krüger. Her grandfathers were Joachim Friederich Krüger and Joachim Johann Lindemann.

Joachim Friederich (Fred) Schawe and Dorothea Schawe, plus their four sons and one daughter, left the port of Hamburg, Germany, in August, 1852, and sailed aboard the ship, Washington. They embarked in Galveston and then on to Houston by boat raft to Allen's Landing, now North Main Street, Houston, and settled in a community that became known as Salem, about 3½ miles southwest of Brenham.

Generation VI-3 Christoph Schawe born 31 August, 1819, and died in 1868, in Washington County. He married Sophie Marie Bartels in Laaslich. She was the daughter of Joachim Bartels of Reetz, a large land owner.

Christoph and Sophie and their nine children immigrated to Texas in 1867, and settled in the Salem community. One daughter was born here. Two of their children, Wilhelm, born 1853 and Louise born 1856, married a son and a daughter of Christian Wiede, who immigrated from Klockow, Prussia to Washington County, now known as Wiedeville. This family donated 7 acres of land and became charter members of the Lutheran Church organized and built about 5 miles northeast of Brenham. Three of their children moved to the general area of Maxwell, Caldwell County. A biographical sketch of Christoph Theodor and his wife, Malinda Hohlt, is to be found in TEXAS THE COUNTRY AND ITS MEN, by L.E. Daniels, pages 271-272.

Generation VI-4 Caroline Schawe born 6 June, 1822, married and lived in Perleberg.

" VI-5 Catharina Marie Schawe born 16 March, 1825, married Christoph Schmidt and lived in Dergenthin, near Perleberg.

" VI-6 Louise Marie Schawe was born 7 March, 1828, and died 21 October, 1883, in Washington County. She married Johann Joachim Christoph Wernicke of Boberow, near Perleberg, in 1850. They had two children, who both married cousins after immigration. The son, Friederich Wernicke married Louise Schawe, daughter of Christoph and Sophie, and Anna married Herman Jahnke, son of Catharina and Joachim Friederich Jahnke. Following the death of Wernicke, Louise Marie married Johann Wilhelm Gottlob Müller, born 30 August, 1835, son of Johann Müller, a bricklayer of Boberow. Two daughters were born to this union in Prussia, and a son in Texas 1870. They immigrated in 1869. The small community of Muellersville in Washington County, was named for the son, William, who operated a general store and post office here about six miles southeast of Brenham.

* Heinrich Schawe, an uncle of J. Friederich Schawe, together with his wife, Marie Rebstock Schawe, and their five children, immigrated to Washington County in 1847. They moved from this area in about 1866. Henry Schawe, Jr., born 20 April, 1832, and his brothers-in-law were large land owners in Fayette and Colorado Counties. This family is featured in a biographical sketch in A TWENTIETH CENTURY HISTORY OF SOUTHWEST TEXAS, Volume II, pages 362-363.

From: THE SCHAWÉ FAMILY IN GERMANY AND TEXAS 1635-1977, and from my files of various sources.

Elizabeth Lehmann

604 Atlow Dr, Brenham Tex 77833

YOUR GENEALOGY EDITOR SAYS---

"Keep those cards and letters coming. It's your interest that makes this whole thing work, and keep on working."

THE CHRISTIAN EBERS FAMILY

My great-great-grandparents, Christian Ebers (b. 2 March 1807), his wife Johanne Ficht (b. 21 Feb 1812), children August 13, Caroline 11 (my great-grandmother), Friedrich 8, and Christian 1, of Greene (pronounced GRAY-nuh), Duchy of Brunswick, sailed on the Neptune from Bremen and arrived at Galveston 23 Dec 1845. The mother and two youngest children evidently did not survive the journey, and died either at sea or on the trail to New Braunfels. Christian and the two older children, August and Caroline, set out with John O. Meusebach in April 1846 to found Fredericksburg. Christian was the original owner of Town Lot 86.

Around 1852 Caroline moved to Castroville without her family, possibly to become a teacher. She had been reared a Lutheran but became a Catholic on 15 Aug 1853. She married Joseph Bilhartz II, a native of Soppe-le-Bas, Alsace, on 5 Jun 1856 in Castroville. Meanwhile, widower Christian Ebers married the widow Christine Koehler, a Catholic, in Fredericksburg. They had two children, Karl Theodor, b. 25 Mar 1856, and Anna, b. 19 Dec 1859. Anna also went to Castroville, and on 25 Aug 1873 became a nun in the Sisters of Divine Providence, taking the name Sister Celestine. She taught in the order's schools in D'Hanis, New Braunfels, Galveston, Bernardo, Denton, Gainesville, Frelsburg, and Cameron. She died at Our Lady of the Lake Convent in San Antonio on 7 Oct 1949.

Am interested in learning about the later years of Christian, his second wife, and his sons August (wife's name, Caroline) and Karl Theodor. I believe Christian was still living in 1885, but no record of the death or burial of him or his family has been found in Gillespie County, so it is quite possible they moved from there. Would also like to know more about the death of first wife Johanne Ficht.

In March of this year I visited Greene, Germany and found documents on the Ebers family and their forebears, including the surnames Brackel, Wiegmann, Droste, Voss, and Meer.

--Herbert Bilhartz, Box 162, Medina TX 78055 Ph. (512)589-2268

EARLY TEXAS BIRTH RECORDS, 1838 - 1878

by Sumner, Jane, Gracy, Alice, Gentry,
Emma S.

Many people believe that BIRTH RECORDS in Texas were not kept until 1903. However, the Texas Constitutional Convention of 1869 called for registration of births, deaths and marriages in every organized county and such was set up by legislative action in 1873 and repealed in 1876. A few counties continued to keep birth records of which the number was 43 counties. Of these, 25 counties had their original books. Often when registering a child born during the years 1873-1878, the parents often list all of their previous children, hence there are many quiet early dates, as early as 1838. Counties for which birth records are found in this volume are: ANDERSON, AUSTIN, BANDERA, BASTROP, BELL, BEXAR, BRAZOS, BURNET, CALDWELL, CAMERON, CASS, CHEROKEE, COLORADO, COMAL, COMANCHE, DALLAS, DEWITT, FANNIN, FAYETTE, GILLESPIE, GREGG, GRIMES, HAYS, KAUFMAN, KENDALL, LAMAR, LAVACA, LEE, MARION, MEDINA, MENARD, NACOGDOCHES, NAVARRO, NUECES, RUSK, SAN SABA, SOMERVILLE, TRAVIS, VICTORIA, WASHINGTON and WEBB.

150 pages, with full name index. Price: \$22.50, plus \$2.00 postage & handling.

Write: Ingmire Publications, 10166 Clairmont Dr, St. Louis MO
63136

From: M. C. Forister, 2310-A Rebel Road, Austin, TX 78704

I need more information on my great-grandparents, Franz and Mina (REINHARDT/REINARZ) GRAF and their relatives, who had arrived here in the United States (name of ships are unknown) from Germany. From there, they all went to Bexar County, Texas. I had collected this information from 1900 Census Bexar County, Naturalization Records from Bexar County Courthouse in San Antonio and etc. If any of you know or have some information about any of them, please write to me. M. C. Forister, 2310-A Rebel Road, Austin, Texas 78704.

Andreas RUDLOFF, born June 22, 1856 in Villdorf(f) (?), King of Prussia, and his wife, Tressa (GRAF) (Franz's sister), born February 8, 1855, arrived in Galveston, Texas on November 13, 1882. Their children were born in Bexar County, near Cibolo. The family then moved to Cross Plains, Texas in 1906.

2 days later (or same time with Andreas) - Johan GRAF (Franz's brother?), born 1860 in Prussia, arrived in Galveston, Texas on November 15, 1882. Johan was living in San Angeles in 1922. He was killed by a run-away team of mule, date and place are unknown.

6 months later - Charles RUDLOFF (Andreas' brother?), born June, 1855-57, in Machterburg (?), Germany, with his wife, Wilhelmina, born January, 1852, arrived in New York, New York on May 1, 1883. Two of their four children were born in San Antonio, Frederick, born April, 1889, and Charles, born September 23, 1893 and died on June 28, 1942 in San Antonio at the age of 48. Widow's name was Dena, a son was Werner and a niece was Mrs. Edgar Becker.

2 months later - Franz GRAF, born May 24, 1853 in Hannover, Prussia, with wife, Minna (REINHARDT/REINARZ), born October 10, 1853 in Germany, with their five children, Otto, Henry (born January 18, 1879 in Sielsdorf (?), near Koln/Cologne, Germany), Frank, Dora, and a three-month-old Pauline, arrived in Baltimore, Maryland from Bremen on July 21, 1883 on the S.S. Ohio steamship. They went by train to Bexar County, near Kirby, where they had six more children, Lizzie, Rosa (died in 1887 at the age of 8 months, and place of buried is unknown), Metha, Alvina, Frido and Willie. Franz, Catholic - Minna, Methodist.

11 months later - William REINHART (Minna's father?), born 1817 in Magdeburg, Prussia, with wife (name unknown), arrived in Baltimore, Maryland on June 16, 1884. (Minna's father was drowned, found in shallow water at Corpus Christi Bay. The dates and places of Minna's parents' births and deaths are unknown).

7 years later - Jakob GRAF (Franz's brother?), born December, 1847-49 in Machteburg (?), Prussia, with wife, Barbara, born November, 1849 in Germany, with their daughters, Agnes and Rosa, arrived in New York, New York on March 23, 1891.

2 years later - Herman GRAF, born February 1871 and his brother, Albert, born August, 1872 (sons of Jakob), both born in Machteburg (?), Germany, and singles, arrived in New York, New York on June 14, 1893.

One of the Franz's relative, had a small child, died on the ship on the way here from Germany. The child's body had to be thrown overboard, name unknown.

Minna had one sister (name unknown), living in California.

Franz could had another sister, Anna Martha GRAF, married Arthur Hugo SCHNEIDER. Children were Anna Martha, Richard Paul and Hugo Franz Alvin, born April 8, 1906 in Schertz, Bexar County, Texas.

HERBERT E. OEHLER
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT
1601 SUSAN DRIVE
KERRVILLE, TEXAS 78028

PHONE: (512) 895-3540

May 14, 1983

I have never been particularly interested in genealogical research but my interest in history has led me into a project which I believe can be of benefit to genealogists.

In 1976 I was asked to prepare a list of the names and dates on all the gravestones in two cemeteries in the community in Kerr County where I grew up. Within the last year I have assisted in running lines and staking sections, rows and spaces in the largest of these, the Sunset Cemetery. I have made a plat of each section which shows the location of the grave, the name of the deceased and the year of birth and of death.

Now I hasten to admit that this is something that can be found at any commercially operated cemetery. But the project on which I am now embarked goes further than this. For each person buried there I have made a card on which the above information is included but in addition I am securing information which will show the name of the wife (husband) and children of the deceased. Also if I can find information as to place of birth, time of coming to Texas (if not native) and other items about occupation, positions held or anything else of historical interest, I include that. On more recent interments much of this can be obtained from obituary notices in the newspapers. I plan to make this information available to the local genealogical society. Of course, no compensation is received for this.

For your information I am enclosing a copy of one of the plats of a section of the cemetery and copies of two of the more interesting cards.

Nelson, H. L.

1835-1922

Sample, Section H,
is on the next
page.

Section H, Row 2, Lot 6-7

Born Nov. 9, 1835, Died May 8, 1922.

Husband of Olive Nelson.

Father of Allen S., William H., Lee Ward, Frank, Nellie
and Rosa Nelson.

First postmaster at Mountain Home, Texas. He is reputed to have given it that name. Opposed to slavery, he spent the Civil War years in Mexico. Served as school trustee, road supervisor, and other public offices. Was first Master Mason raised in Rising Star Lodge #429, A. F. & A. M., Center Point, on Dec. 4, 1875.

Morriss, John George

1810-1897

Section H, Row 3, Lot 13

Born Feb. 28, 1810, Died Nov. 28, 1897

Early Texas pioneer, coming to Lavaca Co. in 1845.

Ancestor of all the Morriss family buried in Sunset Cem.

He was an interpreter for U. S. Government when over 10,000 Cherokee Indians were forcibly moved by the army from Georgia to Indian Territory (Oklahoma) in 1838. Farm in Lavaca County was awarded him for service to Rep. of Tex. in Indian Wars. In 1883, at age of 73, he married widow Mary Ann Byas, the daughter of Andrew Kent, one of the heroes of the Alamo.

CENTER DRIVE →

SUNSET CEMETERY
Mountain Home, Texas

1982

-124-

Lot

| | Row 1 | Row 2 | Row 3 | Row 4 | Row 5 |
|----|--|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| 1 | | | | John P. Smith 1880-1955 | James Glyn Smith 1916-1927 |
| 2 | | Mattie C. Nelson 1880-1959 | | Sallie Smith 1882- | |
| 3 | | Frank H. Nelson 1874-1933 | | Julia Cabbiness 1896-1959 | Sybil Nuendorf 1921-1956 Bessie Smith 1890-1980 |
| 4 | | Charles Ted Nelson 1917-1918 | | Charles Leland Nelson 1914-1916 | Jake L. Smith 1888-1952 |
| 5 | Unknown | Ollive Nelson | | | Alma Smith 1890-1931 |
| 6 | Sarah A. Nelson 1868-1935 Wm. Harvey Nelson 1866-1934 | 1838-1912 H. L. Nelson 1835-1922 | | | Alf H. Smith 1860-1937 |
| 7 | | George W. Patterson 1863-1905 | | Allen S. Nelson 1865-1915 | Anna Smith 1862-1950 |
| 8 | | | | Maud Nelson 1872-1897 | James H. Smith 1883-1955 |
| 9 | | unknown | | Scottie May Nelson 1890-1890 | Effie Smith 1887- |
| 10 | Carl Adam Morriss 1891-1953 | | | | John W. Robinson 1844-1886 |
| 11 | Wm. Rawson Morriss 1927-1931 | | | | Thos. C. North 1825-1922 |
| 12 | Annie Mae Morriss 1896-1957 | | John G. Gilmer 1870-1947 | | Lizzie North 1834-1888 |
| 13 | Infant Morriss Jul. 1911 | | John George Morriss 1810-1897 | unknown | unknown |
| 14 | Mary Jane Morriss 1871-1948 | | Susan M. Gilmer 1841-1884 | unknown | unknown |
| 15 | E. E. Morriss 1868-1929 | | | Albert Cover 1854-1881 | unknown |
| 16 | Hada S. Morriss 1880-1964 | | | | |
| 17 | Adam J. Morriss 1871-1923 | | Loma Morriss 1892- | | unknown |
| 18 | A. M. Morriss 1834-1924 | | Ernest E. Morriss 1889-1961 | M. B. Shults | |
| 19 | Ann T. Morriss 1845-1934 | | Dora Sproul 1885-1965 | | unknown |
| 20 | Airs G. Morriss 1865-1945 | | W. W. Sproul 1895-1916 | | unknown |
| | Lily A. Morriss 1875-1974 | | Margaret E. Morriss 1846-1877 | | |

N.

SECTION H.
page 1.



The Sam Houston Regional Library in Liberty is part of a statewide system that preserves local historical records, which are particularly useful to persons doing genealogical research.

Genealogy Starts Here

Located near the Trinity River in a wooded area in the southeast Texas town of Liberty is the Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center. This is the area where Texas refugees once fled from the Mexican army in the Runaway Scrape before Sam Houston led the Texas forces to victory at San Jacinto.

The handsome, columned library has many artifacts that relate to Houston himself, but its real emphasis is on the citizens of Texas history.

The library is part of a recent statewide Texas system of 24 Regional Historical Resource Depositories that serve as "safety deposit boxes" to protect and make available to the public historically valuable records of local government offices. The depositories keep documents that range from records of marriages and probates to tax rolls and even scholastic records from schools. Most date from the 19th century.

According to Marilyn von Kohl, director of the Local Records Department of the Texas State Archives, the regional depositories have been particularly useful to persons doing genealogical research. "Most of our researchers are citizens doing research on their families," she says.

The regional depositories, on the average, serve a region of about 10 counties each. Most documents can be transferred between depositories for genealogical research use at no charge. The majority of

these depositories are located on university campuses and in designated areas of existing city libraries.

In Liberty, the Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center is the only depository in the system that has its own individual building. Because Liberty has the most extensive collection of private papers of individuals, organizations, and businesses in the depository network, it has been a visitor attraction as well as a center for research.

One of the prize documents there includes pages from an 1826 census from the Liberty area, which was one of the first censuses ever taken in Texas. The census, which is kept on permanent display, is also unusual because it includes the maiden names of wives and the place of residence before Texas for the 407 settlers listed on it.

Another exhibit is a 258-page journal of pirate Jean Laffite, opened to pages that list some of his officers and vessels. The library also has large Texana collections assembled by former Texas Governor Price Daniel, Sr., a lifelong bibliophile, and his wife, Jean. Daniel donated the 110-acre site for the facility.

Among items related to Sam Houston, the library exhibits the bed that he slept in at Groce's Plantation en route to the Battle of San Jacinto. Houston later had it duplicated for the governor's mansion. There is also Houston's desk that he presented to the physician who treated him after he was wounded in the Battle of San Jacinto.

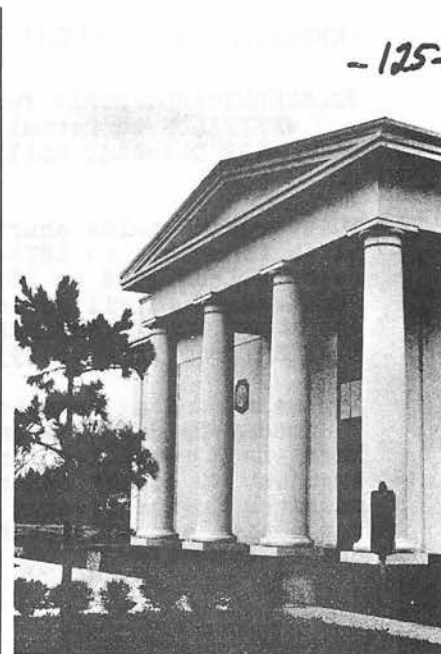
The library is 3 miles north of Liberty via State 146 and Farm Road 1011. Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. For more information, telephone (713) 336-7097.

Other Regional Historical Resource Depositories

The other depositories are located at Paris Junior College, Paris; Angelo State



Items of early Texas are included in the library's collection. The handgun comes from the period in the early 1800's when Jean Laffite had a stronghold in Galveston.



The Sam Houston Regional Library, a visitor attraction as well as a center of research, has a large collection of historical material relating to Sam Houston.

University, San Angelo; Austin Public Library; Baylor University, Waco; Dallas Public Library; East Texas State University, Commerce; Houston Public Library; Midwestern University, Wichita Falls; North Texas State University, Denton; Pan American University, Edinburg; Sam Houston State University, Huntsville; Sherman Public Library; Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches; Tarleton State University, Stephenville; Texas A&I University, Kingsville; Texas A&M University, College Station; Texas Christian University, Fort Worth; Texas Tech University, Lubbock; University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson; University of Texas at El Paso; University of Texas at Permian Basin, Odessa; Victoria College; and West Texas State University, Canyon.

For more information on the Regional Historical Resource Depository system, write Local Records Department, Texas State Archives, Box 12927, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711; or telephone (512) 475-2449.



INFORMATION ON ARCHIVES IN GERMANY

**PERSONENSTANDSARCHIV fuer NORDRHEIN
WESTFALEN in Detmold.
D-493 Detmold, Willi-Hofmann Str.**

This archive holds church book duplicates from 1815 to 1874. Copies of Civil records from 1808 to 1814. Duplicates of Standesamts (Civil Office) registers for the districts of ARNSBERG, DETMOLD and MÜNSTER from 1874 to 1938.

The main reading room hours are:
Monday-Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.
There is a small fee for the use of the archive. NO copies can be made on Xerox machines in the reading room but orders for copies can be placed and they are processed speedily.

**LUDWIGSBURG STAATSARCHIV
FOR WÜRTTEMBERG
Schloss
D 7140 Ludwigsburg
W. Germany**

This archive is located in the Ludwigsburg Residential Palace within the beautiful baroque gardens. Through a merger of the three district archives Mergentheim, Ellwangen and Heilbronn the State Archive Ludwigsburg came into existence in 1868. Up to 1969 it served solely as subsidiary of the Main State Archive Stuttgart. Now it holds all Württemberg records of the 19th and 20th century while the "Old-Württemberg" records, i.e. those from the former "Grafschaft (County) Württemberg", thereafter "Herzogtum (Dukedom) Württemberg" are housed in the Main State Archive Stuttgart.

The present State being BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG it is important to know that all records of Baden are in the Generallandesarchiv Karlsruhe. Also: there is the Hohenzollern Archive at Sigmaringen for the former "Fürstentümer (Principalities) Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen and Hohenzollern-Hechingen, "now parts of the State Baden-Württemberg.

In Ludwigsburg we find the records of the 64 "Oberämter" from 1806 - 1938, Oberamt (plural: Oberämter) being the historical designation of an area that now is covering a county.

On every one of these "Oberämter", a descriptive book was published, the so-called "Oberamtsbeschreibungen". These have been out of print for a long time and can only be found with great luck in antiquarian bookshops.

The record files for these "Oberämter" are all made up the same way: 20 sections of which the numbers IX and XV are the most important ones for the researcher. The heading for section IX is "Staatsbürgerrecht"; this section contains the administrative files on the citizens of the region (Nobility, Commoners, Jews, Foreigners etc.). Under this number, you'll find the files on "Auswanderungen" (emigration).

Nr. XV is headed "Polizeisachen" (Police Matters). Among 10 other items, it contains the section "Passwesen" (passport matters). This is where we found safe-conduct-papers and passports for many emigrants to the US. All these records cover the period 1806-1880 (some up to 1890). More on these will also come from us in the future.

The books on the shelves of the reading room (open to the public from 8:30 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday) are of such great interest that we'll have to devote a much more detailed report on them in the future too.

The personnel is very congenial and helpful. NO fee is collected for the use of the reading room; but the copies processed by the copy service upon your orders are expensive: DM1.00 per piece.

All the civil records and emigration records contained in this Palace Archive have been filmed by the LDS Genealogical Library.

If you want to go to the Residential Palace Archive of Ludwigsburg, there is an efficient bus service that deposits you right at the big royal front gate.

**BADISCHES GENERALLANDESARCHIV
Nördliche Hildapromenade 5
D 75 Karlsruhe, W. Germany**

/This is the archive for the former Dukedom of Baden, now part of the State Baden-Württemberg. There are six historical divisions in the holdings of this archive:

- 1) The Old-Baden Archive
- 2) The Baden-Baden Archive
- 3) The Baden-Durlach Archive
- 4) The combined Margrave Archive with the Archive Rules of 1801
- 5) The Generallandesarchiv and the Branch Archives (with records from 1803-1872)
- 6) The Generallandesarchiv as main State Archive for Baden (records since 1872)

For the genealogist the following holdings are of great importance:

Copies of all the Lutheran church books for Baden from 1810 to 1872.

Mr. Oberth is heading this section. He said that he worked with another person for five years on the indexing of this material.

They will reply to requests and send documented copies of church book entries for a fixed fee. 80 % of their incoming requests are from the US. No research requests on other archive holdings are accepted.

The use of the archive material is only possible after written permission of the Director. Applications are available from the clerk in the reading room. It opens at 8:30 am and material should be ordered beforehand. Orders received before 12 noon, will be available for use in the afternoon. Orders taken in the afternoon, will be available for use next morning.

There are no copy machines in the reading room, but orders for copies from archive material are accepted and speedily processed.

There is no fee for the use of the archive. The Baden emigration records have been filmed by the LDS Church Genealogical Library and are available through the local branch libraries.

INFORMATION ON ARCHIVES IN GERMANY (continued)

NORDRHEIN WESTFAELISCHES HAUPTSTAATSARCHIV

D-4 Duesseldorf 30, Mauerstrasse 55

A modern new building in a pleasant quiet street. The reading room is well equipped with reference books and there are enough librarians to help with the research.

The holdings are enormous: 53 km of shelves with individual files and bound volumes of documents, 69500 handwritten documents on papyrus (Pergament), 80 000 manuscript cards, 7500 historical maps, 600 reels of films on historical data, 150 000 old photos and numerous taped documents.

There are four main divisions:

Division I) "The Old Archive for the District Nordrhein" (up to 1815): contains the territorial archives, the feudal archives and the archives of the convents and cloisters. Also all files from the French occupation. This is the most important part for the genealogist. It also holds many Family Archives with complete Family Trees and ancestral charts.

Division II) "Administrative Archive for the District Nordrhein" responsible for all the material from the formerly Prussian, then Nordrhein-Westfaelischen Offices from 1815 to the present, i.e. all court records are included in this division.

Division III) "Administrative Archive for the present State of Nordrhein-Westfalen", the archive for the government and all other official offices of the State.

Division IV) "Archive for other than Official Documents, also documents on the National Socialists". This division contains everything on the history of the now State Nordrhein-Westfalen.

The hours are 8 am to 6 pm, and no fees are collected. NO copy machine is available, however, orders for copies are sent by mail in an amazingly short time. Price per copy is DM 0.80

These items are from the Immigrant Library Newsletter, 5043 Lankershin Blvd, No. Hollywood CA 91601. Membership/Subscription is \$10.00 per year. Another \$5.00 puts you in the German interest group.

BISTUMSARCHIV MÜNSTER

D-44 Münster, Georgskommende 19

The church books of the Diocese of Münster are deposited in this archive.

A card index, for the church books of the city of Münster, is made available to the researcher. You are not allowed to search the church books themselves!!

This extensive index is in the main reading room and every card contains the name of the person, the date of the event and the location of the event. Up to 20 seats are available for researchers with one librarian to attend to everyone's needs. This same person has to respond to all the written requests that come into the archive. Now you know why you might have to wait awhile for a response to your letter.

Hours for the main reading room are:
Mon.-Fri. 9am to 1 pm

No fee is charged for use of this archive at this time. There is NO copy machine available.

NIEDERSACHSISCHES STAATSARCHIV

WOLFENBUTTEL, D-3340 Wolfenbüttel,
Forstweg 2, West Germany

This archive has the church books of Landeskirche Braunschweig (ev. luth.) from the late 1600's to 1815. All of the books are available for research by the public and there is a copy machine available. You may make copies of any entries in the church books as well as copying their abundant manuscript material on that part of Germany. The main reading room is a pleasant room overlooking an interior garden and can sit about 20 or 25 persons. The hours for research are 8:30--4:30 pm Monday through Friday. There is a usage fee of DM 3.00 per day. If you intend to return the next day and continue research on the same books they will allow you to leave them on the table.

HAVE YOU MADE YOUR RESERVATIONS YET??

Of course you're coming to Galveston. Be sure to attend the Genealogy Workshop on Saturday, September 10, at the Rosenberg Library. This is one program you won't want to miss!

THE SOUNDEX SYSTEM

The SOUNDEX code is a very valuable aid in finding a name in the Federal Census. Below is an explanation of how the SOUNDEX code works and an index to the SOUNDEX code for the 1880 Federal Census of Texas.

Guide to the Soundex System

The Soundex filing system, alphabetic for the first letter of surname and numeric thereunder as indicated by divider cards, keeps together names of the same and similar sounds but of variant spellings.

To search for a particular name, you must first work out the code number for the surname of the individual. No number is assigned to the first letter of the surname. If the name is Kuhne, for example, the index card will be in the "K" segment of the index. The code number for Kuhne, worked out according to the system below, is 500.

Soundex Coding Guide

| Code | Key Letters and Equivalents |
|------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | b, p, f, v |
| 2 | c, s, k, g, j, q, x, z |
| 3 | d, t |
| 4 | l |
| 5 | m, n |
| 6 | r |

The letters a, e, i, o, u, y, w, and h are not coded.

The first letter of a surname is not coded.

Every Soundex number must be a 3-digit number. A name yielding no code numbers, as Lee, would thus be L 000; one yielding only one code number would have two zeros added, as Kuhne, coded as K 500; and one yielding two code numbers would have one zero added, as Ebell, coded as E 140. Not more than three digits are used, so Ebelson would be coded as E 142, not E 1425.

When two key letters or equivalents appear together, or one key letter immediately follows or precedes an equivalent, the two are coded as one letter, by a single number, as follows: Kelly, coded as K400;

Buerck, coded as B620; Lloyd, coded as L300; and Schaefer, coded as S160.

If several surnames have the same code, the cards for them are arranged alphabetically by given name. There are divider cards showing most code numbers, but not all. For instance, one divider may be numbered 350 and the next one 400. Between the two divider cards there may be names coded 353, 350, 360, 364, 365, and 355, but instead of being in numerical order they are inter-filed alphabetically by given name.

Such prefixes to surnames as "van," "Von," "Di," "de," "le," "Di," "D'," "dela," or "du" are sometimes disregarded in alphabetizing and in coding.

The following names are examples of Soundex coding and are given only as illustrations.

| Name | Letters Coded | Code No. |
|--------------|---------------|----------|
| Allright | l, r, c | A 462 |
| Eberhard | b, r, r | E 166 |
| Engbrethson | n, g, b | E 521 |
| Heimbach | m, b, c | H 512 |
| Hanselmann | n, s, l | H 524 |
| Henzelmann | n, z, l | H 524 |
| Hildebrand | l, d, b | H 431 |
| Kavanagh | v, n, g | K 152 |
| Lind, Van | n, d | L 530 |
| Lukaschowsky | k, s, s | L 222 |
| McDonnell | c, d, n | M 235 |
| McGee | c | M 200 |
| O'Brien | b, r, n | O 165 |
| Opnian | p, n, n | O 155 |
| Oppenheimer | p, n, m | O 155 |
| Riedemanas | d, m, n | R 355 |
| Zita | t | Z 300 |
| Zitzmeinn | t, z, m | Z 325 |

1880 SOUNDEX INDEX

The card index to the 1880 census schedules has been reproduced by the National Archives as a separate microfilm publication for each State or Territory. The index, however, is not to every name in the census schedules, but only to those entries for households in which there was a child, or children, aged 10 or under. The cards give the names, ages, and birth places of all members of such households; and there is a separate cross-reference card for each child aged 10 or under whose surname is different from that of the head of the household in which he is listed. The letter at the beginning of the Soundex code is the first initial of the last name of the head of the household, the number a phonetic code for the name, and the letter in () is the first initial of the first name of the head of the household.

Texas. T773.

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. A-000 thru A-416 | 24. F-632 thru G-246 | 47. M-420 (J) thru M-520 | 67. S-630 thru T-456 |
| 2. A-420 thru A-536 (R) | 25. G-250 thru G-456 | 48. M-521 thru M-600 | 68. T-460 thru T-520 (J) |
| 3. A-536 (S) thru B-226 | 26. G-460 thru G-620 (B) | 49. M-610 thru M-635 (I) | 69. T-520 (J) thru T-653 |
| 4. B-230 thru B-336 | 27. G-620 (C) thru G-650 (L) | 50. M-635 (J) thru N-366 | 70. T-654 thru W-000 |
| 5. B-340 thru B-425 | 28. G-650 (M) thru H-200 (I) | 51. N-400 thru O-416 | 71. W-100 thru W-300 (F) |
| 6. B-426 thru B-525 | 29. H-200 (J) thru H-300 (F) | 52. O-420 thru P-346 | 72. W-300 (G) thru W-340 |
| 7. B-526 thru B-620 (Q) | 30. H-300 (G) thru H-400 (L) | 53. P-350 thru P-456 | 73. W-341 thru W-420 |
| 8. B-620 (R) thru B-635 (F) | 31. H-400 (M) thru H-513 | 54. P-460 thru P-622 | 74. W-421 thru W-452 (A) |
| 9. B-635 (G) thru B-650 (V) | 32. H-514 thru H-543 | 55. P-623 thru R-000 (D) | |
| 10. B-650 (W) thru C-136 | 33. H-545 thru H-625 | 56. R-000 (E) thru R-163 (S) | 75. W-452 (B) thru W-452 (V) |
| 11. C-140 thru C-236 | 34. H-626 thru I-136 | 57. R-163 (T) thru R-240 | 76. W-452 (W) thru W-636 |
| 12. C-240 thru C-436 | 35. I-140 thru J-446 | 58. R-241 thru R-326 | 77. W-640 thru Institutions |
| 13. C-440 thru C-500 (G) | 36. J-450 thru J-523 | 59. R-330 thru R-533 | |
| 14. C-500 (H) thru C-600 (L) | 37. J-524 thru J-525 (W) | 60. R-534 thru S-162 (I) | |
| 15. C-600 (M) thru C-631 | 38. J-525 (W) thru K-450 | 61. S-162 (J) thru S-315 (L) | |
| 16. C-632 thru D-116 | 39. K-451 thru K-623 | 62. S-315 (M) thru S-362 (L) | |
| 17. D-120 thru D-166 | 40. K-624 thru L-200 (J) | 63. S-362 (M) thru S-434 | |
| 18. D-200 thru D-450 | 41. L-200 (J) thru L-365 | 64. S-435 thru S-530 (B) | |
| 19. D-451 thru D-566 | 42. L-400 thru L-565 | 65. S-530 (C) thru S-530 | |
| 20. D-600 thru E-336 | 43. L-563 thru M-211 | 66. S-531 thru S-626 | |
| 21. E-340 thru E-663 | 44. M-212 thru M-245 (Q) | | |
| 22. F-000 thru F-454 | 45. M-245 (R) thru M-260 | | |
| 23. F-455 thru F-631 | 46. M-261 thru M-420 (I) | | |

**CENSUS MICROFILM RENTAL PROGRAM
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
APRIL, 1983**

PLACING AN ORDER

A person wishing to rent census microfilm places an order through a local library or participating genealogical/historical association. These orders are consolidated at the library or participating association and mailed to the following address:

Census Microfilm Rental Program
P.O. Box 2940
Hyattsville, Maryland 20784

The film is then delivered to the library or association where it can be viewed by the patron. The film must be returned by the library or association that rented it, not by the individual user.

COST OF RENTAL

The basic seven-day usage rental for both the 35mm and 16mm film (schedules and Soundex) is \$2.25. Overdue charges of \$2.25 are assessed if the film is returned more than two days after the designated return date which will appear on order confirmations or packing slips.

LOST OR DAMAGED FILM

When film is lost or damaged beyond use (through negligence), the participating institution will be charged a \$12.00 replacement fee. It is the institutions responsibility to collect this fee from the patron.

PAYMENT METHODS

The participating institution receives payments from the individual patron and may charge an additional fee to cover handling and return postage. Qualified institutions may utilize deposit accounts, prepayment, or accounts receivable payment methods for the service. A \$.05 per roll discount is available to all users who establish and maintain funds in a deposit account. Unless a deposit account has been established, prepayment *must accompany* any order for two rolls or less.

RETURN OF FILM

Individual patrons are expected to use the film at the participating institutions. Rental film is not designed to "circulate" outside the institution. The library or association is expected to return the film in a timely fashion, using United States Postal Service (libraries may use library rates).

LENGTH OF USE OF FILM

The user may rent the film for a one-week period (7 day) usage. Because the film is now "rented" for specific periods, it must be stressed that timely customer return of the film is essential to the smooth operation of the program as well as the libraries' and associations' ability to utilize the program. Inordinate or frequent delays in return of film may cause users to be dropped from the program.

NOTICE OF FILM AVAILABILITY

Customers may order film to be delivered on a specific date or they may request film to be shipped "as soon as possible". In either event, if the film cannot be shipped within ten days of the receipt of the order, or by the date requested, a written confirmation will be sent to the participating institution notifying them of the expected arrival date of the film. Adherence to the return date is crucial to the success of the program and all participating institutions are expected to comply with these dates to the maximum degree possible.

WAITING PERIOD

The rental program is designed for prompt shipment when the film is available and systematic scheduling when multiple orders accumulate, with no customer having to wait more than 60 days.

CENSUS MATERIALS AVAILABILITY

At the present time, the 1790 to 1900 census schedules and Soundex are available. Later this year, the schedules and Soundex for the 1910 census will be available.

CATALOG AVAILABILITY

Participating institutions may order catalogs for a fee of \$5.00. Order books are also available for \$2.50 per book.

FILM RESEARCH

Census research on behalf of the libraries or associations is not available through this program. All research must be performed after the film is rented and delivered to the library or association.

ATLAS FOR GERMANIC GENEALOGY (1982)

by Ernest Thode

This atlas is a collection of maps of German-speaking Europe chosen for particular applicability to Germanic genealogy. In addition to maps of each of the provinces of the German Empire showing the capital cities of each governmental district (Oberamt, Bezirk, Amt, etc.), the "county seats," so to speak, in two languages where applicable, other maps show an overview of Europe; an overview of the Deutsches Reich (German Empire); locations of German settlements in Central Europe; areas from which the greatest emigration took place; ports from which emigrants left; locations of German archives; locations of feminine given names, masculine given names, surname and locality-name suffixes, etc., characteristic of a particular region; rivers, forests, and mountains; major postal code areas; religious distribution; etc. Maps of Switzerland, Austria, and Transylvanian Saxony (Siebenbuergen) are also included.

If the place of origin is known, these maps may help put the area in perspective. (What regional archives might have jurisdiction? What may have been possible ports of departure?)

If the place of origin is not known, these maps may provide clues to a possible general area of origin. If your ancestors were named Melchior EGLE and Rosine DETTWILER, for instance, the maps on pages 8, 9, and 11 will all point to Switzerland, based on the given names and the surname suffixes.

An atlas this size cannot show every small village and does not attempt to do so. If the name of the village of origin is shown, detailed maps of German-speaking Europe are available from the author. Please state the place(s) of interest and enclose a self-addressed, stamped long business envelope with your inquiry.

Pages: iii + 61.

Size: 8½ x 11 inches.

Price: \$7.50 plus .75 postage and handling (\$8.25). Ohioans add .42 sales tax, for a total of \$8.69 in Ohio.

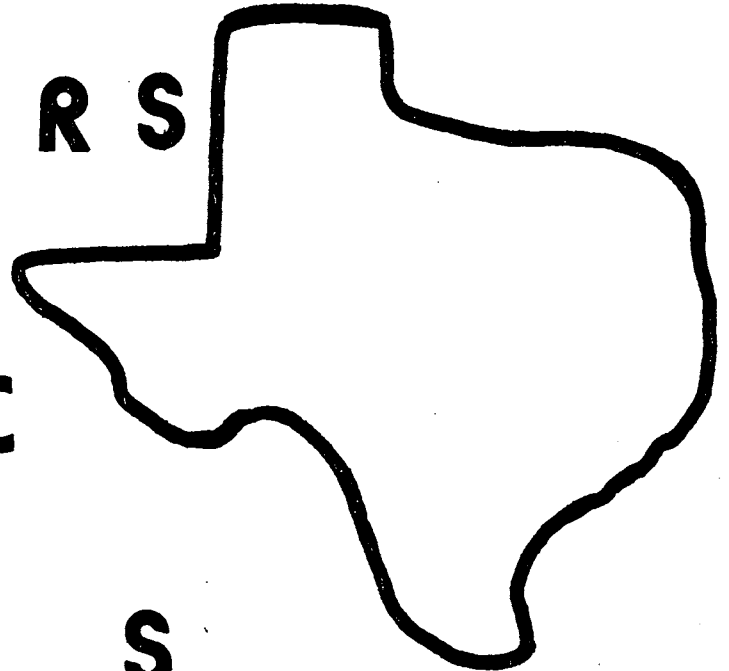
Libraries: \$6.75 plus .75 postage and handling (\$7.50). Ohio libraries please submit statement of tax-exempt status, otherwise add .38 tax.

Dealers apply for quantity discounts, lots of 10 or more.

Order from:

Thode Translations
RR 7, Box 306 ATFL, Kern Road
Marietta, OH 45750
USA

FIRST SETTLERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS



Headright grants approved by the Traveling Board of Land Commissioners. These grants were proved valid claims awarding land to settlers who arrived in Texas prior to 1840. Each volume contains the names of the claimant, amount of land granted, and class of Headright. An introduction explains the establishment of the General Land Office and the types of headright grants, and who was eligible to receive one.

VOLUME I contains records from the following counties: AUSTIN, BASTROP, BEKAR, BRAZORIA, COLORADO, FANNIN, FAYETTE, FORT BEND, GALVESTON, GOLIAD, GONZALES, HARRIS, HARRISON, HOUSTON, JACKSON and JASPER.

VOLUME II contains records from the following counties: JEFFERSON, LIBERTY, MATAGORDA, MILAM, MONTGOMERY, NACOGDOCHES, RED RIVER, REFUGIO, ROBERTSON, SABINE, SAN AUGUSTINE, SHELBY, VICTORIA, WASHINGTON.

These books are approximately 275 pages in length, off-set printing, surname index, soft cover. Cost is \$19.50 + \$2.00 postage & handling for EACH volume. This is a limited edition, so reserve your copy today.

Inquire Publications
10166 Clairmont Drive
St. Louis, Missouri 63136

PLEASE SEND ME _____ COPY (COPIES) OF VOLUME I @ \$21.50 per volume
PLEASE SEND ME _____ COPY (COPIES) OF VOLUME II @ \$21.50 per volume
NAME _____
ADDRESS _____

Keynote address:

German settlers built St. Joseph's

(In downtown San Antonio)

By William V. Dielmann

(The following is a talk given by William V. Dielmann, Jr. to the Texas Catholic Conference on Ethnic Community Affairs. This year 1983 marks the Tricentennial of German immigrants to the North American colonies.)

My grandparents immigrated to the United States of America from Germany in the early eighteen seventies -- right after the Franco-Prussian War. My paternal grandfather was a stone-mason by trade. His knowledge of the building trade prompted him to establish a construction and builders supply business. This initial venture proved eminently successful attested to by the numerous structures built by his firm not only in San Antonio but in various parts of Texas.

My maternal grandfather was a well-to-do grocer. In the substantial brick building which housed his grocery business, and separated only by a sturdy brick wall he also maintained a bar, with space reserved for family gatherings. It is recorded that some of his very best customers were citizens in the neighborhood of Irish extraction.

Bi-lingual education

The good fortune which attended my immigrant forebears in the land they had chosen to spend the rest of their lives, was due in large measure to their integrity, honesty, decency, hard work and independence. The entire family participated in striving for the goals set by the parents, namely a safe, secure, serene, and satisfying home life in which the social graces were not neglected and to give further meaning to the famed German "gemuethlichkeit." In the course of years the material assets of the families were considerably enhanced, the families became well-known and respected in the civil community, and true to their Faith, they became generous supporters of their Church. Of prime importance to the parents was their determination to provide their children with a good, solid education --and at that time, the members of the first generation born in America, were privileged to be taught in both the English and German languages.

My forebears ALL were members of St. Joseph's Parish.

As a rule, when the German immigrants -- of whatever religious persuasion -- settled in their new home, their first major project was the erection of a church in which they could express their gratitude to God for His unusual beneficence, and to acknowledge their dependence on Him for their future well-being.

Parochial School

Their next important undertaking was the establishment of a school -- a parochial school -- for the education of their children. St. Joseph's Academy, established, owned, operated and staffed by the Sisters of Divine Providence, provided the parochial school for St. Joseph's Parish. It was an elementary school for boys in the lower grades --and girls, with additional years' schooling reserved for young ladies who wished to continue their education. It was probably the first parochial school of many established throughout the State by that religious Order. Most of the immigrant nuns were natives of the former French provinces of Alsace and Lorraine. After the Franco-Prussian War, the two provinces were ceded by France and again annexed by Germany, the official language was once again German, and it was mandatory that the inhabitants become familiar with that language. When the nuns came to this country, teaching in German as well as in English was no problem. In the earliest part of the 20th century, the Parish established a separate elementary school for boys, called St. Joseph's College, staffed by lay teachers. This school had a useful life of nearly 40 years. It is surprising the number of children of prominent families not of the Catholic Faith, who attended highly regarded, history-laden St. Joseph's Academy -- one of the premier intermediate schools of the time.

Father Pefferkorn

In every reference to the history of the German Catholics in San Antonio and even in Southwest Texas, St. Joseph's Church in downtown San Antonio is brought into the picture. The cornerstone of St. Joseph's Church -- the Ger-

man Church -- is dated May 6, 1868. The church was built by pioneer Catholics of German extraction. A good many years passed before the church was finally completed evolving as one of the finest examples of Gothic architecture in this state.

Two of the earliest pastors were Father Henry Pefferkorn and Father William A. Fuhrwerk -- both of whom left Germany -- the land of their birth --to come to this country to keep alive the Faith which, in numerous instances, had been neglected because of a lack of priests -- and also to assume pastorates in a sparsely populated land.

Liederkrantz

Father Pefferkorn was the artist priest of St. Joseph's. He is responsible for the paintings above what were the two side-altars, and otherwise embellished the interior of the church. We make known with a great deal of pride and satisfaction, that he founded the San Antonio Liederkrantz in 1892 originally as a choir for his church -- and the fact that the Liederkrantz was founded wisely and well is supported by the fact that it is still robust and hearty today after 90 years existence, still sings in St. Joseph's on special feast days and designated Sundays, and continues to enjoy many public successes.

Father William A. Fuhrwerk was the priest who was a superb organizer and administrator -- societies of men, ladies and youth were founded during his tenure -- St. Joseph's Society founded in 1885 was revitalized, St. Elizabeth's Society founded in 1914 both still functioning today -- and numerous auxiliary societies each created for the carrying out of a specific purpose. The parochial schools were flourishing, and whatever goal was set by the pastor was attained

Continued on next page



William V. Dielmann, Jr. and Theresa Gold, TCCECA executive secretary.

German Settlers (Continued)

by the parishioners in a united and enthusiastic effort. Those who are familiar with the history of the era will acknowledge without fear of contradiction that Father Fuhrwerk's tenure as pastor was truly the **Golden Age** of St. Joseph's Parish. At the same time, we pay tribute to the extraordinary contributions made by Father Peter J. Schnetzer during his 39 years as pastor, to Father Paul J. Ehlinger and to Father John Wagner. Father Emil Wesselsky was administrator of St. Joseph's during its Centennial Year 1968.

St. Joseph's Parish directly and indirectly was the source of statewide German Catholic Organizations. I refer to the Catholic State League, the Texas branch of the National Catholic Women's Union, and the Catholic Life Insurance Union. The nuclei of these groups were the men and women parishioners of St. Joseph's -- and their continuing functioning in their formative years depended upon the interest and loyalty of these parishioners. St. Joseph's Parish and its societies were hosts to many conventions of these groups, and for the sixth time next August will be the host of the National Convention of the Catholic Central Verein of America -- a society active in Catholic affairs since 1855.

The innate love of the German for GOOD music is part of his heritage. After all he can draw from a world renowned deposit of folk and classical gems. Again, through the medium of the Liederkrantz, the men of St. Joseph's supported and fostered the creation of sectional and statewide singing groups called "Saengerbunds" originating a hundred years ago and still active. Reference is made to the Gebirgs Saengerbund and the Texas State Saengerbund. Periodic and regular group concerts called "Saengerfests" are presented featuring German folk songs and excerpts from the classics written by world famous German composers.

The symphony orchestras and visiting opera companies of other years were strongly supported by the German element of our city. The old Beethoven Hall -- the German Hall -- then the property of the Beethoven Maennerchor was the site at which these musical treats were staged. It was the only gathering place in the city large enough to accommodate such massive musical productions.

In decades past many commercial establishments bearing German names lined Commerce and Houston streets

--the city's two principal thoroughfares. There were many professional people who bore witness to their German ancestry. On occasion, years ago, one would encounter at the entrance to the office of a doctor or a lawyer, the sign: "Wir sprechen deutsch" or Hier wird Deutsch gesprochen." That sign, of course, vanished a long time ago.

Possibly no ethnic group has become assimilated into American life as painlessly as has the German -- without however sacrificing the universally acknowledged outstanding traits of the sturdy German character -- among them the unqualified loyalty and allegiance to the authority of their adopted country, and despite some unpleasantness -- real or imagined -- quickly classed as irrelevant brought on by two World Wars. We still retain a goodly share of our customs and traditions, and we are the bearers of a proud heritage. By acknowledging and our faithfulness to our heritage, we honor our ancestors --and that is exactly as it should be.

The dominance of the German element in San Antonio -- as is generally accepted -- in the 1880's and 1890's -- in all probability (and in my opinion) laid the groundwork for San Antonio's first giant stride into the 20th century.

Annual German Mass at St. Joseph's:

St. Joseph-no 'lazy bones'!

"St. Joseph was no lazy-bones . . . A noble trait of our German heritage: respect for work and competence . . . It is not doing what you want but loving what you do. Love is made visible in work," said Father Charles Neumann, S.M., during his homily in English at the annual German Mass, May 1, Feast of St. Joseph the Worker.

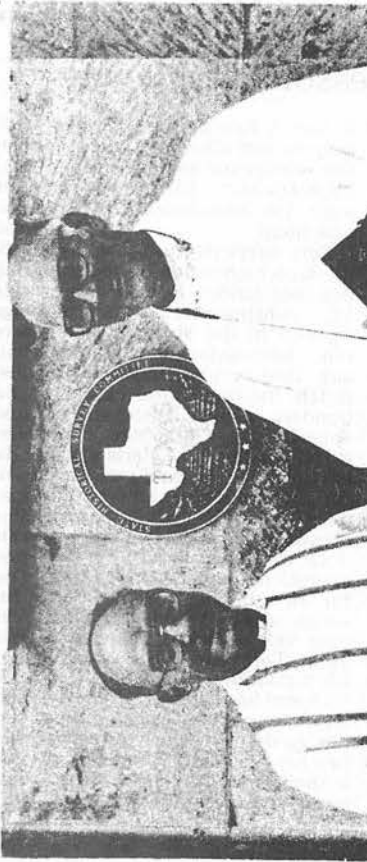
The pastor, Father Donald Brouillard, SSS, welcomed a capacity congregation to the historic church of St. Joseph's built in 1868 for the growing number of German-speaking Catholics in San Antonio.

"I feel like I said my first mass again, tonight," joked the celebrant Father Albert Hubertus, pastor, St. Peter, Prince of the Apostles, Alamo Heights.

Although Father Hubertus, a New Braunfels native, admitted speaking German at home as a youngster, it was his first Mass in German as the celebrant.

The San Antonio Liederkrantz sang the Mass in Latin and German hymns. Sister Immaculata Gentemann, CDP, proclaimed the first reading with Gerry Sueltenfuss responding. Ben Schwegmann read the second Bible reading and Joseph Kraus offered the Prayer of the Faithful. Father Hubertus announced the Good News of the Gospel in perfect German.

Offering gifts were presented by Agnes Sueltenfuss and Dorothy Kress Gramms.



Father Charles Neumann, S.M. (L), homilist and Father Hubertus, celebrant, stand in front of Texas Historical Medallion at St. Joseph's Church in downtown San Antonio.

DIELMANN RECEIVES MARGIL AWARD

Each ethnic group participating in the Texas Catholic Conference on Ethnic Community Affairs may nominate an individual to receive the annual Margil Award in recognition of outstanding contributions toward the awareness and promotion of the Catholic ethnic tradition. This year's award to a German individual was presented to William V. Dielmann, Jr., who also gave the keynote address at the TCCECA's Spring Conference. In recognition of the tricentennial of German immigration to the North American Colonies, TCCECA's Spring Conference focused on the Germans. Dielmann's keynote address, "German Settlers built St. Joseph's," appears elsewhere in this Newsletter.

MARGIL AWARD

(German)

WILLIAM V. DIELMANN, JR.

William Vincent Dielmann, Jr., was born on Chestnut Street in San Antonio, the son of William V. Dielmann and Teresa Devening Dielmann. He has been a lifelong resident of San Antonio.

The Dielmanns are among the well known German Catholic families of San Antonio and members of St. Joseph Church, founded by the Germans in 1688. William Dielmann attended St. Joseph Academy, then located on Bonham Street, and spent his high school years at old St. Mary's College on College Street. The locales for those schools have long since been surrendered to "progress." In 1925, he was graduated from the University of Notre Dame.

For thirty years, Mr. Dielmann served as an officer of and was active in the many activities of the Order of the Sons of Hermann, an outstanding fraternal life insurance society. He has been retired from this position for the past ten years. For many years, Mr. Dielmann has enjoyed singing with the San Antonio Liederkranz, a traditional men's singing society, and has served as the group's president. An active and involved member of the century-old St. Joseph Society, Mr. Dielmann has served many terms as president. He has also served as president of the local Serra Club and as Grand Commander of the Order of the Alhambra. In 1977, he became a Knight of the Order of St. Gregory the Great. Mr. Dielmann continues to be active in a number of other cultural, civic, and church-related societies and organizations.

He and his wife Florence are the parents of two sons, William III and Charles. There are five grandchildren.

We thank Mr. Dielmann for his participation in the program for this Spring Conference. To the many honors he has received we add the Margil Award in recognition of his service to the German Catholics of San Antonio and Texas.

Saterländisch: Die isolierte Sprache

Vortrag von Professor Dr. Marron C. Fort aus Durban (USA)

Oldenburg. Was würde die Öffentlichkeit sagen, wenn sich ein Lehrender der Oldenburger Universität mit einer Sprache befassen würde, die nur in drei Dörfern gebräuchlich ist? Wahrscheinlich das, was in bezug auf Angelegenheiten eben dieser Hochschule immer erst einmal gesagt wird: „Da sieht man's mal wieder!“

Professor Raapke, Vizepräsident der Universität, mochte sich diese Spitze nicht versagen, als er am Donnerstagabend eine weitere Veranstaltung von Universität und Universitätsgesellschaft ankündigte. Es ging tatsächlich um eine „Drei-Dörfer-Sprache“: die Sprache der Saterfriesen; der Referent allerdings kam nicht aus Oldenburg, sondern von der Universität von New Hampshire in Durban (USA).

Tatsächlich ist Professor Dr. Marron C. Fort der einzige Spezialist auf dem Gebiet dieser Sprache, die sich aus friesischen Ursprüngen entwickelte und in fast totaler Isolation unverändert bis heute überdauerte. Saterfriesisch (oder Saterländisch) wird in den zu Cloppenburg gehörenden Dörfern

Scharrel, Ramsloh und Utende gesprochen; allerdings hat jeder Ort wiederum seinen eigenen „Sub-Dialekt“ (Ähnliches ist auch im Rheiderland zu beobachten).

Fort referierte zunächst über die Geschichte der Besiedlung des Saterlandes. Etwa seit dem 12. Jahrhundert wanderten Friesen in die sturmflutsicheren, höhergelegenen Gebiete aus. Drei vernichtende Sturmfluten, die im 13. und 14. Jahrhundert ganze Küstenstriche entvölkerten, brachten verstärkt Siedler ins Saterland. Es entwickelte sich bald eine enge Zusammenarbeit mit dem Handelsplatz Friesoythe (damals Hansestadt!); bezeichnend jedoch war, daß auch in der Kooperation die Saterländer stets für sich blieben. Weder Führungs- noch Arbeitskräfte kamen von auswärts; abgesehen vom Torf- und Steinhandel blieb man in der Isolation. Verstärkend kam hinzu, daß die Saterländer von der Abstammung her zu den Friesen, vom Glauben her zum Einflußbereich des katholischen Münsters gehörten; die Autonomie war quasi vorgezeichnet.

Eine Landeshoheit wurde im Saterland nie anerkannt; man erklärte sich frei von allen Diensten und Abgaben, beanspruchte eigene Gerichtsbarkeit, Weid- und Brenn- sowie Braurecht.

Seit dem letzten Jahrhundert beginnt sich auch die Forschung für diesen im Wortsinne eigenartigen Landstrich zu interessieren. Der erste Forscher hatte noch eine römische Kolonie vermutet und das Land als „den Steppen Sibiriens ähnlich und für Menschen gänzlich ungeeignet“ bezeichnet; hier sei „die Schöpfung noch unvollendet“. Doch schon 1836 lieferten die Niederländer Hetema und Postemos einen ersten wissenschaftlichen Forschungsbericht über saterländische Kultur ab. Dieser Bericht wurde von der Obrigkeit ignoriert, da seine Verfasser nicht nur glänzende Wissenschaftler, sondern auch Republikaner waren...

1846 folgte J. F. Minsens erste sprachwissenschaftliche Untersuchung. Um die Jahrhundertwende schrieben Dr. J. Bröring und andere volkskundliche Berichte, veröffentlichten Beschreibungen der saterländischen Sitten und Gebräuche,

Sammlungen von Geschichten. Sagen u.v.a.m. Nach dem zweiten Weltkrieg schrieb Hans Matuschak seine Promotion über die Sprache der Saterfriesen. Marron C. Fort schließlich publizierte 1981 das erste vollständige Wörterbuch des Saterländischen.

Es fällt immer wieder die Ähnlichkeit des Saterländischen mit dem Englischen auf; tatsächlich hat im Mittelalter ein enger Kontakt zwischen diesen Gruppen bestanden. Ebenso wie Friesen ins Binnenland auswanderten, nahmen sie auch Land auf den Britischen Inseln. Noch heute gibt es eine große Anzahl von Vokabeln im Saterländischen, die ihren englischen Äquivalenten erheblich näherstehen als den deutschen.

Zum Schluß des Vortrags bat Professor Fort Angehörige des Saterländischen Heimatvereins ans Mikrofon; die Leseproben der verschiedenen saterländischen Ausprägungen stießen auf großes Interesse. Übrigens hätte Mr. Fort das auch selbst besorgen können: er spricht ebensogut Saterländisch wie alle Sorten Platt...

Peter Gerdes

SPECIAL SECTION

PART II

With the Packet Ship to Texas in 1853

The Travel Report of Christiane Haun

Edited and with an introduction by Rosemarie Pohl-Weber

Translated by Jeanne R. Willson*

Introduction

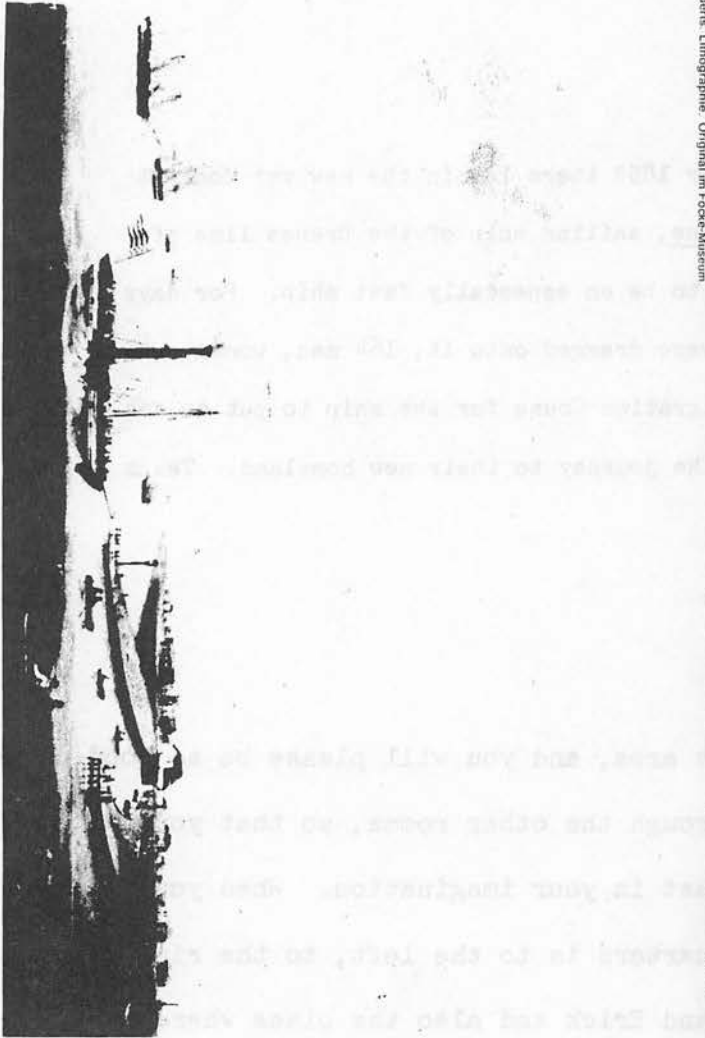
At the beginning of October 1853 there lay in the new wet dock at Bremerhaven the bark Neptune, sailing ship of the Bremen line of C. L. Brauer & Son, known to be an especially fast ship. For days on end chests and trunks were dragged onto it; 164 men, women, and children waited in the Emigration House for the ship to put to sea so they could set out on the journey to their new homeland. Texas was their goal.

Now I will leave this area, and you will please be so good as to accompany me on a trip through the other rooms, so that you can really be at home with us, at least in your imagination. When you leave the social room, the mates' quarters is to the left, to the right a room for our two stewards Jan and Erick and also the place where our dishes and utensils are kept. The outer door leads to the big deck from which two steep flights of stairs bring us to our special deck located just over the cabin that is in the rear of the ship. Almost at the other end of the deck is the second cabin, then comes the kitchen, a pen for the chickens and geese, and all the way forward,

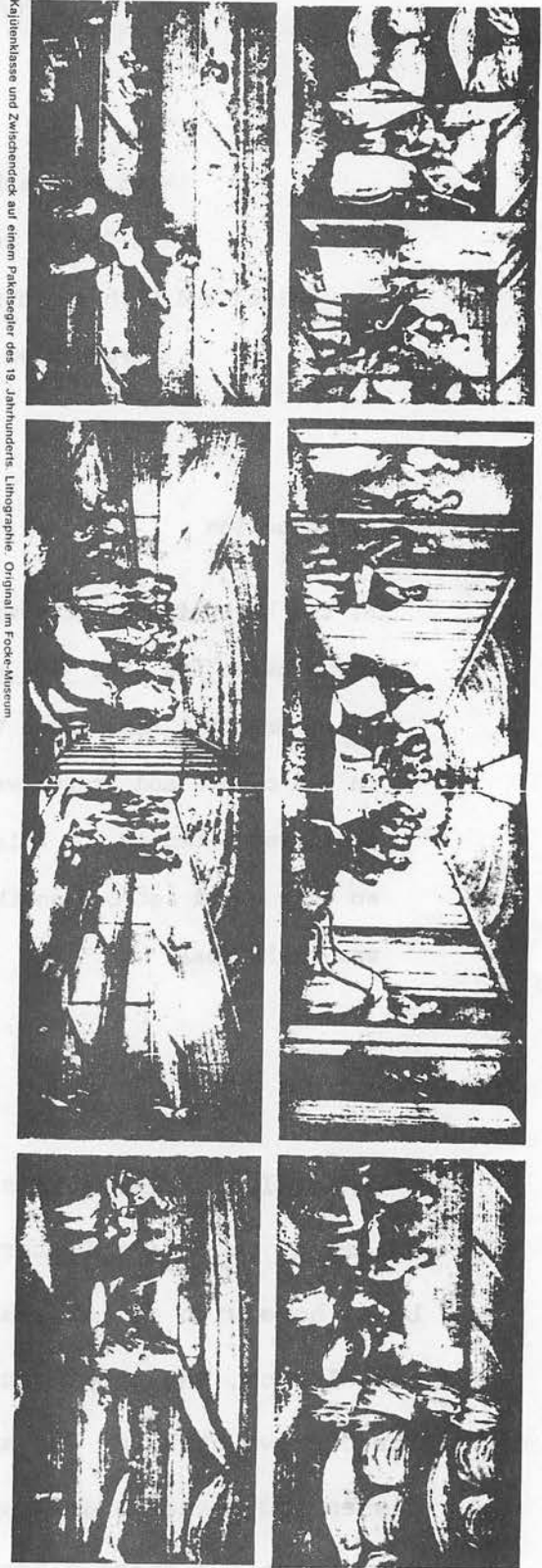
Mit dem Paketsegler 1853 nach Texas

Reisebericht der Christiane Haun

herausgegeben von Rosemarie Pohl-Weber



Bremerhaven mit Einfahrt zum „Alten Haven“. In der Mitte der Fluggdampfer „Bremen“. Gemälde von C. J. Fedeler, um 1836. Original im Focke-Museum.



Kajütenklasse und Zwischendeck auf einem Paketsegler des 19. Jahrhunderts. Lithographie. Original im Focke-Museum.

going below, the so-called sailor's stall. The steerage is a dreadful place to stay, on account of which I am extremely sorry for Hermann. There in the middle is a great pile of luggage, and on the sides 164 men, women, and children live and sleep in alcoves, four persons to each one. On nice nights many have been bedding down on the deck, that is, have lain down on their miserable straw sacks and wrapped themselves in woolen blankets. Hermann has been sleeping behind our cabin door, but even this was preferable, although many times a sudden rainstorm surprised the sleepers or the unavoidable and indispensable water was pumped up out of the hold of the ship or early in the morning the deck was washed. Almost all of them devour their noonday and evening meals on deck, too, and at times it is strange to watch the various groups at it. Fortunately almost all of them without exception are very nice people, and among them almost all trades are represented. We have shoemakers, tailors, cabinet-makers, saddlers, gunsmiths, dyers, a watchmaker, a gardner, among others. Some families are going to LaGrange, others to Round Top, still others to various places.

The very lowest part of the ship is full of emigrants' belongings and ship's freight, particularly things made out of iron, and is not accessible to us, but no one need be anxious about that because the sailors are not at all the thieves that one is so inclined to imagine. They are friendly and helpful and treat us, at least, very politely. The only unpleasant thing about them, which, however, cannot be altered, is their raucous singing when pulling on the ropes, which consists of very peculiar tones in various gradations and is used to

unify their effort. The agility of the sailors is amazing; for they run around like cats on the rope ladders, the spars, and the hawsers with true recklessness and meanwhile carry out work, which it makes us dizzy just to watch. Half of them are always busy while the others sleep in shifts. One of them is always standing at the wheel and is relieved every hour, another is almost always on watch at the prow of the ship and informs the captain about anything that happens if it is something he should attend to. The others all have constantly to work with the mending of the sails, painting and repairing of the ship and the boats, and other work at hand. Now observe our group again really well, keep the individuals in mind so that you can recognize them whenever they speak again in the course of the journey, and return with me to the place where I stopped with my travel description.

By the seventh of October the other ladies in the cabins were seasick while I still felt well and cheerful. But the morning of the eighth soon changed all that. I was just about to work my way out of my so-called bed when an indescribable sickness came over me, which very soon took over to such an extent that I was as if bathed in cold sweat, could scarcely stand on my feet, and finally threw up, which gave me some relief. In this frightful state of true seasickness, which I had not thought would be half so unpleasant, I remained, as did Hermann, for only one day, while most had to suffer much longer; indeed, some ladies, among them Madam Hagedorn and her daughter, remained overwhelmed by it for almost the whole trip. It is a terrible feeling, I can tell you! Whenever the dinner bell rang, the general

consensus was: Oh, God, food again so soon! Not a person had any appetite, so that the nicest meals stayed untouched. Meanwhile the ship's people, who suffered from no sickness, almost died laughing and enjoyed their meals all the more for it. The various funny jokes that were made, particularly by Colonel von Zeuner, I really cannot tell you, but it was often very humorous to see how one person would make fun of the other, and then shortly thereafter he himself would be sick. It was the same for everybody with work as it was with meals. On the first day everyone set to work on the various tasks only to let them drop by the second for at least three weeks. One person would wonder out loud and in private about the laziness of the other, and nevertheless generally nothing was done, and the precious English books that had been brought along for study all remained peacefully lying there and were not looked at once. Meanwhile we experienced such cold in the North Sea and the Channel that it almost caused our blood to freeze in our veins, and when we were not so tired because of the constant piercing sea wind so that often even in the morning and the afternoon most of our time was dedicated to sleep, then after we had finally managed to cheer up a little, we had nothing more pressing to do than to warm ourselves up for our next sleep by continuous walking. In short, eating without appetite, sleeping, and walking were the only variations of the day, and the last was so difficult with the uninterrupted rocking of the boat that in the beginning we could only use our feet under the constant leadership of the captain.

Thus with very favorable winds we journeyed through the North Sea, where once a Dutch fishing boat laid alongside our ship and in exchange for meat, coal, and brandy traded the captain fresh herring, which tasted very good fried in butter. On this occasion I would like to have sent word to you, but since the captain thought that these people, who live wholly and alone from catching fish, often remain at sea for a quarter of a year without touching land, the opportunity seemed to me too uncertain, and it was left undone. Anyway, these rough fellows were more than a little happy to have done such good business with our ship and consequently left us with a thousand good luck wishes and blessings.

Already by the ninth of October we saw the English coast in the distance, and the tenth brought us very near to it. The weather, as is supposed to be very characteristic of the Channel, became foggy and rainy; and on the first day we could see Dover with its chalk cliffs only imperfectly as also the lighthouse at Duglos. Consequently the following day was that much prettier. The water had changed and looked almost black because of its infinite depth, when before it had a very greenish color. Innumerable ships covered its surface, and we could count forty-two at one time that were bigger or smaller and were bound for the most diverse destinations. Toward evening we arrived across from New Haven and for a few hours had a view that seemed to me absolutely fairylike. The houses of the city are strawn along the length of the coastline and, just as night fell, were lighted up at the same time as a train going out from the city was illuminated with a thousand lamps, and all of this created such a

contrast to our ship and furnished us with a picture of such cosy domestic life that Adele Hagedorn and I thought of our homeland with emotion and could not get our fill of the sight. On October twelfth in the afternoon we journeyed out of the Channel into the open sea, after we had beforehand taken our leave of land for quite a long time. Now the rocking motion really began and brought with it at times renewed sickness. Sometimes it was so severe that no one could stand up without holding on tight, and then at meals the plates and glasses had to be kept in balance while we were eating, something that always gave cause for laughter and in the course of which many of us got our soup in our laps. By the way, we had very good food, which I must describe more closely to satisfy your curiosity.

- Sunday: Chicken soup with rice, meat and potatoes, apple slices and generally some preserved, early vegetable, then plum pudding with wine sauce, lastly unshelled almonds and raisins.
- Monday: Pea soup, then smoked or salted meat, rice pudding with sugar and cinnamon, raw bacon, and plum pastry.
- Tuesday: Barley soup with red wine, pickled peas, sausage and salt pork, plums and salted potatoes, then syrup and bread.
- Wednesday: White bean soup with vinegar to taste, salted beef and pork, green beans, potatoes, and plums.
- Thursday: Sago soup with red wine, then roast goose, potatoes and apple slices, pudding with wine sauce, unshelled almonds, and raisins or fresh apples.
- Friday: Barley soup with red wine, sauerkraut with stockfish and

salted meat, potatoes, and prunes.

Saturday: Shelled barley soup with plums, preserved broccoli with grits sausage and salted meat, potatoes, and apple slices.

In the evening there was always gruel or bread mush soup (which we had especially requested), then Labskaus (a dish made of potatoes and meat or stockfish with drippings), herring salad or fried potatoes, tub butter (that I never could eat though the others said it was very good), Dutch or herb cheese, and tea.

For breakfast at nine o'clock in the morning we got coffee, soft-boiled eggs or eggs in butter, anchovies, ham, or cold salt meat, cervelat sausage, cheese and butter, also Hamburg black bread, zwieback, and ship zwieback that was so hard one could scarcely bite it. Saturdays there were always pancakes and cranberries.

Besides this, our captain was very generous; for he treated us most evenings to white and red wine, cold or warm punch, even madeira and port with sweets, and soda water as often as we wanted it to drink. Nevertheless, we always had the most appetite for apples or something refreshing that was preserved. Fortunately the first mate had brought a large sack of fresh apples, almost all of which Adele and I ate up with his kind permission. When I make a sea voyage again sometime, I will take along a lot of these as well as other sweet and sour things to eat, too; for they do make one feel much better.

On the thirteenth of October we saw for the first time the splendid luminescence of the ocean that we enjoyed often for hours; for while the ship quickly traverses the waves, these seem to create a second heaven, illuminated by thousands of gleaming points. This

beautiful show was often repeated, and some people think it is caused by certain little creatures in the sea, others, by the traces of saltpeter in the sea water. In the same way we often saw the beams of the moon and of individual beautiful stars break marvelously on the surface of the water, but never as beautifully as on the fourteenth of October, when the ocean seemed fairly calm and in reality as if sown with diamonds. On the fifteenth for the first time we experienced the transition to a storm, which the sailors, however, called but a stiff wind. All the sails were hauled in, the masts creaked and groaned, and the lowest spars dipped almost into the water. Fantastic waves, which because of the movement of the water appeared blue as the heavens and were encrusted on top with silver, approached but were only high enough that their peaks dashed on board and in doing so suddenly drenched many passengers through to the skin. With this came a large number of "pig fish,"² which are supposed to taste very good when cooked. They were about an ell long and had a sort of snout up front from which the name comes. So fortunately we escaped the threatening storm, and by the next day we already thought no more of it, as was generally always the case. A blessed forgetfulness soon allowed us not to think of all the unpleasant things that occurred any longer than they really lasted and to hold onto the pleasurable events that much more firmly, which, after all, is a great good fortune especially for sea travelers. Now for a few days we progressed with an excellent wind. Everyone was in high spirits and even got the urge to work, and what do you think happened shortly thereafter? On the twentieth of October we danced to our heart's

content. At first we couldn't believe, since we had scarcely learned to walk properly, that this was possible, but soon we were convinced. The ship lay fairly quiet on this day; and thus a tolerable space was quickly cleared, two of the passengers played violins, two others flutes, and to that we dashed around in pairs in whirling dance. Involuntarily I could not help but think of Oberon's Huon.³ For here the captain, the helmsmen, sailors, the ship's boys, cabin class and steerage passengers danced gaily with each other, and each one had to make an effort to stay in an upright position and while doing so to circle around. Often it was more work than pleasure, and still we did it again and again and in this way shortened the evenings as they grew longer; indeed, during those seven weeks, I danced more than at home in three years. At the same time the sailors often wore costumes and in this way amused the onlookers; also, one day the sailors and all the children on the ship were given punch, for which the captain received three cheers. On the twenty-first in the early morning a long mountain and several of the hills of Madeira came into view that, because of the onset of a calming of the wind, were unfortunately still visible on the twenty-second until they finally disappeared from sight; and henceforth we had nothing but water under and around us and the sky above us. Certainly nothing can be more boring than these infamous calms when the ocean is at times so quiet for days that it is like a big pond, and one can scarcely identify the rolling movements of the water that otherwise keep the great surface in unceasing undulation and activity and thus always present a different picture to the eye. Fortunately we

were not often becalmed and mostly had good winds, so that we constantly moved forward. From then on only seldom did we see a ship, and all variety had to be derived either from the company or from the natural phenomena, and in this our old colonel came in extremely handy, since his conversation was always pleasant and interesting and, although as a Berliner he was accustomed to many things that he had to do without on the ship, he always assured us: He could not grasp it himself how with the lack of activity and the eternal sameness the time could pass so swiftly for him. But with what interest, too, the glorious sunrises and sunsets were viewed, and how many dear memories were associated with them for each of us! Near Domingo this phenomenon was especially glorious, for often the deepest blue adorned the heavens while in the east the twilight approached and the west was painted purple, bright yellow, and lilac by the departure of the sun. The stars have a completely different arrangement, too: for example, there Orion is lying on his side whereas with us he is standing, and the Big Dipper rises way down on the horizon. Sometimes when small showers came during the day, we actually saw a section of rain from the place where it began to where it ended, very strange, as if it were a streak of fog. There were glorious rainbows, too, once a rainbow by moonlight, twice thunderstorms, and then we saw what never occurs in Germany: certain stars sinking all the way at the horizon. Now, if sometimes we had winds from the wrong direction or highly unfavorable winds, then everyone was discontented and in a bad mood; if on the other hand there was a good wind (with which 8, 9, 10, or even 11 German

post miles an hour can be made), then one saw only cheerful faces; yes, here, one might say, the wind bestows all. Furthermore, as our ship now approached nearer and nearer to the tropics, we met with considerable heat. During the day a large awning was stretched out for us, under which we were at least protected from the burning rays of the sun that, if one exposed oneself to them for only a short time without headgear, caused severe pain and burned us quite brown. The evenings then were glorious. We all camped right on the deck. To pass the time Hermann's guitar was unpacked, strung with new strings, and then we played and sang or occupied ourselves with party games, and generally not until eleven o'clock were we accustomed to go to bed, which from then on more resembled a sweat bath than pleasant rest.

Since among the steerage passengers there was a preacher who was being sent to America by the Basel Synode, we had church every Sunday from 10 to 11:30, which, even though it was deficient, was nevertheless attended by everyone. Sunday afternoons at four the captain always distributed dried prunes to the children by tossing them amongst them, which always gave them and us much pleasure. On the twenty-seventh of October there appeared the first flying fish, about half an ell long and silvery white. Later great droves of them came by. However, they fly only a short distance and close over the water. On the fourth of November, Herr von Rotsmann, one of the passengers, climbed up to the crow's nest. The sailors cannot abide such things at all, and so they followed after him immediately so as to tie him up with a rope until he promised to

withdraw. And the captain, too, when a bad wind arose, always placed himself on the deck in the direction favorable to us and then began to whistle in a sort of coaxing tone in order thus to draw the good wind toward us, and if anyone spilled salt at table, they said it meant a long trip. Well, we certainly spilled salt often enough, but the long trip we left to the obliging management of others and concluded ours on the contrary as summarily as possible; for it is certainly no small matter to journey a distance of 1600 miles in fifty days, and this we owe, after God's mercy, to the skilled command of our captain.

On the fifth of November we celebrated the birthday of Madam Kaufmann with madeira and candy, and from our group she received a pretty little basket with little pieces of soap in the shapes of all sorts of fruit and a little garland around it of parsley and celery from our crate of vegetables. Also on that day they caught and stuffed a porcupine fish, which was rather fat and furnished with frightful spikes. On the tenth I celebrated with my good father in my thoughts. On that day we also saw again the first large, gray sea gull, which continually circled close to the ship; and Adele Hagedorn mended the shipping company flag, which had torn apart during the trip and which displayed a black cross in the middle of a red field; besides this there were four other different flags, mostly red and white striped.

On the twelfth for the first time we saw moss approaching on the water as a sign of land nearby, which was welcomed with real rejoicing. The thirteenth of November was the day on which the ship Neptune had

been launched nine years before; for that reason it was celebrated by us, too, and was observed with song, dance, games, and good drinks.

Finally on the fifteenth Domingo appeared just at dawn. We sailed fairly close by it, that is, two to three hours away, and were most sincerely happy to see land once again. Magnificently overgrown mountains cover the whole island; we could clearly distinguish smoke and several buildings on it and on the next day, as the wind grew stronger, could see very well the breakers, which rolled in splendid columns along the coast. On the seventeenth Domingo had disappeared on the left, but instead Cuba became visible on the right. It was even farther distant; and nevertheless during that whole time there came to us from the island the most glorious scent of oranges and flowers. This island was even longer than the other and, alongside the overgrown mountains, was protected by glistening chalk cliffs.

NOTES

2. A type of dolphin living in the North Atlantic, about 1.5 meters long.
3. Huon of Bordeaux, hero of the Old French epic of the same name, as punishment for supposed infidelity must undergo adventures in oriental kingdoms, in which the dwarf king Oberon helps him.

- TO BE CONTINUED -

German Texan Heritage Society

Founded in August, 1978, the German-Texan Heritage Society is a non-profit organization seeking members from the general public. Everyone is welcome to join! Descendants of all German-speaking peoples. Researchers. Educational institutions. Genealogists. Historians. Librarians. Biographers. Students. Interested persons.

The Society is an organization devoted to building pride in the heritage of German Texans through historical research and cultural preservation. It is a united effort in Texas to disseminate information about archives, research projects, cultural events, folklore, publications and meetings related to German Texan topics.

The Society publishes a NEWSLETTER of about 60 pages three times a year as well as supplements when needed throughout the year. The NEWSLETTER is compiled and edited by a group of dedicated volunteers. An annual meeting is held the second weekend in September.

Already serving about 800 members, we want this to be truly an organization for its membership. We need your help. Please join us. Fill out the form on the reverse side and mail it today. And please bring the organization and its objectives to the attention of your friends who might be interested in it. Tell your local newspaper, heritage or conservation society about us. We want to collaborate with all existing historical preservation organizations.

We would be happy to send information about the German-Texan Heritage Society to people who might be interested in our objectives. Just write their names and addresses below, and return to: Dona Reeves, Rt. 2 Box 239A, Buda, TX 78610.

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ADDRESS

GERMAN - TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP

Membership Classification. All members receive the NEWSLETTER, published three times a year. Other classifications assist in special projects and publications.

- Membership options: \$25.00 Patron, \$10.00 Contributing and Library, \$5.00 Regular, \$3.00 Student (Verified by teacher)

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The German-Texan Heritage Society was founded in 1978 as a non-profit organization to promote the revitalization of German culture in Texas. An annual meeting is held the second week-end in September. A NEWSLETTER is published three times a year. Members come from all over Texas, from many other states and several foreign countries.

Please fill out and return to: Dona Reeves, Rt. 2 Box 239A

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1988 - Austin - 10th Anniversary

NEWSLETTER

The German-Texan Heritage Society publishes this NEWSLETTER three times annually. It is solely the creation of volunteers. See inside covers for names and addresses of editors. The publication schedule for 1983

(Deadlines for articles)

Spring.....February 20

Summer.....June 20

Fall.....October 20

Back issues for 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982 available for \$2.50 each, or \$5.00 per year for members. Order from Dona Reeves, Rt. 2, Box 239A, Buda, Tx. 78610

No more posters are available.

Announcements, articles, genealogical inquiries, reunion dates, news of events, etc., are always welcome from members. Send to the appropriate editor or to the editor-in-chief. All such articles should be typed, SINGLE SPACED on 8½" by 11" paper, with only a ¼" margin on all edges. For sharpness and clarity, try to use a film, or a new cloth ribbon. And don't forget to clean your typewriter keys!:

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